



Our Mission

To share the Good News of God's grace through worshiping, teaching and reaching out to all in need of God's love.

Pastor's Message

November
2021

THE MESSENGER

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is that time again to consider our support of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and her ministries. Consider Psalm 50: 1-15 as you prayerfully consider what God has blessed you with and what first fruits you will give this year. Many of us give the leftovers after we pay our bills and buy what we desire. God has given you everything without cost. This year you face the call of a new pastor. Will you give such that you can call someone to partner with you in growing Good Shepherd? Please consider that in your prayers for guidance to giving. Consider the following devotion.

God Owns it All Scripture Reading — Psalm 50:1-15

"If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it." — Psalm 50:12 —

In a message on stewardship, a pastor recently encouraged us to go home, look around, and give thanks for what we have.

He wanted us to give thanks to God for letting us live in homes that belong to him and for allowing us to drive cars that really are his. He wanted us to thank God for our paychecks, our businesses, our jobs, our savings, and our investments. He wanted us to acknowledge God as the owner of all things.

That's the teaching of Psalm 50, that God is the absolute owner of everything we have. "The world is mine, and all that is in it," says the Lord. God owns "the cattle on a thousand hills." He is the owner of absolutely everything we have. We are no more than managers. As one author put it, "God never turned the deed or title over to us."

Take a few moments today to look at everything you have. Take out your checkbooks and your bank statements, and ask yourself: Am I living as someone who knows he is not the owner? Do I use my resources to build God's kingdom and to help those in need?

Remember the words of Jesus: "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33).

Ask him to help you be a faithful steward. Prayer: Lord, thank you for allowing us the use of so many things. Help us to be faithful as we manage the things you own. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Be a blessing today!

Nancy Trimble, LSIM Deacon and Vice Pastor

Senior Shepherds News



Pastor Ben Prill of St. John's Lutheran Church, Vandalia, was the guest speaker. You may remember Pr. Prill as Vicar Prill when he worked with our congregation and LSIM congregations before his ordination.

Pr. Prill spoke of his good experiences at St. John's and also his challenges. He answered questions our Shepherds presented, including many about his experiences during his call process. What did Pr. Prill have as a concern when he interviewed with call committees? His first and primary answer was, "Is this call committee and congregation looking forward to growing into the future, or staying "as is" ? This seemed helpful.

Pies and beverages were provided by Tom and Eva Coughnour.

Possible program topics, service projects and field trips were discussed.



The meeting closed as Pr. John read a list of "saints" who have enriched the life of Good Shepherd in his 30 years with the congregation. Many of these persons who have joined the "Church Triumphant" still have family members, relatives and friends who support Good Shepherd ministries. Twelve members were present.

*Save
the
Date*

NEXT MEETING

November 23 , 2 p.m.

Our guest speaker will be Beth Ewing, LSIM congregational nurse. She will address health concerns.

Our Christmas gathering will be December 28, at Old Mason Winery, with a catered meal. Reservations will be required.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS...



"The Sounds of Christmas"

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO OUR PROGRAM...

Friday, December 17, 2021
7:00 p.m.

A WONDERFUL EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC
FEATURING THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR,
SOLOISTS, INSTRUMENTALISTS AND
THE SHEPHERD'S BELLS QUARTET

Special Guest:
Tara Mar Iddings, Cellist

1209 South Miami Street
West Milton, Ohio
Phone: 698-5826



Preschool News:

A HUGE thank you to the church for purchasing pumpkins for our Pumpkin Fun Day and for making our trunk or treat day a lot of fun!

We had a lot of fun this October; we learned about Fire Safety, Families, Bats, Spiders and Pumpkins. We had an awesome Fire Safety Day!! We had West Milton Police Officers, Firefighters and EMTs come in and show the classes all kinds of cool things. Thank you for donating cookies to help us show them our appreciation for all they do for our community.

We are looking forward to November. We will be continuing chapel, once a week. We will be learning a lot about Veterans and also about being thankful for our lives.

Thank you for your support and help with our program! We hope you enjoy the pictures that will be updated periodically on the board outside the preschool classroom.



Congratulations to Becky Garrett on being named a Community Gem

[Community Gem: Becky Garrett of West Milton helps children in need](#)

WEST MILTON - If there's a need for something for the kids in West Milton, it's a good bet Becky Garrett will be nearby. "She is very active in the community when there is a need. She gets along with everyone. She has a very caring heart," wrote Les Trittschuh of West Milton, who nominated Garrett as a Dayton Daily News Community Gem.

Garrett was surprised by her nomination but not by the person responsible. "He is very involved in the community also. He and I work a lot together," she said.

The children's ministry director at her church, Hoffman United Methodist in West Milton, Garrett also is director of the Good Shepherd Lutheran pre-school in West Milton. She organizes "Bulldog Bags," a nonprofit organization that provides food for the weekends for Milton-Union students. She heads up "Lunch Bunch" that feeds the children during the summer and is the director of Junior Teen Institute.

Trittschuh said a few words can best describe Garrett: "She is a super Community Gem!"



*Teach your
children the word of God,
and you will see your
house full of blessings*

We all want to spend eternity in Heaven and of course we want our children to be there too. So, are you giving your child the spiritual support they need to make that happen? Your child's religious education has to be a priority. The most important thing you will ever do for your child is teach them about God and the gift of His son Jesus Christ.

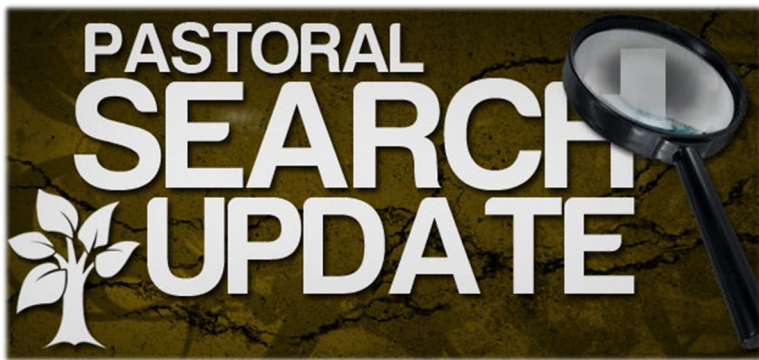


Wednesday Evening Children's Bible School

After a few false starts we are once again looking to restart our Bible school program. In an effort to fit better into people's busy lifestyles, we have decided to try Wednesday evening classes. To start with, we will have K-6 classes. If we get an interest for classes for older children we will include those as well. We are hoping to start in January.

If you would like to be a part of this very important ministry, please contact the office. We would love to have a huge show of support for this ministry.

"If we do not teach our children to follow Jesus, the world will teach them not to."



Call Process – November Report

The call process is going well. It never goes as quickly as you would like it to, but we are making steady progress. We have established a Call Committee. The group consists of Bob Spitler, Marsha Fischbach, Trevor Grile, and Donna Plunkett with Barb Cecil chairing the group. I want to thank each of them for stepping up for this important task.

I reported last month that the first step in the process was a meeting between our Church Council and the Synod Bishop and her assistant. In October, we have been working on completing the Mission Site Profile, or MSP, for the Synod. We are the Mission Site so the MSP is all about us – what is the community like, what is the congregation like, what are our goals, what challenges do we face, what are our finances like, what are we looking for in a new pastor and on and on. Our MSP currently stands at 12 pages and I want to thank the Call Committee for their valuable work and input on this project.

Once the MSP is submitted and approved by the Synod it will be sent out by them to pastor-candidates as a preliminary introduction to our church. The candidates, after reading our MSP, decide whether he or she wants to set up an interview to come talk to us. I am pleased to report to you all that our MSP is completed and should be submitted the first week of November.



STEWARDSHIP 2022

This time of year is always Stewardship campaign time. Estimate of Giving cards and a cover letter have been or are in the process of being distributed. We are asking that you complete your card and have it back to us by November 14.

You might be wondering what to base your giving decisions on. Well, so is the church leadership. Until we have a pastor candidate, and experience has told us that could be a long time or next month, we will have no clear knowledge of what offering amounts we are going to need. The Synod has told us that the probability of finding a part-time pastor is very low. There just aren't any part-time pastors available. That means we will be talking to full-time candidates who will need full-time compensation. Again, according to the Synod, full-time compensation could be somewhere in the range of \$90,000 to \$100,000 which is considerably more than is in our current budget.

We will be having a more traditional Stewardship campaign when we have a better handle on what our financial needs are going to be. It goes without saying that at that time we are all going to have to do a lot of financial soul-searching on what we want the future of this church to be and hard decisions will need to be made.

Going into 2022, our budget, with some minor tweaks, is going to look very much like this year's budget. For that reason, at this time, we are asking that you simply continue your 2021 giving into this coming year. Of course, any increase in your Estimate of Giving would be welcome and will allow us to accumulate funds in anticipation of our future stewardship needs.

Christmas



Food Boxes

Helping Hands Christmas Food Program

As part of the Milton Union Council of Churches, we are once again hosting the program here at our church. This year's distribution day is **December 10**. Applications can be picked up at any of the area churches, the library, Wertz, the municipal building or Dollar General. They will also be given out by the school. If you know someone in need you can simply fill out an application and drop it off or mail it to us here at Good Shepherd.



As part of that ministry we are collecting food for the boxes. Our church is collecting grape jelly and boxed macaroni & cheese. We are hoping to collect 100 of each. You can drop off your donation in the narthex.



Correction: Last month's newsletter had the wrong date for pick-up. It is December 10.

Mark Your Calendar.

We need bell ringers
for the

Salvation Army's Red Kettles

Our Date is

Friday, Dec. 3rd

And our location is

Wertz Variety Store

Our Time

11:00am—4:00pm

we usually sign up for
1 hour increments
(but you can split the time with
someone if you want.)

See sign up in the narthex or email the office
and we will get you
signed up.

Feel free to Bring a friend!

Thank you for your
support of this
important project.



Devotions for Congregations in Call Process

Devotion 2 of a 5 part series by the Rev. Ronald Olson

II. In Calling a Pastor, We Consider God's Gifts

God's gracious giving extends to the church, too. God has not been content to let the church fend for itself since Pentecost. On the contrary, the Holy Spirit still enlivens the community of faith. As Bishop April Urling Larson has said, "What God is interested in is empowering the body of Christ." God has raised up leaders, gifted ministers and pastors for the church in all times and places. When the church has prayed, "Save and defend your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Give it pastors and ministers filled with your Spirit, and strengthen it through the Word and the holy sacraments," God has answered.

Listen to this wonderful scripture: II Peter 1:3-11. Would any of us, either as individual believers or as members together of a congregation, have any reason to question the truth of those verses? In fact, how have the promises offered there been answered and proved true in your experiences of the life of faith? In the life of our congregation?

We overhear the prayer that scripture offers up for us in Ephesians 3:14-21. The One who has called us is also at work in us doing far more than we can ask or imagine. That's an amazing thought!

As we join in singing or saying LBW 543, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty," focus on verse two and ask, "What does that verse mean, promise, and say to us about God's watch over us?" Can we claim this hymn's great promise even in calling a new pastor?

Luther's Small Catechism offers his explanation of the third and fourth petitions of the Lord's Prayer saying: "God's will is done when he strengthens our faith and keeps us firm in his Word as long as we live."

And, "Daily bread includes everything needed for this life, such as food and clothing, home and property, work and income, a devoted family, an orderly community, good government, favorable weather, peace and health, a good name, and true friends and neighbors."

We daily trust God's good gifts for our faith and life. Such confidence also belongs to the faith and life of the whole church.

Gracious giving God, give us your help again, just as you have always done. Remind us of your care. Let there be gratitude in our congregation, for all that is needful has been sent and ordained for us already. As we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we be strengthened for this task with the thought that your providing reaches to every need of your church. This call committee and community of believers are your church, too. Amen.

Opportunities to Serve

Volunteer to help with Worship service:

Assisting Minister

Greeter

Usher

Audio/Video

Nursery

Altar Guild

Lector

Or volunteer to help with:

Sunday School

Luth Youth

Yard Work/Upkeep

Other Ministries

Chancel Choir

Bell Choir

Son Rise Breakfast

Clothesline

Planning Group

Panera Bread

Senior Shepherds

Guiding Light Advocate

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 14, 2021 7:00 p.m

Present: Ric Warner, Les Barker, Amy Grile, Judy Tipton, Deacon Nancy Trimble, Diana Frye, David Stein, and Marsha Fischbach

Secretary's Report: Approved as read. Motion: Diana Frye Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Financial Secretary's Report: Approved as read. Motion: Amy Grile Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Approved w/ changes. Motion: Marsha Fischbach Second: Les Barker. All were in favor

Pastor's Report: Deacon Nancy Trimble reminded Council of the Saturday, Oct. 2, LSIM Vision Meeting. Good Shepherd council members will meet with St. Johns from 9 to 2.

Office Administrator report:

Amy Grile reported that Kathryn Grisso is in need of transportation to doctors' appointments, etc.

We paid a \$137.36 water bill for someone in need.

Pest control was called to take care of the yellow jackets.

Mindy Paddock suggested we write a letter to AA to welcome them and invite them to a church service.

Mindy also asked for diaper donations and help with groceries for our Guiding Light Ministry.

Deacon Nancy will provide help with groceries.

All of the supply pastors we need through December have been scheduled.

New Business:

A discussion was held about the status of COVID. Miami County is not doing well at this time.

Old Business:

The Mission Site Profile needs to be completed by the Call Committee and sent to the Synod. This is the first step in the call process for a new pastor. The Call Committee will meet to complete this.

Les Barker is looking into fencing a play area for our pre-school.

We are planning an information packet to give to new home owners about Good Shepherd to promote our ministry.

Committee Reports:

Worship: Practice will start in October for our Christmas program on December 17. Singers and bell ringers are still needed for our choirs.

Mission/Outreach/LSIM:

Property:

Youth/Christian Education:

Stewardship: Judy Tipton and Ric Warner will meet about our stewardship program.

Fellowship: Amy Grile will investigate Good Shepherd hosting some classes or programs. They would be open to the community.

A motion to adjourn was made by Les Barker. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Fischbach

N O V E M B E R

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kelly Jones
Susan Tully
- 9 Adam Barker
- 13 Patty Tipton
Susan Knife
- 17 Barbara Cecil
Judy Gardner

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Rusty & Marla Baker
- 26 Matt & Amy Grile

*Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?
Let us know. Just send an email to:
office@goodshepherdwestmilton.org*

SERVING

ASSISTING MINISTER

Kristine Hayes

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Barbara Cecil

ALTAR GUILD

Debbie Bredeson

LECTOR

- 7 Marsha Fischbach
- 14 Marsha Fischbach
- 21 Toby Theis
- 28 Toby Theis

USHER CAPTAIN

- 7 Barbara Cecil
- 14 Jarrett Grile
- 21 Dave Vagedes
- 28 Molly Franks

SOUND

COUNTERS

Diana Frye
Victoria Hammermeister

FLOWERS

- 7 Rusty & Marla Baker
- 14 Patty & Emil Tipton
- 21 Jerry & Peri Bonner
- 28 Judy Tipton

We will
SERVE the
LORD

If you cannot serve on an appointed day, it is your responsibility to find someone to serve in your place.

Pledge Giving Report

through the end of October

Pledges over 10

Pledges under 9

Pledges even 15

Year to date pledge giving over \$2222

November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7:30 pm AA Meeting	2	3 3 -5 pm Plarn 7:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	4	5	6
7 9:30am Chancel Choir 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	8 6:30pm Preschool Board Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting	9	10 3 -5 pm Plarn 7:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	11	12	13
14 9:30am Chancel Choir 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	15 12:00 pm Lydia Bible Study 7:30 pm AA Meeting	16 10:00 am Senior Shepherds Planning Meeting 7:00 Council Meeting	17 3 -5 pm Plarn 7:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	18	19	20
21 9:30am Chancel Choir 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	22 7:30 pm AA Meeting	23 2:00 pm Senior Shepherds	24 3 -5 pm Plarn 7:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	25 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	26	27
28 9:30am Chancel Choir 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:00pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal	29 7:30 pm AA Meeting	30				

Prayers and Concerns

Susan Baker, Chuck Franks, Abby Bonner, Dick Stalinsky, Bill Sims, Marie Kopp, Susan Tully, Judy Gardner, Butch Traylor, Bill Brown, Ron Timmons, Betty Lou Johansen, and Aaron Johansen.

Our Church Staff

Ric Warner
Church Council
President

Marsha Fischbach
Music Director

Betty Lou Johansen
Pianist

Amy Grile
Administrative Asst.

**Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church**
1209 South Miami St.
West Milton, Ohio 45383

Phone 937.698.5826

E-Mail: office@goodshepherdwestmilton.org

Website: <http://goodshepherdwestmilton.org>

PASTORAL CARE

Deacon Nancy Trimble

937-269-6359 or nancytrimble@abidingchrist.net

PLACE
STAMP
HERE