

The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail
swanstrail@outlook.com www.swanstrail.org

Rev. Dr. Joseph Paxton
thecaffeinatedpastor@gmail.com 480-600-3727
5511 64th Street SE, Snohomish WA 98290
Church Phone 425-334-1220

May 2024

From the Pastor's Desk

What's up Church!

I'm so excited for what God is doing in, with, and through us!

This past (Easter) season has been a ton of fun looking at how the Resurrection wasn't just something that happened back then but means something for us right now, today, in our everyday lives! I'm excited to look towards Pentecost where we see how and in what ways God empowers us for the Great Commission, and it's a great reminder that God won't ask us to do anything God won't provide for. And here's the fun news! God has called us to do great things! God isn't done with us!!

To this end, we're rapidly moving towards the election of a mission statement. This will be the beginning of a series of meetings in which we identify, clarify, and discern why we're still here and what God wants to do with us! It's an exciting time, and it's a time that I believe God will continue to lead, guide, and grow us! So, let's wait with anticipation for the coming of the Holy Spirit where we will be equipped, empowered, and gain clarity for this next season of life and ministry!

In the meantime, I pray we would be open, and that God would open us, as a way of preparing us, for what God has for us in this next season. Let's continue to be in prayer and seek and discern where God might be calling us and where God might be leading. As we shift from Winter to Spring, the sun will emerge, the energy will be up, and I believe good and great windows of opportunity (new life) will arise.

I am so grateful to be your pastor, and I am excited to see what God has for us in this next season!

Peace and joy,
Pastor JP

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Sharon and Bogdan as they await the arrival of a baby in October

The Moen Family on the loss of Al's sister, Elaine Moen Heichel

The Robinson family on the loss of Lisa's husband, Weston, and her mother, Barbara

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

The Kloes Family on the loss of Donna Kloes

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

For health concerns:

Lucas Taylor, Joy Vaughn's cousin's grandson, as he battles a form of lymphoma,

Cathy Karlsen and her son, Rob, who has a serious infection

Al Moen

Lisa Robinson's Sister-in-law, Debbie, as she continues to recover from an auto accident

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,

For Pastor J.P. and 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.***

**(Names will continue to be included on the Prayer Request list
for six months unless Pat Pehling is notified differently)**

THANK YOU TO

- Doug Garland for his diligence with our roofing project
- Those who participated in the April Garden Work party
- Karla Kloes for providing the Women's Bible Study for many years!
- Dean Kloes for assembling the bookshelves for Pastor J.P.'s office

BENEFIT DINNER/AUCTION

Please remember that the auction to support the ecumenical youth of Snohomish will be Saturday, May 4th at 4:30 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church. There will be a silent auction first, dinner, dessert and the live auction. Childcare is provided. The last day to purchase tickets was Sunday April 27th, however, tickets may be purchased at the door for \$30. Even if you cannot attend, support is still appreciated!

Thank you!

MINISTRY OF FELLOWSHIP – Lisa Robinson & Cheryl McCutchan

There are two openings for fellowship in May, Mother's Day the 12th and Memorial weekend the 26th. Thank you to the Kloes family for hosting 5/5 and to Pat Veale and Evelyn Agostinelli for hosting 5/19.

Please reach out if you have any ideas for future activities we can plan, maybe a game night and potluck (hint, hint).

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE—Pat Veale

Thank you for donations to the Food Bank. Donation box is in the Narthex.
Canned Tuna, Chicken and Peanut Butter is always needed.

Matthew House & Everett Gospel Mission Needs: Clean and gently used clothing for both Men and Women. New Socks and New Underwear is needed.

Blood Bank is in need of Donations.

How To Build Community

*Turn off your TV * Leave your house * Know your neighbors * Greet people * Look up when you're walking * Sit on your stoop * Plant flowers * Use your library * Play together * Buy from local merchants * Share what you have * Help a lost dog/cat * Take children to the park * Honor elders * Support neighborhood schools * Fix it even if you didn't break it * Have pot lucks * Garden together * Pick up litter * Read stories aloud * Dance in the street * Talk to the mail carrier * Listen to the birds * Put up a swing * Help carry something heavy * Barter for your goods * Start a tradition * Ask a question * Hire young people for odd jobs * Organize a block party * Bake extra and share * Ask for help when you need it * Open your shades * Sing together * Share your skills * Take back the night * Turn up the music * Turn down the music * Listen before you react to anger * Mediate a conflict * Seek to understand * Learn from new and uncomfortable angles * Know that no one is silent though many are not heard, work to change this.

MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE – Doug Garland

Completed:

We continue to work on and monitor water leak issues. We had a leak of 8 gallons per hour a couple of weeks ago and were able to track it down to a faulty toilet by the preschool in the old part of the church. It was of the age that it couldn't be rebuilt so we purchased a new one to replace it. Thanks very much Don Siewert for volunteering to help out with the replacement. No leaks have been detected since it was replaced

In Progress:

We have been soliciting new bids to complete the roofing project. Due to complications unforeseen until the selected contractor tore some shingles off to examine the under layers of the roof did he discover a more complex construction than he was able to deal with.

We currently have four outfits ready to bid on the completion of the project who feel they are capable of finishing it for us. We should have those bids in next week.

Work Parties:

Monthly work parties will be on the third Tuesday of the month through September. The next work party will be on Tuesday, May 21st starting about 4:00 in the afternoon.

Projects are continuously being recognized, planned 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 it can be addressed.

MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Donna Garland

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have been faithful in your offerings and support of Good Shepherd. Your generosity of time, talents, and offerings are very much appreciated! As a result of your generosity we are currently running ahead of budget so far this year. This is truly a blessing.

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>

IN THE WORKS

At the March 10th congregational meeting, \$75,000 was approved/allocated to replace the entire roof and purchase a second laptop to be used in the Pastor's office and for live streaming Sunday services. Two laptops and a printer have been purchased, we are in the process of upgrading the church's financial software; while the replacement of the roof is continuing.

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN LEARNING –Dean Kloes

Sunday School continues to meet each Sunday at 10:45 AM. The last day of classes for this school year will be June 9th. Also, there will be no Sunday School class on May 19th.

The Women's bible study will be held on Friday, May 24th at 10:00 AM in the Anderson Chapel. The Women's bible study group is currently studying 1 Corinthians.

Also, the Sunday evening 6:00 pm bible study at the Barstad's home is working through the book titled *Help Is Here* by Max Lucado.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP– Karla Kloes

As we continue to worship and celebrate the season of Easter, it has been enjoyable to add more cups to the communion plate/tray. We had about 67 receive communion on Easter. The last Sunday in Easter will be May 12th. Then on Sunday May 19th we celebrate Pentecost, when we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let's all wear red that day.

Thank you so much for all the work of Pastor JP, Bonnie and the bulletin crew for our worship services and streaming.

Thank you to Donna, Mary and Joy for helping with communion prep, assistant and candle refilling. The usual assistants will not be able to be at the service on May 19th and I was wondering if someone could please help us out that day? Please call Karla at 425-971-7702.

Thank you also to Terry for his faithful service with the acolytes and keeping the eternal flame going and to Cheryl for purchasing all the supplies. You are all appreciated!

God's peace to you all.

To members of the congregation who knew Janet Soderblom Gay who passed away in December, 2023, you are invited to a memorial on May 11 between 1 and 4 pm at:
Jeff and Jan Gay's home
4830 175th Ave SE
Snohomish, WA 98290

Their daughters Amy and Jill will be hosting.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS IN OUR CONGREGATION

(If we don't have your family's special dates, please write them down and pass it along to Pat Pehling - we'd like to include everyone!)

BIRTHDAYS

May 1 –Debbie DeVault
13 – Paul Toutonghi, Kaia Thoreson
15 – David Blaske
20 – Mary Nelson
22 – Colter Fox
23 – Bri Paxton
25 – Kayla Lachapelle, Jim Flynn
27 - Joanie Gilbert
29 – Tammy Holten
31 - Chris Homme

ANNIVERSARIES

May 13 - Allen & Nancy Soderblom
May 15 - Dell & Renee Deierling

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Dinner/Auction at Christ the King
5 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Bible Study 6pm	6 <i>4-H Meeting 6-9pm</i>	7 <i>4-H Meeting 6-9pm</i>	8 <i>Project Linus 10am-3pm</i>	9 <i>The Academy 10-4</i> <i>Pilchuck Camera Club 7pm</i>	10 <i>Project Linus 10am-10pm</i>	11 <i>Project Linus 10am-10pm</i>
12 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Bible Study 6pm	13	14 <i>The Academy 10-4</i>	15	16 <i>4-H Meeting 6-9pm</i>	17	18
19 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Bible Study 6pm	20	21 <i>The Academy 10-4</i> Church Workparty 4pm	22 <i>Project Linus 10am-3pm</i>	23	24 Women's Bible Study 10am	25
26 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Bible Study 6pm	27	28 <i>The Academy 10-4</i>	29	30 <i>The Academy 10-4</i>	31	