

September 2025 Newsletter

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills



Volume 2 Issue 9

From the Pastor's Desk

Seek His Face

"Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always." (Psalm 105:1-4)

A few years ago, Andie and I had the chance to go to South Dakota. It is a land that in its barren wilderness, there is a beauty that is hard to describe. While in South Dakota, we of course made the journey to see Mount Rushmore.

The four figures carved in stone on Mount Rushmore express the first 150 years of United States history. Why these four? The nation was guided by the vision and leadership of George Washington. Thomas Jefferson expanded our understanding of what it meant to be a nation, first in the Declaration of Independence and then in his vision of expanding our boundaries from coast to coast. Abraham Lincoln was not only a great leader, but he preserved the union while preserving the freedom and equality of all people. Theodore Roosevelt is the face most people have a hard time recalling when asked to recite from memory the four names of Mt. Rushmore. Theodore Roosevelt was the president who, at the turn of the twentieth century, saw the vision of America in the world community, as it moved from a rural republic to a world power.

Mount Rushmore represents one of the largest works of art on earth. Each face is 60 feet high. Compare that to the head on the Statue of Liberty which measures out at 17 feet tall. The nose of each president is 20 feet long and the mouth is 18 feet wide. If the entire body had been carved, the figures would have been 465 feet tall.

Looking at the faces of Mt. Rushmore creates a certain awe and wonder within a person, both in the work of art itself and in the memory of the four individuals it represents.

However, neither Mt. Rushmore, nor the faces it displays can come even close to inspiring me or changing my life as does the face of Jesus. These four men accomplished great things. But, who is like our God? Who has done the wonderful things that He has accomplished? This is the tone and attitude of the Psalmist as he writes Psalm 105. He is remembering all that God has done and is doing and his response is to say to all *"Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always."* (Psalm 105:4)

"Seek His face always!" In our common fellowship, in our appreciation of the awesome world He has created and above all in His Word and Sacrament, let us seek His face continually. This is His will. This is His pleasure. This is how our heart, mind and soul are wired. Let us seek His face, not because of what we shall gain from it but rather for the sheer love and praise of Him. In the glorious moments of life, as well as the moments when God seems to be hiding, let us seek His face.

"The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God." (Psalm 14:2)

To God Be The Glory

-Pastor Barry

In this Issue

From the Pastor's Desk	1
President's Corner	2
Calendar – September	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	4
Announcements	5
Announcements	6
Prayers	7

The President's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rally Day! September 7th is Rally Day! Rally for what, why, how? The purpose of Rally Day is to rally! The idea is that we, as a Congregation, use this gathering on Sunday, September 7th to come together and to strengthen relationships, reinforce for one another our common commitment to Good Shepherd and to one another. It is a day to appreciate the gift of one another. It is a day to have fun and to thank one another for what each has done to support our Church and Congregation Family.

People may be feeling a bit down about our recent Call being declined. It was not what we had hoped for but it is what the Lord willed. The Lord will send us another full time Pastor; in His time. In the meantime we have one another. And we have Pastor Barry, Pastor Adam and other support from which to draw. We have been given a new Call Candidate from President Pingel. Kim Ressler has already remobilized the Call Committee. We will do our diligence and continue our search.

Have Faith! Let's start this new Church year well! Let's focus on the things we can do! Let us be mindful of the Ministry opportunities in which we are involved. Let us look for opportunities to expand our Ministry, not decrease it. We do that individually and collectively. When opportunities present themselves, please say yes when you can.

Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!

Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

Your Brother in Christ, Ray

September 2025

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

[Click here](#) Sundays to join us in worship via our YouTube Channel.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day GSLC office Closed	2 5pm Meet the Teacher	3 5pm Meet the Teacher 7pm N/A	4 5pm Soccer Shots	5 GSLC office Closed 7pm IPMS	6
7 10:15a Sunday Worship 11:30a Fall Kick Off Picnic 12:30p BPFC 3pm Cub Scouts	8 7pm Boy Scouts	9 First Day of Preschool (Modified Schedule) GSLC Office Closed 6pm Scrapbooking	10	11 5pm Soccer Shots	12 GSLC office Closed	13
14 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Sunday Worship 12:30p BPFC	15 6:30p Council 7pm Boy Scouts	16 11:30a Preschool Soccer Shots	17 Pepperoni Roll Sale Starts	18 5pm Cub Scouts 5pm Soccer Shots	19 GSLC office Closed	20 5pm Bonfire
21 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Sunday Worship 12:30p BPFC	22 7pm Boy Scouts	23 11:30a Preschool Soccer Shots 6pm Scrapbooking	24	25	26 GSLC office Closed 5:00p Fall Festival	27 10am Oktoberfest Set-Up (LWML)
28 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Sunday Worship 11:30a LWML Oktoberfest 12:30p BPFC	29 5:15p Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	30 11:30a Preschool Soccer Shots				

BPFC – Pgh Nepali Church
 BCAP – Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh
 DEN – Cub Scouts
 N/A – Narcotics Anonymous
 PPS – Pittsburgh Performance Society
 Events in green are Good Shepherd Events
 Events in purple are Preschool Events

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

9/8 – Helen Lee Coleman

9/8 – Rose Ann Zimmerman

9/12 – Cecilia Scheller

9/12 – Rich Ulanowicz

9/23 – Jim Stocker

9/27 – Mikey Yakemowicz

9/28 – Jason Moore-Gray

9/29 – Chloe Kramer



Anniversaries

9/3 - Tim & Sandy Marcovecchio (31)

9/6 – Marty & Gail Snyder (45)

9/11 – Jeremy & Amy Frantz (21)

9/17 – Ron & Donna Dunmire (37)

9/19 – Deke & Cis Scheller (44)

9/23 – John & Ashley Winters (13)

9/27 – Ken & Sandy Kirkwood (22)



Good Shepherd Announcements

Church office hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 12:30pm

**If you have any pastoral care need, please feel free
to reach out to Pastor Barry at: 724-996-2160**

Call Committee Update

A month ago, we were awaiting the reply from Pastor Harry Smith to our call. A few weeks ago, Pastor Harry declined our call because he determined that his call to Our Redeemer in Irving, TX was not yet complete. Yes, we, as a Committee and as a congregation, were disappointed. But we continue to pray for discernment of God's will for the leadership of Good Shepherd.

Today, as I was composing this monthly update, the Eastern District issued us a new call list of five pastors. The committee will meet soon to discuss this list and determine what comes next.

In the meantime, I ask you all to consider what you want Good Shepherd to be in the months and years ahead. I see so much love for each other here. I see so much faith in Jesus Christ here. I see so much compassion for the community here. And I see so much potential to be even more. We are blessed to have two gifted ministers guiding and preaching, dedicated leaders, and a great number of volunteers who commit time and creativity and heart to keeping this church going, but I am convinced that we need a pastor. Having a pastor in a congregation is more than administering the sacraments - the call includes preaching and teaching, congregational care, and outreach. Merriam-Webster defines a pastor as "a spiritual overseer," and I will not deny my need for such a person in my life. I hope you see the need as well, as the Committee and I continue to search for the leader God intends for Good Shepherd. Thank you for your prayers for the search process.

-Kim Ressler

Preschool Announcements

School is right around the corner!

September 2nd & 3rd in the evening, will be Meet the Teacher. This is a casual opportunity for all the students in each class to get together and meet the teacher and other students.

The first day of school (modified schedule) is set for September 9th!

The preschool will start regular schedules on September 15th!

Each teacher has made a wish-list for items for their classroom. If you are interested in helping them, please reach out to Laura Thurston.

FLYC Announcements



Mark you calendars!!

Next bonfire is Saturday, September 20th at 5pm.

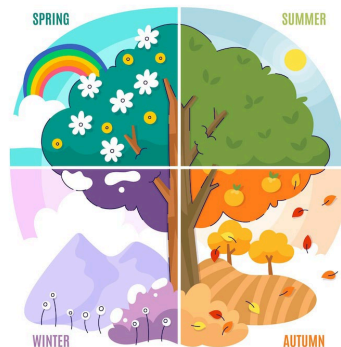
Come rain or shine. If it's raining there will be activities inside!

LWML Announcements



Join us for an **Oktoberfest luncheon** on **Sunday, September 28th beginning at 11:30am** hosted by the LWML. Invite your friends and family! The menu will include pork roast, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, German potato salad, corn, hot dogs, and an assortment of desserts. The cost to attend is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. If you have any questions, reach out to one of the LWML officers, Jeannie Barone, Carol Kagemann, Ruth Johnson, or Hollie Ulanowicz. Thank you for your support.

The LWML will hold its **Four Seasons** event on **Saturday, November 15th beginning at noon**. Each table will be decorated with a theme for one of the four seasons. We'll have lunch, a basket raffle, and a 50/50 drawing. The cost to attend will be \$10. More information will be provided as the date gets closer.



Prayer Requests:

Rachel Schaar, Cathy Cerminara, Karen Miller, Marian Maskow, Rev. Daniel Strussenberg, Don Steward, Cathy Sayre, Sarah Brooks, Peter Way, Michael Ayres, Mrs. Deemer, Carol DeAngelis, Larry Winker, Mike Brennan, Jim Stocker, Erika Similo, Jan Kleiser, Lisa Brady, Don Matthews, Pastor Tim, Tiffany, Mary Jane Forrest, Hope Leydig, Dennis Lee, Sam Langol, Melissa Medved, Anne Malone, Gary Cooper, Carolyn Uhlyar, Norma Mikoleit, Tillie Koerth, Joan Uhrinak, Arlene Stroebel, Bebe Bair, Iris and Steve Wutzke, Alice Meyer, Nancy Wauthier, John Schmidt, Zack, Michele Mulick, Mourice Williams, Dr. Bruce Bickel, Jay, Jake Herring, Carol Archer, Sean Sleeman, Eric Powell, Ron Gerstacker, Phyllis Hackbart, Jared Lubawski, Miranda, Kaiden



“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases” -Psalm 103:2-3

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[Youtube.com/channel/UC3Vho6JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Vho6JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ)

(or, go to YouTube and search @goodshepherdlutheranchurch3950)



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