

The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail

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Sunday Worship 9:30 am

July 2022

From Pastor Erik

Everything old is new again

By now, you have likely heard from the transition team and council that one of our discoveries in this transition process is that it is looking like “call another full-time pastor” is going to be financially out of reach for Good Shepherd. Now, I expect that to most of you this comes as bad news (it sure was to the transition team and council leaders) and maybe puts a bit of worry into your prayers. While this situation certainly isn't what anyone was hoping for or expecting, I have a hunch that God is going to turn this crisis into an opportunity. That seems to be what God is best at.

On Sunday July 10th and Sunday August 7th your council and transition team will be hosting “Real Talk” conversations—starting during worship and continuing over coffee afterwards. You'll get to hear some of the details about the work of transition, and see the numbers we've been working with. You'll also get to hear about the work of a consultant with whom we have been working from an organization called “Cyclical” who helps congregations like Good Shepherd discern a “next most faithful step” to better live into God's calling for them. One of the potential pathways that has emerged is thinking about partnering (in one form or another) with one or more of the ELCA congregations in our area—perhaps sharing a pastor.

It's interesting to me that that option has risen to the surface, especially after the timeline history exercise we did together at the beginning of June. One of the key things I learned about Good Shepherd, was the deep connections to Holy Cross, Christ the King, and Bethlehem Lutheran churches—relationships that go back 100 years in some cases. That's good news, because it means working with other congregations, sharing resources, and even sharing pastors is deep in your DNA—and God has a way of making old things new again. And you aren't alone in this, as I've worked with congregations across the Synod (and in other parts of the country) so many were founded in collaboration with other congregations and many continued to partner—especially the small, rural congregations that didn't have the “critical mass” of an urban church. “Having your own pastor” was really only common in the 1940s-early 2000s, while in a majority of congregations before that sharing was the norm.

Perhaps God is calling us to remember our roots, how we used to help each other as neighbors, and work together even more fully for God's work in the community. That to me is very hopefully and exciting, and I'm looking forward to how we discern our part in that going forward.

A Care Pastor's Muse - for July 2022 newsletter
I went to a wedding recently. Presided at it, actually, so I had a clearly defined role and a few connections from the start. I am fairly outgoing, sociable enough to get along in various situations with grace, curiosity, and aplomb. And still it was felt awkward. The introvert in me wanted to sit in the corner and simply watch the primate behavior. Entering a group of people whom I do not know is demanding. (Engineers and accountants are not renowned for their social ease.)



I was brought up in church, taught to make polite conversation with strangers in such a situation. My mother taught the value of offering some social lubrication for the common ease and of learning to enjoy such encounters. (That woman could stay and talk to complete strangers until the very end of Coffee Hour when we visited a congregation during a camping trip!) I recognize the value of conversing with new people; it's just exhausting.

Luckily for me, at the wedding reception, I found a buddy; we had worked with the bride and that person was able to introduce some of their colleagues. Having made a few acquaintances, I relaxed and enjoyed the gracious hospitality provided. It was a lovely celebration.

It comes to mind because I believe you are doing an important work here at Good Shepherd. Each person who enters the community brings the courage to enter a demanding situation. Partnering with others and inviting new participants are interesting, exciting, exhausting. I watch you reach out, offering curiosity and welcome, willing to be discovered, willing to experiment, willing to extend welcome. And I expect that God, having made a few acquaintances, will invite you to relax and enjoy some gracious hospitality. It will be a lovely celebration.

As Gwendolyn Brooks reminds us, "**We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond.**" Know that what you give in your faithful gracefulness is demanding, important, valuable, not to be taken for granted. Not every community has this skill.

Thanks be to God for you!

Helen

THANK YOU TO:

- Bonnie, the Choir and Michele Coady for their contributions to enhance worship with beautiful music
- Marilyn Errey, Bonnie Thoreson and Michele Coady for providing our weekly bulletin!
- Dean Kloes and his crew for the on-going Church Painting Project- doesn't it look great!
- Those who help keep the lawns mown and the gardens looking good.
- All those who are helping provide the live stream of our Worship Service!
- Cheryl McCutchan for her behind-the-scenes work to collect the mail and pay our bills!
- To Karla Kloes and everyone who contributed to making Juli Reed's Memorial Service a success
- Pastors Helen and Erik for their continuing guidance through difficult times!

A note from the Juli Reed Family:

Thank you so much for your generosity in providing the food, drink and supplies for my Mom's memorial service reception. We truly appreciate it from the bottom of our hearts. My Mom cherished this church and the wonderful people who've called it home. Thank you for helping us to honor my mother today - Brittany

Prayer Requests

**Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
and for all people according to their needs:**

*Pr. Helen, Pr. Erik, the Transition Team and our own Congregation as we work
through the transition process on the path to seeking our next Pastor*

Chris Reed and family on the loss of his wife, Juli

Jane Melnyk and family on the loss of her brother, Terry

Karla Kloes and family on the loss of her sister, Fara

The Eldridge's on the loss of Fred's father

Ron Walther and family on the loss of his wife, Joanne

The Kloes family on the loss of Karla's mother

For health concerns:

Bob Amberson

Richard McCutchan's sister

Heidi Ferria, Pat Heifort's daughter

Bo Henderson

*For all others who are in need of healing and wholeness,
especially those affected by COVID 19 and war*

For peace all around the world,

For our Congregational Leaders and for all people according to their needs.

**Into your hands, Oh, Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer requests should be submitted to Pat Pehling. In an effort to keep the Prayer List timely, names will be included for six months unless a request for removal or continuation is made.

TRANSITION TEAM

The transition team continues the work of seeking the road ahead. We have met with members of the church council to keep everyone in the church leadership informed of the possibilities for the future. We have met with members of the Holy Cross transition team and council to “compare notes” on our progress, see what we can learn from each other and pray with each other. We have a meeting scheduled with Cyclical Full Circle, a group that Pastor Erik has worked with as they guide churches through this transition process.

Most important...there are two informational meetings planned for July and August. Following the church service on July 10 and August 7 there will be informational meetings held in the sanctuary to share information the Transition Team has gathered as well as hear your thoughts and ideas for the future.

Please keep the members of the Transition Team and council in your prayers as they seek to guide us in the path forward.

Pat Davis

Transition Team Chair

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Dean Kloes

Sunday School for elementary age students is on summer break during July and August. Also, the July and August women's monthly bible study is cancelled for summer break. Also, each Sunday evening at 6:00 PM, bible study continues through the summer at the Barstad home where the adult group is studying the book titled *Free To Be*.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND ADULT FELLOWSHIP – Karla Kloes

On Sunday July 17th, all members and friends of Good Shepherd are invited to a picnic and swimming at Lake Riley. If you are interested, please contact Dean Kloes on or before July 10th.

I just want to say I thank God for the people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I was so grateful for all the volunteers and helping hands for Juli Reed's memorial service reception. I appreciate all of you for helping with set up, bringing food, serving and cleaning up afterwards. Special thanks to Evelyn Agostinelli, Pat Veale, Nancy Negaard, Donna Kloes, Joanie Gilbert, Mary Nelson, Joy Vaughn, Chris Homme, and Marilyn Errey. It was so nice, looked beautiful, and there was plenty of food. Thank you again for your generosity.

We will be having a potluck on July 31st after church to thank Pastor Helen for her service. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE– Marilyn Errey

Area Food Banks continue to be in need of assistance. Although the Snohomish Community Food Bank is not accepting home pantry items until further notice, they continue to happily accept: Baby Diapers and wipes; Adult Diapers; Personal Hygiene Items; Household Cleaning Products; Homemade or purchased masks; Disinfectant; Paper and Plastic Grocery Bags; Produce Bags; Canvas or Nylon Bags; Pet food; and fresh grown produce from your gardens.

Cash donations are actually more useful since they can leverage funds more effectively than we can as individuals.

Blood Banks are continuously in need of donations. If you are able, please consider this possible life-saving action.

Next month a list will be available for school supply donations to Riverview Elementary. Please consider this worthy cause when the back to school sales begin.

This past month, Evelyn Agostinelli delivered clean and gently used clothing for women to Matthew House in Monroe. She has also delivered clean and gently used clothing for both men and women to the Everett Gospel Mission. Thank you, Evelyn!

MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Dell Deierling/Cheryl McCutchan

DONATION ENVELOPE & OTHER GIVING OPTIONS

Knowing that your summer plans may result in missing church services in person, the summer newsletters will be mailed to you and include a donation envelope to provide a simple summer giving option. Checks can be mailed to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5511 64th Street S.E., Snohomish, WA 98290. As a second option, most banks will send out checks for you via a bill pay type application. Check with your bank or your on-line banking website. An additional option is a Tithe.ly donate link on our website, <https://www.swanstrail.org>. We will receive reports from the Tithe.ly site as the funds are transferred to the church bank account to be able to credit you for these gifts as normal for year-end reporting. With this option you can decide to cover the transaction fees for the church if you wish.

THANK YOU & TAKE NOTICE

Thank you to all who are faithful in their offerings and support of Good Shepherd. Your generosity of time, talents and offerings are greatly needed and very much appreciated! You will notice below that we are falling considerably short of meeting the budgeted needs of our church. Together we can and will succeed in achieving the needs for our 2022 ministry.

Please prayerfully consider all your gifts to our church community (both financially and time/talents).

MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE- Chad Masche

Outdoor Work Parties:

REMINDER - Our monthly gardening work parties have moved to the third Monday of every month. The next work party will be **Monday, July 18th** starting at 4:30pm. Doug Garland will most likely be hosting as I will be out of town that week. During these work parties, we typically work on staying ahead of the weeding, trimming of shrubs/bushes, and other projects. From time to time, here are projects inside the church that need attention as well. Any time you can contribute is so appreciated. No experience is necessary, your time and a good attitude is all that is required. .

As it gets warmer, our hope is to offer some BBQ/Grilling for our volunteers at our work parties. It super helpful to know ahead of time if you plan on joining us, that way we can make sure there is enough burgers, chips, fixings, and salad. Bring your own beverage.

Future projects in the works:

Dean Kloes has been doing an unbelievable job painting the exterior of the church during the last several weeks. Dean is now working on some of the trim around windows. If you are interested in helping on a specific day, please contact Dean Depending on the weather, he plans to work most week-days from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM.

Additional updates:

Thanks to Dean Kloes for also taking the lead to get a window replaced on the south side of the Sanctuary. Sometime ago, the outer window had shattered, we have no idea when exactly, or how, it had shattered. Dean was able to contact Lund Glass in Lake Stevens, and they are helping us with the replacement window. The interior window, which has the decorative etchings, was not damaged. It needed to be sent to Lund Glass in order for them to get all the dimensions of the new window to exactly fit. THANKS, Dean!!

Additional Projects are continuously being recognized, discussed, and completed. If you see something in need of repair, a safety issue, or have an idea for improvements in and around the church, please let me know so they can be addressed.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC – Donna Garland

We are now in the season of Pentecost. Christians spend the Season of Pentecost looking at the relationship of God with His people as they experience his Holy Spirit. It is a time of outreach, and a time of letting the Spirit flow through each Christian to touch God's creation. Christians go to camp during Pentecost in order to appreciate God's beautiful world. It is also the time they begin to keep their confirmation promise of going into the world to make disciples of all nations.

Pentecost is a time of praise, of fellowship, and of spiritual renewal, as each Christian draws the Spirit into himself or herself with every breath.

Thank you to all who have faithfully volunteered to help with the weekly reading, greeting, communion prep, music, goodies after church, Sunday Supervisor, etc. Please consider helping with one or more of these duties this summer while people are vacationing.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS IN OUR CONGREGATION:

(Check with Pat Pehling to be sure your family's special dates – Birthdays and anniversaries - are included in the appropriate month!)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- July 5 - Skyberg Thoreson, Jason Flynn
- July 6 - Fran Walkley
- July 8 - Hans Thoreson
- July 9 - Dave Nilson
- July 12 - Doug Garland, Lukas Blair
- July 13- Renee Deierling
- July 14 - Donna Garland
- July 15 - Matt Homme
- July 16 – Kailen and Makena Olson
- July 18 – Brad Lachapelle, Al Errey

July 19 – Jennifer Lachapelle, Kelly Delfel

July 20- Trevor Grillo

July 23 - Diane Barnes

July 24 - Lucas Robinson

July 27 – Kelly Flynn

July 28 - Krysti Lachapelle

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 7--Howard & Nancy Negaard

July 7--Kevin & Jennifer Ess, Mike and Pat Davis

July 9--Richard & Cheryl McCutchan,

July 10--Chris & Jillian Nofziger

July 14--Rick & Chris Homme

July 16--Jeff & Elizabeth Thoreson

July 17--Keith & Karen Goodnight

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Quilters	2 Juli Reed Memorial Service 10am
3 Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	4	5 Council/ Transition Team Meeting	6	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:30am "Let's Talk" following Service Bible Study 6pm	11 4-H Club Meeting 6:30pm	12	13	14 Quilters Camera Club	15 Quilters	16
17 Worship 9:30am Lake Riley Fellowship – see above article Bible Study 6pm	18 Church Garden Workparty 4:30pm	19	20 Project Linus	21 Quilters	22 Project Linus	23 Project Linus
24 Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	25	26	27 Quilters	28 Quilters	29	30
31 Worship 9:30am Potluck Brunch following Service Bible Study 6pm	Painting Continues (weather permitting) week days 9:30am-1:00pm					