



## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills and Christian Preschool

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 Website: <https://www.goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/>



**WEEKLY TIDINGS: AUGUST 9, 2020 – AUGUST 16, 2020**

*Hello and welcome to Good Shepherd! We're glad you're here!  
 May you experience the love of Christ and feel His presence during worship today.*

### **THE DISPERSIA OF 2020-21**

**The movement** of Jesus was exploding in a good way. Jerusalem was witness to the favor of God. The day we now know as Pentecost saw an undeniable move of God. In many ways it was the birth of the church. And it didn't stop there. People were gathering together and caring for each other. Outsiders were looking in and listening in. They didn't fully understand it, but they knew something good was moving among the followers of "The Way."

**But then it hit** with one sudden blow. It began with the stoning of Stephen, the Spirit-filled guy. And from there a violent attack on the church ensued. Followers of Jesus in Jerusalem fled the persecution for their lives and well-being as they sought a measure of safety. I have to believe that the church in Jerusalem felt the persecution as a crushing blow. Church as they had experienced it, was changed forever.

**Sadness. Grief. Anger. Frustration. Unfairness. Confusion.** I am sure these feelings and more filled the believers' hearts, souls and minds. Come to think of it, that list looks a little like the list you and I may be working with today. That persecution scattered God's people all around the world, but here is the kicker. As saddened and persecuted as they were, these people carried with them *"the words of eternal life."* The Spirit transformed the persecution into a means of taking the gospel from the local church into the world all around them.

### **Welcome to the dispersia of 2020-21**

So do you see yourself and the church as getting shut down? Or are you living out a special move of God this year? For some congregations, this year will provide the final nail for the coffin. For others 2020-21 may be a walk through the fire, which refines and redefines us for years to come.

**My personal dispersia** has taken me to the fences in my yard. It has taken me on walks to see more faces out walking than I ever have before. Your dispersia looks different than mine. The question for me is: Am I stepping into it with eyes open for the new people God wants me to see?

**Next summer** when God asks me if I buried *"My talent(s)"* in my yard, or I invested in this crazily unique year He has served up, I want to hear him say, *"Well done, My good and faithful servant."*

- Pastor Tim

**RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS:** Dorothy Stubock, Ellen Linhart, Kristen Clark, Patti Theriault

**\*\*New prayer requests may be given to the office or [submitted electronically](#).\*\***

**\*\*The many members, family and friends with long-term prayer needs will be listed in the Monthly Newsletter.\*\***

### **ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK:**

Sunday, 8/9	10a	Worship Service
	2p	Private Baptism
Monday, 8/10	5:30p	Soccer Shots
	7p	Boy Scouts
Tuesday, 8/11	2-9p	Lifetouch Portraits
	7p	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 8/12	2-9p	Lifetouch Portraits
	7:30p	Narcotics Anonymous
Thursday, 8/13	5p	Soccer Shots
Friday, 8/14		
Saturday, 8/15	8a	Soccer Shots
Sunday, 8/16	10a	Worship Service with communion

Checkout the website for a 'live' calendar: <https://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/good-shepherd-events-2/>

**LAST WEEK (7/26/2020) AT GOOD SHEPHERD:** OFFERING: \$6,690.00 ATTENDANCE: 51



**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are placed to the Glory of God by Jim and Darlene Stocker in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 29.

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:**

Assisting Elder:	Mark Barkell
Usher:	Tim Marcovecchio
Worship Tech:	Jeremy Frantz
Counters:	Louise Kratz
Altar Guild:	Ellen Linhart, Ruth Johnson, Carol Schaar, Phyllis Hackbart

**GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**



**Lifetouch** will be here this week, August 11 and 12, to take **photos for our new church directory**. **A few time slots are still available**. Visit the table outside the church today to schedule your appointment or visit our [website](#) and click on the *Schedule Your Photography Session* button. **If you can't find a time that works for you, consider submitting a family photo to be included in the directory**. Contact the office (412-884-3232) for additional details, including the submission deadline.

Don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item to your photo session to receive a \$5 off coupon towards the purchase of any photos. All food items will be donated to the food pantry at St. Elizabeth's (CAEAP).

Also, for safety purposes Lifetouch is now requiring everyone wear masks when arriving for their photo shoot. Masks can be taken off while being photographed and put back on after photos have been taken.

*Thank You*

**Thank you to everyone** who contributed school supplies and monetary donations to help SHIM fill backpacks for local families! And thanks to Kim Ressler for delivering the supplies to SHIM!

**Thanks to the Thrivent Action Team** that power washed and sealed the back patio and provided mulching and weeding of the nearby flowerbeds. The area looks great!

Remember to check out the events on the website for the most up to date information including links to sign-up for the different activities: <https://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/good-shepherd-events/>

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Concordia Lutheran Ministries** and **Butler Community College** have forged a partnership for community members interested in a nursing degree by providing tuition assistance. Additional details and a flyer are available on our website, <https://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/news-to-note/>.



**Lutherans for Life** is holding a **Regional Conference** at **Ruthfred Free Lutheran Church** in **Bethel Park** on **Saturday, September 26**. The 2020 theme is *From Invisible to Indispensable*. "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable..." (1 Corinthians 12:22). Additional information about the conference, its speakers, and registration can be found on the Lutherans for Life website, <https://lutheransforlife.org/conference/>.

The theme for the **2022 National Youth Gathering** in Houston, Texas has been announced: **In All Things**. It is based on Colossians 1:15-20. [Click here](#) to watch the reveal video. Want to receive Gathering email updates? Visit the website (<https://lcmsgathering.com/>), scroll to the bottom of the landing page, and subscribe with your preferred email address. Students currently entering 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade can attend the 2022 Gathering as participants.



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