

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Weekly Update

*Our mission is to be more visible, to become more connected,
and to draw closer, with Christ as our center.*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Wednesday, July 14, 2021



Question : " My teenager won't eat fish. What can I replace it with ? "

Answer : "A cat. Cats love fish."

Sometimes we misunderstand a question. Slowing the conversation down and taking the time to really hear the real question being asked brings clarity and connection.

We talk a lot about people's questions to God.

Here is something I'm inviting you to wonder about. Don't think you understand and don't come up with a fast cheesy, or churchy answer.

Wonder about "What question is God asking us"?

What question is God asking you?

Let me know what you came up with if you'd like.

That's an offer - not a question.

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An update from the Worship and Music Committee:

The Worship and Music Committee continues to monitor Covid-19 conditions and regulations. We are committed to providing a safe and comfortable environment for as many people as possible. To achieve this, we will by necessity be taking a conservative approach as we begin to return to what we once considered normal. While we all long for worship as it used to be, we must remain vigilant for the good of all.

We continue to consider the advice of those in governance, especially at the state level; of those in the scientific community, especially the CDC; and of our partners in the ELCA; local congregations and Bishop Hazelwood. We strive to make our recommendations based on the best and most current information available to us.

In our meeting on June 2, we decided that our summer schedule will once again consist of a single service every Sunday at 9:30, beginning on 6/20. In order to accommodate those who prefer indoor worship and those who prefer outdoor worship, we will be alternating between venues. Please see the schedule below. In the event of inclement weather, including heavy rain or extreme heat, we will worship indoors. Check the Facebook group and watch for email for any changes.

For indoor worship, we will continue to require everyone in attendance to wear a face covering. Even though the state mandate has been lifted, we want to encourage everyone to feel safe in our worship space. As vaccination rates increase and infection rates decline, we will reconsider this policy. We do not make this recommendation lightly, but feel it is still in our collective best interest to maintain the practice for now. Masked individuals may sing softly, and we will begin providing single use worship sheets that include the words to the hymns. Please be reminded that we have a new air handler helping to keep the space well ventilated.

Outdoor worship will continue to be mask-optional with singing allowed. Single-use worship sheets will be provided.

Online Worship will continue. We will continue to tape and post the video online for you to watch at your convenience.

There are several options for you to join us for online worship:

- 1) go to the Good Shepherd website www.gslc-ct.org. Click on youtube on the menu under News & Events to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 2) go to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Good-Shepherd-Lutheran-Church-220717937953573/> Scroll down until you see the post with the current "Church Service (date)" click on this to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 3) To find us directly on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/> enter Good Shepherd Monroe CT in the search field and you will be directed to our page, then select the worship video you would like to see. Subscribe to our channel to make it even easier.

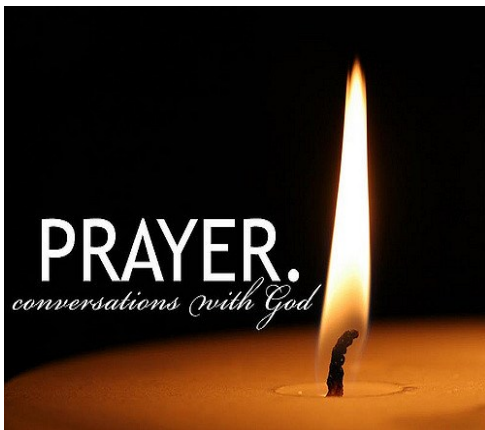
Whichever worship choice works best for you, we are delighted to have you worship with us!

Please keep our committee in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to provide guidance to the best of our abilities. We are delighted that our congregation has remained healthy through this crisis and look forward to the day when these considerations are no longer necessary

Yours in Christ,
The Worship and Music Committee
Susan Chin, Chair

Summer Worship schedule for in person worship: (subject to change)

July 18: 9:30 Worship INdoors
July 25: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 1: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 8: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 15: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 22: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 29: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Sept 5: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors



Pour out your Spirit on all people living with illness, as well as their loved ones and caregivers. Help them to know that you claim them as your own and deliver them from fear and pain; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

A Community of Prayer

For those in need of healing and comfort:

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Joan, Vic, Lauren, Ray, Tim, Marie, Audrey, Elizabeth, Gordon, Sarah, Miriam, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Tricia, Cate, Cecilio, Donna, Anthony, Steve, the Wilk family, Linda, Todd, Noreen and family, Maureen, Lynn, Barbara, Scott, Johanna, Glen and Durbin.

Military (on active duty), Fire fighters, and Police: Ryan, Teddy, Tyler, Ben, Kenny, Brian, Bill, Ken, John, Glen, and Vic.

Front Line workers in the COVID-19 pandemic: Diane, Alicia, Brittany, Loretta, Jay, Alyssa, Monica, Rachel, June.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147 vs. 3

Do you wonder how to put a loved one, friend, neighbor, or yourself on the prayer list?

Simply email the church office at office@gsllc-ct.org. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by phone (203-268-7596) and will be included by the church office.

For privacy, only the first name of each individual will be listed.

Do you have something you would like to discuss with Pastor Doug?

Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Doug Ryniewicz by cell phone (860-595-9560—text if you like!) or by his email (dearynos@gmail.com).



Congrats to Vic Johnson, who won our Quilt raffle!!! He reports that Nancy LOVES it!!!

Thank you to everyone that purchased raffle tickets and helped support our Shepherd's Flock Quilting Ministry!

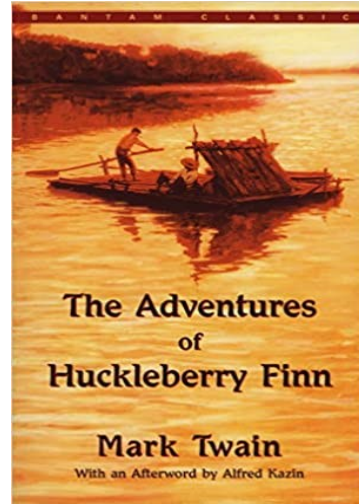
Finally, a HUGE thank you to all of our talented Quilters for all of their hard work that will truly benefit many others!



Here are 3 of our High School Seniors receiving their quilts at last Sunday's Worship Service.



Upcoming Events



The Good Shepherd Book Club's next meeting is on **August 3rd at 2:00 p.m.**

We will discuss "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. We will meet outdoors weather permitting, or indoors if it's preferable. We welcome new members!

On **September 7th at 2:00 p.m.**, we will discuss "The Four Winds", by Kristin Hannah. Please feel free to join us!



Lutheran World Relief Quilt Ingathering

Good Shepherd is the site of this year's Quilt Ingathering in Connecticut. We are the drop off location for quilts from July 13th to July 17th. Next week, they will be picked up and on their way to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Maryland and then on to people in need here in the United States and worldwide.

Below, are pictures of the narthex filling up with boxed quilts and personal care items.



*Leveraging hope,
changing lives.*

**Can you help Proyecto
Nueva Vida (PNV)?**
PNV is our re-entry program
which supports people returning
to our communities after
incarceration

We need:

Men's Boxers (L, XL, XXL)
Men's Tshirts (L, XL, XXL)
Men's SOCKS
Women's Underwear (Size M and up)
Bar Soaps
Toiletries for Men and Women
Razors



Please call Adilene at 203-334-1121
ext 13 or email
adilenegarcia@ccgb.org if you can
donate!



Shepherd's Pantry

The need is great!

The Monroe Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance for needy individuals and families in Monroe. Their clients receive one week's worth of food per month and they serve more than 100 households per month.

The Social Ministry and Community Outreach Committee invites you to contribute items to the Shepherd's Pantry located in the narthex. You may drop them off on Sunday mornings. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month.

The Food Pantry is looking for following items to fill out their inventory:

- canned fruit - apple sauce, mandarin oranges, pineapple
- canned vegetables (regular and low sodium) - beets, creamed corn, French cut green beans, olives, potatoes, Sauerkraut, spinach, sweet potatoes
- canned vegetables (regular and low sodium) - cannellini, pinto
- baked beans
- sodium stock/broth (regular and low sodium) - chicken, beef, vegetable
- canned fish - solid white tuna, salmon
- canned tomatoes (regular and low sodium) - crushed, whole, puree, sauce, paste
- jarred pasta sauce
- Ramen - beef, shrimp
- baking goods - brownie mix, cake mix, pancake mix, sugar
- packaged foods - Hamburger Helper, instant potatoes, Knorr rice/pasta sides, Pasta-roni, Rice-a-roni, bread crumbs
- salad dressing
- condiments - BBQ sauce, cooking oil, ketchup, mustard, hot sauce
- pancake syrup
- crunchy peanut butter
- beverages - ground coffee, black tea, apple juice, cranberry juice, low sodium V8, Ensure, shelf stable milk
- household cleaning products
- personal hygiene products - tooth paste, deodorant, razors, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, face wash
- paper towels

Food for Summerfield

There is an ongoing need for nutritious food for the kids at Summerfield. Protein is especially needed. GSLC Council has challenged the congregation to provide funds for the purchase of nutritious food. GSLC will match donations from members for up to \$250 per month. Pastor Gaston has told us that \$500 per month would meet their nutritious food needs. If you wish to donate please write a check to GSLC with the notation "Food For Summerfield" or place cash in the Summerfield box.



Sunday, July 18, 2021 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

First Reading: Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalm 23 (1)

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56



EPHESIANS 2:11-22

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

MARK 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed. John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.