

The Shepherd's Staff
Monthly Newsletter of
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail
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Church Phone 425-334-1220

May 2023

Call Committee Update

Things are moving ahead! Having finalized and submitted the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) last month, the Call Committee has been working hard on preparing for the interview stage of the call process. We've been developing questions to ask the candidates, practicing interviewing, and honing our interviewing skills. On May 2nd, Pastor Andy Yee, the Assistant to the Bishop of our Synod, will be meeting with the Call Committee. At that meeting he will bring the names and profiles of 4 candidates for Good Shepherd's next pastor. Pastor Andy and Bishop Shelley have reviewed and reflected on the materials the Transition Team submitted, prayed and discerned, and have selected candidates that they think will be a good fit for Good Shepherd.

It's important to know that all information about the candidates (including name, gender, and current location) will all be confidential through this part of the process—in fact, the Call Committee will be referring to the candidates even among themselves as “Candidate A”, “Candidate B” etc. This is important for several reasons—in part because often a pastor's congregation doesn't know they are interviewing until they are further along in the process.

If you recall, a few weeks ago the congregation gave the council the ability to tap into the benevolence fund for the next three years if needed, so Good Shepherd can offer a full-time call with benefits for the pastor and their family. The idea is that in order to have the time and capacity to lead the congregation deeper into community and outreach ministry, having a full-time pastor would be important. And it also felt important to be able to guarantee that for at least three years, particularly if a candidate is coming from another area. There was a strong sense that Good Shepherd has a calling and mission in the community and that its time to put everything we have toward figuring that out.

The Call Committee will do a first round of interviews by Zoom as a way to level out the experience for all the candidates regardless of whether they are local or somewhere else in the country. Then they will narrow down who to offer a second interview, which will be in person. When the Call Committee has identified their “candidate of choice” they will then confirm with the candidate that they are ready to move into the final phase of the interview. That's when the congregation will get all the information about the candidate—and a chance to “meet and greet” prior to a congregational vote. If approved by the congregation, there may be some final negotiations on salary and such, and upon the candidates acceptance of the letter of call, it will be all official. Then an installation will be scheduled and everyone can breathe a deep sigh of relief!

It may be the case that there isn't a good fit in the first round of candidates, and in that happens, we can request another “slate” from the Synod and repeat the process. But it sounds like we've got some good potential matches in this first round, so pray that we find the right connection!

And please keep praying for your call committee: Rick Homme, Donna Garland, Lori Fox, Karla Kloes, Tim Danner, and Terry Danner. They are working hard on your behalf and it really is hard work! If you have any questions about the process (aside from fishing for details on the candidates!) please reach out to me or any of the Call Committee members.

Pastor Erik
eriksamuelson@gmail.com

Contact information for Deacon Liz Colver is:

Email: 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)

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*

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

Bo Henderson

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.***

(Notify Pat Pehling of any additions or changes to the Prayer Requests)

THANK YOU TO

- To all those who donated for lilies to make our Sanctuary beautiful for Easter:
 - *In Memory of Dona and Pat Wheeler – Doug and Donna Garland*
 - *In Memory of Louise Garland-Wheelen – Doug and Donna Garland*
 - *In Memory of Gary Nelson – Doug and Donna Garland*
 - *In Memory of Stan and Irene McCutchan – Rich and Cheryl McCutchan*
 - *In Memory of Bill and Mur Jensen – Rich and Cheryl McCutchan*
 - *In Memory of Don and Martha Taylor – Terry and Joy Vaughn*
 - *In Memory of Ken and Ellie Vaughn – Terry and Joy Vaughn*
 - *In Memory of her Father, Floyd – Lori Pehling*
 - *In Memory of Edward and Betsy Walters – Suzanne Walters*
 - *In Memory of Nola Deierling Schaus – Dell Deierling*
 - *In Memory of her son - Pat Veale*
 - *In Memory of Doc and Carol – Pat Pehling*
- To all who contributed to the wonderful Easter Breakfast, especially Terry Danner for the pancakes and ham and to Karla Kloes for decorating and all her support.
- To those who worked inside and out to prepare for Easter – Weeding, pressure washing sidewalks and parking lot, cleaning and dusting.....
- To Bonnie Thoreson, the Choir and Michele Coady for the special Easter music
- To the Snohomish Men's Chorus for sharing some wonderful anthems on April 16th.
- To Al Errey to providing homemade bread for Easter Communion

SURVEY

With Deacon Liz's change of roles at Holy Cross, we at Good Shepherd have more flexibility of Worship time. A survey to help determine the optimum Worship time was emailed last week. Please respond by May 10.

ANDERSON BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE – Rick Hmme

The Committee met on April 2nd and as of this meeting the committee had a balance of \$18,940.67.

After careful consideration we agreed to contribute \$4700 to the following organizations:

\$900 – Cocoon House
\$900 – Matthew House
\$750 – Housing Hope
\$750 – Dawson Place
\$600 -- Snohomish Affordable Housing
\$300 – Lambert House
\$500 – Catholic Community Services

The checks to those organizations have been written. There is \$14,240.67 remaining for distribution for the remainder of 2023.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2023 at 9:30am.

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.

The Pregnancy Resource Clinic in Everett wants every mom-to-be who comes into the Clinic to know that God is knitting together a precious gift in her womb. Partner churches are a precious gift to moms and their babies that visit the PRC. Psalm 139 and Ephesians 4 proclaim God's hand in both the creation of life in the womb and the building up of the body for ministry. Just as each one of us was *knit together* in the womb so we are *knit together* for God's purpose. Please consider a special one-time offering in May for Mother's Day supporting the many programs of this ministry. Checks may be made payable to Good Shepherd and please write in the memo: "PRC". Thank you for your consideration.

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

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN LEARNING – Lisa Robinson with Dean Kloes

Sunday School for the youth of our church continues each Sunday beginning at 9:45 AM and the last day of classes for this school year will be June 11th.

The May women's monthly bible study will be held on Friday, May 12th at 10:00 AM in the Anderson Chapel.

Also, anyone is invited to attend the weekly Sunday evening bible study at the Barstad's home at 6:00 PM. The group is beginning a new study titled *Questions Jesus Asked*. For more information, contact Dean Kloes.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND ADULT FELLOWSHIP – Karla Kloes

Thank you to all who came and those who brought delicious food for the Easter potluck this year. Special thanks to Terry Danner for providing the scrumptious blueberry pancakes and ham.

Thank you to all those who volunteer to provide fellowship after church. We all enjoy that time together. Please continue to sign up as you are able.

Looking ahead we will be having an end of the Sunday school year potluck on Sunday, June 11th after church. Please let me know if you would be available to BBQ. We will have a signup sheet in the fellowship hall in the next few weeks.

On Sunday, May 7th the youth and all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to participate in a bike ride on Centennial trail.

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MINISTRY OF WORSHIP– Donna Garland

Thank you to everyone that donated Easter lilies for our easter season. The sanctuary looked lovely and festive for our celebration of Christ's rising from the tomb. The Easter season continues to

Pentecost, which is May 28th this year, and the celebration color is red symbolizing the tongues of fire from the Holy Spirit that descended on the apostles in early times and upon us today.

Effective May 7th Deacon Liz will stop being a shared care pastor between Good Shepherd and Holy Cross Lutheran Churches. As a result, we have an opportunity to move our service time, from the 10:30am service that was necessary in order to share a care pastor, to another time. A survey has been sent out to gather the congregation's preferences for service time. Please let me know if you did not receive the survey and I will forward it to you and make sure your email address is correct on the distribution list. Any change in service will be effective after the completion of Sunday School on June 11th.

I am still looking for one or two people that may be available to help set up and clean up after communion, fill candles, and change paraments to match the season. It doesn't take long but needs to be done the Friday or Saturday (or early Sunday morning if you are an early riser) prior to Sunday service. Let me know if you are willing to take a week or two.

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>

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
25 – Kayla Lachapelle, Jim Flynn
27 - Joanie Gilbert
29 – Tammy Holten
31 - Chris Homme

ANNIVERSARIES

May 1 - Weston & Lisa Robinson
May 13 - Allen & Nancy Soderblom
May 15 - Dell & Renee Deierling

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4-H Meeting 6-9pm	2	3	4	5 Trauma Group 6pm	6
7 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Bike Ride on Centennial Trail	8	9	10	11 Pilchuck Camera Club	12 Women's Monthly Bible Study 10am	13
14 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm	15	16	17 Project Linus 10-3	18 BZB Quilters	19 BZB Quilters	20 BZB Quilters
21 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm	22	23	24 Project Linus 10-3	25 BZB Quilters	26 Project Linus 10-10	27 Project Linus 10-10
28 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm	29	30	31	Looking Ahead: June 11 – Last Day of Sunday School & Group Hike		