

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1111 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070

847-537-4353

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

JUNE 2021



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Adult Ed. This Summer:
What's Your Choice?

Pg. 3

2021 Flower Sale

Pg. 4

Generosity Fund Update

Pg. 5

Memorial Service Planned

Pg. 6

40 Days of Giving - Thank
You from the ELCA

Pg. 7



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Over the past few weeks, I have been reading the Acts of the Apostles for my daily Bible devotions. As I read once again, I was reminded of the conflict and disagreement in the early Christian church over the Lord's intention for the Gospel. Was the Good News of God's forgiving love aimed solely at the Jews, or was it intended for the non-Jews – the Gentiles as well? St. Paul's adamant commitment to preach the Good News to the ends of the earth caused the church to broaden its horizons to include all of God's people. The Book of Acts is a great devotional to read again and again. It has the power to remind us who we really are.



Paul felt himself “missioned,” that is “sent” by God to share the love of Christ with others, both in his preaching and teaching, and in his acts of love and mercy as well. It was this idea of “sent-ness ” that made the early church alive and vibrant and which enabled it to endure in spite of all, even Roman persecution.

In my early years in the ministry, I often thought that church people might have lost the idea of “sent-ness.” Had we as Christians begun, so to speak, to circle the wagons to insulate ourselves against the people “out there?” Had we lost the truth of William Temple's insightful assertion that “the church is the only society on earth which exists for the benefit of non-members?” I am thankful for The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd as we struggle together to listen to what God is telling us to do in His mission in this community and beyond.

In words and deeds, we are called to “go forth” to those around us with the Gospel of Christ. Only as we accept our “sent-ness” will we follow in the footsteps of Him who is our Lord and Savior. What does this mean for you and me? It means that as God's disciples of the 21st century, it is our mission to attend worship each Sunday and then take that message of love and share it with the world - Monday through Saturday - not only as we share what Christ means to us, but as we witness to Christ's love in the way we live. May we “Go” in the power of the SPIRIT OF PENTECOST!! Let us, together, walk into God's preferred and promised future!

Pastor Dave

Hearing God's Call, And Responding In Love, We Share Christ's Love With ALL!

BOARD BRIEFS

At the Zoom Board meeting in May, the following was discussed:

1. Starting in June, the Board will meet in person.
2. The Flower Sale proceeds should go to the Mission Fund, which can be used for any mission: 1 day projects, Interfaith activities, anything that constitutes a mission effort of Good Shepherd.
3. Pastor is looking at having 1 Adult Education hour each month in summer, before resuming the twice a month schedule in fall.



Our Christian Education Committee met several weeks ago and put together quite a diverse list of topics for this coming fall. Our prayer is that we can all gather again in the library on the first and third Sundays at 10:30. We encourage everyone to contemplate joining us for these discussions.

In the summer months, we propose that we gather at home via Zoom one time each month and watch some presentations from our Lutheran Home. Here is a list of different topics; please let Pr. Dave know which ones you might be interested in watching:

Benefits of Journaling: A great way to keep track of your emotions.

Brain Savers: Play some fun, interactive game to keep your memory sharp.

Collecting and Hoarding: When does collecting become a problem?

Dealing with Depression: A growing concern for older adults.

How to Cope During Difficult Times: Simple, helpful hints.

How to Recognize Memory Loss: What is considered normal aging?

Laughter Yoga: A fun way to enjoy time with friends, exercise and laugh, laugh, laugh.

Maintaining Balance and Avoiding Falls: Keeping your balance means keeping your strength.

Name that Tune: Fun time re-enacting an old TV show. Prizes will be awarded.

Participating in Clinical Trials: Come away with a better understanding.

When to Consider Moving to a Senior Living Community and Begin Downsizing.

Pr. Dave needs your feedback, so let him know which ones are the top three you want to watch. Hopefully we can come to a consensus, and then later on watch other ones.



Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God,
Fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me,
Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me.

Daniel Iverson



Imagine being one of Jesus' disciples when He breathed on them and gave them the Holy Spirit (John 20:22). With Jesus' breath, the disciples received the power and authority to bring His life to the world. Christ has also given us that authority. We encounter the living Word every time we open the Bible. And God's Spirit breathes into us as we receive His truth.

This truth, the truth about Jesus, is meant to set us free. We become all God wants us to be as we let the Holy Spirit apply His Word to our lives. We break out of old patterns and ways of thinking and are given newness and freshness. The Holy Spirit knows how to use Scripture to melt us, mold us, and set us free.

Instead of being fearful about what God may do in us, we can be assured that He wants to bring us into new levels of freedom. He wants to melt our resistance to change, mold our desires to higher purposes, fill us with the power to live an abundant life, and use us beyond what we could imagine. All that, and heaven, too!

Look into God's Word and heed Jesus' words from John 20: "Receive the Holy Spirit."

PRAYER: Ask God to remove any fear you might have of letting Him change you. Pray that His Holy Spirit will fall fresh on you, today and every day, bringing fresh newness to life.



2021 Flower Sale

THANK YOU to all who participated in this year's Flower Sale! Although it was very different from past years (as everything has been this year), Good Shepherd was able to gain a donation of \$200 from this effort. We thank Didier Farms for their help in making this "unusual" sale a success. Money received will be designated for the Good Shepherd Mission Fund and will hopefully enable us to carry out more mission opportunities in years to come.



What's New in Social Ministry

Summer is here! Hope we are blessed with warm sunshine and balmy days. The Generosity Fund continues to bless numerous organizations in our area. Many thanks to the individuals who made these gifts possible.

In February, \$600.00 was donated to Heifer International.

In March, \$600.00 was designated for our "40 Days of Giving" campaign for ELCA World Hunger.

In April, \$600.00 was given to LIRS, (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service), to help them as they assist with the influx of individuals crossing the southern border of the United States, among other projects.



I went to a really emotional wedding
the other day.
Even the cake was in tiers.

Thank
You

Dear Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd,

In these challenging pandemic times, I would be remiss if I did not personally thank you for the generous donation that you provided as a congregation to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Your commitment and kindness is not only critical to our organization, but more importantly means we can better serve vulnerable refugees, immigrants and children. Thank you for your compassionate gift.

In Christ,
Kristen Witte, Director for Outreach

Financial Report for April

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$26,581	\$78,928
Expenses	19,058	78,593
FUND BALANCE	\$ 7,523	\$ 336

THANK YOU for your faithful giving to Good Shepherd and its' ministries!



JOYS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our last day of Sunday School for the year took place on Pentecost Sunday. As we celebrated this special Sunday in the church year, we also celebrated that we were able to meet in person. We gathered in the courtyard for our music time with Mrs. Barb, where we raised our voices in song. A few raindrops, here and there, did not dampen our spirits! As we read the story of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-21), we focused on the signs that indicated that the Holy Spirit had visited the people that day so long ago. We shared some fun facts regarding other languages and each took a turn saying "Thank You" in a different language. It was interesting when we shouted out at the same time in our different languages, simulating "speaking in tongues." We highlighted our "Holy Spirit Day" by flying kites and blowing bubbles. Pastor Dave even joined in on the fun! As we ended our session with the closing prayer, we asked God to fill our hearts with His word, so that we can share it with others. Amen to that!



Good Shepherd lost another of our most active members last month. On May 9th, Mother's Day, longtime member Sharon G. passed away. Our hearts are heavy, and we will all miss Sharon's enthusiasm and spirit. A memorial service has been planned for **Saturday, June 26th**. Visitation will take place here at the church from 10:00—11:00 AM, with the memorial service at 11:00 AM. Our deepest prayers and condolences go out to the members of Sharon's family, as well as her many friends. She will be greatly missed.

40 DAYS OF GIVING

Thank you to all who contributed to our "40 Days of Giving" campaign during Lent. We have received the following "thank you" from the ELCA.

Dear Saints of Good Shepherd,

Thank you for your gifts of \$5,045 to ELCA World Hunger!

Thank you, especially in these challenging times, for your ongoing and growing commitment to respond to God's call to love and serve as a neighbor. Your generosity to the ministries of the ELCA is so valued, makes such a transformational difference for so many, now and for generations to come.

Here's a new podcast – John Johnson, director of domestic policy for the ELCA, joins Ryan Cumming, program director for hunger education with ELCA World Hunger, for a conversation about hunger and policy, including important public policies that could impact people experiencing hunger and poverty in the United States.

[ELCA World Hunger » Blog Archive Hunger Policy Podcast: May 18, 2021 - ELCA World Hunger - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

Thanks so very much for all you do.

With you in the wind and fire of the Holy Spirit,

Rev. Robin K. Brown
Director, Congregational Mission Funding



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
8765 W. Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631
773-380-2876

Hunger Drive on May 21st

Here are a few pictures of our 2 full cars loaded with donations for the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. At least HALF of the people who donated were from the community!! The sign (and your word-of-mouth) is doing its' job!!



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, Music Director

Nancy Krieg, Office Administrator

Office hours: Monday – Friday

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

“Knowing Christ and Making Him Known”

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

