

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
1111 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-537-4353

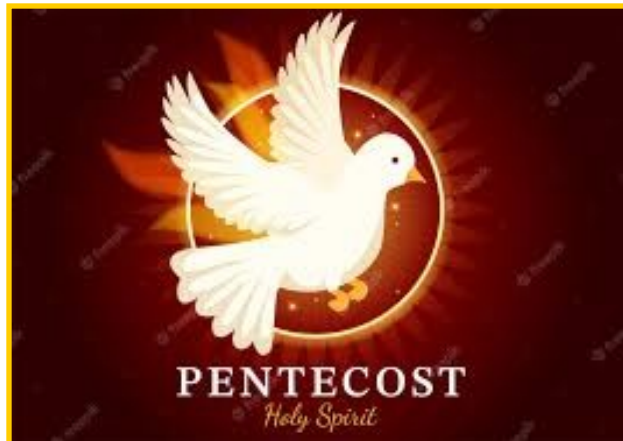
# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

## May 2023



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## Reflections by Pastor Dave

Easter leaves no doubt - every person is important, and every person is needed! When the women went to the tomb on that first Easter morning and discovered that Jesus had risen, they immediately went and told all the other followers of Jesus what had happened. Good news like that just had to be shared!

In the weeks to come, the followers of Jesus learned how much they needed each other. They learned the importance of being together. The New Testament book of Acts tells the story of these first Christians. We are told, "All who believed were together..." and "they spent much time together." Why? Because they learned they were the Body of Christ! And a body can't function well unless all the parts are working together.

We are the Body of Christ today! More specifically, we are the Body of Christ in the Prospect Heights and Wheeling communities! And just like the early Christians discovered, every person is important, and every person is needed! We need every single person in order to thrive as congregations. We need our young families, and we need our older families. We need our single adults, and we need our married adults. We need folks who are new to the congregations, and we need folks who have been around while. God has given each one of you gifts that are needed by the Body of Christ so that together we can be Christ in the world.

Easter teaches us that being part of the Body of Christ is about "we" not "me." Now I realize this is counter cultural. Our culture emphasizes the individual. Our culture teaches us to think about what "I" want and need. Our culture says that what is most important is "my interests, my time, my schedule, my money." But Easter gives us a different vision. Easter shows us the power of "together."

Easter teaches us that Christ raises us to a new life - a life with God, a life as part of the Body of Christ, a life lived in community. There is something more about Easter. Easter is about the future. And I am not just talking about heaven. I am talking about what we





do between now and when we get to heaven. Look around, nature tells us that now is the time to plant seeds.

So also, Easter teaches us that now is the time to plant seeds of faith. Now is the time to plant seeds that will grow and benefit generations to come. Do we want to be just a congregation that slowly dies, or do we want to be living, vibrant witnesses to the risen Christ in this part of the world for a long time to come? Now is the time to plant the seeds, to be in worship every week and show our young people how important this is, to tell the story of Christ to our friends and neighbors, to give strong financial support to our church, to serve those in need. God has already given us what we need to be vibrant congregations, vibrant expressions of the Body of Christ, vibrant ways Christ is at work in the world - and not just at the present time, but for a long time to come. God has given us YOU! Which is to say, YOU are important, and YOU are needed! Thank God for Easter! Thank God for raising us to new life! And thank God for YOU! Yes, I am very grateful for you and what God will be doing through you in the days and weeks to come.

***Yours in Christ,***

***Pastor Dave***



## Mother's Day

A Sunday in Spring  
The second one in May  
We recognize and celebrate  
The ones who guide our way

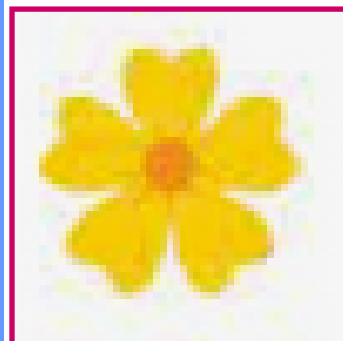
Officially, it's just one day  
Scant time to truly honor  
The foundation of the family  
The one who we call Mother

A friend so wise and fearless  
Who nurtured us through strife  
Her talents exponential  
Her spirit full of life

Her love has no restrictions  
She's there both rain and shine  
Her loving arms our refuge  
Her kindness genuine

So, on this special Sunday  
Arrange a great reception  
Open up your heart to her  
Exclaim with great affection

Thanks Mom, you're my hero!



## 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.

### Financial Report for March

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$21,861	\$65,557
Expenses	\$24,899	\$69,712
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>(\$3,038)</b>	<b>(\$4,155)</b>

**Thank you for your faithful giving.**



### *Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Christian Education*

Sunday morning Adult Ed classes will not meet in May. Instead the small group *Exploring the Gospel* will gather on the first and third Sundays in May following worship service.

The Christian Education Committee will meet later this summer to plan the Fall schedule for Adult Education sessions. Topic suggestions are welcomed! Contact Pastor Dave, with your ideas.







Final Report for 40 Days of Giving 2023

People of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd have again generously responded to this special Lenten/Easter effort that supports Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) World Hunger. Thank you for both large and small donations. Every coin helped!

\$4,135.58 is the total amount that our congregation contributed to  
ELCA World Hunger!

It will be used to provide food and clean water, improve agriculture practices, and assist with education and health care - helping people in need in 60 countries including the United States. Additional information can be found at [www.elca.org/worldhunger](http://www.elca.org/worldhunger)

Sources of our 40 Days of Giving

Shop-Share-Donate	\$100.00
Generosity Gift	\$700.00
Offering/Coins	\$3,335.58
	<hr/>
	\$4,135.58

God's amazing grace of faithful people working together!



Take a picture with your cell phone of the below QR code for easy access to our Facebook page or our Website.



In case you missed it on Facebook!





## Parking Lot Hunger Drives

Mark your calendar for the next Hunger Drive:

Friday, **May 19th** from 10:00 AM to noon.

The Wheeling Township Food Pantry  
needs your help now, more than ever!

Emergency SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) allotments return to pre-pandemic levels as of March 1, although grocery prices have climbed 11.3%.

Here's what that means:

On average,

Individuals will receive \$82 less each month

Households with multiple people will receive \$223 less each month

Households with children will receive \$300 less each month

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.

**Spread the word: Tell your friends and neighbors!**

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

**THANK YOU** For your faithful and generous support of our monthly **Parking Lot Hunger Drives!**



## Shop - Share –Donate

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

A donation of \$100 was given to the ELCA World Hunger in February

The next ordering date will be May 7th ~ Cards purchased should be available May 14th.

NOTE: Ordering dates in 2023      **August 6<sup>th</sup>**      **November 5<sup>th</sup>**      **December 3rd**

Grocery shopping online or at the store, use a Jewel or Mariano's gift card to pay for groceries, at Kohl's, or J. C. Penney's for clothes, Home Depot, Lowes or JoAnn Fabrics for home improvement and craft supplies. Purchase gift cards for these items through the Shop-Share-Donate program at LCGS.

See the vendor's list in the Shop-Share-Donate box, on the Kiosk or

CHECK OUT THE FULL VENDOR'S ONLINE at <https://www.raiseright.com>

Don't Forget -

May 14th – Mother's Day – Get a restaurant gift card and take Mom out to brunch/lunch or dinner. Or pick up a Fannie May gift card for a sweet treat to say, "I Love You Mom". Send mom flowers – use the 1-800-Flowers or 1-800-Baskets gift card.

May 15<sup>th</sup> – "National Chocolate Chip Day" – Yum. Order grocery gift cards to get the ingredients to bake a batch of homemade Chocolate Cookies or a bag of your favorite brand.

May 26<sup>th</sup> – Blueberry Cheesecake Day – Order grocery gift cards to get the ingredients to bake a homemade Blueberry Cheesecake.

May 29th is Memorial Day – A day of remembrance of the men and women who gave their lives serving in the military for our Country. Memorial Day also marks the start of summer – Purchase grocery gift cards to stock up on your bar-b-que needs.

June 3rd – Donut Day – Dunkin Donut cards are available to use on a cup of coffee and donut.

Don't forget the Graduates – From Middle School, High School and College – Purchase a gift card for their special day. (Psst...The American Express, Discover, Visa Gift cards have no activation fee.)

Don't forget Dad (June 18<sup>th</sup>)– Purchase grocery gift cards to use for the bar-b-que celebration. Or pick up a Fannie May gift card for a sweet treat to say, "I Love You Dad".

Celebrate Independence Day - the 4<sup>th</sup> of July - Order grocery gift cards to stock up on your BBQ needs.

July 21<sup>st</sup> is Natl Junk Food day.... Need I say more. Choose from many cards to satisfy your cravings.

July 30<sup>th</sup> is National Cheesecake day –

August 2<sup>nd</sup> is National Ice cream Sandwich day.

Purchase Home Depot, Lowe's or Menards gift cards for your gardening needs.

Purchase grocery gift cards to use when buying donations for the food pantry.

Note: You can submit an order any time before the next ordering date... just place your order form and payment in the Worship and Music mail box 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 mail box located in the hall outside the church office.

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

**Shop - Share –Donate**

## Courtyard Improvements:

The courtyard bordering The Resurrection Garden is getting many needed improvements funded by several Memorial Funds.

- Last month French drains were buried to bring rainwater across the yard toward the street. They worked perfectly during March's heavy rainstorms!
- The damaged tree and spreading roots were removed
- Re-grading of the yard has been done and new soil added
- Recently our Property guys worked on new drainage along the wall of All Saints Hall.
- Early May: A contractor is scheduled to begin removing the old concrete and replace the sidewalks and door ramps, plus improve our patio surface.
- Final improvement — the yard will be seeded once the sidewalks are finished and cured.

The goal is having a beautiful yard of green grass by mid- July and a celebratory outdoor worship!



The Courtyard Garden Team will soon be active and will be requesting volunteers to assist with watering and weeding the gardens during the summer. The schedule sign-up sheet will be posted near the church office.



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



Telephone 847 259 7730  
Fax 847 259 1570

March 27, 2023

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 & Jewel gift card on March 17, 2023**. 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 2022 the Food Pantry had 4,491 visits, which fed 9,160 people. Of those 1,947 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



# Neighbors Helping Neighbors

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



Telephone 847 259 7730  
Fax 847 259 1570

April 3, 2023

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

1111 N. Elmhurst  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Dear Barb:

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 March 27, 2023**. Your contribution will make sure that residents in need will be assisted.

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Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Penner  
Supervisor

Julie Villarreal, MA  
Director of General Assistance



# May 2023

## *Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 9:30 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	<b>2</b> 10:30 AM Exploring the Gospel 7:00 PM Abigail Circle 7:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM Rebekah Circle	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	<b>5</b> 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH 10:45 AM Exploring the Gospel	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	<b>9</b> 7:00 PM Board of Ministers 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	<b>12</b> 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	<b>13</b> 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
<b>14</b> 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH 10:30 AM Get Your Game On	<b>15</b> 9:30 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	<b>16</b> 10:30 AM Exploring the Gospel 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	<b>17</b> 11:30 AM Out to Lunch	<b>18</b> 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Hunger Drive in Parking Lot 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Cursillo
<b>21</b> 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH 10:45 AM Exploring the Gospel	<b>22</b> 9:30 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:00 PM Thurs Nite AA	<b>26</b> 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Bible Study	<b>27</b> 8:00 AM Men's Study Group
<b>28</b> 9:30 AM Communion 10:00 AM La Iglesia - ASH	<b>29</b> 9:30 AM EEC - Easy Exercise Class 6:30 PM TOPS	<b>30</b> 7:00 PM La Iglesia - Choir Practice	<b>31</b>			

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

