

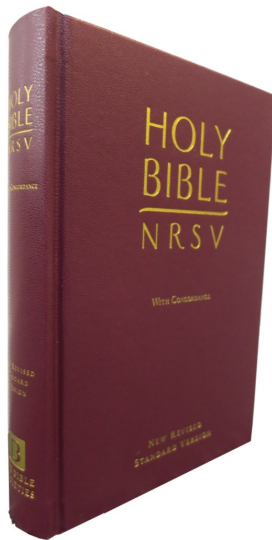
**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, December 29, 2021

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



An updated version of the NRSV Bible, which we regularly use in worship, is to be published next Spring. It includes thousands of changes in language, which is a living and ever evolving thing.

The updated version is the result of a commission of scholars from many denominations - the Society of Biblical Literature and the National Council of Churches. Reviews by experts state that the updated version's attention to new scholarship, accuracy and clarity exceeds all expectations.

Meanwhile in Roman Catholicism, Pope Francis has restricted the old Catholic Mass in Latin. Some never wanted to change the old Mass and had refused to accept the use of many languages in Worship. They had been holding onto the old Latin Mass. But...

Waters must move to stay fresh and avoid stagnancy.

LV
PD

Worship Information -

We will have two in person Worship Services a week. They will be on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am.

Masks are required for anyone entering the Church. 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.

Also, 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



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!

A Community Of Prayer - * After January 15th, the prayer list below will no longer be available. Please contact Stephanie in the office if you'd like to add someone to our new list.

For those in need of healing and comfort:



He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalms 147 vs. 3

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Joan, Vic, Lauren, Ray, Marie, Audrey, Gordon, Miriam, Denise, Sharon, Rosemary, Paula, Sarah, Misty, Jim, Darcy, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Cate, Cecilio, Donna, Anthony, the Wilk family, Linda, Todd, Noreen and family, Maureen, Lynn, Barbara, Scott, Johanna, Glen, Durbin, Marie.

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.

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

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



1/2/22 - Back to regular Worship schedule with Sunday Services held at 8am and 10:30am.

1/4/22 - The Book Club will meet again at 2pm to discuss "Whereabouts", by Jhumpa Lahiri.

1/9/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes will reconvene at 9:15am.

1/23/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

Choir Practice - Each Sunday at 9:45am.

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!

HOLIDAY GREETINGS -



**WISHING YOU PEACE, LOVE AND
GOOD HEALTH IN 2022!**



**LOVE,
THE KLEINS**



*Peggy and Stephen
family*



May God richly bless you
with His love
in this beautiful season,
and with the joyful anticipation
of His presence through
all the new year brings.



Merry Christmas

Miriam



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



**WITH MUCH LOVE,
THE CRAWFORD FAMILY**





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

December 2021

Dear friends,

As 2021 comes to an end and we prepare our hearts to celebrate the joy of Christ's birth, I write to extend my warmest thanks to you for the faithful, ongoing support you've so generously offered as a Monthly Partner this year.

Your monthly gifts provide sustainable resources needed to enable our church to share God's love with our neighbors each day. And today, in a world continuing to struggle with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, those gifts are more important than ever. Many people, families and communities have been forever changed because of your wonderful generosity.

As an expression of our appreciation for your ongoing support, we've enclosed the 2022 Monthly Partners calendar. I hope the pictures and stories that fill its pages serve as a reminder to you of the significant ministry you make possible in over 100 countries.

We will be sending you an annual receipt and consolidated year-end statement, which will be mailed out by Jan. 31 in accordance with tax requirements. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact us at 800-638-3522.

Thank you again for your partnership, and for your commitment to the support of our shared mission and ministry through Monthly Partners.

In Christ,

Rachel Wind

Rachel Wind
Executive for Philanthropy
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

1127 Royal Palm Beach Blvd.
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

www.thegoodshepherdfoundation.org



December 19, 2021

The Rev. Douglas Ryniewicz
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
466 Elm Street
Monroe, CT 06468

Dear Pastor Ryniewicz and the People of Good Shepherd,

Again, we have received another \$150.00 gift from the church and we again have the joy of thanking you for your partnership in our medical and water mission to the people of Haiti. We continue to be touched by your faithfulness in caring for those in need as our Lord did. Your support of The Good Shepherd Foundation has been invaluable. As you well know, you have enabled us to touch many thousands of lives with medical care that eases the suffering, and indeed saves the lives of men, women and children in Haiti.

Sadly, the political situation in all of Haiti continues to get worse, and our patients sometimes fear going out onto the roads to get to the clinic. The cost of gas is still \$25 per gallon, making our clinic costs outrageous. Mercifully, our medical staff is still travelling to the clinic when they are able and continue to see patients and provide needed medications. We are hoping that we can get there soon, just to review what is happening in the clinic, but it does not look good yet. The staff keeps us well updated, but it is so much better with a hands-on visit.

God has been good to us through your faithful generosity and we thank you for this most amazing support in showing God's love. What a blessing you have been in so very many ways.

We pray in thanksgiving for your support, and, we continue to need your prayers. Please remember to include our work and the people we will be treating in the congregation's prayers during worship on Sundays. Both they, all the people of Haiti, and our volunteer staff, and the Haitian doctors and nurses need that spiritual support.

Wishing you Christmas blessings as we welcome the Christ Child into our homes in this special way and await His coming in the future.

With gratitude,

Michele Sidney

Michele Sidney, President

Linda + Bob

The Rev. & Mrs. Robert P. McGurn

*Hope you are all well.
So very grateful for
your faithful support!
J*

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. Items needed include:

- Juice (apple, cranberry, etc)
- Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup
- Canned Vegetables
- Grape Jelly, Strawberry Jam
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr Pasta/Rice Sides, Macaroni & Cheese
- Egg Noodles
- Rice (brown or white)
- Hot & Cold Cereal
- Bread Crumbs
- Canned Tomatoes (crushed, whole, diced, stewed, paste)
- Chicken, Beef, or Vegetable Broth
- Cooking Oil
- Canned Fruit (regular or low sugar)
- Canned Beans, including baked & refried
- 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
- Household cleaning supplies



Summerfield -



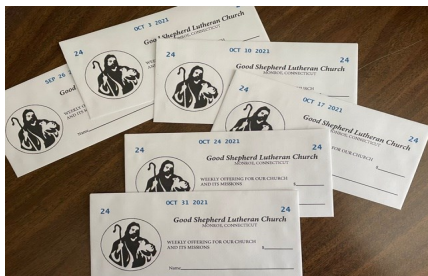
There is an ongoing need for nutritious food for the kids at Summerfield. Protein is especially needed. GSLC Council has challenged the congregation to provide funds for the purchase of nutritious food. GSLC will match donations from members for up to \$250 per month. Pastor Gaston has told us that \$500 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!

FINANCIAL NEWS -

****2022 Envelope boxes for the new year are available and can be picked up on the wood table in the narthex.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE -

We would like to thank everyone for the contributions that you have made over the last few weeks. As a result of your generosity, we are currently expecting our full year contributions to be at, or slightly below plan. If you are behind on your pledge, or if you would like to make a contribution to Good Shepherd, it would be very helpful and much appreciated!



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, January 2, 2022 - Second Sunday of Christmas

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Readings:

Jeremiah 31:7:14

Psalm 144:12-20(12)

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:[1-9]10-18



Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

John 1:[1-9]10-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.