



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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, November 2, 2022

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



It's almost time to "fall back" the clocks as Daylight saving time comes to an end on Sunday, **November 6, 2022**. You'll set your clocks back an hour at 2 a.m., meaning you get an extra hour of sleep that night!

*** DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK AT BEDTIME ON SATURDAY NIGHT. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF OUR WELL RESTED MEMBERS FOR SERVICES SUNDAY MORNING!**



Worship Information -

*** On September 11th, we began recognizing our Fall schedule. That means there are two Worship services every Sunday. Please choose from the 8am, or 10:30am service. Also, please see next newsletter page for the Choir and Sunday School schedules.**

Hymnals are available for use. Please note that if you are uncomfortable using the hymnals, there will be a limited number of freshly copied "Hymn Packets" available upon request at each service.

Please continue to read Friday's weekly "Worship E-mail", or check our Facebook Page for any updates / changes.

If you prefer to join us for prerecorded online worship instead, you can:

- 1) Go to the Good Shepherd website www.gslc-ct.org. Under "News & Events", click on youtube 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 it 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. From there, 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!

Prayer List -

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Helen, Cliff Jr., Audrey, Miriam, Hassinger Family, Lane Family, Lee Family, Margaret, Desi, Bill C's Family, Todd, Nicolette, Mike's Family, Kelly, Sue, Andrea, D.A., Robert, Kathy, Beverly, Doree, Amy, Mark, Scarlet, Ryan, Louis, John, Sharon & Rosemary.



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. You can reach him by text, or phone at: 860-595-9560. His email is: dearynos@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/12/22 - Red Cross Blood Drive will take place - NO quilting.

* **Choir practice** - held on Sundays at 9:30am.

*** Shepherd's Flock Quilters** - generally meet at 10am each Monday, and Saturday. **QUILTING WILL NO LONGER TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAYS.** * For quilting on Mondays, please contact Barbara by phone, or text at: 203-305-0321. If you prefer to quilt on a Saturday, please text Donna Duessel at: 203-482-5598.



Blood Drive

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

**Held in the Church Hall
466 Elm Street
Monroe, CT 06468**

Saturday, November 12, 2022
7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: GoodShepherd to schedule an appointment.



Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Give Something that Means Something®

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Stewardship 2022

Theme: Trusting in God, Growing in Faith

Psalm 46

Good morning - for those of you who do not know me, my name is Barbara Abraham, I am your Finance Committee Chair... and my name is Tim Carlson, I am your Treasurer.

Though our recent past has brought us unexpected challenges, we as a congregation have put our trust in God and our faith into action. We have continued in our commitment to one another, strengthened our resolve to care for those in need, and grew in new ways to deepen our ministries. We are grateful that your continued generosity and faithfulness has made this all possible.

Our theme for this year's stewardship campaign is, "Trusting in God, Growing in Faith." Psalm 46 reminds us that "We will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult." God reminds us that he is our rock and our foundation. Your continued financial support of Good Shepherd is crucial to its foundation, permitting us to continue to be a beacon of hope and an illustration of God's love during challenging times.

Sunday, October 30th, was Commitment Sunday. It is the day we are given the opportunity to renew and deepen our commitment to the ministry of Christ at Good Shepherd. Now, more than ever, we ask the congregation to contribute generously to support our life and ministry. Today, we as a congregation are at a critical crossroads financially as we have seen a significant reduction in contributions over the past four months. As of the end of September, contributions were \$31,000 below budget and for the first two weeks of October our collections totaled less than \$3,000, when historically we averaged \$3,000 a week.

Your weekly offering supports this congregation. It pays the salaries of our devoted staff and maintains the physical church in addition to providing for the ministries of Good Shepherd. Our annual budget is a maintenance budget. It does not provide for significant growth in our ministries.

Year-to-date we have a deficit of \$40,000. Although we planned for a small deficit in 2022, our deficit is currently unfavorable to budget by nearly \$30,000. In other words, we have a much larger deficit than planned and we have not as a congregation kept current with the commitments that we made last year.

Our deficit spending has negatively impacted our cash balances. As of the end of September, we only have \$16,700 of operating cash left. While we also have over \$100,000 of designated cash, it is not available for operations unless it is un-designated. If the current level of contributions continues, we may be out of operating cash by the end of the year. Even if the designated cash is un-designated, if the current level of contributions and expenses continue, we may be out of all cash by the end of next year.

Unfortunately, this is the first time in my nearly 20 years as Treasurer that we cannot prepare an expense budget for next year as we do not know what contributions we can count on, or the cash we will have, to fund activities next year.

We need to communicate with our current giving and our future commitments what direction we see for Good Shepherd in the near term.

You are part of a legacy of great generosity in supporting the life and work of Good Shepherd, generously giving of your time, energy, faith and financial resources to sustain and to grow our work and ministries. We invite you to give generously, joyfully, and more boldly than you have ever given before so that our ministry will continue to thrive here at Good Shepherd. Thank you.



COVENANT TO CARE THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATIONS—We have six families this year in need of groceries for Thanksgiving. As in the past, the tote bags for groceries are in the box in the narthex, but this year, **Stop & Shop gift cards are not needed. They have been donated.**

There are two families left. Please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex for the family you choose. Return the corresponding tote bag by November 20 for pick-up the next day.

Please provide basic non-perishable groceries, like cranberry sauce and gravy.

Thanks to everyone helping once again to support these families.

***ATTENTION MEMBERS THAT USE THE LOUNGE -**

Our gas stove has been serviced and is ready to be used again.

***Please only use it if you know how it works and don't forget to turn it off when you are leaving. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Property Committee.**

GSLC sends a **BIG** thanks to Dave Wang for working on this!

*** The holidays are coming and criminals are looking for easy money. We wouldn't want any of our members to fall for a scam. Here are some tips to help:**



Get scam smart.

Every day regular people like you lose their hard-earned money to online phishing scams. Don't fall for fake — learn how to spot shady texts, emails, and phone calls by knowing the things your bank would never ask.



Email Scams

1. Avoid clicking suspicious links
2. Raise the red flag on scare tactics
3. Watch for attachments and typos
4. Be skeptical of every email



Phone Call Scams

1. Don't rely on caller ID
2. Never give sensitive information
3. Watch out for a false sense of urgency
4. Hang up — even if it sounds legit



Mobile Payment App Scams

1. Be wary of texts or calls about payment apps
2. Use payment apps to pay friends and family only
3. Raise the alarm on urgent payment requests
4. Avoid unusual payment methods



Text Message Scams

1. Slow down — think before you act
2. Don't click links
3. Never send personal information
4. Delete the message



**Boy Scout Troop 203, is selling fresh wreaths
this Christmas Season.**

Let us help you decorate!!

We will be offering large wreaths with red bows.

Large Wreath - \$22

Order forms can be found inside the church

**Please leave the completed order forms and checks made out to:
Scouts, BSA Troop 203, in the designated boxes.**

THE LAST DAY FOR ORDERS is November 20

**Wreaths will be available for pick-up between masses:
Sunday December 4**

Thank you for your support!

Shepherd's Pantry -

The Monroe Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance for over 100 needy individuals and families in Monroe each month. The Social Ministry and Community Outreach Committee invite you to contribute items to the Shepherd's Pantry located in the narthex. You may drop them off during office hours, or on Sunday mornings. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month.

*Monroe Food Pantry Needs -

- Juice (apple, cranberry, etc.)
- Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup
- Canned Vegetables (corn, carrots, olives, peas, green beans, etc.)
- Canned Beans (kidney, pinto, chickpeas, cannellini, black)
- Grape Jelly, Strawberry Jam
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr Pasta/Rice Sides, Macaroni & Cheese
- Egg Noodles
- Rice (brown or white)
- Hot & Cold Cereal
- Breadcrumbs (Italian or regular)
- Canned Tomatoes (crushed, whole, diced, stewed, paste)
- Chicken, Beef, or Vegetable Broth
- Cooking Oil
- Canned Fruit (regular or low sugar - preferably in juice)
- Baked Beans, Refried Beans, Pork and Beans, Chili with or without beans
- Baking Supplies - including sugar & flour
- Syrup (regular or sugar free)
- Pancake Mix
- Jarred Pasta Sauce
- Salad Dressing (any flavor)
- Ground Coffee, Tea (regular, decaf), Instant Coffee & Hot Chocolate
- Canned Soup
- Ensure
- Snack Items
- Personal hygiene products - including feminine hygiene products. **We are particularly low on bars of soap, toothpaste, floss, shampoo / conditioner, and deodorant**
- *Household cleaning supplies



Any donation is appreciated. Thank you!

Ways to Help Summerfield -



Snacks for Summerfield are needed! We are collecting snacks for the youth of Summerfield. If you would like to donate, please add your snack items to the marked blue bin in the narthex.

Also, there is an ongoing need for nutritious food/protein for the kids of Summerfield. GSLC Council has challenged the congregation to provide funds for the purchase of nutritious food. GSLC will match donations from members 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 out to "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church" with the notation, "Food For Summerfield". Thank you!

VANCO - ELCA PREFERRED ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM –



Please feel free to try our online giving platform, Vanco. Vanco is an ELCA preferred vendor, that gives you the option of using their free mobile app to make donating to Good Shepherd easy and contactless. Simply download the Vanco Mobile App, select "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Monroe" and follow the prompts to donate.

If you are hesitant to download the app, just go to our website, www.gslc-ct.org, scroll down to the Vanco link, click and donate.

The traditional ways of giving, like bringing, or mailing envelopes to Church still stand. Vanco is just another way to make giving easy. If you do choose to use Vanco for online giving, please know that the Church will incur a fee per transaction. However, you can offset this cost by selecting the "cover processing fees" option at checkout.

If you are interested, but have questions, please feel free to contact Stephanie in the office!

Sunday, November 6, 2022 - Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Job 19:23-27a

Psalms 17:1-9(8)

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38



2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here.

Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her." Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."