



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.

September
2022

THE MESSENGER

Pastor's Message

So, I was standing at the cash register at a sub shop having a talk with the youngster making my sandwich. He was asking me about my sermon. What was it about? I still get surprised when people do that to me, even though I should expect it since I dress in clergy garb daily.

In this young man's mind, the days had begun to run together. He was under the impression that it was Sunday after church. It was not. He just had worked so much that he was not so sure what day it was. But he asked: "What was the sermon about?" Good for him. And good for me. And good for us, the church.

I don't know about you, but I count it a privilege when someone asks me about church. What was said? What was the message? Not only does it give me the opportunity to share but it reminds me of something ever so important: out there somewhere is someone who actually is longing to know, is wondering what the message is, and is maybe even wishing they had been there to hear.

It is not true that no one outside of the church cares about what the news from God is. No, not all care, but many are out there who want to know. The years that we have lived through are bound to have left many of our neighbors wondering: "Where is God in all this? Disease and then great need? Will I be OK? Does God know how I am doing? Does God care?"

The answer is of course a resounding: "Yes! God sees, and God cares, and God has not left you alone to fend through it all." That is after all the reason Jesus came to earth to assure us of God's amazing grace and care, care that is often ready and delivered through the likes of us and our congregation. They are out there asking. We must make plans to speak and to receive them.

I tried to pay for my food but the gentleman before me had already settled my bill and had walked out. I labor among good people ready for God.

Pastor Peter

Senior Shepherds News

Personal Care Kits September 4 - September 25, 2022

The Senior Shepherds invite you to participate in our annual Personal Care Kit Project through Lutheran World Relief. This year our project will take place in September. **All items need to be at church by September 25.** The kits will be assembled the following week.

As you shop for the items for your kits, it is important that everyone follow the instructions so the kits are consistent with others donated. Shopping lists are available in the Narthex.

When you are finished shopping, please put the items in a plastic grocery bag, tie it shut and bring it to church. If you are unable to shop, donations will be accepted and someone will shop for you.

When emergencies like natural disasters or conflict happen, many families must flee their homes and leave everything behind. Imagine how much it means to those people to know someone cares.

Thanks for your participation in this important ministry.

Personal Care Kit Shopping List

- *1 light-weight bath towel (52" x 27"), dark color recommended
(make sure you check the size on the tag)
- *2-3 bath-size bars of soap totaling 8-9 ounces
- *1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- *1 sturdy comb (no picks or fine-toothed combs)
- *1 metal nail clipper (attached file optional)

Place all items in a plastic grocery bag and secure it so small items do not fall out.

PLEASE HAVE ITEMS OR MONETARY DONATIONS AT CHURCH BY SEPTEMBER 25.

**WEST MILTON
SENIOR CITIZENS
COMMUNITY CENTER**

435 W Hamilton St.
W. Milton OH

937-698-7129

**Carol Garver - Director
Wednesday Noon Lunch
Please Call to Signup**

***Sep 14** — 11 am speaker
Lunch \$8/Bingo after

***Sep 28** - Pizza \$5
Abby Credit Union/Bingo

Sept 22 — Thurs - 9 AM-
11 AM -- FREE Blood
Pressure & Glucose Screen-
ings - Stop in no registration
required.

EVERY THURSDAY - 1PM -
Dominos - Stop In and play

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING
@ 6 PM EUCHRE -

Everyone Welcome!

August 24, 2022 Council Meeting Highlights

The August Council meeting was moved back a week due to schedule conflicts. At the July meeting, Council recognized the importance of having a 5-Year Plan to move Good Shepherd in the direction we want it to go. Due to the perceived importance of this task, the primary focus of the meeting this month was to begin such a plan for Good Shepherd. Council made some excellent progress and we will be sharing the results with you soon.

At the beginning of the meeting, Pastor Peter shared with Council that he has been in touch with the Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Bob Abrams, with regard to our search for a new pastor. Pastor Bob has shared that there has been a slight uptick in contacts with the Synod from pastors who are interested in moving to a different church. Keep our search for a new pastor in your prayers.

Council also approved a budget for our Newcomer Contact Task Force and gave their approval to a request from Betty Lou Johansen to purchase a memorial bench commemorating Pr. John Johansen using some of the Memorial money that has been sent in his name to Good Shepherd.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Preschool News:

We are back...

The preschool is back up and running again this year! Both classes are full of kids ready to learn and ready for some fun. We had a lot going on this summer. The church was able to put in a fence for our playground that is coming in November. We painted our new room for our 3 year old class. We had our meet the teacher day and have had our first day!!



Fence Building:
A BIG thanks to
Rusty Baker, David
Stein, Ric Warner,
Les Barker, Jerry
Bonner,

Not pictured: Adam
Barker, Ben and
Becky Garrett



Painting:

A HUGE thank you
to Ben, Becky, Mat-
thew and Lydia
Garrett, Mike Circle
and Alycia Penny

SON RISE BREAKFAST

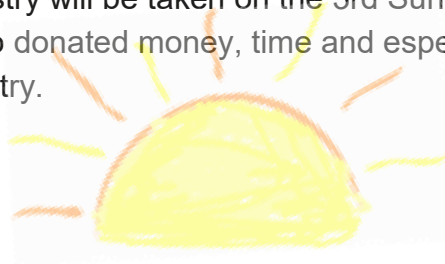


Thanks to Ann Siler, Diana Frye, Betty Lou Johansen, Patty Tipton, Judy Moncrief, Connie Louis, Debbie Bredeson, Barb Cecil and Donna Plunkett for making light work of packing 72 Breakfast bags for the Son Rise Breakfast on July 31, 2022. Two hard boiled eggs, 2 Tangerines, a Panera Pastry, Granola Bar and orange juice box were packed.

Son Rise Breakfast is held every Sunday at First Lutheran Church in downtown Dayton. LSIM responsibility is when there are 5 Sundays in the month... we do the 5th Sunday. Next time will be Reformation Sunday October 30. I think Martin Luther would smile!

A free will offering for this ministry will be taken on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Thanks to all who donated money, time and especially prayers for this important ministry.

Judy Moncrief



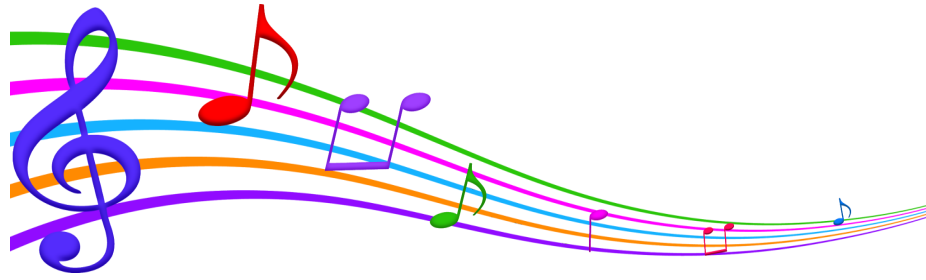
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil 4:13



Thank you to our "Planners."

This wonderful group meets Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m., to make mats for the homeless. Although the solemn realization of the needs of area homeless is not lost on the group, they have a great deal of fun meeting each week to make these mats. Everyone is welcome to come and you do not need any special skills to participate. The mats pictured were blessed during the August 21 service.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR MUSIC PROGRAM

Sing in our Chancel Choir Practice Sundays at 10 a.m.

Play in our Bell Choir Practice Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

(You do need to read music to be in the bell choir)

Our first practice for Chancel Choir is Sunday, Sept. 11 @ 10 a.m.

Our first practice for Bell Choir is still to be determined.

Please contact Marsha Fischbach for more information



OUR CHRISTMAS MUSICAL WILL BE BACK THIS DECEMBER!

The musical will be presented on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7:00 p.m.

You, your family, and friends are all invited to participate.

You don't need to be a member of our congregation.

Practice will begin on October 9 after our worship service.

Those attending other churches will arrive as soon as they can.

All practices are on Sunday until production week.

A practice schedule will be available at our first practice.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Mondays 6:30pm – 8:00pm
September 26 - December 19 (On-line & In-person)
Abiding Christ Lutheran Church
326 E. Dayton Yellow Springs Road, Fairborn
Register at: www.GriefShare.org or call 937-878-2888



A thank you salute to Bob and Barb Cecil for replacing our old tattered flag with a new flag. We appreciate you!



FISH Union Township

Needs: paper products and personal care items.

They are still in need of a trustee to serve on the Board. They also need 1 or 2 people to answer the phone and take calls of request for needs the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Contact Ralph Warner (937) 672-7303.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2022

Present: Les Barker, Vice President; Diana Frye; Pastor Peter; David Stein; Toby Theis; Suzie Vagedes; Ric Warner, President
Meeting was called to order by Ric Warner
Opening prayer was offered by Pastor Peter

Secretary's Report: Minutes were approved as written. Motion: Toby Theis, Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Financial Secretary's Report: Motion to approve as written: Diana Frye, Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve as written: Diana Frye, Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Pastor's Report: Council needs a plan. An appropriate 5-year goal would be to grow weekly church attendance to pre-Covid level of 70 (from our current average of 35). It would be best for Council to schedule a meeting to formulate an action plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Five-Year Plan- Council, in agreement with Pastor Peter, decided to set a planning meeting. The next regular Council Meeting is now set for Wednesday, August 24th. Everyone is asked to submit their reports in writing at the beginning of the meeting to expedite the regular meeting process; then the planning meeting will follow. All are asked to bring ideas for the planning meeting!

OLD BUSINESS:

Pastor search- no news

Activity Room remodel- The old cabinets need to be emptied and removed before Dave Stein can install the new ones. Diana offered to organize Planners to help relocate contents of the cabinets this week.

Committee Reports:

Worship: The Chancel Choir will have their first practice on Sunday, September 11, at 10:15 a.m. We always welcome new members. The Bell choir is still in need of one more ringer. We will start practice in August. Marsha Fischbach, Director will play instead of direct until we find another person to ring bells. We will have a worship committee meeting in August to plan for Fall and the Christmas season.

Mission/Outreach/LSIM/MUCC: First Lutheran in Xenia joined LSIM in July. Pr. Prill was elected president of LSIM.

Property: Les Barker will finish the fence in the next two weeks. Trying to pull together a crew to get it stretched. Dave Stein plans on finishing a job he is working on and then getting the cabinets installed. Work day went well: got the tree down and flower beds cleaned up. Still working on an electrical issue.

Youth/Christian Education/Preschool: First day of Preschool is Monday, Aug 29th. Need work in Preschool room and playground to be done by then.

Stewardship and Fellowship: no reports.

Motion to Adjourn: Diana Frye, Second: everyone! Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: August 24, 2022

Respectfully Submitted, Suzie Vagedes

Nothing
is impossible.
The word itself
says *I'm possible.*

Audrey Hepburn

LIFEWISE ACADEMY



LIFEWISE ACADEMY IS AT MILTON-UNION THIS FALL

LifeWise Milton-Union is now enrolling students.

Classes start Tuesdays November 1, 2022

Registration deadline is October 18, 2022

Register and find more information at: lifewiseacademy.org/milton-unionoh

Looking for ways to volunteer or support financially?

Scan the QR Code!



Be Still and know that I am God psalm 46:10



Photo by Amina Filkins

**Learn to Communicate
with Your Spouse
in a Whole New Way!**

November 18 - 20, 2022
Streetsboro, OH

Lutheran Marriage Encounter
In-Person Experience

Privacy as a Couple Assured

Pre-Register Now or Learn More at
GodLovesMarriage.org

GodLoves
MARRIAGE



S
E
P
T
E
M
B
E
R

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 2022



4th Rob & Kathy Williams
9th Lynne Lopez
10th Jack & Debbie Bredeson
John & Michaelle Lightcap
15th Raymond Landis

16th Beckett Ely
20th Luke Hammermeister
27th Katelyn Jebens
Heidi Spitler
30th Scott Moncrief
Kathy Williams

SERVING

ASSISTING MINISTER

Kristine Hayes

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Suzie Vagedes

ALTAR GUILD

Kristine Hayes

LECTOR

4 Ric Warner
11 Jeff Barth
18 Ric Warner
25 Ric Warner

USHER CAPTAIN

4 Barbara Cecil
11 Jarrett Grile
18 Dave Vagedes
25 Molly Franks

SOUND

Jarrett Grile

COUNTERS

Susan & Ralph Blakeley

FLOWERS

4 In honor of Zach & Alayna Vagedes' wedding day from David & Suzie
11 In celebration of Jack & Debbie Bredeson's 45th wedding anniversary
18 open
25 open



Pledge Giving Report
through the end of July 31, 2022
Pledges over 10
Pledges under 13
Pledges even 13

Year to date pledge giving over \$6,118

SEPTEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 11:00 am Holy Communion Worship Committee Meeting After Service	5 No Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	6	7 9-12 Preschool 3-5 pm Planning	8	9 9-12 Preschool	10
11 10:00 am Choir Practice 11:00 am Holy Communion	12 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	13	14 9-12 Preschool 3-5 pm Planning	15	16 9-12 Preschool	17
18 10:00 am Choir Practice 11:00 am Holy Communion	19 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	20	21 9-12 Preschool 3-5 pm Planning 7:00 pm Council Meeting	22	23 9-12 Preschool	24
25 10:00 am Choir Practice 11:00 am Holy Communion	26 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	27	28 9-12 Preschool 3-5 pm Planning	29	30 9-12 Preschool	

Our Church Staff

Pastor Peter Kruse
Interim Pastor

Ric Warner
Church Council
President

Marsha Fischbach
Music Director

JoAnn Antonides
Administrative Asst.

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

Prayers and Concerns

Susan Baker, Abby Bonner, Chuck Franks,

Aaron & Renee Johansen, Bill Sims, Jeff Theis,

Ron Timmons, Judy Tipton, Patty Tipton, and for the next pastor of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Phone 937.698.5826

E-Mail: office@goodshepherdwestmilton.org

Website: <http://goodshepherdwestmilton.org>

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Peter Kruse 937-974-3216 or

PastorKruse@icloud.com

PLACE
STAMP
HERE