



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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, February 23, 2022

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



Lent is a season of Reflection.

It is not supposed to be solemn, unless it's the first day of Lent, "Ash Wednesday". Rather it is a sober reflection. The traditional reflecting of Lent is usually grounded in the truth of the sobering words of Ash Wednesday, "remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." It seems to me, however, that we have been reflecting pretty relentlessly on our mortality these past two years. The point of the gospel is not to make us depressed. A world plague and millions dead can do enough of that.

Here's an idea - this Lent, reflect on the specific ways God has loved you and how God is loving you. Sure we all say, "God loves me and you." Let us be specific now, by asking, "HOW?". Concretely, how is God, has this God done so? If I begin to journal a list, I DO believe it will take 40 days to recall my entire life and ponder examples of God loving me. Inner lights, coincidences, specific people, pets, sunsets, movies, books, poetry, music, groups, incidents, mentors, friends and the list goes on. And the telling to ourselves of the Living God's Hesed. That is faithful love in our lives and it will allow Lent as a "Journey to Greater Wholeness".

Let me know how it goes!

LV
PD

Worship Information -

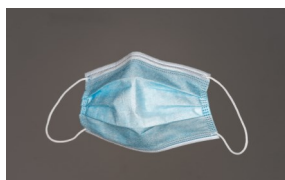


We have two regular in person Worship Services per week. They are held on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am. Please see Ash Wednesday special service info.

After the surge of Omicron, hospitalizations are decreasing and positivity rates have gone down. We now return to drinking the Eucharist wine. Pastor will be unmasked for the sermon, but members and guests are still required to wear masks over the mouth and nose when inside any part of the GSLC building. Please opt for KN95, N95, or surgical masks, instead of cloth ones. Social distance should also be observed. Thanks for keeping GSLC safe!

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!

* **Ash Wednesday Services** will be held on 3/2/22 at 12pm and 7pm. Please wear masks. Ashes will be covid safe, as new, individual Q-Tips will be used to sign you with the cross. It will be a simple, but reflective Worship Service. Bring a friend, or a neighbor!



Prayer List -



Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Audrey, Miriam, Amy, Scarlet, Ryan, Sharon & Rosemary.

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

Simply email the person's first name to the church office at office@gsllc-ct.org, or give us a call at 203-268-7596. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address.

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



2/27/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes - CANCELED

2/27/22 - Choir practice will meet at 9:45am.

3/1/22 - Book Club at 2pm. We will discuss, "The Personal Librarian", by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. New members are welcome!

3/2/22 - Ash Wednesday In Person Services at 12pm and 7pm.

3/6/22 - Choir Practice at 9:45am.

3/9/22 - Lenten Zoom Bible Study Begins - 12pm, or 7pm.

3/13/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

3/13/22 - Choir Practice at 9:45am.

3/16/22 - Lenten Zoom Bible Study - 12pm, or 7pm.

3/20/22 - Choir practice at 9:45am.

3/23/22 - Lenten Zoom Bible Study - 12pm, or 7pm.

3/26/22 - GSLC Blood Drive

3/27/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

3/27/22 - Choir practice at 9:45am.

3/30/22 - Last Lenten Zoom Bible Study - 12pm, or 7pm.

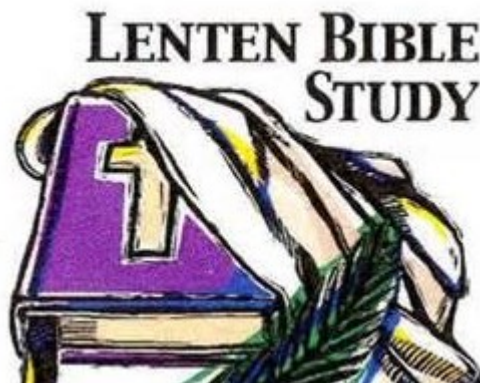
Shepherd's Flock Quilters - generally meet at 10am each Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. * Please contact Barbara Abraham by phone, or text at: 203-305-0321 if you wish to come on a Monday morning. If you'd like to join on a Wednesday, contact Ellie Noll at: 203-888-7009, or Eileen Holleran at: 203-426-0005. If you prefer to quilt on a Saturday, please text Donna Duessel at: 203-482-5598. Anyone is welcome!

*** Attention GSLC Sunday School and Confirmation friends...**

There will be NO CLASSES this weekend. We will reconvene on March 13th. Enjoy your weekend!



*** Lenten Bible Study -**



A new Lenten Bible Study will be starting soon!

It will be led by Pastor Doug and since it will take place on Zoom, we hope to see a lot of familiar faces! Please join us at 12pm, or 7pm on March 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. Check next week's newsletter, or our Good Shepherd - Monroe Facebook page for our Zoom invite.



Calumet Lutheran Camp & Conference Center

Ossipee Lake Road • P.O. Box 236

West Ossipee, NH 03890-0236

www.calumet.org

New England Synod • Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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RESERVATIONS OFFICE: Phone: 605-559-5225 ext. 219, 220, 221 • Fax: 605-559-5585 • Email: reservations@calumet.org

February 8, 2022

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
466 Elm St
Monroe, CT 06468-

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for your recent gift in the amount of \$100. Your gift is vitally important and makes Calumet stronger and better situated to meet need. The needs are real and they are varied. In terms of our guests, the need is mostly in the area of financial assistance for the younger ones attending the Resident Camp for Kids. That is the primary use of the funds we receive from people like you. But there are other needs, too, such as the need for enhancing programs, the need for fixes or facelifts to our facilities, and the need to respond to an emergency situation that periodically arises. Thank you for your gift. You are part of why Calumet is prepared for the unknowns to come.

In the last couple of years, Calumet has been trying incredibly hard to be as normal as possible. Guests have been exceedingly understanding and responsive to the changes we've implemented. Everyone knows that Calumet Nation makes adjustments when we must for the sake of safety and goodness. Calumet has enjoyed (almost) total support from the community. Thank you. And for the very few who have not been able to understand the complexities that exist requiring our extra special care to our programs — well, it is what it is. We hope those very few will come to see, someday, that there is incredible value in placing the safety and needs of the whole above the desires of a few.

The idea of the whole ... of the group ... of the congregation ... of the community — this is holy stuff. God created community. Jesus pointed to care for the other over oneself. The Spirit pushes us to explore who we are as part of the world and to determine how best we can participate in the bigger picture right from where we are. And this is what Calumet is all about. Calumet is about holy relationships — the relationship each one has with God and the relationships we have with one another. Leaders here work hard to create the conditions for people to explore and deepen these relationships. We know that faithful connections and strong friendships can be among the important resources we have when we hit a snag in life. Calumet people, however long they've been visiting here, feel those connections and friendships deeply.

Your gift helps people feel connected. Thank you ever so much for your important support. It matters now more than ever. Boom Chicka Boom!

Sincerely,

Kate
Katie Ogren
Director of Development

Thank you, Friends at Good Shepherd, for this gift to Calumet! Boom Chicka Boom!

For tax purposes, we confirm that Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of New England, Inc., which owns and operates Calumet Lutheran Ministries, has provided no goods or services in return for your contribution.

* Member News -



Congrats to our newest Grandmother, Lisa Lilly, on the birth of her grandchild. The baby is a beautiful girl named, "Lilly Sanner". Proud parents are Jake and Rachel (Lilly) Sanner. May God bless her!



Blood Drive

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Saturday, March 26, 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 to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



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.

The Monroe Food Pantry's needs for February include:

Oatmeal (regular and instant – original flavor or any variety)
Snack items (crackers, Goldfish, chips, nuts, etc.)
Ketchup
Mustard (yellow or brown)
Brownie mix
Strawberry and grape jelly
Baked beans
Pork and beans
Chicken or beef broth
Bread crumbs (regular or Italian)
Flour
Sugar
Salad dressings (Ranch, Blue Cheese, Balsamic Vinaigrette, Thousand Island, French)
Pasta and Rice sides
Olives (canned)
Jarred pasta sauce
Solid white tuna
Coffee (regular and decaf)
Black tea (regular and decaf)
Hot chocolate
Ramen noodles (chicken/beef/shrimp)
Paper towels
Toilet Paper
Cleaning supplies
Toiletries (deodorant/bar and hand soap/shampoo and conditioner/razors)

Thanks again for all your support. This community is amazing!

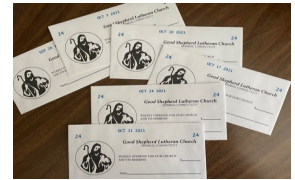


Summerfield -



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 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, February 27, 2022 - Last Sunday After Epiphany

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99 (9)

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]



2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

And all were astounded at the greatness of God. While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples,]