



September 2020

Good Shepherd Monthly News

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 1, Issue 6

September 2020: A Different Fall Kickoff

It's September. The new school year is beginning, and that is synonymous with Good Shepherd's Fall Kickoff. Usually, Sunday School begins, we return to two Sunday morning worship services, and we have our annual church picnic. However, 2020 is a different year. Traditions are being modified. So what does Fall 2020 look like at Good Shepherd?

Sunday School. Teachers and the Reopening Team have been discussing the possibility of restarting Sunday School and Adult Discovery Time. This group believes these classes can begin again, and anticipate an early October start date. Leaders will be seeking your input before a decision is made. Look for a survey to come out in the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions concerning Sunday School or you would like to make sure your child is included on the Sunday School roster, please send an

[email to the Sunday School Superintendent.](#)

Sunday Worship. We will continue to have a single Sunday morning worship service at 10am. Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month. We are now streaming our worship LIVE on YouTube at 10am on Sunday morning. [Subscribe to our YouTube channel](#) to receive automatic notifications when we schedule the live services or when new videos are uploaded to the channel. Livestreaming can also be accessed via the Good Shepherd website. Click the button for LIVE WORSHIP on our [Online Worship](#) page on Sundays at 10am (EST).

Church Picnic. Unfortunately, we will have to wait until we can safely gather in a large group to enjoy this food and fellowship. Praying we can enjoy a picnic together in 2021.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>September 2020: A Different Fall Kickoff</i> | 1 |
| <i>2020-2021 Preschool Plans</i> | 2 |
| <i>Monday Moment: Contributions welcome!</i> | 3 |
| <i>Get Connected: Additional opportunities to serve</i> | 3 |
| <i>Calendar</i> | 4 |
| <i>Birthdays / Anniversaries</i> | 5 |
| <i>Eat Out and Support Good Shepherd LWML</i> | 5 |
| <i>Prayer Requests</i> | 6 |

Sunday School Questions? [Send an email to sundayschool@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:sundayschool@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)

Ministry News

Good Shepherd Christian Preschool: 2020-2021 Plans

Good Shepherd Christian Preschool not opening in September is the hardest decision the school has had to make in recent years. In evaluating all the options, the staff and board always have one thing in mind: "The children come first." The needs of the children come first, the safety of the children come first and the emotional support of the children come first

Given the social distancing guidelines and restrictions, it was determined the staff could not adequately meet the emotional needs of the children. Preschool is the building block of a child's feelings of physical safety and emotional safety in school. The teachers want to be able to comfort your child when they are upset, and can not do that under the current conditions. Many parents returning to Good Shepherd know that when a child is sick, a staff person frequently holds the child to comfort them until an adult is able to pick them up. This level of comfort and reassurance would not be able to take place for the upcoming school year. We feel this to be detrimental to their emotional needs. In the years past when parents would drop a child off and the child was clearly distressed from the parent leaving the teacher or myself could hold them, walk them around the school, visit me in the office to help ease their mind, etc. This year, once again with restrictions, we would not be able to provide that level of comfort.

Additionally, consistency is key for any child and the ever changing environment and guidelines will not allow for consistency for the upcoming school year. Children learn best when they are comfortable in an environment and with all the changes that take place on a regular basis, unfortunately inconsistency is our only consistency.

The Preschool hopes to open in January 2021. In the interim, the Preschool Director, Ashley Miller, will provide support to parents during the fall. She will initiate a closed group for the 2020-2021 students to provide weekly themes, videos and opportunities to come together as a school virtually. We are a Christian Preschool, so there will be chapel time for the students to learn Bible stories and our chapel songs. This will be a free service and details will be given to parents soon.

Opening the Preschool in some capacity in January is the ultimate goal. The staff and board will work very hard to accomplish this goal, if at all possible. The staff truly miss the returning students, miss meeting the new students and miss the family environment that Good Shepherd Christian Preschool has always had on a day to day basis. As we move forward, the support of our Preschool families and of Good Shepherd is much appreciated.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. - Proverbs 3:5-6

Monday Moment: Contributions welcome!

Do you enjoy reading the thoughts in the weekly *Monday Moment*? Is there a thought YOU would like to share? Guest authors are always welcome! Your words don't have to be eloquent. Just share what is on your heart.

Want to remain anonymous? That's perfectly fine! Worried about finding a picture to go with your thought or formatting the text? No problem! Only simple words are needed. Formatting and all other technical aspects will be taken care of for you. Simply email the office with your thought, and look for it in a future *Monday Moment*.

So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. - Isaiah 55:11

Get Connected: Additional opportunities to serve

Do you have a heart for missions? Is group facilitation your strength? Are you passionate about photography? Are you skilled in audio/visual equipment and software? **Visit the Get Connected page on our website and check out the various areas available to serve within Good Shepherd.** Find your fit and then fill out the designated form at the bottom of that webpage to share with us your interests. We'll then get you connected with the leader in that service area.

Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM) facilitates cooperation among the LCMS congregations in and around the Pittsburgh area to support the mission work of the church. PALM publishes *The Pittsburgh Lutheran* electronically, 10 times per year. Good Shepherd Christian Preschool is a recipient of yearly scholarships distributed by Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Schools which falls under the PALM umbrella. Good Shepherd is a member congregation of PALM, entitled to 3 delegates (2 lay members and a professional church worker) to attend its annual meeting in September. Prayerfully consider representing Good Shepherd as a delegate. If you feel called or have questions about being a delegate, contact the church office (412-884-3232).

*Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. -
Philippians 2:4*

Be sure to check goodshepherdpittsburgh.org for a live calendar and up-to-date information.

September 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| | | <i>1</i> <i>6p Scrapbookers</i> | <i>2</i> <i>7:30p Narc. Anon</i> | <i>3</i> <i>5p Soccer Shots (Makeup)</i> | <i>4</i> <i>7p Plastic Model</i> | <i>5</i> |
| <i>6</i> <i>10a Worship with Communion</i> | <i>7</i> <i>7p Boy Scouts</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>9</i> <i>7:30p Narc. Anon</i> | <i>10</i> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i> | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i> |
| <i>13</i> <i>10a Worship</i> | <i>14</i> <i>5p Soc Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i> | <i>15</i> <i>6p Scrapbookers</i> | <i>16</i> <i>7:30p Narc. Anon</i> | <i>17</i> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>19</i> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i> |
| <i>20</i> <i>10a Worship with Communion</i> | <i>21</i> <i>5p Soc Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i> | <i>22</i> | <i>23</i> <i>7:30p Narc. Anon</i> | <i>24</i> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>26</i> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i> |
| <i>27</i> <i>10a Worship</i> | <i>28</i> <i>5p Soc Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i> | <i>29</i> | <i>30</i> <i>7:30p Narc. Anon</i> | | | |

September Birthdays

9/5—Rick Geis

9/6—Ron Gerstacker, Jr.

9/8—Helen Lee Coleman

9/8—Cecilia Scheller

9/12—Derek Scheller

9/12—Rich Ulanowicz

9/19—Pam Bickel

9/20—Bethany Barkell

9/23—Jim Stocker

9/25—Eli Rea

9/27—Mikey Yakemowicz

9/28—Jason Moore-Gray

9/29—Chloe Kramer

9/29—Lauren Snyder

9/30—Mikey Kudis



September Anniversaries

9/3—Tim and Sandy Marcovecchio (26)

9/6—Marty and Gail Snyder (40)

9/11—Jeremy and Amy Frantz (16)

9/17—Ron and Donna Dunmire (32)

9/19—Deke and Cis Scheller (39)



Eat Out and Support Good Shepherd LWML

Need a break from cooking at home? Dine-in or take-out at Eat 'n Park with a gift card purchased from the Women's Ministry. A percentage of your purchase benefits the LWML as they raise funds to support missions and to make improvements on Good Shepherd's kitchen. Gift cards are available from Ruth Johnson.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

418 Maxwell Dr.
Whitehall, PA 15236

Phone: 412-884-3232

Email: office@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org

Website: goodshepherdpittsburgh.org



Prayer Requests for Members, Family and Friends:

Family of Robert K. Hartung upon his passing, Family of Ella Mae Held upon her passing, Sandy, Jennifer Meyer, Dave Barone; Families in the community of Red Lake, Ontario; Dorothy Stubock, Ellen Linhart, Earl and Mary Jane Richards, Mary Jane Forrest, Kristen, Joan Funaiock, Evie Jones, Fred "Butch" Taylor, Ella Mae Held, Dottie Tritsch, Florence Christiansen, David Hesse, Scott Garretson, Darlene Stocker, Hope Leydig, Dennis Lee, John Wilson, Sam Langol, Linda, Lorraine S., Barb Hentsch, Melissa Medved, Anne Malone, David DeBor, Mary Hesse, Gary Cooper, Carolyn Uhlyar, Joan Steigerwald, Norma Mikoleit, Rose Spencer, John Simpson, Tillie Koerth, Don Richards, Pam Spechtold, Nancy Edmundson, Rose Marie Koehnke, Joan Uhrinak

Follow Good Shepherd on Social Media



[Facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/](https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/)



[Instagram.com/goodshepherdpg/](https://www.instagram.com/goodshepherdpg/)



[Youtube.com/channel/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchOfSouthHills](https://www.youtube.com/channel/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchOfSouthHills)