



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

# The Shepherd's Scroll

Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching in Jesus' Name

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Dear Friends in Christ,

These are challenging times for all of us. Things we used to take for granted are no longer taken for granted. Places we used to go are now looked upon differently. Gatherings we used to assume are not happening in the same way. There are so many adjustments that have had to be made because of the impact of the COVID19 pandemic, and these have required faith and a renewed dedication to our core values as well as our complete trust in God, who continues to guide us in all that we do. One of the qualities that is required of all of us during these difficult days, is the gift of **patience**. James 5:7 says it well . . . *"Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also must be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."*

I am reminded of the story about a woman, who walked into her local grocery store with a three-year-old girl in the seat of her shopping cart. As they passed the cookie section the little girl asked for cookies and her mother told her "No." The little girl immediately began to whine and fuss, kicking her legs in irritation. The mother said quietly, *"Now, Monica, we just have half of the aisles left to go through; don't be upset. It won't be long."*

Soon they came to the candy aisle, and the little girl began to beg for candy. When her

mother said she couldn't have any, the little girl began to cry. The mother patiently responded with, *"There, there, Monica - only two more aisles to go, and then we'll be checking out."*

When they got to the checkout, the little girl immediately started clamoring for gum, and she threw a loud tantrum when her mother refused. With a deep sigh, the mother said, *"Monica, we'll be through this checkout lane in five minutes, and then you can go home and have a comfy nap."*

A man followed them out to the parking lot and stopped the woman to compliment her. *"I couldn't help noticing how patient you were with little Monica,"* he said. The mother laughed. *"My little girl's name is Tammy. I'm Monica."*

Reopening the church in some form is our future hope. We had an excellent experience this past month in our DRIVE-IN COMMUNION SERVICE and will hold another Drive-In Communion on September 2, 7:00pm in the back parking lot. Coming together for corporate, in-person worship in some way is our anticipation. But all of this is a "work in progress." We don't have any playbook to follow. Each decision made by our council and congregational leaders is a decision of faith.

I hope you will continue to pray for your council and leadership at Good Shepherd. Be patient and understanding of them, as we go through these circumstances never before faced. Most of all, be patient with yourself and others as we work together to make good choices and helpful decisions in the weeks and

months ahead. We will always try to make decisions which will keep our congregation safe and healthy, without endangering the well-being of our church. May God continue to guide us always as we seek to continue in ministry together in these weeks ahead.

Your brother in Christ,  
Pastor Knight Wells

### THANK YOU!

"I want to thank Good Shepherd for all the news I get and now sermons. Makes me feel I still belong."

Evelyn Paul

### ENGAGING ELECTED OFFICIALS

We are living in uncertain times. People are losing their jobs, businesses are closing temporarily or even permanently, and life as we know it has been turned upside down. Our elected officials are making decisions that affect our lives, and many times we feel like we don't have a say in what's happening around us.

For this reason, it is important to know how to advocate for ourselves and our community. Lutheran Social Services of Illinois will be presenting "**Advocacy 101: How to Engage with your Elected Officials**" on Wednesday, September, 2, at Noon Central Time.

Join us for an overview on how to engage your legislators, what that looks like during a pandemic, and what to expect when you meet with them. [Register online.](#)

Email [joy.medrano@LSSI.org](mailto:joy.medrano@LSSI.org) with questions.

Sincerely,

Joy Medrano

Director for Volunteer Engagement and

Disaster Preparedness

Coordinator for IL Lutheran Disaster Response



### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Myrna Johnson is our volunteer of the month. We are extremely grateful for her dedicated work on our church

property. Whether it was pruning, cutting branches, weeding, collecting sticks, or clearing brush Myrna could be found most of the month of August making our grounds look beautiful. Thank You Myrna for being such a wonderful steward of God's creation.



### 2020 FALL ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

**TOPIC: CHURCH HISTORY**--Presented by Pastor Chris Repp. Online via Zoom and Google Classrooms

**DATES:** Saturdays - September 19; October 3, 17, and 31; November 7 and 21

**TIME:** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

#### REQUIRED READING MATERIAL:

-Justo L. Gonzalez: An Essential Guide (Abingdon Press, 1996) and

-Justo L. Gonzalez: Story of Christianity: Volume 1 and Volume 2 (HarperOne, 2010)

**COST:** \$75 for Adult Learner, and \$150 for SAM Student

**DEADLINE:** Wednesday, September 2, 2020.

Online Registration available on the synod website [www.csis-elca.org](http://www.csis-elca.org)

For additional information email Pastor S. Blake Duncan at [prblake1@yahoo.com](mailto:prblake1@yahoo.com).

## From the Youth & Family Director's Desk



It was a used book store in Bloomington Normal not far from the children's museum where I picked up a copy of *The Pilgrim Way*. Through the spiritual journey of an anonymous Russian pilgrim, I was introduced to the Jesus Prayer; "Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

Next to the Lord's Prayer it may be the most famous prayer in the history of Christianity, and yet it may be new to you. Versions of the Jesus Prayer can be found in the Gospel of Luke with the Pharisee and the tax collector (18:13). Jesus praised the tax collector for humbling himself in prayer, saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" Christians later expanded the prayer to "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." In the Gospel of Mark, blind Bartimaeus cries out to Jesus, "Son of David, have mercy on me" (Mark 10:47). In Timothy Ware's book *The Orthodox Church an Introduction to Eastern Christianity*, he writes,

*"Orthodox religious thought lays the utmost emphasis on the image of God in the human person. Each of us is a 'living theology', and because we are God's icon, we can find God by looking within our own heart, by 'returning within ourselves': 'The kingdom of God is within you' (Luke 17:21). 'Know yourselves,' said St. Anthony of Egypt ' . . . He who knows himself, knows God.' 'If you are pure,' wrote St. Isaac the Syrian (late seventh century), 'heaven is within you; within yourself you will see the angels and the Lord of the angels.'" (Pg. 214)*

Orthodox Christians in the Middle Ages popularized this prayer, believing that the name of Jesus was a source of power and grace leading to a state of inner silence known as *hesychia*. This prayer can be considered a pathway into deep centering prayer and is often called the "prayer of the heart." It can be repeated silently while on long walks making it an inward practice that changes you as you move in the world. It may seem unrealistic, but the goal of this prayer is to repeat it in your head over and over all day long so that it becomes a holy rhythm in which you are attentive to God's presence with you.

**The goal of this prayer is to experience the power in repeatedly praying the name of Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says 'pray without ceasing,' which means never stop praying. Remember that in the book of Acts the disciples were constantly getting in trouble NOT for their belief in Jesus, but for what they were doing in JESUS' NAME. There is power in Jesus' name and we seldom appreciate it.**

I have no doubt that many of us are in a time of discernment and worrying about making the best decisions for ourselves and our families. But what if discernment is less about worrying which decision is the right one, and more about ALWAYS striving to think on Jesus in the midst of every decision and action we make? So here is my challenge to you this month: pick a day that you will attempt to repeat this simple prayer over and over in your head all day long. It's o.k. if you don't make it, just return back to it when you realize that you have stopped. For those of you shy about praying out loud in front of others, you will notice that the beauty of the Jesus Prayer is that you can be praying right by someone in the grocery store, next to another car stopped at a light, or while on a jog and no one will even know you are praying!



- Choose a variation:

- 1.) "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner."
- 2.) "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me."
- 3.) "Jesus, have mercy on me."
- 4.) "Christ, have mercy."

Find a comfortable seated position, go for a walk, or choose to engage this prayer while driving. When distractions crop up, simply return to the prayer. When the day is done reflect on your experience. Did you notice the presence of God or Christ more throughout the day? What was the value of repeating this prayer over and over silently? Did you notice any inner movements within your spirit as you prayed this prayer? And as always, be sure to end your reflection and day with a short prayer of gratitude.

Jason

## RECONCILING IN CHRIST

Our friends at Reconciling in Christ have put together 4 online Inclusive Church trainings that members of Good Shepherd are encouraged to register for. Of special interest is the training on "Bias and its Impact on Welcome". It is 1.5 hours, with three time options (Sep 15, Oct 13, or Nov 17, all on Tuesday evenings at 5:30pm).

The cost is \$35 per person and will be covered by our Discipleship team if you are interested in this training. Here is the link to register or to check out the other three workshops being offered:  
<https://www.reconcilingworks.org/trainings/>



## BEIRUT DISASTER

Lutheran World Relief recently learned that three 40-foot shipping containers filled with thousands of handmade mission quilts and school, personal and baby care kits were destroyed in the devastating August 4 explosions at the port of Beirut, Lebanon.

The shipment was destined for refugees living in Lebanon, principally from Syria and the Palestinian territories. The containers were part of a shipment to be distributed by [Anera](#), an NGO and longtime Lutheran World Relief partner that serves refugees and other vulnerable communities in the Middle East. The total value of the lost shipments was approximately \$624,000.

The loss of more than 22,000 quilts, sewn by individuals and members of Lutheran congregations across the U.S., could mean a more bitter winter for thousands of refugees. "Our quilts are made with love by those who painstakingly craft them, and they're deeply appreciated by the people in distress who receive them, both for the warmth and the message of care they provide," said Melanie Gibbons, deputy director, outreach and engagement at Lutheran World Relief. For more information or to donate:

<https://lwr.org/beirut>



Dear Colleagues,

Hello, my name is Priscilla Geerdes, and I serve at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Roberts, IL. I also serve on the board for St. Andrew's Lutheran Campus Center at the University of Illinois, and I'm married to the pastor at University Lutheran Ministry at Illinois State University, which has a student community called Agape. These are the two campus ministries in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. You may have had a chance to hear Pastor Amy and Pastor Matt speak at past Synod Assemblies.

This year's campus ministry is looking very different; as I'm sure your ministry is also looking different. What you might not know about these two ministries is that they have a strong focus on feeding our young people both spiritually and physically. The spiritual part is still going strong over Zoom, Facebook, and other media platforms, but serving actual food has changed dramatically in the pandemic. Both ministries serve young people who do not have access to regular, healthy food. Their hope is to still provide help to these students in need, so that they have meals to sustain them through the week, and as they meet for online worship.

I am asking people and churches to help feed these students with money, gift certificates to local restaurants, or gift certificates to grocery stores. I know many of you are also struggling in this time, but you may also have budgeted money for Lenten meals or summer gatherings that wasn't used. Please consider donating these funds to our campus ministries. Your support will help these

students eat well as they hear about Jesus and live in this year's reality. If you would like to donate something more specific or help the ministry in other ways, please contact either pastor.

University of Illinois  
Pastor Amy Thoren  
St. Andrew's Campus Center  
909 Wright St. South  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217-344-1593  
[lutherancampuscenter.org](http://lutherancampuscenter.org)

Illinois State University  
Pastor Matt Geerdes  
University Lutheran Ministry  
210 W. Mulberry St.  
Normal, IL 61761  
901-652-0221  
[agapeisu.org](http://agapeisu.org)

## APP OF THE MONTH

*The Chosen* is an app that lets you watch a new retelling of the Jesus story from the viewpoint of many of the people who were healed by Jesus.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Why a new TV show about Jesus? Because I have a passion for people to hear the "old, old story" again, for the very first time. I've heard the stories before, and many Jesus projects just take you from Bible story to Bible story, not spending as much time on the humanity and backstories of all these characters. So when we started to write a show that explores Jesus through the eyes of those around Him, we were repeatedly moved and excited. We explored the backstories of Simon Peter, Matthew, Mary Magdalene, Nicodemus, and a few of Jesus' miracle recipients, and in turn experienced Him in the way they did. We couldn't help but identify with them and ultimately, their redemption. Download the app now to begin watching for free!



## YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FOR EL SALVADOR

This past twelve months thirty-six people from Good Shepherd were involved in the Cristo Rey of Hope youth scholarship program. These individuals as a whole gave \$7,910 to help the youth at Cristo Rey.

We are again offering this program for anyone in our congregation who would be interested. Please let me know and we will get you the information on how it is setup. You may give any amount you wish per month. We send the total amount given on a quarterly basis.

The pictures and videos that we have received show them using the money for school supplies and since COVID-19 some food for the families. They also do a number of other activities for the youth.

See what individuals can do as a whole to help those in need. You may give any amount you wish per month and then an amount is sent on a quarterly basis. It has been extremely difficult for them with COVID-19 and two hurricanes. Mud slides have destroyed some of their homes and because of no transportation (distance) they have not been able to get to their work.

Thank you for your contributions in the past and the love that you share in this endeavor.

Jim Hack

## DRIVE-IN COMMUNION

GSLC's drive-in communion service will be held on Wednesday, September 2 at 7 p.m. in the back parking lot of the church. Entering from the back entrance on Devonshire Drive, congregants are encouraged to arrive beginning at 6:45 to pick up a communion packet from between our newly decorated pillars and park facing the church. Members will be wearing masks and gloves as they hand out the communion packets.

The driver of the car is asked to wear a mask, drive up and let the assistant know how many servings you will need for your car. Holy Communion in individually sealed packets of a wafer and grape juice will be offered to the driver. Instructions for opening the packets are enclosed. You will not actually partake of Communion as you pick up the packets, but during the brief service once everyone is parked.

After you have received your packets, park in the back lot facing the church. The front lot will be used for additional parking if needed. Ushers will be available to help direct traffic. Once you are parked, you will not need to wear your mask. Please keep your car windows closed (and air conditioning on), or if you choose to have your windows down, kindly leave an open parking space between the cars next to you.

Pastor Wells will lead a brief service that will be broadcast via our FM transmitter allowing all to listen on their car radios. Please tune your radio to 87.9 FM. so that you will be able to hear the service. After the service, you may leave using any of the exits.



## YAGM FINAL NEWSLETTER



This newsletter may seem as if it is coming very late. I have been back in the states since March after all. But this newsletter is coming right when it should. This is when my last newsletter was going to be sent out before anything happened. This is the time I would have been coming back to the states. Life often throws us curveballs. Some are smaller than others, easier, or only affecting you.

This curveball was a global one, and one I never even imagined possible. This year has been challenging in ways I never expected, but that's how life works, right? I also keep reminding myself that God does not give us more than we can handle. I may not see it now, or fully understand why, but this pandemic, being sent home, my life plans changing, they all happened for a reason.

I would be lying if I didn't tell you that I am still grieving. This time has been challenging in ways I've never been challenged before. I have been grieving lost time, the inability to have goodbyes, and the loss of experiences. I am heartbroken. My ability to put any of this in words is still so difficult because I have no words. What could possibly give proper description to these feelings when I don't even fully understand them myself? But I also am not alone. I know that globally people are having these same feelings, grieving the same things. I am not walking this journey on my own.

Having the YAGM year abruptly ended was difficult and heartbreaking to so many. For my cohort, our country program had the fastest turn around to leave. The week leading up to our return flights home, we had a retreat scheduled that had to be canceled due to an international travel ban the ELCA placed on its missionaries. We knew something would happen soon, we had many contingency plans ready to be implemented, but we prayed that going home would be a last resort for us. On Sunday, March 15, my cohort found out we needed to pack all our belongings and get to Budapest by Monday evening. At that point we did not know if this was to leave permanently, or wait it out together. By late evening on Monday we received our flight information for the following morning. We tried our best to make the most of our last night in Hungary as a group, and in the morning boarded our flights and said our quickened goodbyes between layovers and made our way back to the USA.

For me this meant that most goodbyes in my community did not happen. I was fortunate to be at my usual Sunday lunch at Eva and Akos's house along with Gaza and his family (photo from that day is in the header) when I got the news about needing to pack up. I will forever be grateful for their hospitality, kindness, patience, and love. The next morning my mentor Erszebet drove me to the train station and we said our "see you later," not knowing when we would see each other again. These



were some of the hardest goodbyes and I pray I can return again someday. Unfortunately, because the pandemic was already spreading to the university where I was living alongside the Roma college students, students had already been sent home, so goodbyes with them were virtual. The Élim had already been closed to visitors for a couple of weeks and so I had not had the opportunity to say goodbye to anyone there. I had been off from the primary and secondary school the week prior to leaving as well. There are so many people I wish I could have hugged and thanked before I left. I was shown so much compassion and love during my time in Nyiregyhaza. The people I met there are constantly in my prayers and a day does not go by that I don't think about them, or have something remind me of my time there. Hungary had become another home, and it will always hold a special place in my heart.



Before I left, there had not been too much going on. January brought the beginning of the new year and things began to pick back up after the holidays. With Easter around the corner the Élim was busy preparing crafts and decorations. I had a blast helping paint eggs and make baskets with the residents. They were also beginning preparations for their 100-year anniversary that was in May. I had begun creating decorations for that event, which was really fun! The Élim also had a Fancy Dress Party to celebrate Farshang/Carnival where all the residents dressed up. There was music and dancing and snacks -- it was so much fun! The school year still had a couple weeks of school off after the winter break before the new semester began. Lots of my students were really cracking down to prepare for their language exams that would be taken throughout this semester, so I did more one-on-one tutoring and more exam-specific prep. We did celebrate Farshang, or Carnival. This is a sort of holiday to scare away winter. What this means for the kids is costumes like we see at Halloween here, and class dance/music performances!

There were not too many events for the Roma College program at the beginning of the new semester. As the students returned to campus from break, and took exams, we did not see much of each other. Things were starting to pick back up in my Roma College social life as February and March began. We all had some trips and events that we were looking forward to coming up. At the end of January I joined the Roma students on a trip to Budapest to see a musical. As per true YAGM fashion, I found out I was leaving for Budapest 45 minutes before the chartered bus was to leave. Which means I had closer to 30 minutes to change into a nice outfit and find some food. This year is about saying "yes" as much as possible, even if it changes plans. I am thankful I said yes! *Somnakaj – A Gypsy Musical* is an important musical to showcase the Roma community and challenge biases. I wrote a whole blog post about this show, so please head over to my blog and read more about this experience!

I had the privilege to attend my friend Kristi's graduation from University! It was a beautiful ceremony. It was very much like a ceremony in the US, but without the *Pomp and Circumstance*. I was honored to be invited and share in such a





special day. I also had the opportunity to visit Kendra in Budapest! Kendra is in my cohort living with a host family on the outskirts of Buda (the hilly side of the river). It was wonderful to be able to have her as a tour guide in her new city. We spent a day walking around the Castle District which was so beautiful. We also attended the church she was going to. This service was weird for me, only because it was in English! I had not heard an English service since coming to Hungary and it was very odd to hear the liturgy I grew up on for the first time in months. It was a very welcome change in pace. I loved seeing where Kendra had made her home for the year in Hungary. Her passion and love for her new city was so beautiful!



Since coming back to the states I have been living in Urbana, Illinois, with my parents. Most of my time has been spent reconnecting with friends and family. I have been helping my grandma with projects at her house and taking time to spend with her. I have also recently taken a job as the Administrative Assistant for St. Andrew's Lutheran Campus Center at the U of I! I have also been leading a communications and marketing team for Leadership Lab 2020, which has gone virtual due to the pandemic.

Leadership Lab is a week-long Christian leadership camp through the ELCA and hosted at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL, for youth and young adults starting in 8th grade-adult education. If you want to learn more about Leadership Lab you can go to [leadershiplab.net](http://leadershiplab.net) or reach out to me. I would love to tell you more about it. Leading this team has kept me very busy!

I had the pleasure of being able to go on a five-day camping trip to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with two of my college best friends. Unplugging and getting back into nature was just what my mind needed after being so restless. I don't know where life will take me next, and a lot is uncertain during this time. But, what I do know is that I will keep moving forward and enjoy what is happening in the present. I miss Hungary every day. I miss the friends, the food, and the landscape. Someday I hope to return. Hungary and YAGM changed my life, and I am eternally grateful for that. I want to say thank you to every single person who has supported me throughout my YAGM journey. Without you, this would not have been possible. Thank you for all the love and support. I will leave you with one last thing. This poem, "Passover Remembered" by Alla Bozarth-Campbell is what we started our YAGM year off with at orientation. We then looked at it a couple times throughout the year and finally as we were returning home. I ask you to read this several times and take time to reflect on it in your own life.

Pack nothing. Bring only your determination to serve and your willingness to be free.

Don't wait for the bread to rise. Take nourishment for the journey, but eat standing, be ready to move at a moment's notice.

Do not hesitate to leave your old ways behind -- fear, silence, submission. Only surrender to the need of the time — to love justice and walk humbly with your God.

Do not take time to explain to the neighbors. Tell only a few trusted friends and family members. Then begin quickly, before you have time to sink back into the old slavery.

Set out in the dark. I will send fire to warm and encourage you. I will be with you in the fire and I will be with you in the cloud.

You will learn to eat new food and find refuge in new places. I will give you dreams in the desert to guide you safely to that place you have not yet seen. The stories you tell one another around the fires in the dark will make you strong and wise.

Outsiders will attack you, and some follow you, and at times you will get weary and turn on each other from fear and fatigue and blind forgetfulness.

You have been preparing for this for hundreds of years. I am sending you into the wilderness to make a new way and to learn my ways more deeply.

Some of you will be so changed by weathers and wanderings that even your closest friends will have to learn your features as though for the first time. Some of you will not change at all.

Some will be abandoned by your dearest loves and misunderstood by those who have known you since birth and feel abandoned by you.

Some will find new friendships in unlikely faces, and old friends as faithful and true as the pillar of God's flame.

Sing songs as you go, and hold close together. You may at times grow confused and lose your way. Continue to call each other by the names I've given you, to help remember who you are.

You will get where you are going by remembering who you are. Touch each other and keep telling the stories.

Make maps as you go remembering the way back from before you were born. So you will be only the first of many waves of deliverance on these desert seas. It is the first of many beginnings – your Paschaltide.

Remain true to this mystery. Pass on the whole story. Do not go back. I am with you now and I am waiting for you.

Erős vár a mi Istenünk,  
Mary Corkery



Rachel is offering 30 minute online ZOOM classes, Monday through Friday.

Questions or to register, email Rachel at [rachel@dailybreadyoga.life](mailto:rachel@dailybreadyoga.life)



### BIBLE STUDIES

Ruth Circle is meeting Tuesday, September 15 at 9:30AM socially distant under the canopy/awning in the front parking lot at Good Shepherd. Bring your lawn chairs.

Rachel Circle is meeting Monday, September 28 at 4:30PM socially distant under the canopy/awning in the front parking lot at Good Shepherd. Bring your lawn chairs. We will meet via ZOOM if the weather is bad.

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS OF CARE

WELCA wishes to thank all those who kindly donated items or funds for the LWR school kits and personal care kits, those who helped with cutting fabric and sewing the school kits, and those who are packing the kits to be shipped throughout the world. We have made 66 school kits and over 60 personal care kits. We will have a blessing of the kits in early October.

For those wishing to help us make additional personal care kits due to many LWR kits being destroyed during the recent blast in Beirut, you may put together a kit or two at home for *God's Work, Our Hands Day* on Sept. 13 and bring it to the church either that morning between 10:30-noon, or drop the kit

at church between noon-3 pm Tues. - Thurs. that week.

### Items needed per kit (please wrap items in the towel and tie shut with string or ribbon):

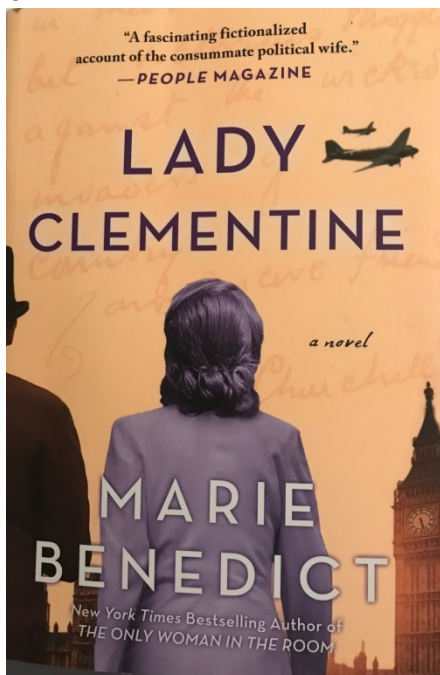
- **1** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"X40" and 52" x27"), dark color recommended – Walmart ones are good and not too thick
- **2 or 3** bath-size bars of soap (3-4 oz.), any brand, in original wrapping
- **1** adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- **1** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- **1** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

### NO BAKE FUNDRAISER

Due to COVID-19 concerns, instead of getting together for apple pie baking and the Fall Fun Fest this year at Good Shepherd, WELCA is holding a "No-Bake Fundraiser" from Sept. 8 – Oct. 8. This will be our main fundraising event to help support local community groups (for example, in the past we have donated to Empty Tomb, Salt & Light, St. Andrew's campus ministry, Eastern Illinois Food Bank, Courage Connection, and Austin's Place Emergency Women's Shelter). Please consider donating the amount equal to what you would have spent on ingredients to bake cookies or cakes/pies for the festival or the amount you would have spent purchasing items that day.

Donations can be dropped off or sent to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with "for WELCA No-Bake Fundraiser" in the memo line or on the envelope. There will be a button on the GSLC donation page if you prefer to donate electronically. We very much appreciate your support so that we can again contribute to help sustain these ministries in our community.





**WELCA BOOK CLUB**  
**Thursday, September 10**  
**9:30AM-Under the Canopy**

Join us as we discuss *Lady Clementine* by Marie Benedict. This fictionalized account of Clementine Churchill's life weaves together fact and fictions to tell the story of Winston Churchill. She did not flinch through the sweeping darkness of war, and who would not surrender either to expectations or to enemies. \*We will be meeting at the church outside under the canopy/awning in the front parking lot. Bring your lawn chairs.

**NEXT WELCA MEETING**

All women of Good Shepherd are members of the WELCA group (Women of the ELCA) and are welcome at any of the events and activities. Please plan to join us over Zoom for the next WELCA meeting which will be held the first week in October. The date and time will be announced shortly and a link sent out to connect to the meeting.

**"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." 2020**

Even in a time of global pandemic, we have opportunities to do God's work. Our special focus on this work will begin on God's work. Our hands, Sunday, September 13, 2020 and run throughout the month. Committees are working on a list of COVID safe opportunities that you will be able to look over and prayerfully consider to participate in the first week of September. Stay tuned for more details.



**TIE DYE EVENT**

Youth & Families from Kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to join us as we Tie Dye masks for **God's Work Our Hands Day on Sunday September 13th** at 4pm. We will have tables socially distanced under the awning in the front parking lot, and tons of supplies to make some really colorful masks. If you are interested in this activity contact Jason so we can make sure to have materials ready for you.

**POST HIGH SCHOOL CARE PACKAGES**

Would your post high school son or daughter appreciate a CARE PACKAGE from their Good Shepherd family? Whether your student is distance learning or at school this semester be sure to get their new address to Jason Fisher so he can make sure they get a box of goodies from their God family.

## YOUTH EVENTS



### SPARK LECTIONARY – K-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Faith formation will be happening at home on Sundays this year, but no need to panic; we have got you covered with lessons that match our online worship each Sunday. Each week Jason will mail out lessons to your family that corresponds to one of the lessons we heard in worship and that fit with one of the stories in our Spark Story Bibles. Don't have a Spark Story Bible for your child? Contact Jason and he will drop one off to you free of charge. Would like digital copies of these lessons instead? Just call Jason and let him know which email address you prefer.

#### SEPTEMBER

- September 6<sup>th</sup> – Kindness Rocks
- September 13<sup>th</sup> – Joseph Helps his Family
- September 20<sup>th</sup> – The Vineyard Workers
- September 27<sup>th</sup> – The Chief Priests

#### OCTOBER

- October 4<sup>th</sup> – Parable of the Vineyard
- October 11<sup>th</sup> – The Wedding Banquet
- October 18<sup>th</sup> – Paying Taxes
- October 25<sup>th</sup> – The Greatest Commandment

#### NOVEMBER

- November 1<sup>st</sup> – Be Humble
- November 8<sup>th</sup> – Ten Bridesmaids
- November 15<sup>th</sup> – Parable of the Talents
- November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sheep and Goats



### JESUS FOR PRESIDENT MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDY

With an election coming up it is easy for people to put too much hope in other human beings to save them. This fall all our Middle & High School students will receive a copy of Shane Claiborne's book *Jesus for President* along with a weekly study guide and questions mailed directly to your door. If you would prefer your family get digital copies of the questions to print out and work on at home just let Jason know.

#### SEPTEMBER

- September 6<sup>th</sup>: Who's in Charge (P. 1-46)
- September 13<sup>th</sup>: Set Apart (P. 47-71)
- September 20<sup>th</sup>: Temptations (P. 72-91)
- September 27<sup>th</sup>: The Third Way (P. 92-108)

#### OCTOBER

- October 4<sup>th</sup>: Cost of Freedom (P. 109-137)
- October 11<sup>th</sup>: Are we Atheists? (P. 138-159)
- October 18<sup>th</sup>: Conquest or Revolution? (P. 160-183)
- October 25<sup>th</sup>: Affluence and Flags (P. 184-207)

#### NOVEMBER

- November 1<sup>st</sup>: Willing to Die? (P. 208-224)
- November 8<sup>th</sup>: A Peculiar People (P. 225-263)
- November 15<sup>th</sup>: Fruit of the Spirit (P. 264-307)
- November 22<sup>nd</sup>: Conversion & Jubilee (P. 308-355)





**ON OUR WAY  
POST HIGH SCHOOL / YOUNG ADULT  
STUDY  
WEDNESDAYS**

Based on the book *On Our Way* edited by Dorothy Bass & Susan Briehl, our post high school young adults will get a chance to engage Christian practices for living a whole and abundant life. Each Wednesday this fall, Jason will post a video to our Good Shepherd Facebook page highlighting a different chapter from the book. Each themed video will also be texted out to our college students and young adults to view at their convenience. Study guides with questions and reflections for each week will be mailed and texted out as well. If students would prefer to receive a digital version let Jason know.

**SEPTEMBER**

September 9<sup>th</sup> – Study  
September 16<sup>th</sup> – Discerning God's Call  
September 23<sup>rd</sup> – Living as Community  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – Friendship and Intimacy

**OCTOBER**

October 7<sup>th</sup> – Singing our Lives to God  
October 14<sup>th</sup> – Care for Creation  
October 21<sup>st</sup> – Making a Good Living  
October 28<sup>th</sup> – Honoring the Body

**NOVEMBER**

November 4<sup>th</sup> – Knowing & Loving our  
Neighbors of Other Faiths  
November 11<sup>th</sup> – Peacemaking & Nonviolence  
November 18<sup>th</sup> – Doing Justice  
November 25<sup>th</sup> – Living in God's Presence



**PUMPKIN UNLOADING AND SALES BEGIN!  
THURSDAY OCTOBER 1ST  
4PM GOOD SHEPHERD PARKING LOT**

Starting at 4pm and going until 6pm, Jason will need as many hands as possible to help unload thousands of pumpkins for our annual pumpkin sale. We will have a strategy to keep everyone socially distanced and masked up as we unload.

Fridays and weekends have been our biggest sales days for pumpkins, so **starting Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am – 5pm we will be looking for folks willing to help with sales.** We will make it very easy for volunteers to greet folks from a distance and limit the amount of cash being exchanged. The set up will allow customers to do most of the picking, pricing, and loading of pumpkins. Sales will go on each day through the entire month of October so contact Jason if interested in helping on any of those days.



## PARISH NURSE'S CORNER

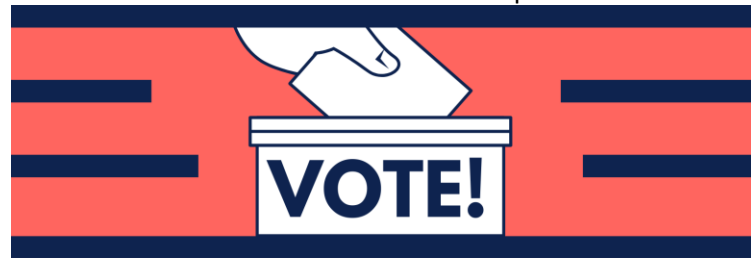
**FLU VACCINE TIME IS HERE** The CDC recommends everyone should get a flu vaccine every season with rare exception. Vaccination is particularly important for people who are at high risk of serious [complications from influenza](#). Flu vaccination has [important benefits](#). It can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths.

You should get a flu vaccine before flu viruses begins spreading in our community, since it takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against flu. Make plans to get vaccinated early this fall before flu season begins. CDC recommends that people get a flu vaccine by the end of October.

Contact your health care provider, also drug stores such as Walgreens and CVS have vaccine available. Watch for drive thru availability announcements soon - you can stay in your car during Covid19 concerns.

**STAY WELL DURING FLU SEASON:** (1) Wash hands often, (2) Keep hands away from your nose, eyes and mouth (3) Keep up resistance by healthy diet, plenty of rest and regular exercise, and get flu vaccine now. Sound familiar? Just add face masks and social distancing and we have the NEW NORMAL!!

GSLC Parish Nurses



### **Early Voting in Illinois Starts Thursday, September 24**

**Any voter validly registered in Champaign County may vote at any early voting site during the early voting period.**

The Champaign County Clerk's Office, in the gymnasium at 1776 E Washington St, Urbana, is open for early in-person voting the following dates and times:

**September 24 - October 18, 2020** - Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM

**October 19 - Nov. 2, 2020** - Monday-Friday, 8AM-7PM and Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM

The following locations are open for early voting from **October 19 - November 2, 2020**, Monday-Friday, 10AM-6PM, Saturday from 10AM-3PM, & Sunday from 1PM-5PM.

- Activities and Recreation (ARC) – 201 East Peabody Drive, Champaign
- Illini Union – 1401 West Green Street, Urbana
- University YMCA, 1001 S Wright St, Champaign
- Parkland College, Student Life Center, 2400 W Bradley, Champaign
- The Church of the Living God, 312 East Bradley Avenue, Champaign
- Leonhard Recreation Center, 2307 Sangamon Drive, Champaign
- Meadowbrook Community Church, 1902 South Duncan Road, Champaign
- Lake of the Woods, Elk's Pavilion, 301 Senna Drive, Mahomet,
- First United Methodist Church, 200 South Century Boulevard, Rantoul
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 802 East Douglas Street, St. Joseph
- Tolono Public Library, 111 East Main Street, Tolono

**Register to vote, or check your registration status at**  
<https://champaigncountyclerk.com/>



### **SPECIAL SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 20**

On Sunday, September 20, our online worship will present a special creation-focused service utilizing the lectionary texts for Pentecost 16, developed by Lutherans Restoring Creation. It will include participants from all over the country including Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, The Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing, Rev. Lenny Duncan, Rebekah Bruesehoff, as well as numerous parish pastors and members of the Lutherans Restoring Creation Board of Directors. Music will be provided by Marty Haugen, the Rev. Dr. Leah Schade, and Pastor John Tirro.



Pastor Emeritus	Edward D. Schneider
Interim Pastor	Knight Wells
Deacon	Jason Fisher
Parish Admin. Asst.	Traci Shepherd
Parish Worker	Marilyn Dudley
Treasurer	Jim Hack
Organist	Linda Pein
Pianist	Cadis Lee
Choir Director	Julia Hartman
Custodian	Dennis Lage
Parish Nurses	Sandy Reifsteck
	Elizabeth Kakoma
	Celeste Coverdill

#### Office Hours

Mon – Fri: 8 am – 4 pm

Traci is working from home most days, however a staff member is in the office  
Tues., Wed. & Thurs. afternoons from Noon-3:00pm.

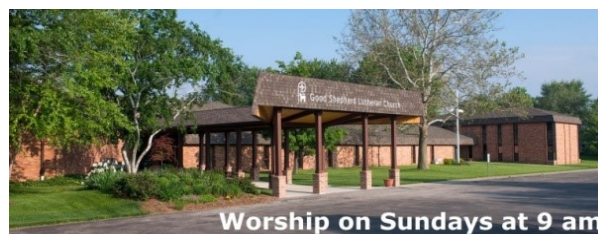
### OUR BUILDING REMAINS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**Deadline for Scroll is the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.**

*Bulletin / Announcement / Shout Out Deadline  
is Wednesday at noon each week*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



#### Visits & Prayers

Let us know if you, a family member, member of GSLC, or friend of GSLC is hospitalized or moves to a care facility so we can reach out.

Hospitals and Nursing Homes no longer contact the church when members are admitted. Keep us informed so we can bring communion and prayers to those in need of healing or comfort.