

A u g u s t 2 0 1 6

The Staff

The Newsletter of Shepherd of the Glen Lutheran Church

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Sunday Worship 9:30 AM



A community of Christians, called Together by the Holy Spirit, where all people Can come to know God's grace and grow in Faith, give and receive The love of Jesus Christ And of one another, and Serve one another and The community in which We live."

As I write this, I'm in between trips. I went to Canada with some friends last week, got home late last Thursday and then I'm leaving again this afternoon to have time at the beach with the whole family. So, it's been unpacking, putting away luggage, laundry, catching up on church and my childbirth classes, looking through the stuff I took on the last trip and wondering what I should take on the next, more laundry, getting out luggage, getting ready to pack again. I had a great time in Canada, and I'm looking forward to spending time with my big and wonderful family. Of course, right now, I'm feeling a bit of a sense of urgency to get done what I need to do and head off again, but what a blessing it is to be in this "in between" time, where I'm going from one rich experience to another.

As you know, after much prayer and discernment, I made the decision that I could best serve SOTG as being an intentional interim whose role is to journey with you and prepare the way for what is to come, rather than be a

candidate for permanent pastor. This means that we-- you and I --are in an "in between" place together. Neither you nor I know what is in store next, and that can be uncomfortable and disconcerting. But, there's blessing in being "in between" for a while. We get to unpack, take a good look at where we've been, where we are and where we're going next. We get to count blessings and count *on* blessings, because God is in this time and place with us.

This is a gift of time, but there's also a sense of urgency, because we as the body of Christ have work to do that won't wait. There is Good News to tell the world and new ways to tell it that we need to embrace. There are needs to be met, both inside and outside of the church walls. There are questions to be asked and prayers to be prayed. There's a journey to be traveled! I'm blessed and honored that I'm here to travel this journey with you at this time and in this place.

Though I don't know of any time tables for the call process, my hunch is that I'm going to be here for awhile. The synod office is undergoing big changes as Bishop Wolfgang wraps up his tenure and the current staff moves on to different calls, as is protocol. Pastor Bill Gohl will be installed as new bishop in October, and will have his hands full establishing a new administration. The call committee here at Shepherd of the Glen, in concert with the congregation, will continue to work on finding the best possible pastor for the long term.

We may be "in between" for a long time or a short time, but in the meantime, I'm convinced that we're together here and now for a purpose. We don't know what's in store, but we know we'll always be Jesus' church which is ever re-creating and resurrecting.

Meanwhile, your lives and mine have intertwined in ways that may be limited in time, but not in heart.

Peace, always,
Pastor Susan

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Church Council Meeting held on July 12, 2016

The meeting was called together with the Reading from Ecclesiastes 3.

Minutes from the June 9, 2016 meeting were read and approved.

Financial Reports:

The Financial Secretary's report was distributed.

For the week ending June 30, 2016

Pledged Envelope Offerings:	\$31,056.00
Actual Envelope Offerings:	\$29,958.00 (96.5%)
Loose Offerings	\$451.00 (year to date)
Building Fund	\$825.00 (year to date)
Gifts and Memorials	\$3,465.00
Miscellaneous Donations	\$1.134.54 (Boy Scouts)/\$101.00 (Rt.1)/ \$600.00 (LWR Sheep)/\$165.00 (St. Dymas)

Council Minutes Continued

The Treasurer's report was distributed.

June Envelope income:	\$5,509.00
Year to date total income:	\$34,785.99
Year to date expenses:	\$30,143.84

Financial reports were accepted as given.

Board of Christian Education:

Coffee Fellowships will resume in September.

Sunday school will resume on September 18, the Sunday after the Media Fair.

We have a Prayer Shawl group. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting is invited to join the group to make Prayer Shawls.

Board of Trustees Report:

The air handler #2 will be fixed within the next week.

The parking lot was sprayed for weeds. Additional weeding and trimming around the church was completed.

Board of Deacons Report:

Details of the continuous communion using the pouring chalice are being worked out. It is expected that the new communion pattern will be introduced on the third Sunday of August. Thanks to the donation by the Corrigan's, Plexiglas has been installed on the alter to protect the paraments and reduce the need for laundering.

Next Route 1 meal service will be on August 29.

Hymns have been selected through September 11.

September 25th is the date for the outdoor worship and church picnic.

Media Sale September 12-17 with set up on September 11 after Worship.

Pastors Report:

Pastor Susan continues to meet with members and make Pastoral Care visits.

Pastor Susan continues to hold Friday morning "office hours" at the Dunkin Donuts on Route 97.

Shepherd's table vegetable exchange. Donations will go to Lutheran World Relief.

Update Facebook page to reflect travels of "Traveling Jesus".

Call Committee:

Pastor Susan addressed the Council re: her decision about being Shepherd of the Glen's permanent pastor. Pastor Susan has decided not to seek the permanent pastoral position and will inform the congregation of her decision via this week's Weekly Hello.

The Call committee will move forward with the Call process. The next steps are to contact the Synod in order to put the Ministry Site Profile on their website and to work on the list of questions to ask potential pastoral candidates.

The next Council meeting will be held on September 20 at 7:00 pm. Please note date change.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing for a new school year August 28 Yes, it's that time already! All teachers, students, and anyone involved in education are invited to bring whatever items you'll be using this year—backpacks, lunchboxes, ipads, laptops, etc. to worship on August 28 and we will bless them (and you) for the school year ahead. A good way to start the school year mindful of God's blessings!

Lectionary Alive beginning September 4 Each Sunday, we share a common lectionary with other churches and we all read the same passages from the Old Testament, Psalms and Epistles (letters written to the churches formed in the first years after Jesus' resurrection) as well as a gospel reading. We often gloss over the first readings in favor of the gospel, but they are full of relevant wisdom for our times and situation. Beginning September 4, we will have a study/discussion right after worship on those *other* readings, the ones we often overlook or don't understand. We'll look at the background/context of the reading, then consider the following:

1. What does the reading say about the people/time/place where it was written and heard?
2. How does this apply to the situation in our world today?
3. How does this apply to our church/congregation?
4. How does this apply to me?

Please consider staying for a short while after church on Sunday to explore the richness of scripture for us today.

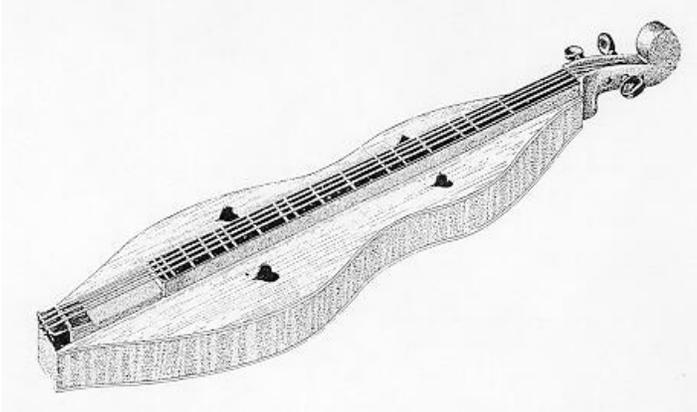


“The Shepherds Table” is in business! Thank you to all who have already brought in, fresh from the garden, vegetables! Also, thank you to all who have purchased these vegetables and made a donation to help relieve hunger. Bring your extra produce or cut flowers from your garden to church on Sunday and place them on the table in the narthex.

Monday August 29. Route 1 Day Center – This is our next scheduled date to prepare and serve the meal at Route 1 Day Center. If you can help serve from 1:45 to 3:30 or 3:30 to 6:00 pm or provide food, please let Linda Krause know. As soon as the menu is finalized it will be included in the “Weekly Hello” and bulletins. Thank you.

Opportunities to volunteer: Signup sheets are posted in the narthex next to the kitchen for **Assisting and/or Teaching Sunday school**, also **providing items to share for the First Sunday Fellowships**. The next fellowship will be **September 4th**. *Thank you*

Media Sale: Now is the time to bring in your donations. Donations for this year's sale need to be at church by Sunday August 21. Thank you.



The Dulcimer Group meets Tuesdays at 2:00 pm and Wednesday at 7:00 pm for roughly an hour and a half each week to get together to just play music. We play hymns from the hymnals and traditional gospel hymns, Celtic music, cowboy songs, and other traditional songs (how long since you have heard Grandfather's Clock?). Each person selects a tune; we do a little practice, and then play together. If you have some time to come and join us just to listen and enjoy the company, please

come. I can bring some spoons and teach you to play with us or you could just listen. You are welcome.

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to play a musical instrument but can't read music, that is no problem. I can teach you to play. I have a couple of loaner instruments. The dulcimer is a fretted instrument that has the music written in tab format that has numbers corresponding to the fret locations. No chording is required in the traditional style that we use. We play by the numbers. So if you can count to 10, you are qualified to learn. One simply presses on the fret number on 2 of the strings and strums across the strings (the other 2 strings have a droning sound reminiscent of a bagpipe). I have taught about a dozen individuals, most who have never played an instrument before, to play and subsequently join our group or play at home for their own enjoyment. If you are interested, please let Alice know. You can drop by for any session and for all or part of one. Again everyone is welcome. Thanks

Mark your calendar for outdoor worship and church picnic at SOTG on September 25. More details will follow but in the meantime, if you have any ideas on how to make this a fun and meaningful event, contact Pr. Susan, Linda Krause or any church council member.— details to follow

Stop by Dunkin Donuts at Rt 97 and 144 Friday mornings from 10-11 AM. Pastor Susan is "in" to chat, pray and connect with you or anyone who the Holy Spirit sends by.

Do you know someone, member or not, who is in need of pastoral care? Please let Pastor Susan know, or feel free to give them her phone number to call directly



Great
are the
works
of the
Lord.

