

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.*

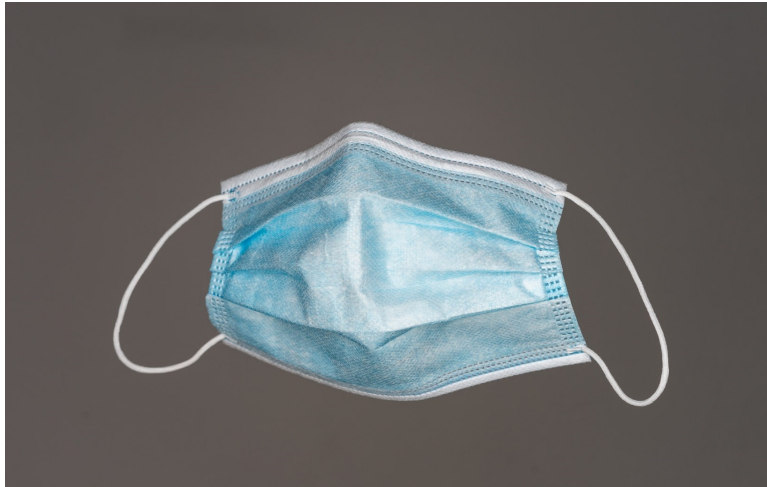


**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Wednesday, September 8, 2021



An update from the Worship and Music Committee:



***FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL...PLEASE BRING A MASK IN CASE IT RAINS AND/OR WE HAVE INDOOR WORSHIP.**

Due to the current circumstances, we must now revert back to wearing masks indoors during worship. Good Shepherd appreciates your patience and understanding during these challenging times!

There are several options for you to join us for prerecorded 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

Worship Schedule for in person worship:

September 12th: Our "Fall schedule" will begin and shall stay the same until Christmas. This means we will have two Worship Services on Sundays. There will be an **8am service** and another one at **10:30am**. Details on indoor / outdoor to follow in Friday's weekly "Worship E-mail", or check our Facebook Page on Friday night.



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, 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 and Durbin.

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

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.

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@gscl-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).

Financial News -



VANCO - ELCA PREFERRED ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM –

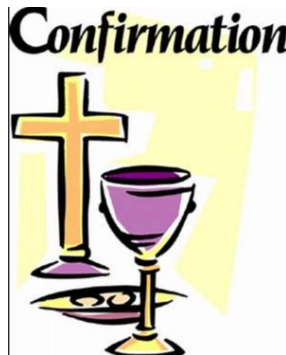
Please feel free to try our online giving platform, Vanco. Vanco is an ELCA preferred vendor, that gives you the option of using their free mobile app to make donating to Good Shepherd easy and contactless. Simply download the Vanco Mobile App, select "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Monroe" and follow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

Upcoming Events -



September 12th - Please note that we will start Confirmation classes (7th & 8th Graders) and Sunday school on this date. The classes will be held between services, 9:15am-10am, on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month.

For those being Confirmed, some important dates are:

October 3rd – Mini Retreat from 4-6pm. Pizza will be provided.

October 10th – Confirmation will be celebrated. We will gather for 10:30am Worship and hope to be outdoors.

If you have not done so already, please contact Pastor Doug by text, or phone at 860-595-9560 to confirm attendance at the Retreat and Confirmation.

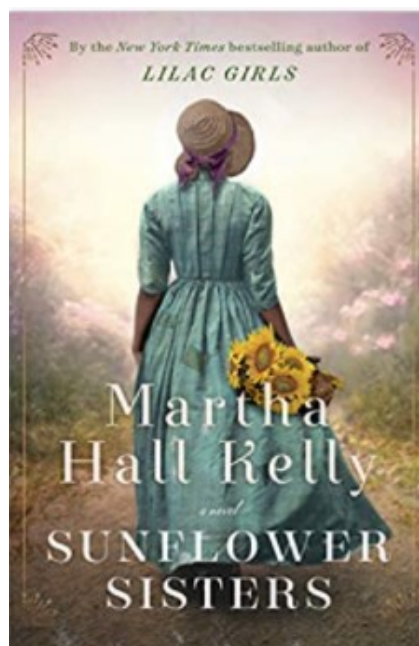
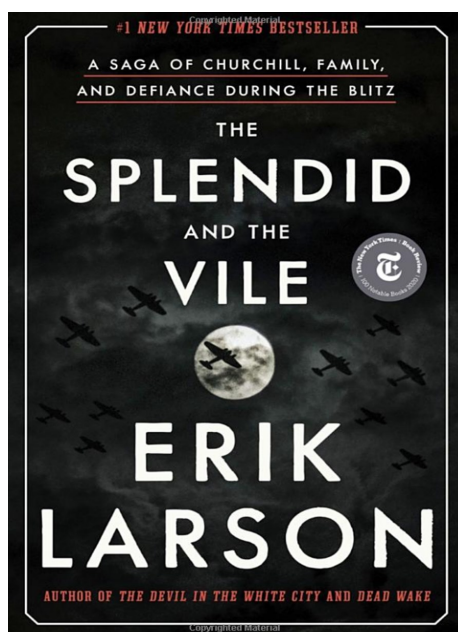


The Good Shepherd Book Club will meet again on October 5th at 2:00pm.

We will discuss **"The Splendid And The Vile"**, by Erik Larson. Weather permitting, we can meet outdoors, or indoors (with masks) if that is preferable.

We welcome new members and look forward to seeing all of our avid readers on 10/5/21!

On **November 2nd at 2:00pm**, we will discuss **"Sunflower Sisters"** by Martha Hall Kelly.



Shepherd's Flock Quilting Schedule -



The Shepherd's Flock Quilters generally meet at 10 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. We invite anyone to join us. Please contact Barbara Abraham by phone, or text at (203)305-0321 if you wish to come on Monday morning. Contact Ellie Noll by phone at (203)888-7009, or Eileen Holleran by phone at (203)426-0005 if you wish to come on Wednesday. If you prefer Saturday, please text Donna Duessel at (203)482-5598.

There is no limit to the number of people at this time, but we would like to ensure that someone will definitely be there to work with you. If you can tie a knot, you can do this! A variety of talents can be used; we are happy to show you how to sew tops, tie, trim, and design tops if you wish to join us.



The Connecticut Hospice, Inc.
Volunteers Needed

The Connecticut Hospice in Branford is accepting applications for new volunteers! Our patients and families are in need of your care and support. If you have an interest in Patient Companionship, or Reception, please contact Joan Cullen, Director of Volunteers at: 203-315-7510.

Volunteer Needed -

We still need some help hosting our Blood Drive. It won't be hard and can help save lives! Please consider helping out!

**The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.**



**American
Red Cross**

The Good Shepherd will host a Blood Drive in Gibiser Hall on 11/13/21.

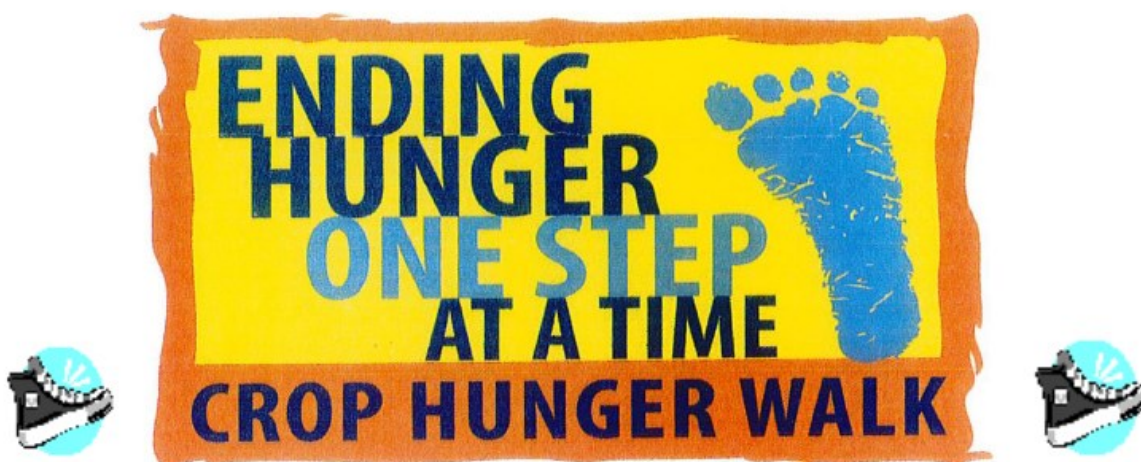
We are looking for a volunteer to run this event. This means readying the hall in advance and unlocking the Church for the Red Cross at about 6:45am that morning. The volunteer does not need to stay at the Church during the drive, as the Red Cross brings their staff to run it. The volunteer would need to do a quick building check / light cleanup afterwards and lock up the Church at around 2pm, or 2:30. If interested, please see Donna, or call Stephanie in the office to discuss details.



Walk With Us ... It's Our 47th!



**Pick up Materials at the Rally
Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2 PM at
UNITY HILL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
364 White Plains Road, Trumbull, CT**



CROP Hunger Walk No. 47

**Sunday, October 17, 2021
at 1:30 – 4:00 pm for 2+ mile walk (Rain or Shine)**

**at United Congregational Church
2200 North Avenue, Bridgeport, CT**

25 % of monies raised goes to hunger related programs in the Bridgeport Area.

For more information, call 203-375-1284. www.crophungerwalk.org



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Shepherd's Pantry

The need is great!

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.

- 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 - preferably in juice)
- 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





The Good Shepherd Foundation has been busy helping the people of Haiti after the earthquake. Please consider donating, so that they can continue their mission.

Thanks to your generosity, the Good Shepherd Foundation quickly mobilized to respond to the incredible humanitarian crisis facing the southern region of Haiti following the 7.2 magnitude earthquake of August 14th. Our team of 12 Haitian doctors and nurses embarked on a 3-day medical mission to the hard-hit areas of Port-a-Piment, Coteaux and Les Anglais. Our team treated a total of 964 patients for a wide range of conditions including various traumas, infected wounds, extreme hypertension, and exposure and lack of sanitation related illnesses such as upper respiratory infections, gastroenteritis, and asthma.

Our medical team wants to make another trip next week. We are nearly half way there with our funding for a second trip, but need your generous help to make it happen.

To make a donation, please enter this website into your browser:

<https://www.thegoodshepherdfoundation.org/donation-pledge/> Then, click the first "DONATE" button and specify "EARTHQUAKE RELIEF" as the "special instructions to the seller." Even if you can't donate, please share this with as many of your friends and family members as possible. You can also mail a check if you prefer to:

The Good Shepherd
1127 Royal Palm Beach Blvd
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

Thank you and may God bless you as you bless others.



"Please note that almost 100% of your donation will go to support medical care for the victims of this earthquake. The medical staff is local and trusted by those who have been personally working with them for ten years. There is no government agency involved in any way. Caregivers and patients are the direct recipients."

- Linda McGurn, Vice President, The Good Shepherd Foundation

Sunday, September 12, 2021 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel, we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9(9)

Second Reading: James 3:1-12

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38



James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."