



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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



Everything around us both includes and hides the Sacred.

This week, let God be God the way God is. God lets you be the way you are.

LV
PD

Worship Schedule -

October 24th: Our "Fall schedule" is in effect. This means we will have two Worship Services every Sunday until further notice. Feel free to choose from our 8am, or 10:30am service. Both services will be held INDOORS. Please bring a mask regardless of your vaccination status, as they will be required for all. Hymnals are now available for use again. 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.

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 -

For those in need of healing and comfort:



He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147 vs. 3

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Joan, Vic, Lauren, Ray, Marie, Audrey, Elizabeth, Gordon, Miriam, 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



Theme: Now More Than Ever: Receive Hope, Be Hope, Share Hope

Hebrews 11:1

Good morning. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Billie Flaherty and I am your Stewardship leader. Today is the beginning of the Stewardship season.

Now more than ever the ministry of Christ at Good Shepherd is needed. Much of life as we knew it came to a sudden halt as Covid-19 took hold of our local and global community. Most workers and students were sent home. Many businesses closed. We learned the new term of social distancing and the imperative of wearing masks. Yet, the ministry of Good Shepherd did not come to a stop.

Our worship services swiftly moved online. Our ministries of caring for our own members and serving our neighbors in need expanded. Whether we gather inside our sanctuary, in our parking lot, or online, we continue to be the body of Christ through our ministries, our witness, and our care for one another.

Our theme for this year's stewardship campaign is, "Now More Than Ever: Receive Hope, Be Hope, Share Hope." God calls us to navigate the uncertainty of the year ahead with boldness and with faith. God calls us to receive, embody, and share with others the hope that is ours in Christ. This is a time to support one another, love our neighbor, and lean into the promises of God, like never before. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

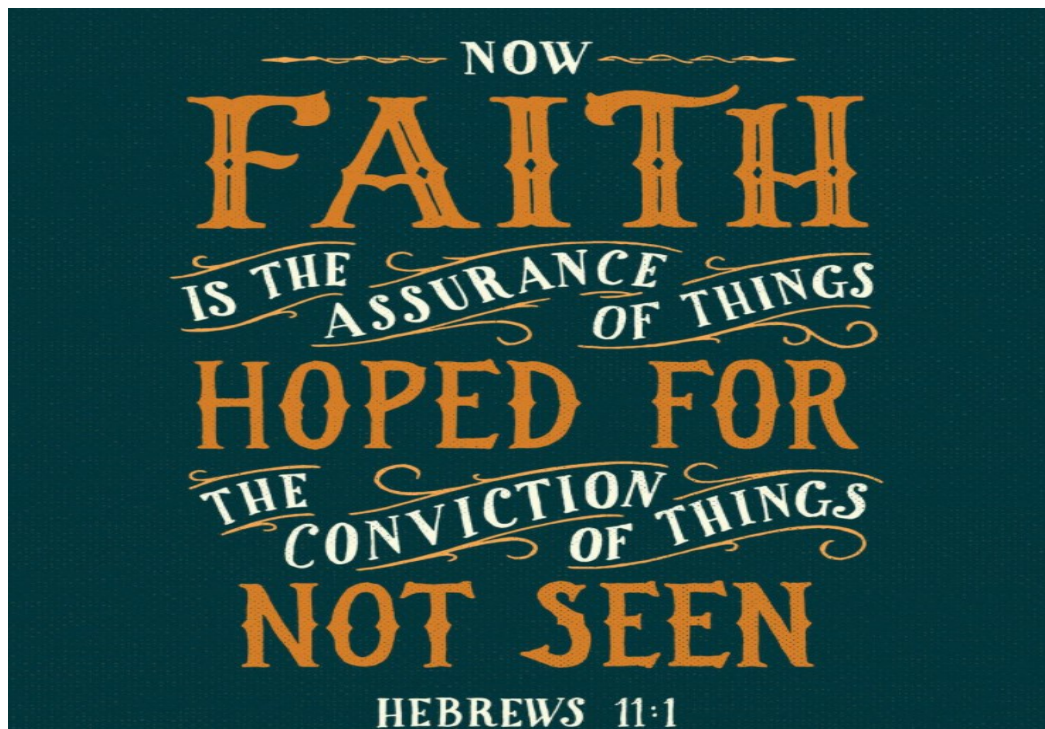
Sunday, November 21, 2021 will be Commitment Sunday. It is the day we are given the opportunity to renew and deepen our commitment to the ministry of Christ at Good Shepherd. Now, more than ever, we will ask the congregation to contribute generously to support our life and ministry. The "temple talks" will focus on several of Good Shepherd's ministries serving others. But, today, I want to focus on the financial health of Good Shepherd.

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.

We are currently on track to end 2021 with a deficit of about \$21,500. That means that we are on track to spend approximately \$21,500 more to maintain Good Shepherd and its ministries than we received in offerings this year. **We need to communicate with our commitments what direction we see for Good Shepherd in 2022.**

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 grow our work and ministries. We are mindful that for some of our members jobs have been lost, and other factors are present that may prevent you from giving in the way that you would like. For others, this has been a year to re-examine and reflect on our lives and the blessings that we have, and we have a new perspective of gratitude. For everyone who is able to give, 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. As we look toward 2022 with faith and with hope, may God bless you in your moments of giving, as well as in your moments of receiving. Thank you.





10/24/21 - Sunday School and Confirmation Classes will meet from 9:15am - 10am today. These classes are always held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

Choir - will meet each Sunday at 9:55am to practice before the 10:30am service. Come sing with them!

Shepherd's Flock Quilters - generally meet at 10am each Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

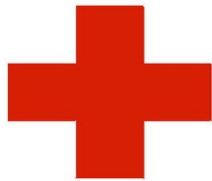
"Unraveled" Bible Study - will meet every Thursday at 11am and 7pm. No prior knowledge required. Feel free to join this Bible Study at any time!

Book Club - will meet next on 11/2/21 at 2pm to discuss "Sunflower Sisters", by Martha Hall Kelly. New members welcome!

Blood Drive - 11/13/21 in Gibiser Hall.

MEMBER NEWS -

Volunteer Needed - We still need some help hosting our Blood Drive, scheduled for November 13th. It won't be hard and can help save lives! Please consider helping out! Feel free to call Stephanie in the office for more details.



**American
Red Cross**

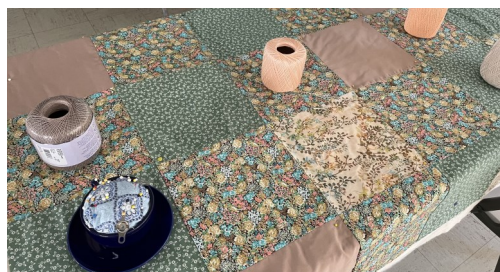
Together, we can save a life

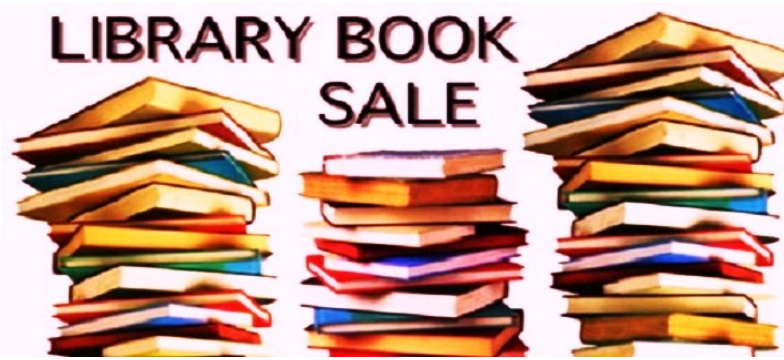
The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



**American
Red Cross**

QUILTING - The Shepherd's Flock Quilters generally meet at 10 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. We invite everyone 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.





Edith Wheeler Memorial Library Book Sales
Friday, October 22 & Saturday October 23 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Ehlers Room (lower level). For more information, visit them at www.ewml.org or call 203-452-2850.



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 out to Good Shepherd with the notation "Food For Summerfield".

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 AT THE MONROE FOOD PANTRY

At the Monroe Food Pantry, we strive to consistently provide healthy food options for our clients. We accept and appreciate all donations, and encourage **low sodium, low sugar, low saturated fat, vegetarian, and whole wheat** selections when possible. This helps our clients manage and prevent chronic diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease.

- bread crumbs
- instant potatoes
- egg noodles
- pasta
- pasta sauce
- macaroni & cheese
- healthy snack items
- hot and cold cereal
- tuna
- canned chicken
- brown/white rice
- pancake mix & syrup
- peanut butter
- jams and jellies
- canned soup
- canned pasta
- salad dressing
- condiments
- baked beans
- refried beans
- broths and stocks
- canned fruit
- canned chili
- canned tomatoes
- canned beans & vegetables
- Ensure
- juice
- hot chocolate
- baking supplies: sugar, flour, brownie and cake mix
- decaf and regular: ground coffee, instant coffee
- decaf and regular: black tea, green tea
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr products, Ramen
- household cleaning supplies
- personal hygiene products
- feminine hygiene products
- frozen vegetables, and fresh produce
- pet food



CALUMET

Two great events this month

LOM
RUN4CAMP5K

\$5,000 for Calumet

Potential to raise \$10K for Calumet

QUIZ FOR A CAUSE

Thrivent Northeast Virtual Trivia Night

Who: Everyone Who Loves Calumet
When: October 26 from 7-8 PM
Where: Your Own Home
Cost: Free
Calumet receives Thrivent funds simply by you participating in this fun event!

CALUMET

1. Get Away to Calumet Whenever You Want!

Calumet programs for the rest of 2021 are going along nicely. And our lodging spaces are getting continued use by people just wanting to get away from the chaos of the world. Have you thought about a day or two — or hunk of days — away to Calumet? Work from here. Day hike from here. Sit by the lake. You are welcome!

2. Virtual 5K fundraiser to raise \$5K — OCT 24

We need people to register for the OCT 24 Run4Camp — www.calumet.org/run4camp — at the low fee of \$25. That fee is actually a donation to Calumet. The event is virtual and happens right where you are. Run. Walk. Bike. Hike. Just make sure it's a 5K! The more people who register, the more likely we'll be able to capture \$2,000 in matching funds. Can you help Calumet?

3. Thrivent's Quiz for a Cause — Oct 26

We need people to register for the OCT 26 Quiz for a Cause — www.calumet.org/giving/thrivent — and it's a no cost event! Calumet receives \$10 from Thrivent for every person who plays for Calumet. In addition -- Calumet will receive \$1,200 if Calumet's players have the highest average score; Calumet will receive \$1 from Thrivent for every \$2 given to Calumet using a special link during the game; and, Calumet will receive a matching gift of \$2,000 if we can get 50 people registered by OCT 19. Can you help Calumet?

Financial News -

Financial Statements -

Roy Remlin has printed out Financial Statements for our members. You can get yours by stopping by the wood table in the narthex when you are at the Church. If you are not able to get to Church and need your statement, please contact Stephanie in the office to request that it be mailed out.

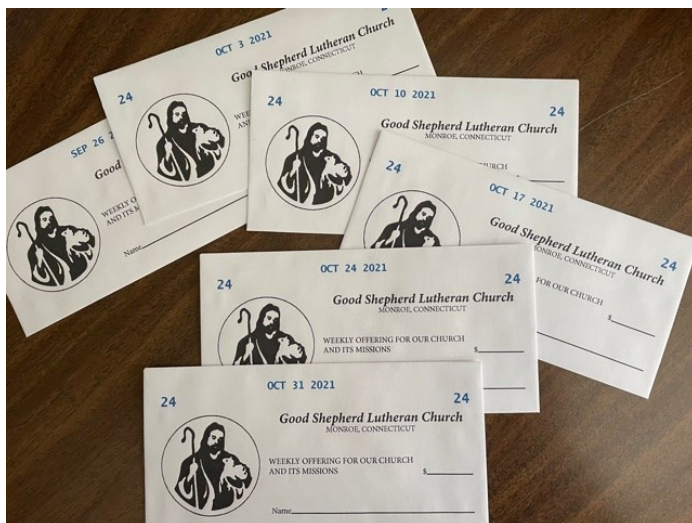
VANCO - a secure ELCA preferred online giving platform -

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!



*** Our offerings are down significantly. If you are able to donate, any amount would be very helpful and much appreciated!**

Sunday, October 24, 2021 Twenty - second Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm: 126 (5)

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52



Hebrews 7:23-28

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.