



April 2021

Good Shepherd Monthly News

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 2, Issue 4

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection, join us during **Holy Week** for worship on **Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 6pm** and on **Good Friday, April 2 at 6pm**. Worship will be led by Pastor Barry Keurulainen and both services will be [livestreamed](#).

Join us for a **Festival Resurrection Service on Sunday, April 4**. We will have two **identical worship services** led by Pastor Barry Keurulainen at **9am and 11am**. Communion and a Children's Message will be included in both services. We are requesting families indicate their service intention in advance to the office or [online via the website](#), *but registration is not required* to attend worship. And if you can't join us in person, the services will be [livestreamed](#) also.

VBS: Rocky Railway—June 21-25

Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!

What a year we have had! One thing is clear—we **need to reach our children with the message of the power and love of Jesus**. Prayerfully consider giving your time and talent to this important ministry. There are so many ways to be involved. Youth (who have completed 6th grade by June 2021) and Adults interested in learning more about volunteering, contact Jean Barone (jrbear6399@verizon.net). Don't forget, adults 18 yrs.+ will also need to have their clearances to volunteer.



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Stay tuned for more information about registration and the daily schedule. We are still working out the details of the structure of the program to ensure compliance with the ever-changing guidelines. We appreciate your patience and will share more details soon.

Ministry News

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have prepared 40 days for a wonderful blessing, the undeserved grace of our Heavenly Father demonstrated in the fulfillment of the promise of our Salvation. Throughout the Lenten Season, many people have participated in the ***Being Challenge***. Throughout the period we studied the importance of being disciplined about the Community around us, reading Scripture, going to God in Prayer, finding time to be alone with God and participating in Church.

We have been able to balance staying active as a Congregational Family without taking unnecessary risk. Worship service continues on a weekly basis with communion being offered when Pastor Keurulainen serves. Pastor Keurulainen has started Confirmation Classes again. We enjoyed the ***Being Challenge*** Study and several of Pastor Zach Zehnder's sermons as we progressed through the study. As vaccines continue to be rolled out, we will reassess activities at Church. Hopefully things will have progressed sufficiently that we can hold our Church Picnic this year. In between, we do plan to have Vacation Bible School. Jean Barone is leading VBS and is seeking people who are willing to serve.

Another area of success at Good Shepherd in our Ministry is the Preschool! I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the leadership of Ashley Miller; Preschool Director and the Teachers and Staff who had the courage to open the Preschool and who lovingly have taught and cared for the Children and Families they serve. There are approximately 40 days of preschool left. While one can see the light at the end of the tunnel, for as much success as this year has been, parental involvement this year has been at a minimum due to covid restrictions.

In an effort to find a way to have families come together, the **Preschool will be hosting a Food Truck Festival** in the parking lot on **May 14th from 5-8pm**. This is a safe way to gather family and friends to enjoy an evening outside.

There will be food trucks at the festival: Yovi's, a pretzel truck, an ice cream truck and a popcorn truck. The Preschool is inviting everyone; Preschool Families, the entire Congregation and the Community around Good Shepherd. Please place this event on your calendar and take the opportunity to finally be able to do something together; safely outside. Come and grab dinner or a snack, bring a blanket and have a picnic with your family or carry it home for dinner. The entire Preschool staff is looking forward to this event and are very appreciative that it was approved by the church counsel. We hope that you are able to come and enjoy this evening together!

We deeply appreciate the spiritual leadership, passion and compassion of Pastor Keurulainen. Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge those who quietly and lovingly continue to support the continued operations of our Church: Sandy M, Joan K, Jeremy F, Ken M, Ray V, Scott T, Jim M.

May we continue to love one another; remember often those you see, and even more so, those you do not.

Your Brother in Christ, Ray Betler, Good Shepherd Vice President & Reopening Committee Chair

Spring Sunday School

After a very long year, **we are resuming Sunday School for 4 sessions this spring: April 11, April 25, May 2 and May 16.** We will meet **after the 10am service for about one hour.** All children ages Preschool through High School are welcome! If your child is not registered for Sunday School, please contact Laura Thurston at sundayschool@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org.

We will meet in the sanctuary for an opening and then depending on the number attending, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall or outside if the weather permits. Masks will be required and we ask families to follow the same guidelines the schools are requiring. Please [email Laura](#) if you plan to send your child/children so we can plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing the kids' smiling faces again!

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. —Proverbs 22:6 (ESV)

Holy Land Travel Opportunity

In the Footsteps of Jesus: A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land—11 Days: November 4-14, 2021

Join Pastor Barry Keurulainen and Pastor Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour, on a tour to the Holy Land. Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee, Nazareth and more. If you are interested in learning more, pick up a detailed brochure, available in the church office.



Photo by [Sander Crombach](#) on [Unsplash](#)
Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem, Israel

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.

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

April 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>Preschool Spring Break</i> Maundy Thurs 5p Soccer Shots 6p Worship with Communion	2 <i>Spring Break</i> Good Friday 6p Worship	3 9:15a Soccer Shots
4 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9a Worship with Communion 11a Worship with Communion	5 <i>Preschool Spring Break</i> 5p Soccer Shots 7p Boy Scouts	6 6p Scrapbookers	7 7p Council/Elders 7:30p Narc Anon	8 5p Soccer Shots	9 7p Plastic Model Society	10 9:15a Soccer Shots
11 10a Worship 11a Confirmation / Sunday School	12 5p Soccer Shots 7p Boy Scouts	13	14 7:30p Narc Anon	15 5p Soccer Shots	16	17 9:15a Soccer Shots
18 10a Worship	19 5p Soccer Shots 7p Boy Scouts	20 6p Scrapbookers	21 7:30p Narc Anon	22 5p Soccer Shots	23	24 9:15a Soccer Shots
25 10a Worship with Communion 11a Confirmation / Sunday School	26 5p Soccer Shots 7p Boy Scouts	27	28 7:30p Narc Anon	29 5p Soccer Shots	30	

Worship Sermon Schedule:

- 4/1—Maundy Thursday—Pastor Barry Keurulainen
- 4/2—Good Friday—Pastor Barry Keurulainen
- 4/4—Easter Sunday—Pastor Barry Keurulainen
- 4/11—Pastor Barry Keurulainen
- 4/18—Pre-recorded Video Sermon
- 4/25—Pastor Barry Keurulainen

April Birthdays

4/1—Caleb Scheller

4/2—Alex Barkell

4/2—Maddie Thurston

4/3—Barb Hentsch

4/4—Michael Nader

4/6—Rebekah Johnston

4/8—Tino Martinez

4/8—Marty Snyder

4/8—Laura Thurston

4/9—Joshua Glasser

4/9—Nora Kudis

4/10—Amy Frantz

4/10—Christina Sebastian

4/14—Cindy Geis

4/14—Jakob Sleeman

4/15—Nicole Kochanski

4/18—Donnie Voland

4/21—Diane Johnston

4/24—Ella Frantz

4/25—Mike Rea

4/26—Sean Thurston

4/30—Tim Marcovecchio



April Anniversaries

4/1—John and Helen Lee Coleman (59)

4/26—Ray and Chris Vogel (52)



Memorials Received

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

In memory of Ellen Linhart—Randy Rathe (GMAC)

In memory of Darlene Stocker—Randy Rathe (GMAC)

In memory of Joan Funaiock—The Family of Joan Funaiock (Preschool, GMAC); Ray & Joneen Betler (GMAC); Marie Bakowski & Jen; Alberta Skalniak; Thomas & Kate McCaulley (Preschool)

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Prayer Requests for Members, Family and Friends:

Sherri, Betsy Thurston, Lisa Brady, Larry Mikoleit, Lou Pingel, Don Matthews, Phyllis, Robin Hesse, Don Richards, Pastor Tim, Debbie Volland, 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, 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)

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/>.