



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY NEWS
WEEK OF JULY 12, 2020
6th Sunday after Pentecost



PASTORS' MESSAGE

Dear partners in ministry,

Last Sunday, we had our first outdoors worship service! For those who attended, it was a boost to people's spirits. This Sunday, July 12th, we will again worship at 9 AM online and at 10:30 AM outdoors. However, we know that summer heat and direct sunshine are a big challenge to being able to worship comfortably. **Because of that, we will experiment this Sunday with setting up our worship space on the western side of the church building.** We hope that this might

offer some additional shade and greater comfort! If you are planning to attend the outdoors service, a reminder that we ask you to sign up at this link: [CLICK HERE](#). As I write this on Wednesday, the weather forecast calls for a 35% chance of rain on Sunday. We will monitor that forecast and send out an email notice to the congregation by 8 AM on Sunday morning if the outdoors service is canceled due to possible rain showers.

In addition, to further avoid the worst of the summer heat, we are planning to change our worship times. **Beginning on Sunday July 19th, we will move to an outdoors service at 8:30 AM and an online service on our facebook page at 10:15 AM.** We hope you will be able to join us at one of these services and recognize that we are experimenting to see what will work the best.

These decisions are made through conversation with those serving on our re-opening team. That group meets most weeks to talk through our plans and how we can improve our ability to worship faithfully and safely. Over the next couple weeks, we will be talking through the details of how we can safely offer communion as part of the outdoor services. We'll make sure to announce a plan once it is set to go, and hope to include communion in our worship at some point in August.

Walking with you,

Pastor Jeff and Pastor Larson

9 am Online Service

9:00 am Facebook Live Service - Click [here](#) for Bulletin

Click [here](#) for the GSLC Facebook page at 9:00 am.

The link above will take you to our Facebook page, from there you will need to scroll to the video section to see the live stream.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in joining via telephone: Call into conference #: 435.777.2200
and enter:7327369#

For Children

[Spark Pre-Reader Bulletin](#)

[Spark Reader Bulletin](#)

[Kid's Celebrate](#)

Westborough TV will show **today's online Service at 9 am on Tuesday** on Verizon FIOS Channel 24 and Charter/Spectrum Channel 191. It will also be available from a webpage on WestboroughTV.org which will point you back to the GSLC Youtube page. (Westborough TV will also show the **previous Sunday's online Service at 4 pm on Sunday.**)

New Direction Music

God will provide all of our needs if we just trust in Him. As long as we follow in His steps we can make the world a better place.

~Randy Gomez

10:30 am outdoor Service

10:30 am Outdoor service (in-person with physical distancing and wearing masks.)

Click [here](#) for Bulletin

Week of July 12th

Pastor Larson will be on vacation from July 11th through July 18th

Pastor Jeff will be on vacation from July 13th through July 27th.

While both Pastor Larson & Pastor Jeff are on vacation from July 13th through July 18th Emergency Pastoral Care should be directed to Pastor Ed Sproul via his cell #774-633-6747.

Caryn Francese will be out of the office until July 15th on vacation.

Wednesday

9 am Morning Prayer Facebook Premiere

7:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer at Calumet [Live Stream](#)

For more detailed calendar, including events hosted by outside organizations

[VIEW CALENDAR](#)

IN OTHER NEWS

An Opportunity for Advocacy

Mary Campbell, AMMPARO Director for the ELCA has requested that we each consider taking the opportunity to provide our comments on a new proposed Federal Regulation called, “ Procedures for Asylum and Withholding of Removal; Credible Fear and Reasonable Fear Review”.

Comments are due no later than Wednesday, July 15 at midnight. Your comments can be as short or long as you like. Just speak from your heart. Write about whatever is most important to you. Speak from personal experience if you can – as an advocate, as an asylee, or as a concerned community member. Perhaps your family came to this country seeking protection, or you know friends or neighbors who have benefited from our asylum system. We are fortunate to have this comment period be part of our normal governmental process. Make your voice heard! It is easy to do. See the links below and read through one of the comments that is already posted (I have pasted it in below).

You can read the entire draft regulation here: <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EOIR-2020-0003-0001>

You can include your comment here: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=EOIR-2020-0003-0001>

You can scan the nearly 5,000 comments submitted so far at the link above, but here is a link to one person’s comment that I think gives a nice flavor for why, as people of faith, we should speak up.

<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EOIR-2020-0003-2510>

In part, an ELCA pastor objected to the draft regulation based on her faith and core beliefs in justice and morality and said that the draft regulation:

1. Unrealistically and unconscionably raises the bar and standard people must meet when they first arrive at the U.S.-Mexico border and further restricts protection for those who have or would be tortured.
2. Essentially eliminates protection for people fleeing violence from non-state actors, disregarding current U.S. law.
3. Requires adjudicators to consider factors irrelevant to a person's need for protection
4. Eviscerates due process and fairness for asylum seekers.

New England School of Lay Ministry accepting applications now!

Have you ever wanted to learn more about Lutheran theology or the Lutheran church? Have you ever wondered why we do the things we do in worship? Now is your chance to dive in! The New England Synod School of Lay Ministry is an opportunity for spiritual growth, fellowship, and learning together.

The school is organized as a two-year commitment of study, using occasional weekend retreats and study groups. One year focuses on Lutheran theology and confessional heritage, church history, world religions and current ministry issues. The other year includes learning about the Old and New Testaments, biblical studies, leadership, and the arts of ministry.

If you are interested in learning more, talk with Ernie Zimmermann (GSLC member and graduate of the School of Lay Ministry), Pastor Jeff, or Pastor Larson, and also visit the School of Lay Ministry website at <https://nesynod-slm.com/>

The next cohort begins with a retreat in September, and an application deadline of August 1st.

Learning Update

Hello Sunday School Friends! Over the Summer months the staff and Learning Committee members will be reaching out for opinions and ideas about fall programming. We want to be sure we are providing Faith Formation resources that are useful and usable. Keep an eye out for the email with our ideas and please feel empowered to provide feedback as well as share your own thoughts on what would be most welcome for your household. We look forward to your responses and thank you in advance for your time!

New Prayer Station

In our pandemic survey of a few months ago, a number of respondents expressed interest in a prayer station. Sexton Steve Brevik delivered! Our beautiful prayer patio features a new wooden frame strung with rope. A small kit lies at the foot of the frame, full of fabric strips and a Sharpie. Anytime you wish to make space for prayer, you are welcome to come to our prayer patio to find it. If you wish, write the name of a person or situation you're praying for and tie it to one of the ropes. Good Shepherd will hold it in prayer alongside you.

Westborough Ecumenical VBS will be Virtual August 3-7 2020!

Join our adventure! We will be traveling the Rocky Railway and learning every day how Jesus pulls us through! VBS is being designed for all ages and will include

- Pre-recorded Openings and Closings
- Live Interactive Sessions
- Zoom Crew Meetings
- A variety of indoor and outdoor activities
- Interactive Music Videos

Don't miss the fun of the Rocky Railway, sign up today!

- Hilary and the VBS Board

Westborough Ecumenical VBS will happen August 3-7, 2020. Please visit the [Westborough](#)

[Ecumenical VBS Facebook page](#) for updates, music, and the [ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

[Christian Education Director](#) search team continues to meet.

Over the past few weeks, the Christian Education Director search team has regularly met on Wednesday evenings to prepare the job posting as well as conduct interviews. Please see the job posting on our website at the link above. Anyone who is interested in the opening is welcome to apply. Please share the job opening on any social media accounts you may have. We will have the job posting up through July, and hope to have someone ready to start by September 1st. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to anyone on the CED search team, which includes Gerry Hava (chairperson), Kristin Black, Mark Booher, Dana Gillin, Dawn Hall, and the pastors.

Music to Start Your Day

Kirby Stalley continues "Music to Start Your Day" since we are not able to make music together in person.

Kirby sends an email each morning and posts to the Good Shepherd Facebook page with one of his favorite pieces of music that brings him joy or peace. He hopes you will listen and that it will give you a nice way to start your day during this most anxious time. If you would like to receive these emails, please email Kirby at kirby.stalley@goodshepherdcares.org

PRAYING TOGETHER

A prayer by Henri Nouwen:

Lord, we so much want to be in control. I want to be the master of my own destiny. Still I know that you are saying, "Let me take you by the hand and lead you. Accept my love and trust that where I will bring you, the deepest desires of your heart will be fulfilled." Lord, open my hands to receive your gift of love. Amen.

In Our Prayers

This week. . .

Loretta Hall, Ed Johnson, Arthur Matson, Phyllis Taxiera, Kathy Allen, Jen Cinelli, Nathan Grant, River Hutchinson, Mike Grams, Jamie Rivera, J.P. Anzede, Cathy Dorey, Kathryn Grasse, all those affected by addiction, all those affected by mental illness, all military personnel and first responders, for those who have contracted COVID-19.

If you or someone you know would like to be remembered in our prayers, call the church office or email prayercircle@goodshepherdcares.org. Names remain on this list for four weeks. Let us know if you'd like to renew, add, or remove a name.

REQUEST PRAYER

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

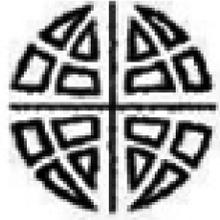
Pastors Jeff Goodrich & Victoria Larson

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If you know someone who might like to receive this email please send them this:

[Newsletter Sign-up Link](#)



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Robly