



The Parish Door

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

February 2021

A Stephen Ministry Congregation PO Box 27, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210 (920) 854-2988

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Drive-in Church will continue.

Knowing that outdoor worship is safer than indoor, in person worship, we are continuing outdoor, drive-in worship service Sunday mornings at 9:30am.

In case of bad weather, a robocall will go out alerting you of any service cancellations. If you are not on our phone robocall list, but would like to be, call the church office or send an email to sotboffice@yahoo.com.

Ash Wednesday is February 17

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world. Ash Wednesday is a significant opportunity for reflection, devotion, and recommitting ourselves to the disciplines of the Christian faith.

Ash Wednesday will look a little different than usual this year. We have worked creatively, diligently, and prayerfully to provide unique opportunities for Ash Wednesday devotion.

We are preparing prayer cards that will have small plastic envelopes of ashes so that you can impose ashes in your home. The card will include instructions for the imposition of ashes. You can pick up the card with ashes at drive-in church on February 7 or 14. In addition, you may simply call or email the church office and request that the card and ashes be mailed to you. Please do so by February 10 to insure that they arrive in your mailbox by Ash Wednesday.

So, 3 different options for your Ash Wednesday devotion which can be used alone or in combination are:

- 1) Pray this brief rite on the card at a time convenient for you.
- 2) Go to our website, shepherdofthebay.org, to view an informal Ash Wednesday service. Pastor Jim will record a simple service from home with some readings and a sermon, the confession, and the imposition of ashes.
- 3) Our live Wednesday prayer service at 7:00pm on the Shepherd of the Bay FaceBook page will also observe Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes. It will have a few of the elements of the recorded service, but won't be as long.

We hope you will join us as we begin our Lenten journey together.

I've been interested and curious about the speculations or prognosticators who write about what the long-term effects of the global pandemic might be on what we used to think of as normal life. Those who write about business trends, for instance, suggest that even after life returns to some level of normalcy, many, many more people will continue to work remotely. A lot of people have discovered they can get their work done without having to go to the office every day. Smaller towns within in a few hours of New York City have experienced a meteoric rise in real estate activity after New Yorkers are fleeing the city, but keeping those city jobs. I wonder if something similar has happened in Door County? I've also noticed the trend in terms of conferences and seminars. One of the conferences I go to every year shortly after April has decided to do both the workshops and the plenary presentations on-line. Rather than travel to the conference, stay in a hotel room, eat meals in a restaurant, we are going to be able to participate from our own homes. The upside is that it saves a lot of money; the downside, of course, is that we won't be able to have the informal conversations at the lunch table or with a glass of beer in the evening. It makes me wonder what conferences will look like after the pandemic.

I've been thinking a lot about what church will look like after the pandemic. And of course, the short answer is, no one knows. What I do believe is that this will be a time for us to be agile, flexible, and creative.

I've also been thinking about the unexpected blessings of the past year, the signs of God at work among us. I continue to be astounded at the response to the drive-in church. On a cold Sunday in January (the 17th), we had 96 people attend. That's amazing! I'm so grateful. What's been striking to me is that our drive-in church is not only providing a valuable opportunity for our members to worship, but it has attracted a number of people from the community. Who would have expected that God would use this unusual way of worshiping as a significant outreach ministry?

While on-line worship is certainly not ideal, the unexpected blessing has been that our reach has gone far beyond Door County. Early in December, I got a phone call from a young man in northwestern Wisconsin. He reported that he loves our recorded service and watches it every week with his grandmother who lives in a Milwaukee suburb. I've gotten notes from coast to coast, from California to Washington, D.C., from people who regularly join us for our on-line worship, even in a few cases families who are scattered around the country who participate in our on-line worship together. Between the on-line worship and the drive-in church, we've actually experienced a significant increase in our average weekly worship attendance.

Another unexpected blessing has been the vibrancy of our weekly Tuesday morning bible class. While I don't keep attendance, there are between 20 and 25 people who regularly join us, though I don't think there's been any week when that many have participated at once. We have people who come in and out, and others who are there every week. I really didn't think that we could sustain an on-line bible study for very long, but each week, there is a great energy to our conversation about the lessons for the coming Sunday. What's great is that this, too, has become an opportunity for people to join us regardless of geography. Remember the young man and his grandmother who tune in to our worship? The grandmother, Donna, has been joining us each week from her home in Brookfield. Roy and Bunny Sheahan join us from their home in southern Wisconsin; Cal and Trish Pierson join us from Florida.

The pandemic has been the catalyst for the incredible growth of our food pantry. What began as a small operation with a few shelves in the alcove has grown to include perishable and frozen food, and now even some clothing, thanks to the Bombas sock company. And the generosity of our members and the larger community has been so touching, all of us working together to provide this support to our struggling neighbors.

I continue to be excited about how this ministry will unfold in the year to come. What's clear is that God is at work in us and through us. And we can be assured of that blessing as we move through 2021.

Peace,

Pr. Jim Honig



February is an interesting month this year, something of a Yin and Yang event, dividing the twenty-eight days almost in equal halves. This short month marks the end of the beginning and the beginning of the end. Huh? Let me explain what I am pondering.

When we turn the calendar and enter the month of February, we continue the wonderful season of Epiphany, which is the natural conclusion to a season begun by Advent (a time of anticipation, pointing us toward the birth of Jesus, a new beginning of hope and promise). Epiphany follows (January 6) with the recognition of this special boy by the Magi and the season of Epiphany continues through the early life of our Savior, culminating with the Transfiguration of Our Lord, where Jesus was revealed to some of his disciples as God. I see this event as the end of the beginning.

And then comes February 17, Ash Wednesday, a day which turns our season of joy into a season of reflection, sacrifice, sorrow and penitence. The forty days that follow (not counting the Sundays) point us toward the ultimate sacrifice – Jesus' death on the cross and His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday morning. Ash Wednesday could be seen as the beginning of the end.

But what an amazing journey this month contains! Jesus' early ministry demonstrates his divinity by His teaching, preaching and love for his brothers and sisters all around Him. Ash Wednesday marks a turning point and begins the time when Jesus challenges us all to reflect and repent and turn our lives around. He sees us! It is a time to set our eyes on our Savior, take His yoke upon us and learn from Him.

I think Georg Friedrich Handel set this thought beautifully in music, when he composed his masterpiece, MESSIAH, written in twenty-four days, in 1741. The singer's text, taken from Isaiah, is:

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, and He shall gather the lambs with His arm.
And carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto Him, all ye that labour,
Come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden,
And He will give you rest.

Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,
For He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.



May this short month of February be a time of reflection and renewal for us all, challenging us to turn our eyes toward Jesus and follow Him.

Blessings to you all.

Judith Jackson
Sanctuary Choir Director, Principal Pianist
AND Drive-in Church Musician!

Your Vote is your Voice

As members of Shepherd of the Bay, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Christians in the Lutheran traditions, we have long believed that part of our baptismal vocation is to be good, engaged citizens. Voting is one way we can contribute to the well-being of our neighbors and communities. The upcoming Spring Primary on February 16 includes candidates for State Superintendent of Public Education as well as judges and local government officials. Learn what is on your ballot and how to register to vote or how you can cast your ballot at myvote.wi.gov. You can also find nonpartisan information on the candidates at vote411.org/ballot. Important things to remember:

- You can register to vote at a designated early voting site, your municipal clerk's office, or your polling place on election day, so long as you have lived at your place of residence for at least 28 days by Election Day. Find your polling place at myvote.wi.gov.
- To register to vote you need to provide a Proof of Residence document. In addition to a valid State of Wisconsin driver license or state ID card with the voter's current address, other documents may be used. See a list of acceptable documents at: myvote.wi.gov/en-us/ProofofResidence.
- When you vote, you need to show a photo ID, such as a current Wisconsin Driver's License or State ID. For other options, visit bringit.wi.gov.
- You can find out about opportunities to vote early by calling your municipal clerk's office or visiting their website. myvote.wi.gov/en-US/MyMunicipalClerk

Your vote is your voice! Don't miss your chance to have your voice heard!

Waking Up White

On Thursday afternoons at 1:00, beginning on Thursday, March 4, Pr. Jim will be hosting a conversation on race, using the book Waking Up White, by Debby Irving. The book is an excellent introduction to some of the issues surrounding racial justice in the US.

In this book, Ms. Irving tells the story of her journey from white oblivion to white awareness, and tells it with such honesty and vulnerability that it becomes an inspiration to others. For 25 years, she sensed inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she deeply wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing. Then it happened. The "Aha!" moment that launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and changed the trajectory of her life.

Our conversations will last 60-90 minutes, meeting each week for 9 weeks. You are welcome and encouraged to read the book prior to our first meeting on March 4. Please call the church office or email Pr. Jim to register. At least initially, our meetings will take place online via Zoom.



Klaud's Pantry

Klaud's Pantry Wish List-Refrigerator and Freezer:

Butter and/or margarine
Yogurt-plain and flavored, Gogurt, GoGo
Milk (Gallons and 1/2 gallons)
Cottage cheese
Eggs
Lunchmeat & Small packages of ground beef or chicken for the freezer
Carrots and celery
String cheese
Hummus
Tortillas
Fresh or frozen fruit
Fresh or frozen juice

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka
920-854-2988 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com



February has me thinking about Valentines! The kind of “Valentines” we receive from God!

“We love because He first loved us” 1 John 4:19, “Let us love one another, for love comes from God” 1 John 4:7a, “In all things God works for the good of those who love Him” Romans 8:28, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart” Deuteronomy 6:5, and most of all, John 3:16. “God so loved the world that He gave his one and only son so that whoever believes in Him shall have eternal life”.

Scripture emphasizing love, to take us right into the Lenten season! Please join your church family for Ash Wednesday, February 17th as the season unfolds. Immerse your family within the journey together, grasping a deeper understanding of sin, repentance, forgiveness, and darkness into light. Families, watch for your Lenten Kit arriving at your home the first week in February!

Little Lambs Story Time, Puppets, & More! Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers

Little ones and their care providers, gather every Wednesday morning on the Face Book Shepherd of the Bay Family and Friends at 10:00 a.m. (recorded, so you can participate anytime!) with the exception of the first Wednesday of the month meeting at 10:30 a.m., reserved for a Zoom parent and care provider check in! Please contact Lynda if you would like more information!

February 3rd Parent & Care Provider Zoom 10:30 a.m.

February 10th A Valentine from Jesus

February 17th Queen Esther saves her people

February 24th King Solomon

Sunday School for ages 3 through grade 6

Join us for Sunday School each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (recorded, so you can participate anytime!) on Face Book; Shepherd of the Bay, Family and Friends.

February 7th Jesus Heals Mark 1:29-39

February 14th The Transfiguration Mark 9:2-9

February 21st Noah's Ark Genesis 6-9

February 28th Abraham and Sarah's Visitors
Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Confirmation

Pastor Jim will meet the Confirmation Students on Zoom at 4:00 p.m. Be on the look out for your email invitation!

February 3rd Apostles Creed Article 3

February 10th Introduction to the Ten Commandments

February 17th, No class, but please participate in Ash Wednesday service.

February 24th, Commandments 1 and 2

Wonderful Wednesdays for Grade 1 through 6

This month, Wonderful Wednesdays will meet one time by Zoom on February 3rd at 4:00 p.m. (watch for an email invite!) If you are not on the email listing for WW and would like to be, please contact Lynda. We will travel through the 7th and 8th Commandments!

Wednesday, February 17th is Ash Wednesday. We are encouraging families to participate in Ash Wednesday with their Lenten Kits at home, as well as participating in on line service on the website at www.shepherdofthebay.org.

High School Youth Group

Where is “Hal” our Youth Group Mascot hanging out these days?

Choose from any one of the following days to deliver Lenten Kits and Valentines to our families!

Wednesday, February 3rd, or Thursday February 4th, Watch your email for details! We’ll mask up and have some fun in small groups out and about in the SOTB van!!

Wednesday, Feb 10th Zoom check in 7pm. Watch for an email invite!

Wednesday, February 17th, please join your family for Ash Wednesday service.

Wednesday, February 24th, youth group will not meet



Our High School Youth group met up Wednesday, January 27th, at the Sister Bay ice rink for skating, and followed up with some hot chocolate around the fire!



New Members

Mike & Marge McCoy joined Shepherd of the Bay Church in December 2020.

Marge & Mike McCoy are Wisconsin natives having been raised in Janesville. Following Mike’s retirement from Hormel Foods Corporation in Austin MN, after 35 years in the meat business, we moved to Door County. We have lived in Ellison Bay since 2003 and have recently downsized to Mariners Pointe in Sister Bay. Travel is our number one interest. We also enjoy walking and just being outside. Our son and daughter in law live in Hiawatha, Iowa and our daughter and son in law along with our three grandsons live in Hudson, Wisconsin.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

It takes real strength to ask for help during times of need. Don’t look at it as a sign of weakness. Stephen Ministers are here to listen.

Contact Stan Whiteman at 920-839-5481 or swwhiteman46@gmail.com or the church office (920-854-2988, sotboffice@yahoo.com) for more information on how Stephen Ministry can help you or a loved one.



Please note the change in Cheri's email for the prayer chain.

WELCA Prayer Chain

The WELCA Prayer Chain continues to serve all the members and friends of SOTB for prayer requests.

To send a Prayer Request:

1. Send an email to Cheri Boock at cheriboock@gmail.com

2. State the request with wording that you want for the request. Make sure you have received permission from the person in need of the request.

3. The request will be sent when received by Cheri.

4. The Prayer Chain members always are glad to receive a report of how the person is doing as they are sending out their prayers, so if you request a prayer for someone, please let us know how that person is doing.

If you want to be included as a recipient of the Prayer Chain, and pray for those in need, contact Cheri Boock at 920-854-5493 or cell 920-421-1210 or the above email.



Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that Amazon has a donation program called Amazon Smile? Just make sure to go to smile.amazon.com each time you shop through Amazon and choose Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, Ellison Bay, WI as your charity, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to us. Easy with no additional cost to you!

If you prefer using the Amazon App, update to the newest version and you can shop Amazon Smile through the app without having to go on the website.

Book Selections for Shepherd of the Bay Book Group – 2021

All meetings for the fall and winter season will be via Zoom beginning at 9:30 am, the 3rd Thursday morning of the month. Marcia Eckdahl will handle the technical details for the meeting; Gretchen Farwell is the convener.

February 18, 2021

Mandel, Emily St. John. **Station Eleven**. 2014. Door County Big Read for 2021. Fictional account of a group of survivors from a pandemic that happened 20 years before the time of the story.

March 18, 2021

Winn, Raynor. **The Salt Path**. 2019. “The true story of a couple who lost everything and embarked on a transformative journey walking the South West Coast Path in England.” 630 miles!

April 15, 2021

Jio, Sarah. **All the Flowers in Paris**. 2019. (If you liked *Sarah's Key* and *Nightingale*, you will like this one.) Two women are connected across time by the city of Paris, a mysterious stack of love letters, and shocking secrets sweeping from World War II to the present.

May 20, 2021

Powers, Richard – **Overstory**. 2019. Won the 2019 Pulitzer prize in fiction. “a sweeping, impassioned work of activism and resistance that is also a stunning evocation of—and paean to—the natural world. From the roots to the crown and back to the seeds, Richard Powers’s twelfth novel unfolds in concentric rings of interlocking fables that range from antebellum New York to the late twentieth-century Timber Wars of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. There is a world alongside ours—vast, slow, interconnected, resourceful, magnificently inventive, and almost invisible to us. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see that world and who are drawn up into its unfolding catastrophe.” – Amazon [*Many copies in library system. This is a big book – 502 pages, so might be good for a “winter” read*]

Building and Grounds Committee

Projects

•**Interior LED Lights** – The 31 lights ordered to finish the 2nd floor were received before Christmas. We started installing them Friday January 8th. After finishing the 1st Sunday School room with 6 new fixtures we discovered that they had a transformer “hum”. We adjusted the “dip” switches that controlled the color and power (brightness) and found no effect on the “hum”. We called the manufacturer’s Technical Services and the distributor through whom we placed the order. They both agreed that they should not “hum”. We stopped work, but unfortunately, we had removed 25 of the 31 fixtures and had installed 10 of the new fixtures before discovering the problem. The manufacturer forwarded some rework instructions explaining how to minimize the “hum” by isolating both the circuit board inside the fixture and the fixture within the T-track for the ceiling. We informed them that we were not in favor of reworking “new” fixtures for an issue that was already known to them. They said they did not want the fixtures returned and agreed not to charge us. Our distributor is looking for an alternative supplier.

•**Sanctuary Dimmers** – This project has been put on hold since March due to the COVID19 outbreak but was approved to move forward by the Council at their December meeting. Mainstage Theatrical Lighting from Milwaukee will be installing the new dimmer controls on February 4th and 5th. Their work will include 12 new dimmer modules, installation and programming.

Lawn Tractor – After the Committee’s discussion in November they asked the Council to consider purchasing a new or slightly used tractor. The Council decided that the Committee should pursue a new tractor. Based on their direction the Committee sought quotes for John Deere and Kubota sub-compact utility tractors. Both brands are similar in size and capability. Both use 25HP 3-cylinder diesel engines, are 4WD, have factory installed front loaders, mid-mount PTO for mower decks, rear 3pt hitch and 540rpm rear PTO for powering various implements. The tractor will be used primarily for mowing and have a 60-inch mower deck. Unlike the current old Simplicity tractor, the new tractor will have additional capability to help ease the burden on the Garden Club members. The Committee is continuing to investigate while waiting for budget guidance from the Council

Insulation – The insulating work done last Spring above the kitchen has had a noticeable impact on the kitchen temperatures during the recent cold nights. While it has not yet been cold enough, long enough to determine whether the kitchen water pipe freezing issues have been solved the early indications are that that will be a thing of the past.

Building Maintenance

Interior Painting – The Choir Room, main stairway and Conference Room closet have been painted. Thank you, Karl Omernick, Scott Theis and Tim West. All the rooms on the 1st floor except for the rear entrance restrooms, Nurse’s office and Parlor have been painted in the last 3 years.

Year End budget – While 2020 was definitely not a normal year the portion of the budget allocated to Buildings and Grounds ended \$19000 under budget. The 1st quarter of 2020 was normal with Sunday, Lent and Vespers services, and the new siding was being finished. The building was closed in April due to COVID, but electricity, heating and cooling continued. The investments in new siding, insulation, roofing and new LED lighting also contributed to the nearly \$11,000 reduction in electricity and fuel costs.

Thomas Tuttle - Chair Buildings and Grounds

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Mark Glasser, Eloise Lindem, Karl Omernick, Joel Thomas, Scott Theis or me. If none of us are around, send me an email or drop a note in the message holder on the custodian’s closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms). Thank you.

Shepherd of the Bay Zoom Council Meeting

Jan. 18, 2021

Present: Pastor Jim Honig, Scott Eckdahl, President, George Cobb, Cheryl Becht, Edee Madsen, Dick Burress, Ron Hupe, Scott Eckdahl, Tim West, Lynda Pietruszka, Sue Daubner, Lori Pothast

7:00 PM Call to Order by Scott Eckdahl, President
Opening Prayer – Pastor Jim Honig

Approval of December Minutes by Dick Burress, second by George Cobb

Treasurers report by Ron Hupe

We have 132 pledges on hand compared to 154 in 2020 at this date.

Discussed lower heating costs, attributed not only to less use in the church but also to better insulation and new roof.

Sue Daubner made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report , second by Tim West

Pastors Report

Focusing on re-opening the sanctuary. The Wisconsin Council of Churches hosted a webinar that offered some counsel about returning to in-person worship. They recommend not returning until 50% of the local population has received the vaccine and the positivity rate is lower than 10%. This will be a gradual process and in the meantime we are thankful for the continuing success of our drive up services.

Property and Grounds

Tom Tuttle has written an extensive report, thanking all who have funded various projects and those who have helped to maintain the building and grounds. He presented a list of 2020 Major Projects and 2020 Building Repairs as well as a list of 2021 projects, along with a list of Members Volunteers involvement.

Education and Youth

Lynda Pietruszka submitted her report on Children, Youth and Family Ministry.

New Business

Edee Madsen brought up the co-operation with Jane Wise from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in regards to Caring Bags with recipes for food pantrys. Heidi from Door of Life has donated space next to the Northern Grill (formerly Simple Solution ReSale) for storage of bulk snack items for food pantrys.

Bombas Socks has donated 2,500 pairs of Bombas ladies large black socks (knee highs) to Northern Door which will be included in the food pantry.

Mission Work – discussed forming a committee of former council members to work on this.

Old Business

Further discussion on re-opening the sanctuary. See Pastors report.
Motion was made and seconded to approve all reports.

Les Keeperer closed with devotional prayer.

Adjourned at 7:45

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Daubner, Secretary

Donate your Old Cell Phones

Did you get a new cell phone for Christmas? We are collecting old cell phones for HELP of Door County. They recycle them and get credit towards new phones that can be given to domestic violence victims who need them. There is a basket in the narthex for the old phones.

Lessons for February

February 7: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Introduction to the readings: In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

February 14: Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Holy Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Introduction to the readings: The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

February 21 :First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

Introduction to the readings: On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

February 28 : Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Introduction to the readings: The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

Readers for the recorded Sunday Services

Feb. 7 Ann Birnschein

Feb. 14 Cindy Beem

Feb. 21 Jessica Grasse

Feb. 28 Lori Pothast

Service Times and Places

Drive-in Church

- **Sundays at 9:30am in the Shepherd of the Bay parking lot.**

It will be a brief service with prayers, readings, hymns, communion and a sermon. **We ask that you follow the guidelines listed on our website.**

Traditional Worship Service

The bulletin & Service video will be posted on shepherdofthebay.org Sunday morning.

Shepherd of the Bay Church FaceBook Page Live

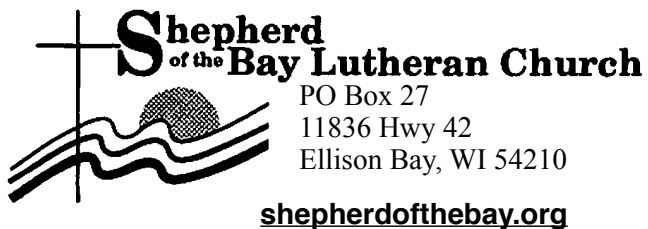
Join Pastor Jim for a time of prayer and worship.

- **Tues. & Thurs. at Noon for Prayer**
- **Wed. at 7:00 PM for a Night Prayer**

Bible Studies on Zoom

- **Sundays at 11:00am - Sunday Conversation**
- **Tuesdays at 9:00am - Pastor's Bible Study**

Links to the above online events along with other updates and news will be sent out weekly in Pastor Jim's ***News and Notes emails*** on Saturday. If you are not getting these emails and would like to receive them, send Jim an email at sotbpastor@gmail.com.



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The Parish Door monthly newsletter can be found in full color on our website, shepherdofthebay.org/newsletters. If you would like to be added to the monthly email list, contact the church office at 920-854-2988 or sotboffice@yahoo.com.