



January 2021

Good Shepherd Monthly News

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 2, Issue 1

Reopening Update

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We continue to proactively assess and manage our practices at Good Shepherd to minimize the impact on our Mission and Ministry and Congregational Family. We have had cases of Covid on an individual basis, but each has been addressed in a manner to prevent spread and mitigate risk. To the best of my knowledge, all persons who have contracted Covid have fully recovered and did not return to Good Shepherd until they were cleared by their Doctor.

Our Church Services and Pre-school continue to operate effectively and serve their Stakeholders. We are blessed by great Teachers and a wonderful Pre-school Director in Ashley Miller. Likewise, Ken Meyer has been extremely attentive to the cleaning and sanitation requirements in our Facilities. Sandy Marcovecchio is extremely sensitive to balance the needs of indi-

viduals and those of the Congregational Family as a whole. Sandy regularly notifies Scott Thurston, Ray Vogel or I of any issues that arise which present a potential concern so that we can discuss them and deliberate on what action to take to address them. Finally, Scott Thurston calls Meetings as needed to plan for upcoming events and to reach a consensus on potentially controversial issues.

I hope this gives everyone some peace of mind. While we still are operating in an environment of the Covid pandemic, it is being managed to allow us to continue to provide service and support, while minimizing risk.

Your Brother in Christ,
Ray Betler, Good Shepherd Vice President and Reopening Committee Chairman

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Ministry News

Reaching Out In So Many Ways

2020 has been a difficult year and yet, Good Shepherd members continue to embrace the mission of reaching out to share the love of Christ. Individually, we have members who are prayer warriors or write personal notes to shut ins, and members who volunteer to work at the SHIM food distribution events or as a 412 Food Rescue Hero. As a congregation family, we purchased and donated a significant number of school supplies in the fall for distribution to South Hills area students through SHIM and in December we provided numerous Christmas gifts to residents and staff at Concordia of the South Hills. And, we continue to collect food for the food bank down the street at St. Elizabeth's. Musicians volunteer their time to make recordings to share the Good News of Jesus through song for online worship, while lay leaders volunteer to prepare and record sermons and devotions to be shared with the world via YouTube and our website.

2020 was definitely a unique year, and it reminded us of the importance of taking care of ourselves to be physically able to continue to care for our loved ones and help those in our community. 2020 reminded us that we are all in this life together, and God is our anchor. Together we serve Good Shepherd and the community it serves to share the love of Christ. Let us encourage one another and put our trust in the Lord. He will provide and He will show us the way.

Do you feel called to serve in a new way at Good Shepherd? There are many opportunities to share your talents, serving at Good Shepherd and beyond. Maybe you are interested in guiding the mission work of Good Shepherd. Maybe video editing is your passion. Maybe you have a desire to serve on the altar guild. Check out the [Get Connected](#) page on the website to identify some ways to serve and reach out. You may also contact the office directly, share your interests, and we'll get you connected with the appropriate ministry leader to learn more.

Sunday morning worship continues in-person at 10am and it is also being live streamed.

[Click here](#) Sundays at 10am to join us in worship via our YouTube Channel. A recording of the service continues to be made available midweek.

2021 Offering Envelopes and 2020 Year-End Financial Statements

If you haven't picked up your **2021 offering envelopes**, they continue to be **available in the narthex through January 24th**. After that, the envelopes may be picked up from the church office. If you did not receive an envelope number and would like one, please inform the church office.

The **2020 year-end financial statements** will be **available in the narthex beginning Sunday, January 10th**. Please review your statement immediately to determine if corrections need to be made.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.—Psalm 119:105 (ESV)

The New Photo Directory Has Arrived!

In January 2020, Council agreed to move forward with a new photo directory. The Lifetouch contract was signed and photography dates were scheduled for early June. In March, everything became unpredictable with the onset of Covid. Lifetouch was on hiatus as a non-essential business. Eventually, Lifetouch employees got back to work and our photography dates were rescheduled for August. We were truly blessed because less than two weeks after our August photo sessions occurred, Lifetouch photography for churches shut down again. The effect of Covid on businesses continued to delay the directory production process. Finally, after much patience and continued effort, Good Shepherd's new photo directory has arrived.

Those families who were photographed, or who submitted a photo for the directory, are entitled to a complimentary directory. This directory is available from the church office staff. Directories may be retrieved on Sunday mornings in January before or after worship. Directories may also be picked up on weekdays during office hours (8:30am-4pm). If you would like to make alternate arrangements to receive your directory, please contact the church office via phone or email.

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

January 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 <i>New Year's Day</i> Church Office Closed	2
3 <i>10a Worship with Communion</i>	4 Preschool Resumes <i>7p Boy Scouts</i>	5 <i>6p Scrapbookers</i> <i>7p Council-Elders Mtg (YR)</i>	6 <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	7	8	9 <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>
10 <i>10a Worship</i>	11 <i>7p Boy Scouts</i>	12	13 <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	14 <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	15	16 <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>
17 <i>10a Worship with Communion</i>	18 <i>7p Boy Scouts</i>	19 <i>6p Scrapbookers</i>	20 <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	21 <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	22	23 <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>
24 / 31 <i>10a Worship</i>	25 <i>7p Boy Scouts</i>	26	27 <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	28 <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	29	30 <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>

Worship Sermon Schedule:

- 1/3—In-person sermon by Pastor Barry Keurulainen, retired pastor formerly at St. Luke, Cabot
- 1/10—Pre-recorded sermon to be determined
- 1/17—In-person sermon by Pastor Barry Keurulainen, retired pastor formerly at St. Luke, Cabot
- 1/24—Pre-recorded sermon to be determined
- 1/31—Pre-recorded sermon to be determined

January Birthdays

1/1—Larry Krueger

1/6—Georgia Nader

1/7—Dave Barone

1/9—Earl Richards (90)

1/11—Ron Gerstacker

1/14—Makenna Glasser

1/15—Art Malenky

1/16—Kari Sawchak

1/17—Sandy Kirkwood

1/17—Gavin Scheller

1/19—Nikki Yakemowicz

1/19—Greg Zeman

1/20—Zachary Zeman

1/21—Kim Ressler

1/24—Aiden Winters

1/29—Nancy Rodriguez

1/31—Pastor Tim Bickel



January Anniversaries

1/7—Mark and Laurie Coleman (15)

1/11—Earl and Mary Jane Richards (57)

1/12—Larry and Dee Moore (53)



Altar Flowers in 2021

Beautify our worship service with a floral arrangement in honor or memory of a loved one, or for a special event in your life. Your message will be noted in the Weekly Tidings. The floral arrangement costs \$20. Take the flowers home with you after the worship service or donate them to be given to a shut-in (when we can do that safely again).

There are many weeks still available to provide the altar flowers in 2021. Sign-up on the flower chart posted on the bulletin board outside the church office or [click here to sign-up electronically](#). Checks are made payable to *Good Shepherd Altar Guild*.

Shop with AmazonSmile, Support Good Shepherd

Thanks to everyone who shops with AmazonSmile to support Good Shepherd. Most recently Good Shepherd received \$36.67 for the 3rd quarter, for a cumulative impact of \$240.62 over the last few years. If you don't yet have an AmazonSmile account, [click here](#) to sign-up and shop for gifts at AmazonSmile to generate donations for **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills**. Browse and shop like you normally do, and Amazon will donate 0.5% to our church every time you shop.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

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Prayer Requests for Members, Family and Friends:

Diana Pifer, Robin Hesse, Don Richards, Pastor Tim, Debbie Volland, Tiffany, Jennifer Meyer, Dorothy Stubock, Earl and Mary Jane Richards, Mary Jane Forrest, Kristen, Joan Funaiock, Evie Jones, Fred “Butch” Taylor, 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, Pam Spechtold, Nancy Edmundson, Rose Marie Koehnke, Joan Uhrinak

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



[Youtube.com/channel/UC3Vh06JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Vh06JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ)

(or, go to YouTube and search for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills)

If you are receiving this newsletter in your home mailbox, consider giving us an email address, and you'll receive the newsletter more quickly each month. And just a reminder, the Monthly Newsletter and Weekly Tidings can be viewed on the website at: <https://www.goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/news-to-note/>.