

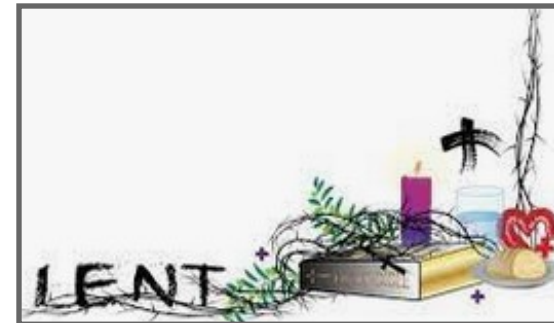
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
1111 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070
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THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

February 2023



May your Ash Wednesday be a time of reflection and promise.



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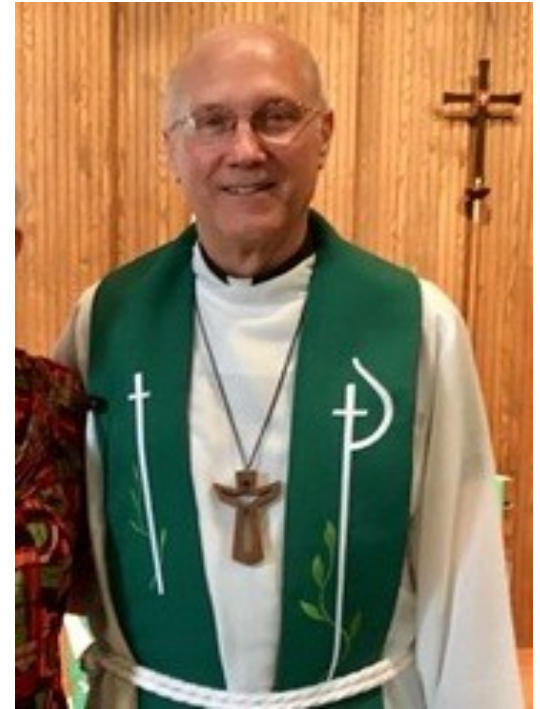
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February 2023

From the Desk of Pastor Dave

You were made to serve God! God has shaped your life for ministry. You are not a sponge, here just to soak up as much as you can from others. God put you on this earth in order to make a contribution. God designed you to make a difference! And I do mean you! For some reason, many people have a difficult time recognizing what they have to offer. This is not new. The Bible is full of people who thought that God couldn't use them. Moses thought he couldn't be the leader of the Israelites because he couldn't speak well. Esther thought she couldn't help her fellow Jews because she believed she didn't have any power to change the political situation. Jeremiah thought he couldn't tell others about God because he was too young. Mary thought she couldn't be the mother of Jesus because she wasn't married.



But God had a ministry for each one of them and God has a ministry for you. God made you for ministry. In fact, God has carefully designed your life for ministry. I like the way Rick Warren in his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, describes how God has shaped you for your particular ministry. He uses the letters S-H-A-P-E.

The letter S stands for spiritual gifts. When you became a Christian, God gave you some special skills that you can use to help others. You may have the gift of encouragement or the gift of communicating God's Word or the gift of compassion, to name just a few of the spiritual gifts.

The letter H stands for heart. This includes your desires, your hopes and dreams, your passions. What are you interested in? What do you love to do? Your heart plays an important role in your ministry.

The letter A stands for abilities. These are the natural talents you were born with. Some people are good with words. Others are good at working with their hands. Still others are good at mathematics or music or mechanics. God has a ministry where your abilities can shine and you can make a difference. Remember - what you are able to do, God wants you to do.

The letter P stands for personality. God made introverts and extroverts. God made thinkers and feelers. God made some to be spontaneous and others to be very deliberate. Your unique personality is a gift from God. It is the way God made you and it will affect how and where you use your spiritual gifts and abilities.

The letter E stands for experiences. You have also been shaped by your experiences: your family experiences, your educational experiences, your vocational experiences, even experiences that have been quite painful. God can and will use your experiences in your ministry.

God has shaped your life for ministry. God has given you spiritual gifts, interests and passions, natural abilities, a unique personality, and a ton of experiences. God has given you all this so that you have what you need for your ministry. Right now, you have what you need!

You may think you don't have what it takes. But God has chosen you for a life of ministry. In fact, even now God is calling you to particular ministries where you are needed. **You can be sure when you look at the cross. There you see the depth of God's love for you. You are not just a number in the crowd. You are special to God. Not only did God carefully shape your life, you are so special to God that Jesus died on the cross to claim your life for God!**

There is even more. God has promised to be at work in your life through the Holy Spirit. You received the Holy Spirit when you were baptized. The Holy Spirit is the power and energy of God. The Holy Spirit will empower you to do what God wants you to do.

Do you know what your ministry is? Do you know what God is calling you to do? If not, spend some time finding out. First, open your eyes. Take a look into a mirror and see how God has made you. What are your spiritual gifts? What natural abilities did God give you? What interests do you have? What kind of a personality do you have? What life experiences have you had?

Second, open your ears. What do other people say about you? What do they compliment you on? What do they encourage you to do? Don't be afraid to talk it over with a trusted friend. Often, other people see us better than we see ourselves. Then, open your hands. Experiment with different areas of service. Try doing some things you have never done before. An important way of learning how God has shaped you for ministry is to start serving. If it doesn't work, try something else. You will never know what you're good at until you try. No matter how old you are, never stop experimenting. Many people have discovered new "talents" to serve and new avenues of serving and new joys of serving when they were in their seventies or eighties.

God always equips us with what we need to accomplish it. Discover how God has shaped you. Unwrap your spiritual gifts. Listen to your heart. Apply your abilities. Use your personality. Employ your experiences. And enjoy!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave

P.S. On the next page you will see a letter from LSTC about a course on Martin Luther that you can attend on Zoom: "Why we should care about Luther: Martin Luther on the Holy Spirit and the Christian life."

"Why we should care about Luther: Martin Luther on the Holy Spirit and the Christian Life"

Learning Communities

Sponsored by



**Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago**

We invite you to join us for an extraordinary 4-part series, sponsored by LSTC Learning Community series, that explores the topic, "Why We Should Care about Luther: Martin Luther on the Holy Spirit and Christian Life."

Dr. Candace Kohli, assistant professor of Lutheran Systematic Theology and Global Lutheranism at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, will lead this dynamic course Sunday for 4 Sundays, beginning February 26 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Or you can join a facilitated session using Sunday's session recording, beginning March 1 on Wednesdays from 7:00pm – 8:30pm.

As a Luther scholar and esteemed member of the LSTC faculty, Dr. Kohli (pronounced Ko-lee) is an enthusiastic fan of Martin Luther. As she tells her students, "Luther's cool for multiple reasons. Unlike other theologians, he's animated, and you get a sense of his personality. He's rude, he's bawdy, he talks about excrement and there's something amusing about him. You get a sense of him as a person. His ideas are totally revolutionary, and they literally changed the world."



Dr. Candace Kohli, Assistant
Professor of Lutheran Systematic
Theology and Global Lutheranism

Whether pastor, follower, or parishioner, join Dr. Kohli as she takes us on a journey to explore Luther's ideals and ideas as they translate into today's modern society, and you'll discover ... or rediscover, why we should all care about Luther.



Session 1 of 4: *Sunday February 26th OR Wednesday March 1st*

What was Luther doing? – What was Luther's reform all about? – How does it translate into today's modern society?



Session 2 of 4: *Sunday March 5th OR Wednesday March 8th*

What does Luther say about the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit's role in the Christian life?



Session 3 of 4: *Sunday March 12th OR Wednesday March 15th*

What were Luther's spiritual practices? How did he fan those "spiritual" flames? What were Luther's prayer practices? What are some other prayer practices in the Christian world?



Session 4 of 4: *Sunday March 19th OR Wednesday March 22nd*

What do you do with what we've learned? – Why should we care about the Spirit? Are we aware of the Spirit in our everyday lives?

Register here: <https://lstc.edu/event/learning-communities-individuals/>

Financial Report for December

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$35,353	\$248,012
Expenses	\$27,173	\$278,658
FUND BALANCE	\$8,179	(\$30,646)

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. It does not dishonor
others, it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.
1 Corinthians 13:4-5



ELCA World Hunger's
40 Days
OF
GIVING

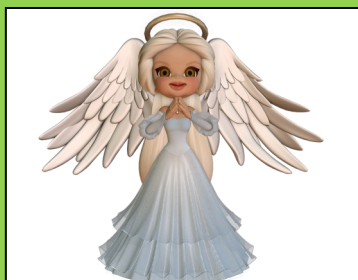


40 Days of Giving begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023.

We invite you to study, pray, be challenged and give with us throughout Lent during:

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving

(towards a just world for our families, our neighbors and communities around the world)



Angel services wanted

The altar is one of the most important parts of a church service. The altar guild is a faithful group that devotes their time to set up, maintain and clean the altar.

The LCGS **Altar Guild** is looking for additional members (angels to volunteer). If you or someone you know is interested, please speak to Denise M. or an **Altar Guild** Member.

Altar Guild volunteers set up for Communion prior to services and clean up following services 2 times every 3-4 months.

Board Briefs

Tom J., Scott M. and John M. have completed their Board terms, and we on the Board bid them farewell. We are so grateful for their ideas and service while on the Board. All have assured us that their service to our church continues in other ways. Thank you!

We welcome 3 'new' members to the Board: Dalton C., Gary S. and Bob O. Gary and Bob have had previous terms on the Board. All three were voted in during our annual meeting. We are looking forward to working with these folks!

Let's not forget our current Board members: Bud B., Pastor Dave, Barb K., Bev M., Terry O., Pauline S., and our financial gurus Steve B. and Paul S.. Please keep them all in your prayers as we all endeavor to let our light shine.



THANK YOU!!!



January 18, 2023

Thank You

Lutheran Church Of The Good Shepherd
1111 N Elmhurst Rd
Prospect Heights, IL 60070-1011

Dear Lutheran Church Of The Good Shepherd,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$100.00 to ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts.

*This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!*
(“What Child Is This,” ELW 296)

This season we remember a time before Christ's birth, when humanity waited to be delivered from fear and sin. But we also remember the day the waiting ended. Our Savior arrived, and now we live in a world transformed by God's grace. Through your gifts, you share the everlasting joy of that transformation with our neighbors around the world.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed. With seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you're equipping God's people – around the world and around the corner – with what they need to live abundant lives.

Jesus was born to reign in us forever. Now you are inviting countless others into his gracious kingdom. Thank you.

With gratitude,

Rachel Wind

Rachel Wind
Executive for Development



Parking Lot Hunger Drives

Mark your calendar for the next Hunger Drive:

Friday, February 17th 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.

Please remember that we cannot accept fresh fruit or fresh vegetables.



Hello February

Fire will always
Extinguish unless it's
Burning in your soul.
Rain will always stop
Unless it pours
Again in your heart.
Reshape your mindset and
You'll reclaim your power.



**GAME
DAY**
is the best day



Superbowl Sunday

February 12th @
5:30PM

Attention Please:



Rodents seek shelter indoors, especially during the cooler fall and winter months, and once inside can cause more than just an unpleasant infestation. Fortunately, we can proactively prevent and get rid of rodents in our building by storing food in airtight containers. If food is brought to any gatherings make sure to store it in an airtight container or take it home when the gathering is over.



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Adult Christian Education

The Adult Ed class is scheduled to meet the first and third Sundays of the month.

A variety of interesting subjects are presented & discussed.

Everyone is welcome to come to the Library/Lounge
following the worship service.

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Sunday, February 5:

Come and learn about **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS)**. For over 80 years, this organization has resettled refugees, reunited families, and rekindled dreams. Thousands of volunteers and donors have supported this effort. Guest speaker, Beth Nelson Chase, will bring information from her recent visit to the AZ and TX borders on how LIRS are helping migrants.

Sunday, February 19:

Dick W. will continue his research series: **Offshoots of Christianity**. This session will highlight Jehovah Witness. Thanks to Dick for his in-depth research and for leading interesting discussions. Next month on March 19th he will be informing us about Christian Science.

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Hi, thank you so much for making
my familys Christmas the best...
I will forever appreciate it, you
brought the best reactions to my
children. Thank you so much for
the heaters they have been keeping
us warm during these cold windy
days.
May god bless you with many
more years thank you so much
for everything. I hope you
had a great Christmas and
have a happy New Year.

Merry
Christmas

Have a rockin' Christmas!

Happy
New
Year

From:
my family
to yours



ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Get your Game On...

Join us for the Faith-based small group—Board and Card Games

When—2nd Sunday of the month

Time—After service—until 12:30/1:00PM

Where—Library Lounge

Who—Open to all—bring a friend to church, stay for some fun and games.

Requirements: Bring a brown bag lunch and your game face.

There will be several games on hand to enjoy. We hope to have tables of 4-6 players. So everyone can play different games, we'll have time limits of 30-45 minutes per game with a 5 minute break between each session.

Teams will be selected on game day.



*"For God so loved the world that he
gave his one and only son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life."
- John 3:16*



Some Things to Do on a Cold Winter Day:



Keep a Gratitude Journal

A great thing to do is start each morning by listing five things you are grateful for. In the beginning it will probably be a struggle to come up with a mere five, being wrapped up in a world full of fear can disguise the good in your life. *Think hard.* Did you just drink a deliciously warm cup of coffee? Or did you connect with a friend by text? Or enjoy a heartwarming movie on television? There is always something to be grateful for—*always*.

Bake a Pie

There's an art to making the best homemade pie. It's all about the fruit inside, creating the perfect pie crust and making it with a touch of love. It doesn't matter if it's apples, lemons or peaches – choose whatever is sure to make your mouth water.

Do a Jigsaw Puzzle

So you're indoors and it's cold outside. Brainteasers are the perfect winter activity for those who enjoy a challenge, and completing a jigsaw puzzle is one of them. Grab some apple cider (or a bottle of wine) and spend some quality time sitting around the table looking through and joining the tiny pieces.

Make Homemade Hot Chocolate

There's nothing quite like sipping some hot cocoa while watching a fire blazing. It's the perfect way to think of all you are grateful for.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups milk (preferably whole or 2%)
- ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup bittersweet or semisweet chocolate chips or chopped chocolate bar
- ¼ teaspoon pure vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

Place milk, cocoa powder and sugar in a small saucepan. Heat over medium/medium-low heat, whisking frequently, until warm (but not boiling). Add chocolate chips and whisk constantly until the chocolate chips melt and distribute evenly into the milk. Whisk in vanilla extract, serve immediately.

Make Apple Cider

Only second to hot chocolate, apple cider is a great way to stay warm when the weather is not. It only takes a few ingredients and this hot apple cider recipe will give you a cup in less than half an hour.

INGREDIENTS

- 6 cups apple cider
- ¼ cup real maple syrup
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 6 whole cloves
- 6 whole allspice berries
- 1 orange peel, cut into strips
- 1 lemon peel, cut into strips

DIRECTIONS

Step 1—Pour apple cider and maple syrup into a large stainless steel saucepan.

Step 2—Place cinnamon sticks, cloves, allspice berries, orange peel, and lemon peel in the center of a square of washed cheesecloth; fold up the sides of the cheesecloth to enclose the bundle, then tie it up with a length of kitchen string. Drop the spice bundle into the cider mixture.

Step 3—Place the saucepan over moderate heat for 5 to 10 minutes, or until cider is very hot but not boiling.

Step 4— Remove cider from the heat. Discard the spice bundle. Ladle cider into big cups or mugs, adding a fresh cinnamon stick to each serving if desired.

Do a Random Act of Kindness

Random acts of kindness are some of the most fulfilling and most humane and human things you could ever do. Especially when it is done for a complete stranger.

- Donate some food
- Get someone a sweet treat
- Go to an animal orphanage and help out for the day
- Feed someone's parking meter.

The possibilities are endless. The best way to approach this is to look at your local community and see what it is they need the most.

February 2023

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 PM Rebekah Circle	2 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	3 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	4
5 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH	6 9:00 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	7 10:30 AM Exploring the Gospel 7:00 PM Abigail Circle 7:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	8	9 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	10 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	11 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
12 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH 10:30 AM Get Your Game On	13 9:00 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	14 7:00 PM Board of Ministers 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice 	15	16 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	17 10:00 AM Hunger Drive in Parking Lot 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	18 7:00 PM Cursillo
19 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH	20 9:00 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	21 10:30 AM Exploring the Gospel 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	22 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday with Communion	23 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	24 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	25 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
26 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH	27 9:00 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	28 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice				

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

Email the church office at
goodshepnk@aol.com

Rev. David Beese, Pastor

Gloria Sun Oh, Director of Music for Traditional Services

Susan Baushke, Director of Musical Ensembles

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

