

# The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail  
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5511 64th Street SE, Snohomish WA 98290

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OCTOBER 2023

Recently, I have been going through an OLD book of prayer poetry that I picked up in college. It's titled "Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle" by Ted Loder. These poetry prayers have been some of the ones I go back to most frequently when I'm feeling restless, unsettled, angsty. They remind me of my wholeness, my brokenness, my belovedness, and the gift of being in community with other people of Faith. Earlier this week, I read this prayer, and my heart sung to me to repeat it, inserting communities I care for in place of me. I prayed this for myself, yes, but I prayed it for the schools my children attend, my home congregation, my family, and for you, beloveds of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swans Trail. And it was so holy and hard and lovely and revealing and beautiful to do so. And thus, for this month, I offer this prayer to you. To pray for yourself, yes – but to also pray for your communities. Your families, neighborhoods, your congregation, for all the places, spaces, and people who might yearn to be reminded that we are accepted as we are, and that accepting that, trusting that, believing that, is powerful. Peace and all good,

Deacon Liz

## **It Would Be Easier to Pray if I Were Clear**

O Eternal One,  
It would be easier for me to pray  
If I were clear  
And of a single mind and a pure heart;  
If I could be done hiding from myself  
And from you, even in my prayers.  
But, I am who I am,  
Mixture of motives and excuses,  
Blur of memories,  
Quiver of hopes,  
Knot of fear,  
Tangle of confusion  
And restless with love,  
For love.  
I wander somewhere between gratitude and grievance,  
Wonder and routine,  
High resolve and undone dreams,  
Generous impulses and unpaid bills.  
Come, find me, Lord.  
Be with me exactly as I am.  
Help me find me, Lord.  
Help me accept what I am,  
So I can begin to be yours.  
Make of me something small enough to snuggle,  
Young enough to question,  
Simple enough to giggle,  
Old enough to forget,  
Foolish enough to act for peace;  
Skeptical enough to doubt  
The sufficiency of anything but you,

And attentive enough to listen  
As you call me out of the tomb of my timidity  
Into the chancy glory of my possibilities  
And the power of your presence.

Amen.

Contact information for Deacon Liz Colver is:

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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)

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

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

*The Robinson family on the loss of Lisa's husband, Weston*

*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  
and her mother, who is in hospice care*

*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,***

***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.***

### **ON LINE WORSHIP**

Please remember and share with your friends and family that our weekly worship service continues to be live streamed and recorded through the worship page on our website, [www.swanstrail.org](http://www.swanstrail.org) This is a way to stay connected if you are unable to attend.

### **THANK YOU TO**

- All those who contributed to the Potluck BarBQ, especially our grillers, Terry and Jim!
- Those who have kept our lawns mown and gardens weeded....and helped with other projects through the summer!

- To all those who have been helping at the monthly work parties.
- To those who continue to provide our Fellowship time with treats and clean up!
- To those who continue doing the bulletins, up-dating the website, live-streaming the worship service and serving as Sunday Supervisors to prepare the church for worship and then close it all up after service....there is a lot to do!!!!

### **TRAUMA GROUP OPPORTUNITY**

A women's trauma group is meeting at the church once a month in the evening the goal of which is to provide a safe place for healing. The group is organized using 12 step principles but is not affiliated with any program.

The focus of the group is broad based- looking at how traumatic events and experiences shape our reactions and our lives, and supporting each other in healing. People's trauma can vary. It can be living through something like a natural disaster or a house fire, losing a family member suddenly, an illness, a difficult medical procedure, experiencing a violent crime, having experienced something like domestic violence, childhood abuse or neglect, or sexual abuse. It isn't the event that makes something traumatic, it's how the event changes us.

If anyone is interested in attending or visiting the group or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact email the church.

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

**From Riverview Elementary:** *“Thank you for all your support in getting our students in need off to a great start this school year! We delivered to both trailer parks and additional kids at the building. Thank you for all the supplies and energy you put into making sure Riverview students have what they need.”*

A few photos of Riverview's distribution event at the trailer parks are posted on the hallway bulletin board.

A \$100 donation from the Community Service budget has been made to the Snohomish Crop Hunger Walk on behalf of the Youth Ecumenical group of Snohomish (YES).

Thank you for continued food bank contributions, they have been delivered to the Snohomish Food Bank. Please continue to remember their needs as it is a vital resource to many in our community. Donations of funds or non-perishable items are always needed, including not only pantry staples, but also paper products and pet supplies.

November and December are big months for Good Shepherd's community outreach. Please prayerfully consider your gifts as we move into these last few months of the year. Thank you!

### **MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Dell Deierling**

#### **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!

#### **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 WORSHIP & MUSIC – Donna Garland**

I want to give my deepest thanks to Deacon Liz who as of October 2<sup>nd</sup> has been with us for a full year. We have been fortunate to have her constant presence for this last year providing us with inspirational sermons,

visitations, and continuity in pastoral care. Having her with us has allowed us to focus on the business of calling a new pastor and for that I am grateful.

My continued thanks to Bonnie for music, Marilyn for bulletins and Mary and Joy for their help in getting the church set up for Sunday services and assisting Deacon Liz with communion during the service. If you would like to join the worship committee and help with Sunday service set up, communion prep, and communion distribution, please let me know. It is not difficult and can be accomplished in about an hour per week.

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION – Lisa Robinson with Dean Kloes**

Sunday School continues to meet each Sunday at 10:45 AM.

The Women's bible study will be held on Friday, October 27th at 10:00 AM in the Anderson Chapel. The Women's bible study group will start a new Bible study by Melissa Spoelstra "First Corinthians, Living Love When We Disagree".

The Sunday evening 6:00 pm bible study at the Barstad's home is taking a Break during October. In November, the evening study will begin a new study.

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH & ADULT FELLOWSHIP –Karla Kloes**

On Sunday, October 15th, we are planning a trip to The Farm for fall related activities and to hunt for pumpkins.

Also, on Sunday, November 5th, all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to go bowling at Strawberry Lanes. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dean Kloes on or before October 31st.

Thank you to Pat Pehling and Marilyn Errey for all their work for the memorial for Karen Hilderbrand.

Thank you so much to Terry Danner, Jim Flynn and all the ones who grilled for the BBQ on Sept 10th. Thank you to everyone who participated and brought food to share. It's fun to have times of fellowship with one another.

Please consider signing up to provide treats for after church. It really helps to have others sign up or share a date with someone. You don't have to bring a lot, just a couple of things to share. If we can get 8 people to commit to help than everyone would only be responsible for their turn every other month.

We are looking forward to Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 22nd from 3-5 pm. Come and celebrate with us, listen to music provided by Kristin Flynn and her sister Kathy, and bring food to share. There is a signup sheet in the fellowship hall. Dean will provide the root beer from Scuttlebutt Brewing. Also, invite your family and friends.

On Sunday, October 1st at 1:00 PM, the youth and all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to participate in the **Snohomish Crop Walk**. The walk is 5 miles long and the purpose is to raise funds for the hungry. A portion of the funds will be donated to the Snohomish Community Kitchen.

**Special Occasions in our Congregation**

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO**

October 4 - Sharon Danner Bozhinov  
5 - Gus Melnyk  
9 – Skip Sheppard  
10 - Kimberly Lipke

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO**

October 19 Pat & John Veale

11 - Jack Walkley  
18 - Anders Thoreson  
22 - Cindy Martina  
24 - Katie Kloes Greeny  
26 - Tyler Goodnight  
29 - Bruce DeVault  
30 - Chris Nofziger

## October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Crop Walk 1pm	<b>2</b> 4-H 6-9pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Pilchuck Camera Club 7-9pm	<b>13</b> Trauma Group 6pm	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Trip to "The Farm"	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Project Linus 10-3	<b>19</b> BZB Quilters 11am-8:30pm	<b>20</b> Project Linus 10-10	<b>21</b> Project Linus 10-10
<b>22</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am <b>Oktoberfest 3-5pm</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> BZB Quilters 10am-4pm	<b>27</b> Womens Bible Study 10am Anderson Chapel	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Looking ahead – Bowling on November 5			

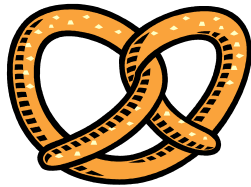
# Oktoberfest!

**Join Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
in celebrating harvest blessings**

**Sunday, October 22**

**From 3 – 5 p.m.**

**Special live music  
with Kristin and Kathy!**



**Brats ~ along with all the fixings  
& beverages will be provided.**

**Please bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to share,  
German style if possible, and family and friends.**