



# The Shepherd's Pipe



Volume 51, Issue 10

October 2020

## Council President Update

I hope this message finds you well. I miss seeing everyone's face on Sunday morning! I wanted to update you regarding our pastoral leadership and the reopening of our church. Council had planned to meet with Pastor Asplin, Assistant to the Bishop, before the end of September. Due to circumstances beyond our control, this meeting did not occur.

As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will not have an interim pastor. It is my hope that one will be assigned in the near future. On the agenda for that meeting, we were going to discuss and hopefully make a decision regarding the reopening of the church. This decision has been moved to the October 13<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

I encourage you to watch a livestream of Trinity's worship service until we can see each other face to face at Good Shepherd. K'rin will continue to send the bulletin and worship information to our members each week.

Thank you very much for your understanding, patience and support during these challenging times. We will be back together soon!

Blessings for Good Health & Happiness,  
Terri Lombardo

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

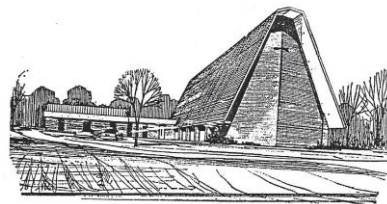
### Happy Birthday!

- 1 – Nancy Eagan  
    Viola Ratvasky
- 8 – Erica Boyer
- 10 – Justin Kuttesch
- 12 – Corey Davis  
    Anne McCullough
- 13 – Elsie Stimple
- 14 – Gordon North
- 16 – Nancie Hicks
- 17 – Sam Byler
- 20 – Janet Linz
- 21 – Chloe Brown  
    Colton Brown
- 23 – Rose Bender
- 26 – Megan Mrozek
- 31 – Carl Turk

### Happy Anniversary!

- 10 – Harry and Barbara Pawlak
- 15 – Carl and Barbara Turk
- 22 – Michael and Janet Linz
- 23 – Dennis and Nancy Eagan
- 24 – George and Laverne Ratkovich

### 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.*

**\*\* During this time, we will continue to have virtual services throughout the beginning of October dependent on changing guidelines for social gatherings. It will be discussed further at the October 13<sup>th</sup> council meeting. We will communicate changes as they occur. Feel free to reach out to church council members with any questions that you may have.**

## **Worship Services**

We are still working to stream Sunday worship service on Facebook Live as a joint effort with Trinity – Ellwood City. Please check out Good Shepherd and Trinity's Facebook pages for updates as we navigate through the next few weeks. Please note that both of the church's pages are public, so you do not need to be a Facebook member in order to view and/or watch the live streams.

- Good Shepherd:  
<https://www.facebook.com/GSLCNewCastle/>
- Trinity:  
<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityEllwood/>

## **Council Meetings**

As we continue to hold our monthly council meetings virtually, 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 and we will provide the link for you so that you are able to participate. **This month's council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm.**

## **New Castle Music Club**

The New Castle Music Club Chorus has made the decision to officially cancel this year's Messiah performance. On November 28, 2021, they will be celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> performance at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church Parish in Ellwood City.

## **Additions to Newsletter**

Do you have something to publish in The Shepherd's Pipe? Please have any submissions into the church office by Monday, October 26th.

## **Portals of Prayer**

Editions of the Portals of Prayer are available for October - December. If you would like a copy, please contact the church office and we will make sure that you receive one.

## **Pop Can Collection**

A reminder that we are continuing to collect pop cans which are taken for recycling with the proceeds being returned to the church. Any donations can be left by the main doors. They will be collected and processed appropriately while we remain out of the building.

## **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/>



*Promising Futures*

15487 State Highway 86  
Meadville, PA 16335  
814-724-7510

## **Bethesda Lutheran Service**

For over 100 years, Bethesda Lutheran Services, has worked to provide promising futures for children, youth and families through individualized mental and behavioral health services provided in a residential, school or community setting. Bethesda Lutheran Services is one of the social ministry organizations on the territory of our synod. Although not as well known to us as Glade Run Lutheran Services in Zelienople, Bethesda in Meadville is very similar to Glade Run's mission and purpose. **Their mission – Bethesda Lutheran Services is a ministry promising futures for children, youth, and families.** Check out their website!

GSLC Council has named **Bethesda Lutheran Services as its mission support project for October.** Please prayerfully consider how you can help Bethesda Lutheran Services.

## **Property Update**

- A tree was cut down on the church's property. Thank you to Fred DeDominicis and Curt Johns for cleaning up afterward.
- Roof patching was done by Slippery Rock Roofing and appears to be successful.
- Caldwell Heating has measured for the new heating/AC unit in the church office.
- Thank you to the following people for helping to maintain our church property: Fred DeDominicis (replaced the sacristy faucet,) Darlene DeDominicis (updated the sign in front of the church,) Curt and Ruth Johns (cleaning up the island,) and Dave Michael (keeping the lawn mowed throughout the summer.) We appreciate all of your time and effort!

## **Fall Outdoor Clean Up**

Anyone who is interested in helping with a fall yard clean up, please contact Fred DeDominicis at 724-652-9294.

## **Help with Livestreaming**

If anyone is interested in helping with livestreaming our worship services once we return to in-person worship, please contact Hailey Tamaro at 724-674-6296.

## **A New Treasurer Will Be Needed!**

With the resignation of Ruth Johns as our current treasurer, as soon as all the PPP paperwork is turned in, we will be looking for a new person to take over the responsibilities of treasurer. A job description is available for anyone who would like to see it, has any questions or is interested in using his or her gifts in serving GSLC in this capacity. If interested, please speak with Pastor Peggy Suhr-Barkley or Terry Lombardo, council president.

## **Communion through Trinity Episcopal**

Although they continue to worship online, Trinity Episcopal church will be offering an in-person opportunity to receive Communion.

They will consecrate the elements on Sunday, during their online worship service, October 17th at 9:00 am. They will then set up two different times to distribute, on Saturday, October 16th. They will be at Trinity, New Castle from 9-11am and Resurrection, Hermitage from 1-3pm. Of course, masks and social distancing will be observed. This will be done in the upper parking lot. They are asking people to remain in their cars until (and if they would like it) they are ready to receive Communion - bread only. They are also offering during that time to pray for any prayer requests that folks may have. This will be done in 10-15 minute intervals to keep the line of cars moving. Also, you must register for this event so we know how many to expect and to avoid any bottlenecks in the parking lot. They are asking families, especially, to travel together, if possible. Registration can be found on their website – [www.trinitynewcastle.org](http://www.trinitynewcastle.org)

## **Council Highlights – Meeting held September 8, 2020**

- This meeting was held virtually via Zoom
- We continued the discussion regarding in-person worship. It was decided to send a questionnaire to the congregation so that we can gather more information before reopening the church.
- Approved the purchase of a Zoom subscription in order to continue virtual meetings and activities.
- Approved a motion for Good Shepherd to subscribe to Sundays and Seasons (a resource for planning worship) One License Copyright permission for songs and hymns and a streaming license.
- Denied a request to allow Neshannock Mini Majorettes to use the Shepherd Center for practices.
- Organized a committee to review the church's constitution. Shirley Mazzocca, Grover Welsh and Terri Tankersley volunteered to work on the committee. If any member is interested in serving, please contact a member of the committee.

## **Circles of Prayer for Mission**

Please pray for the members of Good Shepherd:

### **Daily Prayer**

- ❖ For Pastor Peggy Suhr-Barkley, in his ministry to our congregation.
- ❖ 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.

### **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 Donald Trump, 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, Curt Johns, Ruth Johns, Terri Lombardo, Linda Marttala, Shirley Mazzocca, Hailey Tammaro, Terri Tankersley, Diana Tervo, Barbara Turk, 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, Delores LeComte, Fran Nelson, Don Suorsa, Kim Cook, Bertha Metzger, and Alfred Andrews.

### **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.

