

# The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail

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## July 2023

*What a weird and liminal time we find ourselves in these days, here at Good Shepherd. With excitement and energy for the things to come, with respect and care for the moments we are in, with responsibility and urgency to keep things moving and working for the good of the whole, and with some anxiety and trepidation as we are still waiting for the path into a future to be revealed.*

*Doing church together is great. BEING the church together can be hard. And being church in liminal times is a challenge we'd sooner forget and move on from. But beloveds, God calls us to be church in a world for all times and all moments, and these months you've been without a full time called minister, many of you have stepped up and lead in beautiful ways!*

*While we might be nervous about the future, or needing a break from leadership, or wondering about what ways we might be able to serve our community and neighborhood with our gifts, I'm here to remind you that God gives us much of what we need to do the work of being church already! No need to wait for a permanent leader! No need to wait for a letter from the synod saying "try this new thing!" There are things we can do now to support one another and be church together.*

*Have you ever wondered how communion gets set up so perfectly every week? How the bulletins are ALWAYS ready with all the right things to say and do for each different and new Sunday? How you can worship from home via a live stream when you are out of town or feeling unwell? How the church doors are open, heat is on, and parking lot is unlocked every time you show up for something? Or how there is always such a marvelous and delicious spread of food to eat and coffee to drink for fellowship every week? It's because people in your community step up and volunteer their time to learn and serve us in this way! It doesn't happen with magic, just a little learning and energy shared 😊 Stepping up and offering to learn and share your own energy to do these things is a BRILLIANT way to BE*

*church in this liminal time! As the saying goes, ‘many hands make light work,’ and give room for other’s to go on vacation or restore their energy.*

*My prayer for you all in this summer of liminality is that you would prayerfully consider ways you can support and encourage your fellow community members with offering your gifts and energy in service to the work of being church together. Talk to the leaders here at Good Shepherd. Listen to what assistance they are asking for. Say yes to that which you have gifts and energy to agree to. This is a beautiful way to be church together!*

*Peace and all good,*

*Deacon Liz*

Contact information for Deacon Liz Colver is:

Email: [deacon.liz.colver@gmail.com](mailto:deacon.liz.colver@gmail.com)

Cell phone: 206-391-2117

Dcn. Liz will check emails on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Mondays and Fridays off (except for emergencies - call or text at any time)

**THANK YOU TO:**

- The Call Committee of Rick Homme, Donna Garland, Tim Danner, Lori Fox, Terry Danner and Karla Kloes for all their outstanding dedication to the call process!
- All those who are continuing to keep our congregation/church together
- 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!
- All those who generously helped with Bo Henderson’s Service – There are too many to name so just know how much you are appreciated by your church and Bo’s grateful family

**Prayer Requests**

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

*Pr. Erik, the Transition Team, the Call Committee, the Council, Deacon Liz and our own  
Congregation as we work through the transition and call process*

*Al and Nancy Moen and Family on the loss of their son, Steve*

*Friends and family on the loss of Bo Henderson*

*The Martina Family on the loss of Joanne Martina*

*Dell and Renee Deierling on the loss of Renee’s mother, Flo Craven*

*Pat Veale on the loss of her brother*

*The Kloes Family the loss of Donna Kloes*

*The McCutchan family on the loss of Cheryl’s mother, Mur Jensen*

*For health concerns:*

*Cathy Karlsen’s son, Rob, who has a serious infection*

*Al Moen  
Lisa Robinson's Sister-in-law, Debbie, as she recovers from auto accident  
Bob Amberson  
Richard McCutchan's sister  
Heidi Ferria, Pat Heifort's daughter*

*For all others who are in need of healing and wholeness,  
For peace all around the world, especially in Ukraine  
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.*

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**A GENEROUS, UNEXPECTED GIFT**

We had a very pleasant and generous surprise in our mail last week – a check for \$10,000 along with a wonderful note from Carolyn Apland Reeder, which needs to be shared!

“Greetings to you all in the wonderful name of Christ Jesus.

Not many will remember me there. We were the Apland family who lived just across the field from the parsonage at that time. The field was turned into the new church – new to me as I remember the older, smaller white church. I would wander through out the neighborhood when I was occasionally in that direction and keep an eye on the growth of the area.

Our residence in the community was during the time of Pastor Sorenson (who went to a large church in Everett), Pastor Ringo (whom I found one year at a Lenten Service at a Lutheran church in the University District of Seattle) and Pastor and Mrs. Fold Brendt who served many years (who subsequently went to a Seattle church as a visitation pastor) Pastor Brandt confirmed both myself and my younger sister and Mrs. Brandt was superintendent of the Sunday School for many years.

During our time there myself, my sister, and any brothers (3) still at home, taught Sunday School, sang in choirs, took care of the younger children who gathered in the Parsonage each week when our time came up and attended the Luther League. I was married in the new church (although it didn't last long) as was my sister (whose marriage remains strong and is here in Yuma). My father was treasurer of the water district and people from the community would come to our home each month to pay their bills and chat a little.

I enjoyed my time while there and credit the instruction I received there in part with whatever good may have come from my life since then, along with my parents' instructions.

As mentioned, I am in Yuma now, near my sister so she can be closer and who takes careful watch over me although I am in my own house here after about a year of hospitalization and rehab for a brain bleed and subsequent falls. The thought is that I will improve and I hope I can prove her right in her good assessment.

My parents have since passed on but all of us children remain alive and my older brother and his wife were even just here in Yuma from Colorado to help me get set up in the new house.

Enclosed is a check for \$10,000. I have recently sold my home in Seattle and it is a part of the tithe. It is a small amount for the church's care of us rambunctious young children that I hope will be accepted and useful.

Please warmly greet any who might still remember us."

We will send a sincere thank you for Carolyn's generous gift but if anyone else would like to correspond with Carolyn, please contact Pat Pehling for her address.

### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE – Rick Homme**

The Transition Committee, after a year's worth of work, phased out early this year and was replaced by the Call Committee. The first order of business for the Committee was to complete a Ministerial Site Profile (MSP). This is essentially an overview of not only Good Shepherd but the greater Snohomish community. It contains information about what GSLC is looking for in a pastor and a great deal about who we are. It essentially is our resume' as a church. When the MSP was finished the Committee began preparing for the actual recruiting/selection process. It developed questions for potential candidates for Zoom interviews and in-person interviews. The committee was provided with actual clergy who agreed to participate in mock interviews both on Zoom and in-person. These mock interviews helped the Committee sharpen and fine-tune it's interview processes.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Committee was provided by the Synod with an initial slate of three candidates. All of the candidates were out of the area (Hawaii, Illinois, Texas) and were interviewed by the Committee via Zoom. One of the candidates was only interested in part-time. The second one we felt would not be a fit for our Church. The third candidate was of interest and an invitation was extended to him to come to Snohomish for further interviews. He requested another Zoom interview so he could ask some more questions. We accommodated that request. A few days later he let us know that he felt the timing was not right to re-locate his family.

This left us with no viable candidates. We have subsequently modified our MSP to what we feel better reflects who we are and what we are seeking and re-submitted it to the Synod.

Pastor Eric Samuelson, our advisor from the Synod for the call process, has told us that the new profile has been posted to the appropriate ELCA website and that we can expect a new slate of candidates by mid to late July.

### **MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Lisa Robinson - Dean Kloes**

Everyone is invited to attend the weekly Sunday evening bible study at the Barstad's home at 6:00 PM. The group is working through a book titled *Questions Jesus Asked*.

The Women's Bible study will not be meeting in July and August but will resume Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND ADULT FELLOWSHIP – Karla Kloes**

On Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 PM, all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to attend an Everett Aquasox baseball game.

Also, on August 13th, all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to a potluck picnic at Lake Riley.

Thank you to all who participated in the end of the Sunday school year BBQ potluck. A special thank you to Terry, Jim and Tim for grilling for us all. We appreciate you so much! Thank you to those who assisted with set up, clean up and supplying the delicious food.

Looking ahead we will be having another BBQ potluck for when Sunday school starts back up again on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to the faithful fellowship hosts each Sunday. Please consider signing up to help if you can. The job can be shared by multiple people.

### **MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE– Marilyn Errey**

The Snohomish Community Food Bank, along with food items, will 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. They are in special need of Kitty Kindness this month. Please consider donating a bag of dry cat food.

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

If you are aware of any other community service needs, please let me know.

### **MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Dell Deierling/Cheryl McCutchan**

#### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who are faithful in their offerings and support of Good Shepherd in 2023. Your generosity of time, talents, and offerings are greatly needed and very much appreciated!

We have been blessed to have received \$20,000 in generous one-time donations over the last couple of weeks. One was in memory of long-time members Bo and Marilyn Henderson. The second was from a former neighbor who had a long history with the church. What tremendous gifts these are! Without them we would be much short of our ministry goals cited below.

Also, our financial situation has benefited from the following:

- Our pastoral salary spending is much lower than budgeted as we are not yet paying for a full-time pastor (but this expense will eventually come with a successful calling!).
- We are benefiting from \$10,000 in income year-to-date with the leasing of our basement to The Academy School.
- We have earned an additional \$1,245 from various groups using our facility so far this year.

#### **GIVING OPTIONS**

- Contributing during our weekly service
- Mailing checks to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5511 64th Street S.E., Snohomish, WA 98290
- Utilizing your bank's bill pay option (Check with your bank or your on-line banking website)

- Using Tithe.ly donate link on our website, <https://www.swanstrail.org>

### **MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE- Chad Masche**

#### **Outdoor Work Parties:**

**PLEASE READ...Our Next Church Work Party is scheduled for Monday July 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:30pm. This schedule change is due to me being out of town on July 10th**

Please join us to assist with any weeding, trimming of shrubs/bushes, and other upkeep projects. You're certainly welcome to show up earlier if that works better for you to volunteer your time...no doubt you will find things to do.

Any time you can contribute is so appreciated! No experience is necessary, your time and a good attitude is all that is required. .

#### **Projects in the works:**

- **Currently in progress** - We are currently evaluating replacing the wall heater in the large downstairs area under the sanctuary. We have received one estimate at this point and will be inquiring with another trusted resource for an additional estimate. All the other furnace and heating equipment is functioning normally and has been serviced for regular maintenance. This was completed by Pilchuck Heating.
- **Currently in progress** - At this point we have a quote from 3 separate fence companies to replace the fences located along both the east and west boundary lines. Our neighbors to the east have agreed to join us in paying to replace that fence. We will be making a decision the first week of July to move forward with one of the bids.
- The east parking lot had a small opening (pothole) near both the disability access parking spots. The hole was recently filled in and patched by Doug and Donna Garland. Thanks to both of you for addressing this, it was very much appreciated!
- **Currently in progress** - In the fellowship hall, both Lori Fox and Pat Veale have been very busy in providing a new "coffee station". This will provide a more aesthetically pleasing area, with more storage, more counter space, and all around easier access for providing coffee at Sunday services and other hosted events. Thanks Lori and Pat!
- Thanks to several devoted individuals for continuing to upkeep the grounds, whether it be the gardening, weeding, or the mowing. THANK YOU!!

#### **Just a couple of notes:**

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**

Hope everyone's summer is starting out well. Good Shepherd's summer begins by changing our service time back to the 9:30am time frame.

We are well in the season of Pentecost. As Deacon Liz told us a couple of Sundays ago, Pentecost is the longest season of the church year at around 26 Sundays. 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 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Worship 9:30am 4-H 5pm Bible Study 6pm	<b>10</b> 4-H 6-9pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> BZB Quilters 11-3	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Trauma Group	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	<b>17</b> WorkParty 4:30pm	<b>18</b> Baseball Game!	<b>19</b> Project Linus 1-3 4-H 6-9	<b>20</b> BZB Quilters	<b>21</b> Project Linus 10-10	<b>22</b> Project Linus 10-10
<b>23</b> Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	<b>31</b>					

