

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
107 South 17th Avenue  
Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320  
(610) 384-2035 [www.LuthGoodShep.org](http://www.LuthGoodShep.org)



September  
2022

*Our Mission: "To Know, Live and Share God's Word"*

Dated Material 8/30/22

## *The Shepherd's Voice*

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September 2022

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9/1	Darlene Hoskins Dave Murray Betty Lou Flinn	9/16	Susie Gberi
9/3	Darian McLean	9/17	Chip Breuninger
9/4	Loretta Donahue	9/18	Evan Albright
9/4	Bob Bisignaro, III Ava Townsend	9/20	Michael Williams Margaret Roth
9/6	Melanie Black Alyssa Reid Lisa Barnes	9/22	Hawah Anderson Makayla Clark
9/10	Cyndy Dermer	9/23	Sally Williams-Sammond Josh Black
9/11	Colin Gasbarro		Barbara Flowers
9/15	Jennifer Shearer Augustulyn Tarr	9/24	Deb Mentzer
		9/25	Bradley Rubincam Stephanie Griffith Ethan Griffith Frederick Franklin
		9/28	Elizabeth Davis
		9/29	Cecelia Faut
		9/30	Karen Smith Mark Neff, Jr.

9/3	Bob & Carol Bisignaro, Jr.	39 yrs.
9/4	Barry & Evelyn Hadley	57 yrs.
9/7	Ed & Kandy Waas	55 yrs.
9/9	Todd & Sabrina Matukaitis	16 yrs.
9/14	Hank & Cyndy Dermer	31 yrs.
9/14	Elinore & Terrance Zaplitny	54 yrs.
9/18	Bob & Sandy Haines	40 yrs.
9/19	Anna & Frederick Franklin	71 yrs.
9/21	Cheri & Kevin McMenamin	37 yrs.
9/21	Noel & Carolyn Harrje	59 yrs.
9/22	Randy & Sharon Davidson	32 yrs.
9/26	Donald & Hubertha Althouse	48 yrs.
9/26	Sanne & Steve Eisenhauer	13 yrs.
9/27	Shane & Tara Zaplitny	25 yrs.
9/29	Pam & Francis Taylor	22 yrs.
9/30	Bill & Stephanie Griffith	22 yrs.

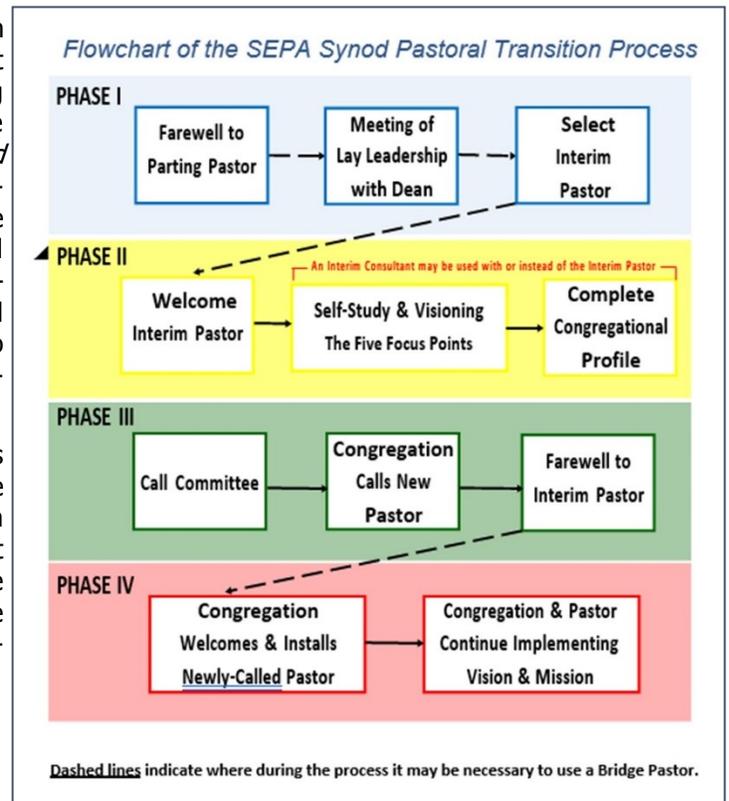


Dear Friends in Christ-

By now you may be saying to yourself, "We've got an Interim Pastor, but what happens next? If you go to the illustration below, you will see that LCGS is currently in *Phase II* of the *Pastoral Transition Process* that has been outlined by our synod.

For me this will mean having one-hour interviews with staff and the Church Council over the next few weeks. It is a way for me to learn LCGS's past as well as hearing some of the hopes and dreams people have for the future of this congregation. To assist in the *Self-Study and Visioning* process the Church Council and I will be recruiting a *Transition Team*. This group of six or seven people will begin by setting a timeline for the actions that will lead to completing the *Congregational Profile*. The Transition Team will need to decide on the way information will be received from the congregation. They may decide to host large or small group gatherings, gathering information electronically or on paper.

After the Transition Team is formed, they will lead us through the process of the *Five Focus Points*. This will be a time for the congregation to think about God's mission for this congregation, at this time and in this place. What is God calling LCGS to do? In what direction should we be headed? This process will help the congregation to choose a pastoral leader who is well suited to serve the congregation as it seeks to accomplish God's mission.



*The Five Focus Points* are:

**Heritage** - reviewing how the congregation has been shaped and formed.

**Leadership** - reviewing the membership needs and its ways of organizing and developing new and effective leadership.

**Mission** - defining and redefining a sense of purpose and direction.

**Connections** - discovering all the relationships a faith community builds outside of itself.

**Future** - developing congregational and pastoral profiles.

I am sure you have lots of questions including:

Will there be good candidates available for call?

How long will this take?

Will we ever get back to "normal"?

My answers would be yes, unsure and not really. There has been a remarkable amount of movement among clergy colleagues this year. As we've come out of the worst of the pandemic, a lot of folks have been seeking new calls. This congregation has much to offer a pastor and I am hopeful about the possibilities.

I can't tell you how long this will take. It will be at least a year, but I will be here until you call your next pastor. This is one of those times when you finish when you're done.

As for getting back to "normal," I think we all need to let that one go. Congregational participation has changed in churches across the country. Some are still reticent to be in large groups. Others have lost the "habit" of coming to worship. Our lives have been forever changed. Truthfully, some of those changes have even been for the better, but life is different. Church is different, but I am certain that God has something new in mind for this congregation and the larger church. We will feel challenged, and changes may chafe at times, but if we are true to our core mission- to welcome, equip and serve- we will be on the right path.

Blessing to you in the days ahead!

Pastor Heidi

p.s. If you are interested in serving on the Transition Team or on the Call Committee which will be formed later this year, please email me at [HRodrick@luthgoodshep.org](mailto:HRodrick@luthgoodshep.org).

## Monthly Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, September 17, 2022 8-10 am**

This event is open to the public.

Tell your friends and neighbors.

Join us for pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, eggs/omelets made to order, hash browns, dry beef gravy, baked goods, fruit, coffee, tea and juice.

\$10 adults/\$4 children



## Good Shepherd Indoor Yard Sale Saturday October 15th.

Our Indoor Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, October 15, from 8am – 1pm, coinciding with our October Pancake Breakfast! Cost to reserve a church table will be \$15, and cost to reserve a spot and bring your own table will be \$10. Friends and family welcome. Reservation proceeds to benefit Good Shepherd Food Ministries. Watch for a sign-up sheet in September!



## Financial update

### JUNE 2022

**Receipts:** Total Current Receipts through June 2022 were up (+11.3%) compared to the same period in 2021. Adult Receipts (pledged giving) was down (-6.1%). Other Adult Receipts were up (+6.8%). Hall Donations/Rental Fees were up (+123.6%). Mortgage Receipts were down (-22.4%).

**Expenses:** Total Current Expenses through June 2022 decreased by (-3.8%) compared to the same period in 2021. Worship/Music, Stewardship, Finance, Evangelism, and Office expenses were up, while property and staff expenditures were down.

### JULY 2022

**Receipts:** Total Current Receipts through July 2022 were up (+7.7%) compared to the same period in 2021. Adult Receipts (pledged giving) was down (-10.4%). Other Adult Receipts were up (+10.1%). Hall Donations/Rental Fees were up (+117.2%). Mortgage Receipts were down (-17.9%).

**Expenses:** Total Current Expenses through July 2022 decreased by (-3.5%) compared to the same period in 2021. Stewardship, Finance, Evangelism, Office, and Christian Ed expenses were up, while Worship/Music, Synod and Staff expenditures were down.

## Giving

Please remember to continue to give financially to Good Shepherd. We still have to pay the mortgage and other bills. Please continue to give and support our ministries during this time so that our ministries continue and are ready to bounce back once the concern is over. There are two easy ways to give electronically. Go to our website [www.luthgoodshep.org](http://www.luthgoodshep.org), and sign up for electronic giving under the "Giving" tab.

Also, by opening the camera on your smartphone and point it at the QR code below, it will prompt you to open a website and enter a secure payment.



## Thrivent Choice Dollars

Are you a member of Thrivent? You may have unused Choice Dollars! Choice Dollars can be designated to Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Another great way to keep our ministries going! Check with your Thrivent Representa-

## Social Ministry thanks all members of Good Shepherd

Social Ministry would like to thank all who have been bringing food to stock our Blessing Box. We also receive donations from Olivet Methodist Church, our Boy Scouts, Rosebud's, retired teachers from Friendship Elementary School, Grocery Bargain Market, Coatesville Lion's Club, Bondsville Mill Gardens, and our local neighbors. We have also been blessed to have Thrivent members who have been given monetary grants to buy food directly. Without all of these donations there is no way we could stock the Box. We know that the box is feeding families. In fact we found a note in the box from a woman "...thanking us for helping her family survive".

We want you to know that: we continue to need sources of protein like canned meat, stew, soups, canned ravioli, beefaroni and beans. We also need personal care items like deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, womn's sanitary items, toothpaste etc. Please bring basics like, rice, bread, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce and cereal and bring Chicken Helper, Tuna Helper, instant potatoes and stuffing. Please put your donations into the Blessing Box or on the food tables during open church hours.

## Social Ministry Thanksgiving/Christmas Meals for Families in Need

Good Shepherd will again give members and friends of member in need a complete holiday meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We will also give Christmas gifts to children 18 years old and younger. All you need to do is complete the necessary form. PLEASE READ the instructions and keep the page with distribution information. Meals MUST be picked up on the designated days. Forms can be found in the Narthex or by calling the church office at 610 384-2035. Drop off bin is in the Narthex. Thank you!

If you would like to donate to support this program, please mark your envelope "Social Ministry".

## Church Council

Welcome to our new council member:

Sally Williams- Sammond  
(replacing Dave Dean)

At the August Council meeting, the following officers were elected to council:

**President:** E.B. Smith  
**Vice President:** Hank Dermer  
**Secretary:** Sue Durborow

Congratulations and thank you!



## Women's Retreat Friday, 9/30 - Sunday, 10/2

This retreat is designed to provide women with an opportunity to enjoy time both individually and collectively, participate in creative activities, explore outdoors, have time for rest and renewal, and be in the beauty of God's creation in a peaceful setting.

Learn more at [bearcreekcamp.org/womens-retreat](http://bearcreekcamp.org/womens-retreat).  
Registration deadline is Friday, September 23rd!

## Handbell ringers needed

No experience necessary. First rehearsal is on Monday, September 12 at 7:30 in the sanctuary.



Please sign up by September 5th (sign-up sheet in the Narthex). See Martha or email her at [mchan@luthgoodshep.org](mailto:mchan@luthgoodshep.org) if you have any questions!

## Ladies' night out - Bunco is back!



3rd Sunday of the month from September through December. 7-9 pm in the cafe. Want to have fun and laugh while we play an easy to learn, fast moving dice game? Then join us and bring a friend, Messiah ladies have been invited! The more the merrier! \$5 donation is suggested for snacks and prizes awarded. Questions call or text Darlene Hoskins (484)678-0554. Come on ladies, let's see how you roll.

## Pastor Susan Lynch Memorial

The church will be purchasing a new piano and dedicating it to the memory of Pastor Susan Lynch. If you would like to donate towards this memorial, please place your donation in a pew envelope and mark it "Pastor Memorial". Donations may be sent to the church office or made on line. Thank you!



## Prayer Chain

If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray for your need, contact the church office 610-384-2035, ext 201. We will let the members know and they will pray for you. All prayer requests will be kept completely confidential unless you specify otherwise. Please also consider joining the Prayer Chain.

Thank you to all who are willing to be part of this ministry.



## Quilters Welcome



Good Shepherd Quilters are ready to resume their quilting ministry! Please contact Jean Broderick, [rjjean@ptd.net](mailto:rjjean@ptd.net) if you are interested in joining! All are welcome!

## Funeral Luncheon Coordinators -

Darlene Hoskins and Ginny Lozinski.

If you are willing to help please contact:

Darlene: 484-678-0554 (c); Email: [hoskinsd@comcast.net](mailto:hoskinsd@comcast.net)

Ginny: 484-889-8492 (c); 610-384-2312 (h); Email: [glozinski@aol.com](mailto:glozinski@aol.com)

Ways in which you can help are: kitchen staff and servers and/or to supply food such as salads, side dishes, desserts, cold beverages. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this outreach ministry.

Thank you in advance for your help.

## **GOD is GOOD**

It was three months ago that we lost our pastor. She had battled cancer for three years and continued to preach up until two weeks before her death. She was a remarkable woman, and I miss her dearly.

She guided our church through COVID while dealing with chemo and constant hospitalization the entire way. One of her last major decisions as pastor was opening up our church to our sister congregation, Messiah Lutheran Church in Downingtown, whose building was flooded during Hurricane Ida.

Pastor Susan was an unabashed feminist, and she pushed the church to confront issues like LGBT+ rights, racism, and sexual abuse. She pushed me to stand up for myself with my colleagues and choirs, and pushed me to be more assertive as a music director, church leader, and staff member—but for all her pushing, she was always willing to listen, always willing to get down and have the hard conversations, always willing to stand up against injustice in her congregation and community.

She was intelligent beyond reason: at one moment, she could be talking about the mechanics of the air conditioning system at the church, and then at the next be sharing details about the compost pile she wanted to start for her garden, and the kind of soil in this specific area of Southeast Pennsylvania. She was curious about everything, consistently the smartest person in any room, and she was delighted when I told her that I was pursuing a graduate degree in psychology. Most people thought it was strange that I was pursuing a degree in the sciences after devoting my entire collegiate career to the arts, but she was unfazed, writing my letter of recommendation and telling me to go for it, telling me I could be anything I wanted to be, that I could get a degree in quantum mechanics if I wanted to.

She was blunt, impatient, task-oriented—and unapologetic about it. She had a well-researched understanding of the inner workings of the church, from the building and property repairs, to the mortgage and finances, to the interpersonal systems that ran through the members of her congregation. She was a self-proclaimed introvert, and she spoke often about her cats, her godchildren, and the TV shows she loved.

Her impressive working knowledge of everything under the sun (and her unfiltered honesty) made her a fascinating conversationalist. Any given conversation we might begin about church business would quickly devolve into solving the problems of our church, the Church at large, and all of society's ills. She was a skeptic and a realist, passionate and irascible, larger-than-life, ready to conquer the world; but there were other moments, too, moments when she was so kind and gentle and understanding that it would bewilder me for a split second.

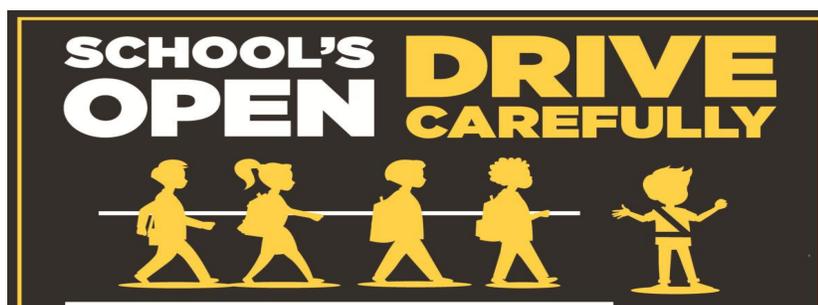
I came to Good Shepherd in 2015, applying for the handbell job while in my first year of grad school, and I didn't realize until now how fortunate I was to begin my professional music career under a pastor who was so invested in musical excellence at the church—being an excellent musician herself. I had expected to spend the next 15-20 years working beside her, building our handbell program and church, pushing their boundaries and limits.

I don't understand how or why this has happened, but I am grateful for the 7 years that I was able to know her and work alongside her, and I know her spirit continues on in our church as we welcome our new interim pastor, and as we move forward under her leadership.

Martha Chan

## **GOD is GOOD**

The Social Ministry/Evangelism Committee wants to start a new feature in the newsletter called "God is Good!" The idea behind this is that sometimes we forget that even a small act of kindness can make a difference in the world, especially when it seems that all we hear are bad things happening. What we are asking people to do is to submit an anecdote about something kind that they did for someone else (don't be shy) or something that someone did for you! Please submit your story to Kim Tapscott at [tapscots@verizon.net](mailto:tapscots@verizon.net), and monthly the committee will choose one or more to share in the newsletter. God is Good all the time and has "angels" everywhere showing his love! Let us rejoice and watch for the good in ourselves and others as we share the good news of God's love! Kim Tapscott, on behalf of the Social Ministry/Evangelism Committee.



"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."  
Joshua 1:9



# September 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd 107 S. 17th Ave., Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-2035 www.luthgoodshep.org Office Hours: Mon – Thurs 9:00 am-1:00 pm</p>				<p><b>1</b> 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4 Wood Church</b> 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live Worship</p>	<p><b>5 Labor Day</b> Office closed </p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys</p>	<p><b>8</b> 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b> 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live Worship</p>	<p><b>12</b> 7:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7:15 pm Property Meeting</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys</p>	<p><b>15</b> 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 8am Pancake Breakfast</p>
<p><b>18</b> 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live Worship</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> 7:15 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls </p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b> Hall Rental</p>
<p><b>25</b> 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live Worship</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>1</b> Hall Rental</p>