



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills and Christian Preschool

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 Pastor Tim: pastortim@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org
 Website: <https://www.goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/>



WEEKLY TIDINGS: SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 13, 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.*

FIND THE BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE

2020 is definitely a year like no other. Distancing, isolation and masks have been our focus. Lives, work, school, entertainment and recreation have been turned upside down. And so has our church life. We bookend our conversations with groans and sighs about the turmoil we are living through. And yet ...

... And yet in the middle of our crisis, we may find **the very hand of God**. 2020 may be the year of God reshaping many things, including His own people, His church. Over the past few months, the stream of communications has been increasing. Worship, Children, Discovery Time, Life Groups, Preschool are being evaluated and approached like never before. Nothing looks the same as it did a year ago. New things have appeared. Some things will not get picked back up, and everything is changing to some degree or the other.

We have a few options. One option is to complain about what has been lost. Another option is to see this as God's opportunity to prune our ministries so that we can become more focused and stronger in the ministries we step into.

I always wondered why the people who pruned would cut off **healthy** branches along with the **dead** ones. They explained to me that **more branches do not mean more fruit**. On the contrary, too many branches may look healthy, but do not produce the abundant and healthier fruit that a pruned bush produces.

If God is helping us to **prune**, then it is up to us to ask him for direction and to choose what branches/ministries to cut off, and to **invest in the few branches**/ministries in which we focus our energies and resources. The purpose of Christ's church is not to see how many branches we have, but to produce an **abundance of good fruit**.

God's hand is in this. Will we choose to fight **against** Him, or move **with** him?

- Pastor Tim

RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS: Sandy, Jennifer Meyer

****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, 9/6	10a	Worship Service with Communion
Monday, 9/7	LABOR DAY: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
	7p	Boy Scouts
Tuesday, 9/8	7p	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 9/9	7:30p	Narcotics Anonymous
Thursday, 9/10	5p	Soccer Shots
Friday, 9/11		
Saturday, 9/12	9:15a	Soccer Shots
Sunday, 9/13	10a	Worship Service

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

LAST WEEK (8/30/2020) AT GOOD SHEPHERD: OFFERING: \$2,609.00 ATTENDANCE: 44

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

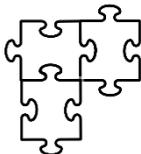
Assisting Elder:	Tim Marcovecchio
Usher:	Mike Ressler
Worship Tech:	Jeremy Frantz
Counters:	Jim Marlowe
Altar Guild:	Louise Kratz, Arlene Stroebel, Kim Ressler, Darlene Stocker, Chris Vogel



CHANCEL FLOWERS are placed to the Glory of God for blessings received by the Decorating Committee.

GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Good Shepherd worship is now streaming LIVE on Sunday mornings via our YouTube Channel! [Click here](#) on Sunday mornings at 10am (EST) to watch the live service. [Subscribe to our YouTube Channel](#) to receive automatic notifications when we schedule the live services or when new videos are uploaded to our 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. **Thanks to everyone who has helped to make livestreaming a reality.**



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 ministry area.



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

amazon smile Don't forget when you shop on Amazon, Good Shepherd participates in the **Amazon Smile** program. Simply login to your account via Amazon Smile and choose Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills, Pittsburgh, PA. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Good Shepherd.

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:

Redeemer Lutheran School (with campuses in Oakmont and Penn Hills) is hosting its **25th Annual Golf Scramble** on **Sunday, September 13, 2pm at Rolling Fields Golf Course in Murrysville.** The event will have a modified shotgun start. The cost is \$75 which includes 18 holes, cart, hot dog and drink at the turn, dinner and prizes. Proceeds benefit the school. Social distancing will be adhered to. For more information or to register, call Charlie Buttgerit (412-477-4010) or Redeemer School (412-793-5884).

The **Lutheran Marriage Encounter** Weekend schedule for September 18-20 is now virtual. The weekend begins at 8pm Friday and ends at 3pm on Sunday. Registration is limited, and the fee is \$100 per couple. Visit www.GodLovesMarriage.org to register. For questions, contact Northeast US Directors, Fred & Julie Schamber at 724-325-3166 or fjschamber@comcast.net.

Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM) is holding its annual meeting on Sunday, September 20 at First Trinity Evangelical-Lutheran Church, 535 N. Neville Street, Pittsburgh. Good Shepherd is entitled to 3 delegates (2 lay members and a professional church worker). 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).

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