



# The Shepherd's Pipe



Volume 52, Issue 8

August 2021

## Council Meetings

We would like to remind you that meetings are open to anyone who is interested in joining us. If you would like to be included, please call the church office and leave a message to let us know. **This month's council meeting will be on Tuesday, August 10th at 7:00 pm.**

## Help Recording Services

We are currently in the process of upgrading our video and audio services but we are in need of helpers at each service to turn on/off the computer, cameras, etc. If you are interested in helping or know someone who is, please contact the church office and leave a message for K'rin.

## Altar Flowers

If you are interested in purchasing a vase, the cost is \$18. There is a sign-up sheet for July available in the hallway or you may also call the church office and leave a message with the date and the message you would like printed in the bulletin. Later months will be posted and announced when they are available.

## August Mission Project

Our current mission project for the month of August is collecting donations for the Women's Shelter.

## Additions to Newsletter

Do you have something to publish in The Shepherd's Pipe? Please have any submissions into the church office by Monday, August 23rd.

## Pop Can Collection

Money has been collected from donated aluminum cans and metals since July 2019 by Fred DeDominicis. Donations were made by Harold & Doris Laderer, Carl & Barb Turk, John & Fran Nelson, Fred & Darlene DeDominicis, Shirley Mazzocca, and other members, neighbors, and friends. The total collected is \$346.78 and will be added to the Roof Fund.

## Best Wishes on Your Special Day to our Members and Friends of GSLC:

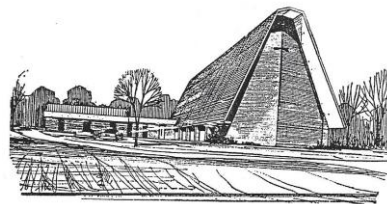
### Happy Birthday!

- 1 – Nick Mrozek
- 14 – Linda Marttala
- 17 – Ashlyn Bruno
- 22 – Carl Tammara
- 26 – Stephanie Cimini
- 29 – Tiffany Maxwell

### Happy Anniversary!

- 6 – Dominick and Terri Lombardo
- 13 – Adrian and Sandra Radziwon
- 4 – Craig and Nadema Joki
- 14 – Steven and Tiffany Smeltzer
- 18 – Fred and Darlene DeDominicis

### Our Mission



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
of New Castle

*We, the congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, New Castle, Pennsylvania, are called by God, baptized into Christ Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Because of God's great love shown us in the gift of his Son, we are bound together in love. Therefore, we make disciples of Jesus Christ through teaching, worshipping, witnessing, and serving.*

## Church Picnic

On Sunday, August 15, we are planning to have our church picnic after service. Good Shepherd will provide hot dogs and beverages but please bring a side dish!

## Communion

On Sunday, August 15, we will begin to take communion at the altar again. We will, however, still be following COVID protocols. More details will follow as the date approaches.

## Cancelled Stamp Collection

The goal is to support the Lutheran World Relief "Stamporee" project, which provided for shipping of gifts, kits and clothing to those in need around the world. Anyone can contribute by saving used envelopes having cancelled stamps on them. When trimming stamps from the envelopes, remember to allow at least ¼" or more around each edge of the stamp. If not, they are discarded. All stamps are accepted; however, Commemorative stamps are worth more. Ask friends, relatives or co-workers to participate in this worth while project. The stamp collection box is on the counter in church library.

## Please Reach Out

We are asking you to please pray for, send a Thinking of You card, or contact our current homebound members:

**Metzger, Bertha**  
Haven Convalescent Home  
725 Paul Street  
New Castle, PA 16101

**Nelson, John W. & Frances**  
724-658-2579  
1810 Morris St.  
New Castle, PA 16102

**Suorsa, Donald & Beth**  
724-654-9063  
724-944-4982 cell  
796 Eastbrook-Harlansburg Rd.  
New Castle, PA 16101

## Devotional Resources

Good Shepherd has pocket size copies of *Portals of Prayer* available on the information rack by the steps leading to the balcony. *Portals of Prayer* is also available electronically on Kindle and iBooks. Apps are also available for Apple and Android. Note that all these options require a subscription. Some other resources that you might be interested in:

- *Our Daily Bread* - Apps are available or you can sign up on-line for a daily e-mail at <https://odb.org/> — This is a free resource.
- A daily Bible verse can be sent to you from [DailyVerses.net](http://DailyVerses.net) — You can sign-up for this to be e-mailed to you or you can find them on Facebook and Twitter. This is a free resource.
- <https://www.biblegateway.com/> — Bible Gateway is another free resource where you can look-up bible verses from a variety of translations. If you create an account, you can also sign-up for delivery of a verse of the Day or for a number of devotionals, including a 40 day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a daily passage from the writings of C.S. Lewis, as well as a number of other devotionals geared toward men, women, or families and many others. You can see a listing at <https://www.biblegateway.com/devotionals/>

\*\* Portals of Prayer are now available for July through September. If you would like a copy, please call the church office and let K'rin know.

## No Live Streaming

On the following Sundays, we will not be live streaming. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, however, we are only able to offer live streaming when we have volunteers available:

August 1  
August 8  
Possibly August 15  
August 22  
September 26

If you are able to help with any of the dates above, please call the church office and let us know!

## **Upcoming Sermon Series: A Biblical Way to Handle Conflict**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ dwells within and among us. Since, among other titles, he is the Prince of Peace; The Peacemaker between God and humans. Since He is our Peace. Since he proclaimed Peace, and continues to proclaim the Gospel of Peace through us, his Church. And because He said that those who work at making peace shall have the Blessing of being called Sons/Daughters of God...So we could say that it is "natural" for us who benefit from the Peace that God has made with us to extend that Peace to others, especially to the fellow members of our congregation. But because of the challenges of the world, the flesh, and the devil, conflict happens and we forget whose we are and deal with conflict as if Jesus were Not involved...as if we have to either avoid it at all costs or we have to attack the other guy....as if we were more concerned with our own Glory than God's! But there is a Better, God-Honoring, Neighbor-Blessing, and Christ-like Character-Building Way! And that is what this sermon-series will be about: learning to use the Resources of God's Grace available to EACH ONE OF US!

Sunday, Aug. 1 : What Conflict is and Three Ways We Deal with it....Two of which are natural to us. One of which is Spirit -Powered and God-Ordained

Aug. 15 : Step 1: Glorify God: How can I please and honor God in this situation?

Aug. 29: Step 2: Get the Log out of your own eye: How can I show Jesus's work in me by taking responsibility for MY contribution to this conflict?

Sept. 5: Step 3: Gently Restore: How can I lovingly serve others by helping them take responsibility for their contribution to this conflict?

Sept. 19: Step 4: Go and Be Reconciled: How can I demonstrate the forgiveness of God and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?

Based on "The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict"  
by Ken Sande (Peacemakerministries.org)

## **Thank You!**

GSLC MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

A big thank you to all who were a part of the two yard sales we had in July! Thank you to the Good Shepherd members who donated items and a big thank you to St Peter's Lutheran Church in Evans City for giving us the majority of our items to sell. Many community members and The Friends of the Library donated to our sale as well. Thank you to my family, Linda Marttala and Karen Boulden who helped put out the items. Thanks to my family who helped me move tables and advertise. Thank you to those who signed up to be there the day of the sale: Mike Linz, Karen Boulden, Fred DeDominicis, Jonny Tammara, Nicky Tammara, and Shirley Mazzoca. In addition, thanks to everyone who visited the sale whether you bought something or not. Finally, thanks to Pastor and K'rin for helping me with announcements and phone calls. As of this writing, we have made a little over \$1,250. Ninety percent of the money is going to the Building Fund and a tithe of the money will be sent to Meals on Wheels. Watch for upcoming information on another yard sale that may happen in October. Think how you can help those mentioned above make it an even greater event!

Ruth

## Thoughts and Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Alba Kessler who recently passed away on July 2, 2021 at the age of 95.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of Murlene Marttala who passed away on June 26, 2021 at the age of 87.

## Council Highlights – Meeting held July 13, 2021

- This meeting was held virtually via Zoom and also in person.
- These minutes will be approved at the August Council Meeting.

### CHURCH MATTERS:

- We will send out a message saying that we will be livestreaming sporadically when we have volunteers available.
- Pastor Asplin will come to one of our council meetings (possibly September) to discuss the future of our church.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH GROUP:

- Hailey will continue to try to reach out to the youth group for a bonfire at the church.
- We will not be having Sunday School this year.

### FELLOWSHIP:

- We will have a picnic after church on August 15th. The church will supply the hot dogs and the beverages.
- We will speak about having a soup sale in October.

## Worship Services

Each of you are invited to review the precautions that Good Shepherd is implementing and determine if returning to in-person worship is reasonable for you and your situation. We also ask for understanding among our Good Shepherd family for those whose decisions about returning may be different from our own.

As you consider what will be your best option for worship, please keep in mind that Good Shepherd continues to live-stream the Sunday Morning worship service virtually.

The precautions to be implemented for resuming in-person worship are as follows:

- All are asked to wear masks while inside the building. We will wear masks to protect each other.
- Social distancing is expected to be maintained. Pews will be taped off to help maintain social distance. Additionally, we ask that worshippers sit in the same pew as they return to worship in subsequent weeks. Pews will be marked with names to aid in this. Space will also be identified for visitors.
  - Singing and corporate speaking will be allowed because of the expectations for masks to be worn and distance to be maintained.
  - Hymnals, paper, pencils, etc. will be removed from the pews. However, Bulletins containing Liturgy and hymns will be distributed.
  - Doors will be opened so that each person will not need to open the doors. This will reduce touching of a common surface. Entry and exit will be through the main entrance and through the side parking lot entrance.
  - A hand sanitizing station will be centrally located in the narthex. Worshippers are encouraged to use this station as they enter the worship space. Other items normally in the narthex will be removed to discourage congregating in this space before or after worship.
  - The worship leader will take care of the readings as well as the lighting and extinguishing of the candles. There will be no lector or acolyte taking care of these items.
    - Passing the peace will remain corporate, no individual sharing of the peace.
    - An offering plate will be placed in a central location. The offering plates will not be passed. Electronic giving through Zelle is encouraged.
      - Rather than providing a paper prayer list in the narthex, time will be included in the Prayers of Intercession for people to offer their petitions silently or aloud.
      - Holy Communion: upon entering the Sanctuary, you will find small bags containing wafers and lidded cups containing wine on a table at the rear of the church. Please take these with you to your seats. You will not be asked to come up to the altar for communion.
      - A record of who attended each weekly worship service will be maintained. In the event that someone determines that they have COVID-19, this will allow the people who could have been exposed to be notified.

In addition to these precautions, we ask that anyone who is not feeling well or is experiencing fever or other symptoms of illness, please remain home so as to protect your neighbor. ***We recognize that things, both in and out of our control, could change. Should any changes be made, this will be communicated as quickly as possible.***

## **Circles of Prayer for Mission**

Please pray for the members of Good Shepherd:

### **Daily Prayer**

- ❖ For the entire Good Shepherd family, that we may worship the Lord in Spirit and truth and grow in our relationship with him and one another.
- ❖ We pray for our interim, Pastor Wil Goetze, as he shepherds us with his many talents.

### **Sunday Prayer**

- ❖ For Evy Amerson, pianist/organist; in her ministry of music for our worship.
- ❖ Gracious God, all people are united in your mercy. Help us to see and understand our kinship in you and to celebrate together in worship.

### **Monday Prayer**

- ❖ For our local, state and federal government officials, especially for President Joe Biden, his staff and members of Congress, that they may lead our nation in justice and peace.
- ❖ For courage and strength for Synodical leaders, especially Bishop Kurt Kusserow and our presiding bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.
- ❖ For an increase in ministry workers, both rostered leaders and lay, allowing God's church to grow, sharing the faith, and encouragement to those who are new to faith.

### **Tuesday Prayer**

- ❖ For our Church Council members in their decision making for our congregation: Fred DeDominicis, Ruth Johns, Terri Lombardo, Linda Marttala, Shirley Mazzocca, Hailey Tammaro, Terri Tankersley, Jodi Tammaro, Michonda Weber, and Grover Welsh.
- ❖ Give thanks to God for ELCA members who share joyfully God-given blessings through stewardship of their resources of time, skills and money.

### **Wednesday Prayer**

- ❖ For Kevin Green, Director, his staff and ministries of the City Rescue Mission.
- ❖ God of many blessings, we give thanks for giving us life. We praise you for the call to mission with which you continue to draw us out of ourselves and into relationship with others.

### **Thursday Prayer**

- ❖ For the Pastor/Pilots of LAMP ministry of Canada.
- ❖ For the elderly and homebound and the Meals On Wheels staff and volunteers.
- ❖ Almighty God, we give thanks for the earth you have created and all its living things. Help us appreciate the love you give and remember continued thankfulness for your goodness.

### **Friday Prayer**

- ❖ For Grover Welsh, Sexton, Ruth Johns, Treasurer, Terri Tankersley, Financial Secretary, Hailey Tammaro, Youth Group Leader, and K'rin Fortuna, Secretary.
- ❖ For individuals who have physical, emotional, or spiritual needs and their families and friends who care for them. For our homebound members and their caregivers: Alba Kessler, Fran Nelson, Don Suorsa, and Bertha Metzger.

### **Saturday Prayer**

- ❖ For the people of the Passavant Retirement and Health Center in Zelenople.
- ❖ Give thanks for the time, talents, prayers, and funds that are donated to the ELCA Disaster Response which enable the ELCA to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bring the Good News to those who are suffering.

