

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1111 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070

847-537-4353

# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

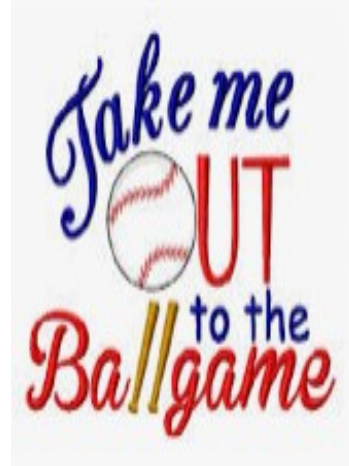
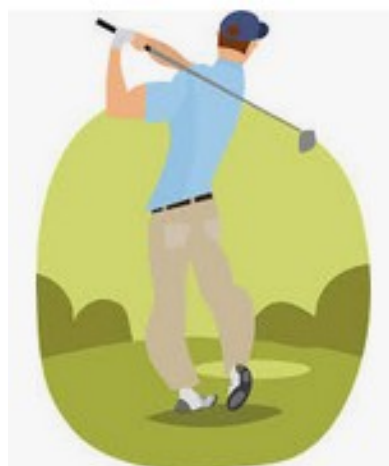
## June 2022



# Happy Father's Day

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## FROM THE PASTOR

June 2022

The lone yellow head defiantly peaked up above the green grass of my front lawn. After months of digging, pulling, spraying and in every other way I could imagine trying to create that picture perfect lawn, I realized God must really love dandelions because God had sure made them resilient. I gave up the idea of getting on the cover of Better Homes and Gardens. In spite of the war that homeowners, cities, and golf courses have waged, in spite of all our science and technological advancements, the humble, beautiful dandelion lives on.



Beautiful, reportedly edible, the delight of children everywhere both for their bright yellow color and then also for their wonderful parachute seeds, I am guessing that dandelions would be prized if they were not so prolific. But dandelions are very prolific, growing in any crack, crevice, or lawn where they might find a bit of soil and water. They are amazing, I think, and they are, proudly it seems to me, just exactly what God made them to be!

I sometimes wish I could be as content with being the person God created me to be. There are so many differing expectations, some of which I have dreamed up myself, others that our culture has devised, and so many of those expectations have nothing to do with the life God has in mind for me. We are truly bombarded with messages about how we should act and think and look, what we should wear, what we should own, and what we should care about. And not surprisingly, almost all of those messages come with the judgement that we are failing, that we aren't good enough, smart enough, attractive enough, or even holy enough.

If the dandelion doesn't care about those messages, maybe we shouldn't either. It is hard to accept, I think, that God loves us just the way we are, that we don't have to change or get better to be loved by our creator. And to be sure, this isn't to say that we are yet the people that God created us to be, for we all can and will grow and blossom and be transformed by God's grace and love. But God isn't waiting until then to love us. God loves us right now. God loves us just as we are, and God will love us just the same when we become the people we are being made into. God made you to be you. God gave you talents and gifts. God gave you a way of seeing and experiencing the world that is yours alone. You are necessary and important. You are enough. Good enough, smart enough, attractive enough. You are God's gift to the rest of creation and to yourself. God made you - to be you!

I still pull and spray the occasional dandelion, if only to be a good neighbor. Working to keep them under control is probably a good thing, but I can't help but see their happy little blooms and be reminded that they are being exactly what God intends for them to be, and that I can too. Be the person God created you to be. Grow in the place God has placed you. Love and care for the people around you. Know that even though you are growing and changing, God loves you right now, just the way you are.

Have a marvelous and blessed June.

God bless you all,

Pastor Dave

1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004



Telephone 847 259 7730  
Fax 847 259 1570

April 25, 2022

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
Attn: Barb Kiehn  
1111 N. Elmhurst Rd.  
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 April 18, 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



Social Ministry  
received this  
Thank You  
from  
Prospect Heights  
School District 23  
in response to the  
gift cards we  
donated  
in February.



Dear Cathy-

We are so grateful  
for the ongoing generosity  
of your church to  
D23! Your gift cards  
have touched the  
lives of many hurting  
and needy families.  
Often we use these  
gift cards to purchase  
clothing and winter  
gear. It's always  
a joy to see some of  
the students wearing  
their new clothing and

Smiling. Thank you  
again for your generous  
hearts. Sincerely,  
The D23 social workers  
and families

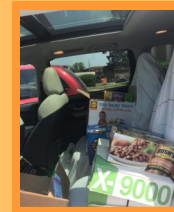


**Christmas in July is coming!**

**The Social Ministry Committee is  
happy to announce  
that the Christmas in July program will take  
place July 10th through July 31st.**

**We will once again provide school supplies,  
Toiletry items, and gift cards  
for families in need  
at our local school districts.**

**Look for CIJ table next month in the  
Narthex!**



## Parking Lot Hunger Drives

Mark your calendar for the next Hunger Drive:

**Friday, June 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.







**Lutheran Immigration  
and Refugee Service**

March 21, 2022

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

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dear Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd,

On behalf of all the people we serve, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) would like to thank you for your generosity throughout the year of 2021. Your financial gifts are so important and are truly making a difference in the lives of immigrants and refugees each and every day.

For over 80 years, LIRS has offered welcome and hope to more than half a million refugees. Since 1939, LIRS has transformed lives, with the support of people like you, to welcome the most vulnerable to the United States – from sea to shining sea. Together we have supported, equipped, and empowered these new Americans, while advocating for policy that protects all of God's children.

So today, we want to personally thank you for welcoming refugees and immigrants with open arms by financially supporting this ministry of welcome in 2021. Your ongoing support assists us in the mission to care for and welcome the stranger. Thank you for all the ways you continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus at home and around the world.

In God's peace,



**LIRS**

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service recognizes

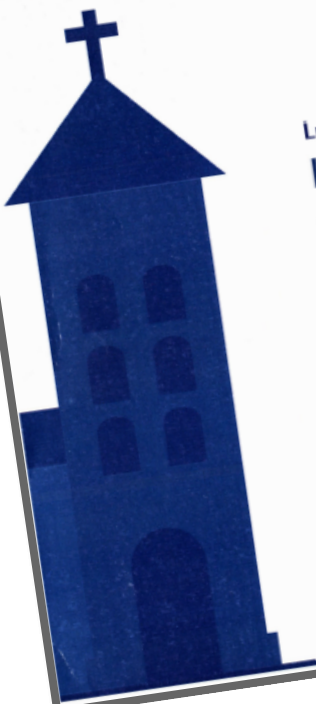
**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD**  
PROSPECT HEIGHTS, IL

as a

**TOP GENEROUS CONGREGATION**

*On behalf of LIRS and those we serve,  
we thank you for your generosity in 2021!*

**ANDREW G. STEELE**  
Vice President for Development and Outreach





## Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service UPDATES

### Meeting the Moment

- This is a pivotal moment.
- Worldwide, **84 million** displaced people – more than ever before in our history.
- In the last two years, it feels as if we have moved from crisis to crisis.
  - ♦ Pandemic
  - ♦ Afghanistan
  - ♦ Ukraine
  - ♦ Climate crisis and global displacement

### What LIRS is Doing

- Welcoming Afghans
  - ♦ LIRS has welcomed over 11,000+ Afghans since the fall of Kabul across the US
- Resettlement means:
  - ♦ Apartment setup
  - ♦ Provision of basic needs
  - ♦ School enrollment
  - ♦ Employment assistance
  - ♦ Connection to mental and physical healthcare
- Welcome Centers
  - ♦ Forthcoming in Detroit
- Advocacy
  - ♦ Influencing and supporting legislation at both federal and state levels
  - ♦ Afghan Adjustment Act support is needed for the long-term welcome and pathway for full status in the US.
- Mobilizing communities to support our new neighbors from Ukraine
  - ♦ Creating volunteer pipeline for co-sponsorship

### But We're Not Doing it Alone

- At the same time, we have received unprecedented support.
  - ♦ 100,000 volunteer applications
  - ♦ Warehouses full of donations
  - ♦ Countless offers to help

## BOARD BRIEFS

**At the Board of Ministers meeting on Tuesday, May 18th,  
the following was discussed:**

Steve B. and Paul S. gave a refresher of all things Finance at Good Shepherd, which was very helpful and informative. Thanks to them!

Property is in the midst of getting estimates for upgrading the courtyard, to correct the drainage problems. We had hoped to do this project last year, but the flat roof repair took priority. With the courtyard garden group also at work, we're hoping for a more beautiful finished product.

Our Synod Assembly is June 4th, and besides Pastor Dave our delegates are Bud and Shirley B.

### Financial Report for April

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$22,237	\$77,419
Expenses	\$25,231	\$94,494
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>(\$2,994)</b>	<b>(\$17,075)</b>

Thank you for your faithful giving!



*Thank You!*

April 21, 2022

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
1111 N Elmhurst Rd  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070-1098

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your organization's recent gift of \$700.00 to Lutheran World Relief! When you love your neighbors with your generous gifts to LWR, you change lives in amazing ways.

For Walaa Ali al Ali, a Syrian refugee living in Lebanon, your love arrived in the form of a beehive. As the primary breadwinner for her family — including her mother, her developmentally disabled brother, a niece and a nephew — she struggled to find work amid Lebanon's economic crisis. Her family was safe from the war in Syria, but they didn't have access to adequate food or basic medical care.

Through LWR, Walaa enrolled in a livelihoods program for refugees and received all the training and supplies she needed to start a business as a beekeeper. With the money she earned, she also planted a vegetable garden to help feed her family. Now she's earning enough to keep her family afloat, and she's even training other women how to produce and sell honey.

Thank you for saving and transforming lives by loving your neighbors like Walaa!

We'd love to show you more examples of your gift in action. Please visit [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org) and sign up to receive the latest updates. If you have any questions, please contact us at 800.597.5972 or [lwr@lwr.org](mailto:lwr@lwr.org).

Thank you again, and God bless you!

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Daniel Speckhard".

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)  
President and CEO

*As required by the IRS, this receipt confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for your charitable contribution of \$700.00—LWR.*

Please retain this letter for tax purposes

700 LIGHT ST BALTIMORE, MD 21230 T 800 597 5972 LWR.ORG



**Date:** Sunday, June 26, 2022 at 1:30 PM

**Registration time:** 1:00p.m.

**Registration:** Saint Mary Parish parking lot

10 N. Buffalo Grove Road, Buffalo Grove

*(Children must be accompanied by an adult. No pets please)*

**Route:** From St. Mary Parish to Hope Lutheran Church and back

Music, and refreshments will be provided at Hope Lutheran Church.

*Help those in our community and stock the food pantries at:*

Congregation Beth Am, Kingswood United Methodist Church, Saint Alphonsus Liguori Church and Saint Mary Parish.

A cash or check donation the day of the event would be most appreciated. If you cannot attend, please send a check marked 'iWalk' to: Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council P.O. Box 5301, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Or donate at <https://www.facebook.com/donate/5517393718280050/>

For further information, please e-mail [NWSINTERFAITH@gmail.com](mailto:NWSINTERFAITH@gmail.com), call (224) 699-0386 or visit our website at [www.northwestsuburbaninterfaith.org](http://www.northwestsuburbaninterfaith.org).

#### **Participating Congregations:**

- Congregation Beth Am
- Congregation Beth Judea
- Congregation B'nai Shalom
- Congregation Shir Hadash
- Hope Lutheran Church
- Kingswood United Methodist Church
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
- Saint Alphonsus Liguori Church
- Saint Mary Parish
- Temple Chai
- St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

*Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council is a 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization*



# 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](mailto: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](http://www.lcgoodshepherd.com)

