

Good Shepherd Monthly News

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 2, Issue 3

Your Being Journey

Commit to Community

Study Scripture

Prioritize Prayer

Seek Solitude

Choose Church



Which of these habits do you engage in the most? Which habit is the most challenging? As Good Shepherd continues through the **Being Challenge**, in community we are connected, completing the same daily readings and engaging in the same group study. But the individual journey each of us takes to grow in our relationship with God is unique. Encourage one another, pray for one another, and BE there for one another. Let your light shine so that together we can BE like Jesus, serving Him and spreading the gospel to the world.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
—1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

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Join the Prayer Chain Team

Good Shepherd is updating its prayer chain and Rita Winker has agreed to chair this effort. She will be contacting current prayer chain members to determine continued interest in participation. We will be incorporating alternate forms of communication, such as texting and e-mail, to make sure dissemination of information to each member of the team is consistent and timely. **If you are not currently part of the prayer chain but want to be added to the team, please contact Rita**—phone or text 412-884-2115 or e-mail ritawinker@comcast.net. Prayer requests from the congregation can be directed to Rita, preferably by phone for urgent requests. These requests can also be directed to the church office.

Ministry News

Call Process: Update for a New Pastor

In February, a pastor call committee was created. The committee, comprised of Ray Vogel (chair), Scott Thurston, Jean Barone, Grace Chioda, Laurie Coleman, Sam Ressler, and Sandy Marcovechio, received and reviewed candidate information provided by the District. The committee narrowed the candidate list and has begun the interview process. Pastor Barry Keurulainen provides guidance to the call committee, joining the meetings and interviews via the phone. If you have questions, please speak with any committee member.

*And he said to them,
'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'*—Mark 16:15

LWML Updates: Local and National

Eat'n Park gift cards in \$10 and \$25 denominations are available from Ruth Johnson. When the current stock of gift cards are gone, LWML is suspending participation in this fundraiser.

The President of the LWML Eastern District has been sponsoring a **monthly Zoom Meeting** to see everyone and say “Hi” and “How are you doing?” and participate in a Bible study. They have been occurring on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. The Zoom meeting opens at 6:45pm to chat and the meeting is from 7-8pm. The meeting remains open 30 more minutes to chat or discuss the Bible study or anything else further. If you would like the link to this monthly meeting, contact Susan Bell (our District President) susanbell557@comcast.net.

The **LWML has met its Mite goal for the 2019-2021 biennium**. From the LWML eNews Issue #321 Special Edition, 2/15/2020 — “The LWML, by God’s grace, has reached the mission goal of \$2.1 million set for the 2019-2021 biennium. This means that all mission grants selected for this biennium can be funded! God has great plans for spreading His Gospel story through those ministries.” God has great plans for the 2021-23 mission grants also. Continue to bring in your mite donations and place them in the Mite box located in the narthex.

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 Update: Covid's impact on our Ministry

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Already two months of this year are behind us. Our Preschool has continued to flourish under the awesome leadership of Ashley Miller. Registration has opened for next year already. Two teachers came down with Covid but the Preschool continued, taking caution along the way, but not preventing our Little Ones from being exposed to a Christian Education in a Christian Setting.

Our Worship Services also continue every Sunday. Even special Services for Ash Wednesday and a Friday Communion Service were conducted. We know that some who worship contracted Covid but it has not stopped our Services to be offered and for people who feel comfortable to participate to do so safely. Funeral Services have been held, Weddings also, Baptisms. We have tried our best to maintain a good balance between being safe, cautious, protective while still BEING OPEN for business; the business of our Lord and ourselves as His Followers.

Ray Vogel has done an incredible job organizing the Sunday Services and coordinating the Ministry of Pastor Keurulainen. Pastor Barry has found comfort at Good Shepherd and the people who have interacted with him have been comforted and supported by him. We are grateful that Pastor Keurulainen has come out of his retirement as quickly as he entered it; what a tremendous blessing for Good Shepherd. Equal blessings are found in the work of Joan Krueger, Jeremy Frantz, Sandy Marcovecchio and Ken Meyer who prepare the Services each Sunday and the Church facilities.

Kim Ressler diligently sends devotions of encouragement to each of us every Monday; thank you Kim!

We haven't opened Sunday School but we have offered Life Group engagement for anyone who is interested. Life Groups started on Valentine's Day and will go on for six weeks throughout Lent. It is not too late to join. Multiple times frames are available on different days. You can participate virtually or in-person.

Outside Groups continue to meet at Good Shepherd and utilize our facilities. These gatherings are done within the Covid guidelines and proper cleaning and sanitation is done after each session.

Please keep in your Prayers those who are isolated, shut-in and sick. If you have time, pick up the phone or send a note to just one person. If everyone takes that opportunity we can touch everyone in our Church Family on a regular basis.

As vaccines are administered and the risk of covid transmission reduces, we will continue to assess other changes which we can make to enhance our spiritual lives at Good Shepherd. If you have comments, ideas or suggestions, please feel free to share them through the Church Office and Sandy will get them to the appropriate individual.

Your Brother in Christ, Ray Betler

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.—1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV)

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

[Click here for the Preschool's Online Sarris Candy Fundraiser.](#) Use Group ID # 10-0940.

[Click here to order Easter flowers.](#) Contact the office with any questions.

March 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 7p Boy Scouts	2 6p Scrapbookers	3 7:30p Narc Anon 7p Council- Elders Mtg (YR)	4 5:35p Soccer Shots	5	6 9:50a Soccer Shots
7 10a Worship Easter Flower Orders are Due	8 7p Boy Scouts	9 Preschool Parent Teacher Conferences	10 7:30p Narc Anon	11 5:35p Soccer Shots	12 7p Plastic Model Society	13 9:50a Soccer Shots Makeup
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins 10a Worship with Communion	15 7p Boy Scouts	16 6p Scrapbookers	17 7:30p Narc Anon	18 5:35p Soccer Shots Makeup	19	20 First Day of Spring 9:15a Soccer Shots
21 10a Worship	22 7p Boy Scouts	23	24 7:30p Narc Anon	25 5p Soccer Shots	26	27 9:15a Soccer Shots
28 Palm Sunday 10a Worship with Communion	29 Preschool Sarris Candy Fundraiser Ends 7p Boy Scouts	30	31 7:30p Narc Anon			

Worship Sermon Schedule:

- 3/7—Pre-recorded sermon—**Being Challenge:** Prioritize Prayer
- 3/14—Visiting Preacher—Pastor Barry Keurulainen
- 3/21—Pre-recorded sermon—**Being Challenge:** Choose Church
- 3/28—Visiting Preacher—Pastor Barry Keurulainen

Upcoming Holy Week Schedule:

- Palm Sunday, 3/28—10am
- Maundy Thursday, 4/1—6pm
- Good Friday, 4/2—6pm
- Easter Sunday, 4/4—9am & 11am

Guest Preacher for all Holy Week Services:
Pastor Barry Keurulainen

March Birthdays

3/1—Tori Voland	3/23—Louise Kratz
3/5—Dorothy Gerstacker	3/24—Jayden Rawson
3/7—Alexis Kuskie	3/25—Joshua Hoellein
3/7—Carol Sue Molinari	3/25—Tillie Koerth
3/8—Gary Wobb	3/29—Aimee Arnold
3/9—Scott Thurston	3/29—Matt Betler
3/14—Rachel Barone	3/29—Darryn Sleeman
3/14—Hayslee Kochanski	3/30—Grace Voland
3/15—Hannah Thurston	3/31—Jane Watkins



March Anniversaries

- 3/24—Anthony and Grace Chioda (3)
- 3/27—Joshua and Stephanie Glasser (11)



Memorials Received

Thanks to all those who gave memorials to Good Shepherd in memory of loved ones and friends during the month of January:

In memory of Ellen Linhart—Ray & Joneen Betler (GMAC)

In memory of Dorothea Stubock, Linda Carver's mother—Michael & Georgia Nader, Ray & Joneen Betler (GMAC)

In memory of Darlene Stocker—George & Rose Ann Zimmerman, Carole Shade (LWML); Donna McCoy, Ray & Joneen Betler (GMAC)

In memory of Joan Funaiock—Rose Spencer, George & Rose Ann Zimmerman, Carole Shade (LWML); Ron & Donna Dunmire, Arlene Stroebel, Ron & Dot Gerstacker, Bob & Kari Sawchak (GMAC); The Moore Family (Preschool); Ray & Chris Vogel (Audio-Visual); Debbie Mahoney (Music Ministry)

In memory of Sumara Neddermeyer and Alan Schultheis—Ray & Joneen Betler (GMAC)

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Prayer Requests for Members, Family and Friends:

Betsy Thurston, Lisa Brady, Larry Mikoleit, Lou Pingel, Don Matthews, Phyllis, Robin Hesse, Don Richards, Pastor Tim, Debbie Voland, Tiffany, Jennifer Meyer, Earl and Mary Jane Richards, Mary Jane Forrest, Evie Jones, Fred "Butch" Taylor, Dottie Tritsch, Florence Christiansen, David Hesse, Scott Garretson, 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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[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)

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