



The Shepherd's Pipe



Volume 51, Issue 9

September 2020

Pastor's Ponderings

A word of thanks to all of you who helped raise up a future leader for the church, as from August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020 you all welcomed, prayed for, supported, worshipped with, worked and served alongside Vicar Chris Combs. You encouraged him and gave him a wonderful opportunity to be a servant leader at Good Shepherd during his Internship year. Job well done! No longer called Vicar Chris, Seminarian Chris Combs has begun his Senior Year at ULS (United Lutheran Seminary) and we continue to keep him in our prayers as he finishes up his seminary training. I told Chris to keep in communication with GSLC as he accomplishes all the milestones he has to go through his last year, both with the Seminary and with our joint synod Candidacy Committee. It was a gift in so many ways to serve as Chris' Supervisor for the year as well as your Local Interim Pastor.

Those of you who remember, I was your Local Interim Pastor between Pastor Erin and Pastor Ellen, an adventure that lasted for three years. GSLC's constitution states *"At a time of pastoral vacancy, a vice-pastor shall be appointed by the bishop of the Synod with the consent of the congregation or the Church Council. During his period of service, a vice-pastor shall have the rights and duties of a regularly called pastor. He may delegate the same in part to an interim supply pastor with the consent of the bishop of the Synod. The vice-pastor and any ministers who may assist him shall refrain from exerting influence in the selection of a pastor."* (GSLC Constitution, Article 8: Sections 11 & 12, Page 8) Please note ... what used to be a "vice-pastor" is now a "local interim pastor". As far as the pronoun, we could say ... he/she.

Since Vicar Chris has left, I have continued to be your local Interim Pastor during the month of August and I will continue through the end of September. At the end of September, I will conclude my time with Good Shepherd as Local Interim Pastor. In time, Bishop Kusserow will appoint, a new Local Interim Pastor. I am thankful for our time together! I will continue to do my best to serve you with the 20 hours/month that I have to be with you during the month of September. Once you go back to "in-person" worship there will be various pastors and lay worship leaders leading you in worship on Sunday mornings. This is the time especially in the life of GSLC that we all need to ask of God, what God is calling Good Shepherd to be and to do, as you boldly move into the future. Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Together in the Journey –
Pastor Peggy Suhr-Barkley

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

Happy Birthday!

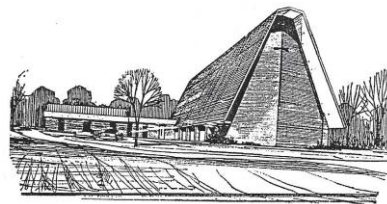
- 1 – Liliana DeRiggi
Donald Suorsa
- 2 – Tyson Hicks
- 3 – Adam McCurdy
- 7 – Natalie Beaver
- 8 – Frank Bruno
- 10 – Stefanie Leonard
- 12 – Lisa Medved
Marcy Mrozek
- 13 – Taylor Davis
Barbara Pawlak
Eli Turk
- 18 – Amber Davis
- 19 – Lisa Turk Nelson
- 20 – Brian Johns
- 20 – Alba Kessler
- 21 – Dakota Hicks
Marcia Lane
Lauren DeRiggi
- 22 – Astor Westrick
- 24 – Luke Johns
Kirstan Tervo
- 26 – John Mrozek
- 27 – Lee Michael
Barbara Turk
- 30 – Curtis Johns
Hailey Tammaro

Happy Anniversary!

- 4 – Donald and Irene Fracul
Richard and Viola Ratvaska
- 5 – Frank J. and Megan Augustine
- 16 – Lee and Debra Michael
Edward and Bria Westrick
- 17 – Curtis and Ruth Johns
- 19 – John and Frances Nelson
- 20 – Tyson and Nancie Hicks
- 24 – Frank and Kimberly Augustine
Christopher and Michonda Weber

Our Mission

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.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
of New Castle

**** During this time, we will continue to have virtual services throughout the beginning of September dependent on changing guidelines for social gatherings. It will be discussed further at the September 8th 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

Beginning Sunday, September 6, we will be worshipping at 10:30 am.

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, September 8 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 80th 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, September 21.

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 — 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 September and October.** Please prayerfully consider how you can help Bethesda Lutheran Services.

Thank You from Vicar Chris

I just wanted to say thank you to the GSLC family for the beautiful stole given to me on my last Sunday. I will wear it with honor after I am ordained and remember fondly all the children of God at Good Shepherd who supported and encouraged me in this journey.

May the peace of Christ be with you always,
Vicar Chris



Pastor Peggy on Vacation

Pastor Peggy Suhr-Barkley will be on Vacation the week of September 14 – 20. If you are in need of pastoral care during that time, please call Pastor Tim Dawes at 724-709-0475. Pastor Dawes is the pastor of the Zelienople – Harmony Parish, pastoring both Zion Lutheran Church, Harmony and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Zelienople.

Our Prayers of Christian Sympathy

are extended to Harold Laderer and his family on the death of Doris, who entered the church triumphant on Wednesday, August 5th. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Boylan Funeral Home, Zelenople. A family member will be conducting the private funeral service. Below is Doris' obituary. ***"Rest Eternal, grant Doris, O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon her."***

Doris Louise Bupp Laderer, age 88, of Portersville, was taken home to be with her Master on Wednesday, August 5, 2020.

She was the only child of the late Dewey and Lida Cable Bupp of Prospect. Doris graduated from Portersville High School in 1949 and Jameson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in New Castle in 1952. She spent her working years at Butler Memorial Hospital and the Butler Veterans Hospital. She married her husband, Harold Laderer, in 1952.

She is survived by her husband, Harold; two daughters, Greta Noguee of Prospect, and Darla (Gene) Brown of Enon Valley; her daughter-in-law, Lynn Laderer of Slippery Rock; two granddaughters, four grandsons and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son, Harold II, of Slippery Rock.

Doris was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in New Castle, where she helped in the past with Vacation Bible School, sang in the choir and played in the chime choir. She was a member of the Jameson-Shenango Alumni Association and a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 0393 in Slippery Rock.

There will be no public visitation. A private funeral service was conducted at Boylan Funeral Home, Inc., 324 E. Grandview Ave., Zelenople, PA 16063, by Doris' son-in-law, Pastor Gene Brown, followed by burial at Greenlawn Burial Estates.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Memorial Fund or to the American Cancer Society.

Property Updates

The tree has been removed with no damage to the other trees or the neighbor's property. Thanks to Fred and Curt for cleaning up the mess from the downed tree. Cost \$700.

The heating/air conditioning unit has been ordered and will be installed by Caldwell Heating and Cooling. Cost when ordered \$6,400.

Since there was an immediate need for repairs to the flat roof, Slippery Rock Commercial Roofing was hired to repair the places that were leaking. Their cost estimate was \$1,000, but the bill came in at \$274. Also, to address the need to preserve the soffit and fascia that was just installed; the box gutter repair portion of the roof project was also assigned to Slippery Rock Commercial Roofing. They had placed a bid for \$5,750, but with the hard work of Fred DeDominicis doing hours of cleaning out the gutters, they were willing to come and do the work for \$5,000. Thanks Fred! With these repairs made, we have bought an additional year or two to replace the roof over the flat area of the church. The bid for the re-roofing of the flat portion came in at \$40,000 to \$45,000 for non-removal of insulation, but if the insulation is tested and found to be wet the cost is estimated to be \$50,000 to \$55,000. Our roof fund is at \$18,762.33 as of the end of July, so we have some saving to do.

The roof repairs that have been made to date, the box gutter repair, the tree and the new heating and air conditioning unit in the office have already been pledged to be paid for so we have not had to touch existing funds. Thank you! We are on our way!

Council Highlights – Meeting held August 11, 2020

- This meeting was held virtually via Zoom
- We received a letter from “Alpha Omega” announcing that the new name of their organization is “Promise of Life Network.”
- Ruth Johns read a letter that the church received from Mary McClain’s daughter, Sandra Johnson. In it, she stated that she enjoyed reading our newsletter and she gave us encouragement for the future of Good Shepherd despite the expenditures now required for the repairs and upkeep of our building.
- We have approved the following:
 - Good Shepherd will continue virtual worship through September 6th. We will revisit the topic at the September 8th Council meeting.
 - Use of the Shepherd Center by our neighbor, Sara Weingartner, for her son’s graduation party in August (She has since decided not to use the Shepherd Center.)
 - Youth Group has been halted for the summer. We will begin again when we resume to in-person worship.
 - Hired Slippery Rock Roofing to do emergency patching at 14 different places on the church’s roof for a cost of \$274.00.
 - Gave Fred DeDominicis the authority to hire Slippery Rock Roofing to repair our box gutters at a cost of \$5,750.00 after obtaining copies of a signed contract and their insurance coverage. This will be paid out of the Building Projects Fund.
 - Accepted a bid of \$700.00 to cut down a tree on the property.
 - The September/October mission project will be a collection of mission support money for Bethesda in Meadville, PA.
 - Terri Tankersley informed council that she no longer wishes to be paid for working as the Financial Secretary.
 - The annual yard sale and election day bake sale will be cancelled for this year.
 - Hired Caldwell Heating and Cooling to replace the heating and AC unit in the church office. Ruth and Curt Johns have generously offered to pay for the new unit and installation.
 - Authorized Pastor Peggy to determine what software is needed for the church office computer and purchase it. She will be reimbursed.
 - Accepted, with regrets, Ruth Johns’ resignation as church treasurer.
- The next Church Council Meeting is planned to be held virtually on September 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is planned to be held via Zoom.

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.

Thank You to Ruth Johns

Thank you for the remarkable job that you have done and for your many years of faithfulness and support of Good Shepherd.

Communion through Trinity Episcopal

Greetings! I hope this message finds you well.

I wanted to let you know that while we continue to worship online, we (meaning Father Jason and me) will be offering an in-person opportunity to receive Communion.

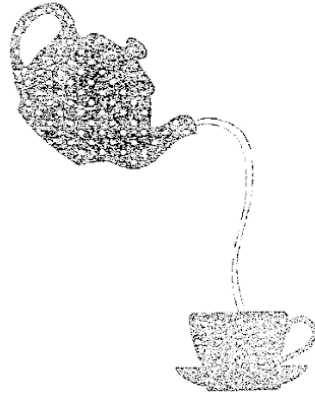
We will consecrate the elements on Sunday, during our online worship service, Sept. 13 at 9am. We will then set up two different times to distribute, on Saturday, Sept. 19. We will be at Trinity, New Castle from 9-11am and Resurrection, Hermitage from 1-3pm. Of course, masks and social distancing will be observed. This will be done in the upper parking lot. We are asking people to remain in their cars until (and if they would like it) they are ready to receive Communion - bread only. We 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. We are asking families, especially, to travel together, if possible. Registration can be found on our website – www.trinitynewcastle.org

We will be offering this in October as well.

I wanted to let you know this as a way to acknowledge our full-communion agreement and to bring a sense of solidarity in these uncertain times.

I invite you to all of the above, as well as your congregations. Again, please make sure they know to register if they wish to participate.

Peace to you,
Pastor Erin
Vicar, Trinity Episcopal Church
New Castle



SW PA Women of the ELCA Fall Cluster Event

Tea Time You and Me Time!

Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**Pour yourself a cup of tea or your favorite beverage,
add a scone, coffee cake, muffin or a cookie.**

As we join in Community ... Virtually or Spiritually.

Zoom Meeting ID: 930 0930 9968

Meeting Pass Code: 123456

Call in phone number: 646-876-9923

SW PA Women of the ELCA Fall Cluster Event

Virtual Program

Welcome - Jeanne Christensen

Opening Devotion – Sustained Community – Sandy Grantz

Scripture: Colossians 2:5-6 Romans 1:11-12

Blessed Bundles Rep

Song "Weave" Led by Donna DuPont

Board Rep Jennifer Armstrong-Schaefer – A Word from our President

Offering - Donna Petrell

Closing - Many Hats – Janet Fishovitz

Easy Buttermilk Scones
Casa Sedona B&B

2 1/2 cup flour
1/2 cup sugar
~~3/4 tsp Baking soda~~
3/4 cup buttermilk (can substitute with milk &
about 1 T of Vinegar)
1/2 cup melted butter
1/2 cup dried cranberries, nuts, fruits,
chocolate chips —I use mini-Chocolate chips,
etc.

Combine dry ingredients in a large mixing
bowl; add buttermilk, melted butter and mini-
chocolate chips. Fold gently until evenly
moistened. **Do not over mix.** On a greased
baking sheet, drop spoonful of batter about 1
inch apart. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 - 17
minutes until lightly browned. Makes 12 - 16
scones.

Mrs. Shaulis's Coffee Cake
From Camp Lutherlyn

Dough:
Sift Together:
1 1/2 cups flour
2/3 cups sugar
2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt

Add:
1 egg
3/4 cup milk
2 Tbsp melted shortening/butter

Mix dough well. Put in a 9x13 or smaller
greased pan.

Topping: (This puts a small amount of topping
on the cake. If you like a lot of topping, double
the topping recipe.)

Mix Together:
3 Tbsp brown sugar
1 Tbsp flour
1/2 tsp cinnamon

Add:
1 Tbsp melted butter
Use a fork to mix the melted butter into the
sugar mixture. Sprinkle topping on the dough.

Bake:
375 degrees for 25-35 minutes

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.

