

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1111 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070

847-537-4353

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

August 2022



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Reflections by Pastor Dave

August 2022

Last spring, we planted some tomato plants. We fertilized the ground. We watered the plants. The plants developed a strong root system. They grew and grew and grew. And now they are starting to produce tomatoes - big, red, juicy tomatoes.

That's what plants do - they produce fruit. Some plants produce tomatoes, or grapes, or cucumbers. They produce beautiful flowers or colorful leaves. Trees produce shade and shelter for wildlife. Plants are productive. They make a vital contribution to life on this planet. That's the way God designed them.



And that is the way God designed us as well. God made us to bear fruit, to be productive and make a vital contribution to life on this planet. That's what the Bible teaches. Jesus said that our life with God is like a seed planted in the ground and the seed grows and produces a rich harvest. God designed us to grow and produce a rich harvest. The Bible teaches that we bear fruit when we do good work. That's what God wants, God wants us to bear fruit, and when we do, God is pleased.

So, let's take a closer look at the fruit God wants us to bear. In Matthew 22 we are taught that we should love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and that we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. In Matthew 25 we are taught to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger and clothe the naked, visit the sick and care for those in prison.

In Matthew 28 we are taught to go and make disciples of all nations, baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and to teach them to obey everything Christ has taught us.

In Galatians 5 we are taught that the fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

We could go on and on. The Bible has much to say about the fruit we are to bear. A good way to summarize what the Bible teaches about bearing fruit in the world is the promise we make when we are confirmed. "Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the

word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

The question I want you to ask yourself is this "am I living this way? Am I bearing fruit in the world? Am I proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed? Am I serving others? Am I striving for justice and peace in the earth?"

If you are like me, you would have to say that there is room for improvement. We can and should do better. God expects us to bear not just a little fruit, but much fruit. That's why we need to have roots that sink deep into Christ. Roots that gather the life-giving water of Christ. Roots that feed on the life-giving nutrients of God's Word and the Sacraments. Roots that are connected to and supported through fellowship with other Christians. We need strong roots in order to bear fruit in the world. And that is why we need to be growing in Christ. We grow when we hear, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the Word of God. We grow when we gain knowledge and understanding of God's Word and become more confident in our faith.

We grow when we put into practice what we have learned. We don't engage in spiritual growth activities just for the fun of it, we grow in order to bear fruit in the world. A valuable way we bear fruit in the world is through the work that we do, whether that work is paid or unpaid, whether it is full time or part time, whether we do it at home or away from home. When we offer that work to God, when we seek to serve God and our neighbors through our work, when we do the very best we can and do it out of love, we are bearing rich fruit in the world. I think of the promise that God gives us in 1 Corinthians 15: "Be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Your labor will not be in vain. God will take what you do and use it for good. We can learn a lot from plants. We learn that we need a strong root system. We learn that we need to grow and to keep on growing. And we learn that we are to bear fruit in the world. That is what we are doing as people who follow Jesus. We are sinking our roots deep into Christ. We are growing stronger and stronger. Rooted in Christ, we are growing to bear fruit in the world!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave



**SELF-HELP CLOSET
& PANTRY
OF DES PLAINES**

May 24, 2022

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

1111 N. Elmhurst Rd.
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Dear Ms. Kiehn:

Many thanks for the generous gift of the much needed clothing. This donation certainly will help us to provide for our clients, and I am grateful on their behalf for your consideration. *Our food pantry registered 40 new clients in April 2022 alone and currently serves more than 850 households so the need obviously continues in our community.*

Our volunteer staff inventories, packages, displays and distributes food, clothing and paper products at our facility. We are a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. *No goods or services were provided in exchange for your donation.*

As you might know, the Self-Help Closet & Pantry relies on local residents, businesses, schools, churches and community groups for donations of food, funds, clothing, paper products and more. Our food pantry is not affiliated with any larger organization; consequently, we could not exist without the generosity of people like you - *especially during challenging times such as these.*

Best Wishes,

Debra Walusiak

Debra Walusiak

Executive Director

847/337-1443

Serving the Community since 1971

769 Holiday Lane Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
Phone: (847) 375-1443 Fax: (847) 803-1880
www.selfhelppantry.org





Social Ministry

In June the Generosity Fund gave \$650 to the Kingswood PADS project as they prepare to reopen in October. Our thanks, once again, to the generous contributors who have made these donations possible!

The Social Ministry Committee is communicating with the Pharmacist for Walgreens to schedule a flu shot clinic this fall. Watch for further information.



Let everything
you say be
good and
helpful, so
that your words
will be an
encouragement
to those who
hear them.

Ephesians 4:29



Parking Lot Hunger Drives

Mark your calendar for the next Hunger Drive:
Friday, August 19th from 10:00 AM to noon.

All donations are so appreciated by Wheeling Township and especially by those they serve! Feel free to bring your donations each Sunday. Ask your family, friends and neighbors to contribute also.



Exciting news from the **Renew, Revise, Rekindle** Task Force Team! Our congregation will host a "Community Gathering" in our back yard on Sunday September 18th in the afternoon. While still in the planning stages, our goal is to invite our neighbors to this outdoor gathering to honor our First Responders, enjoy a short

carillon concert, and meet community organizations from Wheeling and Prospect Heights who will share information of their services. Volunteers from our church will be there to welcome and celebrate life with our neighbors. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please let a Task Force member know.

These suggestions for using wait time as prayer time comes via Luther Seminary.

WHILE YOU WAIT PRAY...

- ❖ For the workers at the place where you wait & the people waiting in line with you:
 - ❖ "Only you, O God, know what is going on in their life, make whole what is broken, give strength for whatever they face this day..."

AND PRAY SOME MORE...

- ❖ For family and friends, lifting them up one by one to Jesus:
 - ❖ "Jesus this is Sarah, Sarah this is Jesus."

IF STILL WAITING PRAY...

- ❖ For medical personal & support staff, public servants; For people who are sick, alone, facing food/housing insecurity; Or for anyone who comes to mind:
 - ❖ *Use either suggested prayer starter above or another.*

TIME TO SAY "AMEN."

- ❖ "May it be so," leave it in God's hands. God cares for you, strengthens you, and watches over you while you wait. (Isaiah 40:31)

- Hollie M. Holt-Woehl

I've found that calls to Medicare or Social Security
can greatly enrich one's prayer time!

Financial Report for June

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$14,339	\$109,658
Expenses	\$21,183	\$147,674
FUND BALANCE	\$6,844	(\$38,015)

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Set your affection on things above,
not on things on the earth.
Colossians 3:2



Thank you!!!

That small word carries so much warmth, thoughtfulness, and especially love that it needs a thesaurus of its own.

We are so proud of our Good Shepherd Family and grateful for the cards we've received and many prayers sent to God for us and our son Scott's successful surgery. Our bout with Covid has been quite easy to handle. Our children took turns coming over and spending nights with us.

We also want to make mention of the enjoyment and fellowship we've shared with our small groups: exercise and playing board games. Getting together each Monday morning at 9 a.m. is a bright way to start our week. We use the large All Saints Hall and still have room to add fellow Good Shepherd members. We get our hearts pumped up a bit but not too much. If you want to join us, there's plenty of room.

On the second Sunday of the month after church, we learn to play board games like GOLF, Yahtzee, and Sequence, (those are the only ones we've learned so far). The companionship, and good natured teasing add to the fun.

These are just two of the many small groups being offered at Good Shepherd. Come and see what else is waiting for you.

Your Good Shepherd family is waiting to meet you in a whole different world.

Your friends in Christ, Bud and Shirley

BOARD BRIEFS

**At the Board of Ministers Meeting on Tuesday, July 12th,
the following was discussed:**



We are in the process of updating the Continuing Resolutions for our various committees.



Property is getting bids on improving the drainage in the courtyard.



The Garden group continues to beautify the courtyard area.

Heavenly Rates

A man dies and goes to heaven. Of course, St. Peter meets him at the pearly gates. St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!"

"Three points?" he says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service."

"Terrific!" says St. Peter, "that's certainly worth a point."

"One point? Golly. How about this: I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says.

"TWO POINTS!!" the man cries, "At this rate the only way I get into heaven is by the grace of God!"

"Exactly, son! Come on in!"

A big THANK YOU...

...to our congregation for your participation in this year's **Christmas in July** program! As we "wrap" up this year's event, we are so grateful for all of your donations of school supplies, hygiene products, gift cards, and monetary donations. As we organize all of the donations, we look forward to delivering them to the school districts the middle of this month. If you would still like to participate, you may do so by ordering gift card(s) through the Shop Share Donate program. Orders may be placed next Sunday, August 7th. Target and WalMart gift cards in \$10 or \$25 denominations have been requested by the schools. Just mark on the order form "**Christmas in July**" and the cards will be passed on to the Social Ministry Committee in time for delivery to the schools. Checks for the gift cards should be made out to Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

Thank you to all who have helped to make this another successful Good Shepherd event!

Blessings! The Social Ministry Committee



"The Hope of Glory"

...the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory

Colossians 1:15-28



*Peace I leave you;
my peace I give you.*

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Arlington Heights, IL 60004



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Fax: 847 259 1570

May 31, 2022

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

1111 N. Elmhurst
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Dear Barb & Congregation:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the staff and residents of Wheeling Township, we would like to express our gratitude for your thoughtful donation of **food items on May 20, 2022**. Your contribution will make sure that residents in need will be assisted.

The Wheeling Township Food Pantry is a "Client Choice" model, which allows residents to choose their own food in a grocery store like setting. In 2021 the Food Pantry had 3,877 visits, which fed 7,512 people. Of those 1,414 were children. The Food Pantry could not have made such an impact on the fight to eliminate hunger in our community without the generous support of donors like you.

Since the Wheeling Township Emergency Fund is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization, your donation is tax deductible, as no goods or services were exchanged for its receipt. We are grateful for your compassion and willingness to help. Thank you again for assisting us in fulfilling our mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors".

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Penner
Supervisor

Julie Villarreal, MA
Director of General Assistance

To learn how to become a volunteer or donate to help your neighbors in need, visit wheelingtownship.com

Shop - Share –Donate

Thank you to those who purchase Shop – Share – Donate gift cards.

A donation of \$100 was given to the June I-Walk

The next ordering date will be August 7th—Cards purchased will be available August 14th

NOTE: Next ordering dates in 2022 will be
November 13th and December 11th

Do you shop at Jewel or Mariano's for groceries, Kohl's, or J. C. Penney's for clothes, Home Depot, Lowes or JoAnn Fabrics for home improvement and craft supplies, eat at Olive Garden, Subway or Starbucks, give cards as gifts for iTunes, gas and AMC Theater and more? Consider purchasing your gift cards through the Shop-Share-Donate program at LCGS.

You can submit an order any time before the next ordering date... just place your order form and payment in the Worship and Music mailbox located in the hall outside the church office. Order forms (vendor lists) are located in the Shop-Share-Donate box and on the kiosk. You can either fill out a form or write down the list of cards you want to order on a piece of paper with your name and phone number. Checks should be made payable to **LCGS**. Place your order and payment in the box marked **Shop - Share –Donate** located in the Narthex or leave it the Worship and Music mailbox located in the hall outside the church office.

You can also log on to <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com> – scroll down and select "Retailer List" to browse through the vendor list.

Did you know? -

August 25th is National Banana Split Day – YUMMY - Purchase Oberweiss, Coldstone Creamery or Dairy Queen gift cards to use to satisfy your sweet tooth. Or purchase grocery gift cards to purchase your Banana Split fixings... don't forget the nuts.

August 30th is National Toasted Marshmallow Day – Purchase grocery gift cards to stock up on marshmallows to roast.

August is Back to School– Purchase gift cards to use when purchasing back to school supplies and snacks. (You're never too old to learn 😊). **Purchase gift cards for "Christmas in July" donations**

September 5th – Labor Day – Purchase the grocery gift cards to use when purchasing all your Labor Day barbeque needs.

September is National Honey, Chicken and Rice Month – Purchase grocery gift cards to stock up on honey, chicken and rice to make your favorite meals and snacks.

September 16th is Mexican Independence Day - Purchase grocery gift cards to purchase ingredients for nachos, tacos or your favorite Mexican Dish. Or better yet, purchase a restaurant gift card (Chili's, Lettuce Entertain You or your favorite choice) and go out for Mexican dinner.

Fall begins September 22nd – Purchase Home Depot, Lowe's or Menards gift cards to purchase your fall gardening needs.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Denise.

Thank You!

August 2022

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00 AM Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	2 7:00 PM Finance	3	4 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	5	6
7 9:30 AM Communion	8 9:00 AM Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	9 7:00 PM Board of Ministers	10	11 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	12	13 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
14 9:30 AM Communion	15 9:00 AM Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	16 10:30 AM Exploring the Gospel	17	18 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	19	20 7:00 PM Cursillo
21 9:30 AM Communion	22 9:00 AM Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	23	24	25 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	26	27 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
28 9:30 AM Communion	29 9:00 AM Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	30	31			

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

1111 N. Elmhurst Road
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Phone: 847-537-4353

E-mail the church office at
goodshepnk@aol.com

Rev. David Beese, Pastor

Gloria Sun Oh, Organist

Susan Baushke, Choir Director

Teresa Swinson, Office Administrator

Office hours: Monday – Friday

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

“Knowing Christ and Making Him Known”

We're on the web:
www.lcgoodshepherd.com

