

The Parish Door

September 2019

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

11836 Hwy 42, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210

shepherdofthebay.org

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GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP MARCH 25 - APRIL 2, 2020

*Please pray about how you can
participate in this mission
activity....*

*Think about it... Pray about it...
Join us ...*

*James 1:27 (NIV) "Religion that God
our Father accepts as pure and
faultless is this: to look after orphans
and widows in their distress and to
keep oneself from being polluted by
the world."*

Upcoming Events

Installation of Lynda Pietruszka

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 1st as we install our new Director of Youth and Family Ministry. Stop by the Faith Formation table during Fellowship to see what exciting things she has planned. See more on page 4.

God's Work. Our Hands.

Mark your calendars for the God's Work. Our Hands. Day of Service. This year we will join with thousands of ELCA congregations around the country on Sunday, Sept. 8, who move out into their communities to serve. We will meet for worship at 9:30 and leave for service projects after fellowship at 11:30am. Sign up sheets will be posted or you can call the church office (920) 854-2988 to sign up for a project.

Organ Concert

Come enjoy a wonderful evening of music on Saturday, Sept. 21st with Steven Wentz on the beautiful Dobson pipe organ. There will be a reception following the concert. See more on page 3.

Voices in Praise, Hands in Service.

Read more about the plans for the church in 2020 in the Pastor's Post on pages 2 & 3. You will learn over the coming weeks of our plans, but briefly we seek to strengthen and expand our ministry to children, youth, and families; provide funds to sustain ministry excellence; fund the annual rising costs doing ministry, including beginning an annual contribution to a capital maintenance reserve fund and increase our contribution to the church at large; and launch a new ministry to our elders, including restoring the parish nurse program.

If you have not received the first mailing and brochure and you would like to be included, please contact the church office at (920) 854-2988.

The Church Is at Its Best When Everyone Does Their Part

This past Sunday, I was excited to announce the launch of our Fall Stewardship Call, ***Voices in Praise, Hands in Service***. I am as excited as I have ever been about an annual campaign. God has blessed us with a convergence of abundance that allows us to give generously to make a big ministry impact on Northern Door County.

Let me tell you what I mean:

1. The extraordinary generosity and commitment of one of our members means that we will not be coming to you to ask for gifts towards the significant building maintenance needs. One of our families has made a commitment to cover the capital costs of replacing our roof and siding. As it turns out, the roof may have been in worse shape than we thought. The contractor is feeling some urgency to get the roof replacement done this fall, concerned that trying to get through one more winter might cause interior damage.
2. I am inspired by that kind of generosity and commitment. When I see that example of such faithfulness and generosity, I want to do my part. Sheryl and I have talked about the kind of significant gift we would have made to such a capital campaign. We likely would have spread that over three years; we are now adding that amount to our regular Sunday morning offerings to support the ongoing ministry.
3. I really believe this is a rare opportunity that few congregations get to experience. Because the capital needs are taken care of, we can give our over and above offerings to strengthen and expand our existing ministry.
4. As if that generosity wasn't enough to inspire us, I have even more to tell. On August 25, I announced that another of our families, a family deeply committed to the vitality of our ministry, offered a matching gift of \$10,000 if we receive 150 Intention Cards (you may know them as Pledge Cards). This gift makes real the truth that every gift matters. If you can only plan for \$1 a week or \$5 a week or \$10 a week, you may think that in an offering of \$8000 a week, your gift doesn't matter. Now you know that it does. Making your intention helps us to secure this very generous gift that will help us towards our goal of increasing our weekly income by \$2000

Over the next few weeks, you'll be hearing specifics about our plans for the increase in weekly giving. You'll hear the stories and you'll hear about our vision for how the strength of our congregation will allow us to share the love of Christ with our members, our visitors, the northern Door community, and indeed around the world.

Please keep this campaign in your prayers, as I will be praying for you and for all of us, that the Spirit will lead us to a strong and generous response to this appeal.

Ministry to and with Our Elders. Part of the increase in giving is intended to fund the restoration of our Parish Nurse program. The data doesn't lie. Door County is the home of the oldest median age in the state of Wisconsin. We are a community that is skewed heavily towards the senior population. Rather than lament that fact, I celebrate it! We live in a community with an extraordinary storehouse of wisdom and experience. We have much to offer our community, our region, and the world.

There's a brand new book out there that I'd like you to read. The author is Louise Aronson, a geriatrician in medical practice in San Francisco and also on the faculty of The University of California Medical School in San Francisco. The book is called *Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Life*. This book has fundamentally changed my understanding of this last third of life that we colloquially refer to as "Old People." Dr. Aronson takes a deep dive into what it means to grow old, physically, emotionally, culturally, socially, and economically. Much of the book is a critique of how we lump old people into one category, when the reality is the aging process unique, complicated, and can even be beautiful. She also offers her own vision for how we might do better in this last journey of life. It has prompted a lot of reflection for how we as church might do better in doing ministry to and with our elders. I'm inviting you to spend the month of September reading this book. In October, we'll provide opportunities to gather for discussion about what it means for each of us, for our community, and for the ministry of our congregation. If you don't want to or are unable to purchase the book, we have purchased several copies that you may check out on loan.

Season of Creation. In the 1980's, Patriarch Bartholomew, world-wide head of the Orthodox Church, called Christians of all persuasions to awaken to our responsibility to be good stewards of creation. He issued a

regular series of encyclicals, called study conferences, and became the leading voice in urging Christians to care for the Earth. Now, almost 40 years later, the movement is gathering momentum, and there is a growing sense of urgency to answer the call to be good stewards of God's good creation. There is an ancient saying, *lex orandi, lex credendi*. Translated literally, it means "The law of prayer is the law of believing." What that means is that what we do in worship forms what we believe and how we live. With that in mind, a group of scholars and pastor 20 years ago or so, began to urge congregations to observe a specific season in the church year to focus on our call to care for creation. This is a growing movement in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and one which our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, has encouraged congregations to observe. So, beginning on Sunday, September 29 and for a season of 4 Sundays, we will be observing the Season of Creation. The lessons, hymns, and prayers will invite us into the wonder of the good world God has made, and call us to be good stewards of those marvelous gifts.

We are on the move! There is much to celebrate in our ministry and much for which to be thankful. I'm grateful for all you do, for your prayers, your action, your service, and your love. What a gift to be in ministry together for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus.

Pr. Jim Honig

Earth Care



Did you know that planting trees is one of the most effective acts of earth care we can do? Trees love inhaling CO₂ and exhaling oxygen. They clean the air, reduce ozone layers and keep us healthy by helping to prevent asthma and other lung diseases. A mature tree can change 48 lbs. of carbon into oxygen and keep two people alive. Trees keep soil from eroding while also ensuring that roots can store needed water. A canopy keeps the roads cool and disperses heavy rainfall. In your yard, they will reduce both your heating and air conditioning costs. And they provide a balanced eco system for animals and insects to find homes and food.

Because of the value of trees, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ephraim and Climate Change Coalition of Door County are reaching out to our inter-faith community to add to Door County's inventory of trees. It is encouraging that 10 Northern Door churches have said "yes" to receiving and distributing 20 trees each. They have been procured through a grant to CCC DC and will be yours to take home and lovingly care for. You will be able to choose from tree species Balsam Fir, White or Red Pine, and White Spruce. You will receive a sheet of instructions for their care. Cal Pierson from our congregation along with a team member from the Environmental Justice Action Team of UUFDCC will hand out the trees after the service on Sept. 15th. The earth thanks you for your participation.



September Organ Concert

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m.** for the last of our summer organ concerts presented by

Dr. Steven Wentz, organist, is distinguished professor of music at Concordia University Chicago, where he teaches organ and courses in music history, and serves as organist to the chapel. He also is cantor at First Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, Chicago. He has performed hymn festivals and recitals throughout the United States, as well as in the Luther and Bach lands of Germany. He has written on the topics of the organ in early Lutheranism and the music of Bach.



So, save the date, **Saturday, September 21st**, and come enjoy a wonderful evening of music with Steven Wentz on the beautiful Dobson pipe organ. There will be a reception following the concert.

These events are only possible because of the efforts and support of many individuals here at Shepherd of the Bay. If you would like to be a part of helping us bring these programs to our community, let us know. Maybe you would consider sponsoring one of our guest artists! We would love to hear from you! Please contact Greg Beem or Judy Jackson.

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka



Faith Formation and our Church Family

"The Children's Ministry of the E.L.C.A. seeks to focus on intergenerational lifelong faith formation of Christian communities found in households, congregations and child-centered ministry settings." I read this the other day on the East Central Synod of Wisconsin website. The word, "intergenerational" jumped off the page!!

Faith Formation at Shepherd of the Bay can start at any place in the vast line up! From the nursery, to our preschool program, to Sunday school for ages (potty-trained 3's) through 6th grade, Confirmation for our 7th and 8th graders, youth gathering for our H.S., Young adult and Campus Ministry, Adult Bible Study, and Family gatherings...BUT IT DOESN'T STOP THERE!!

It is my heart-felt intention to emphasize the incredible value of the wisdom, voice, and faith-walk experiences of our church family Grandmas and Grandpas, our elders respectfully! When we travel on our faith journey together, as a church family, as an intergenerational walk, it becomes so very rich. God in Jesus, loves when two or more are gathered in HIS name, especially across the generations!!!

I am so excited to be here at SOTB! Please stop by the Faith Formation Table in the Fellowship Hall throughout September and October. Here you'll find all kinds of information about our upcoming programs and opportunities.

I look forward to hearing YOUR faith formation story!

Thank you for the warm welcome!

Lynda

Help Need at Fall Challenge Bike Ride

We need people to help at our booth on Saturday Sept. 14th located at Bethel Baptist Church parking lot. We need people for 2 hour shifts from 10am to 4:30pm. It is really easy. The bike riders will stop and pick up food or drinks from the table and we keep the table stocked.

Proceeds will go towards Youth Activities & Guatemala Mission Trip.

Food Pantry Collection for September Personal Hygiene Items

This month we are asking for items for personal hygiene. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo & conditioner, hand soap, hand lotion, shaving cream, etc. As you go thru your morning routine, ask yourself how you would feel if you had to choose between daily personal care items and food or gas for your car to get to work.

We always welcome food donations of every kind no matter what the theme is for the month. We also take cash donations for Piggly Wiggly Cards to buy fresh fruit, meat, milk, etc.

The pantry is located in the north entrance to the church. Everyone is encouraged to tell their friends and neighbors about the pantry. It is open to all and the doors are open everyday from 6am to 9pm. No questions asked. Please take what you need.

Pray for families who struggle to make ends meet.



THE GIFT OF MUSIC AND THE SPECIAL PEOPLE WHO CREATE IT

The month of September represents significant change in the musical life of Shepherd of the Bay. It is a season that contains moments of goodbye and hello ... aloha.

Aloha (hello) to Choir Lite, which is a remarkable gathering of talented, dedicated and generous singers who meet every Sunday morning at 8:45 to encounter, learn and then sing a choir anthem for the 9:30 worship service. This wonderful group of singers continues to bless our summer services at Shepherd and to add significant richness to the musical life in worship. Choir Lite will remain a steady presence throughout the month of September and will welcome any and all interested singers to its midst. Aloha! Come and join us!

Aloha (goodbye) to some of our seasonal choir members, who have begun to pack their bags for their winter destinations. This particular Aloha is difficult to express, because these singers have added so much to the quality, warmth and vigor of our choral sound throughout the summer worship season ... and they are magnificent choir members, adding friendship and good will at every singing opportunity. Their presence among us makes us a stronger sanctuary choir!

Aloha (hello) to a new choral season at Shepherd of the Bay, which will begin on **Thursday,**

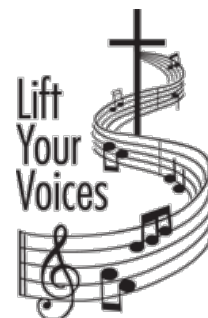
September 26 at 7:00 p.m. The Sanctuary Choir will hold its first regular weekly rehearsal on this date and will welcome all interested singers who may find themselves in Northern Door County for the fall, winter and spring months to sing with us. A long-term commitment is not required for membership in this merry group of singers. Come when you can and lend your voice to the Sanctuary Choir's efforts. You will find a welcome here! Aloha!

Over the summer months, we have been blessed by the musical presence of our seasonal guests. Thank you to Alicia Doudna (violin), Eric Olson (oboe), Ellen Olson (viola), Terry Everson (trumpet), Lori Everson (violin), Peter Everson (trumpet), Paul Bellino (trombone) and Bradley Ward (trombone), as well as our own Ann Birnschein (trumpet), Jim Honig (trumpet) and Jack Hitzeman (piano). These visiting musicians have graced our worship over the years and have added so much beauty to our services. Aloha (until we meet again)!

A personal word: September 3 is a very special day in the life of this particular musician. This marks the first anniversary of my appointment as the Sanctuary Choir Director at Shepherd of the Bay. I am so grateful for this opportunity to direct this stellar group of singers and to contribute to the musical life of our church. Thank you all for the words of encouragement, generous responses and helpful suggestions that have accompanied our work together. My life is very full of gratitude and joy.

Until we meet again ... ALOHA!

Judith Jackson
Principal Pianist and Sanctuary Choir Director



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To all of you who so generously donated to the School Kits for Lutheran World Relief and Guatemala. We have been able to put together 58 complete school kits for Lutheran World Relief and some supplies and cash donations for Guatemala. While it takes everyone working together to make this a success, a little extra credit must be given to Linda Anderson. Linda sewed 38 backpacks! Linda is a faithful member of our quilting group but is a member of First Baptist. We are so blest that Linda shares her gifts and talents with SOTB.

The final report on the Spaghetti Supper shows a profit of \$2400! Thank you to all involved in this fundraiser. All this money will go to missions.

The knitting/crochet group will continue until the end of September. All the items made are on display on the bookshelf at the rear door of the Fellowship Hall. It's not too late to join us on Thursday mornings 9:15-11:15.

The Annual Mission Potluck will be on September 10 at noon. Please bring a dish to pass and join us on that day. The program is still being finalized. Watch the WELCA bulletin board for more details.

PRAYER SQUARES are FREE and available in the Narthex. Take one for yourself and for friends to remind you to pray when you touch it in your purse or pocket.

PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request that you would like added to the prayer chain, email Bonnie Hanson at jnbhanson@gmail.com or the church office at sotboffice@yahoo.com. When email is not possible, **call Bonnie H. at 854-5569 or (763)567-9559; or Cheri Boock at 854-5493.**

Don't forget to use the **CHANGE BUCKET**- you can make a change in someone's life by putting a donation in the CHANGE BUCKET on Sunday during the Fellowship Hour. Your donation goes to purchase gift cards for the Piggly Wiggly that are given to help those in need to purchase needs not covered by SNAP cards.

Social 6 Groups have been formed for August-October. Questions? **Call Cheri Boock (920) 854-5493.**

Book Group Selections

September 19 - Desmond and his daughter Mpho Tutu's, The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World, 2014 - The Tutus wrote a manual on forgiveness, based on their work with the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which helped South Africans come to terms to the harm apartheid did in their society.

October 17 - Kristin Hannah's The Great Alone, 2018. Novel of Erndt Allbright, a former POW from Vietnam, who moves his family to the Alaskan frontier because he is having trouble adjusting to life; his wife and daughter find their new conditions fraught with danger

The WELCA Board will meet on Sept. 10 @ 10:00am in the parlor.

If you would like to know more about what WELCA does, you are welcome to join us.

SEPT. EVENTS

Sept 5, 12, 19, 26

Knitting/Crochet Group

- 9:15-11:15 - Parlor

Sept 10 - **Board Meeting**

- 10:00am Parlor

Sept. 10 - **Mission Fest**

- Noon Pot Luck luncheon

Sept. 19 - **Book Group**

- 9:30am Call Gretchen

Farwell (920) 854-6203 for more information and location.

Rose Club

Our rose recipient for September is

Joyce Teskie

who celebrates her 92nd birthday on September 23rd.

Happy Birthday Joyce!



MEAL MINISTRY

contact for
September is
Carole Bergner
(839-2036).



If you know of a family or individual who could use our attention for providing a meal when in need or would like your name added to the list of women willing to prepare and deliver meals, please call: PAT SKOGSBAKKEN at 854-1133.

FALL FILM FEST
A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE
finger foods, films and friendship
amongst
THREE CONGREGATIONS FOCUSING ON FAIRNESS

Please join us as we watch and then discuss the following films. We will begin each evening with food and fellowship. After the film we will share dessert and discussion. All are welcome! Invite your friends!

5:00 share finger food and friendship

5:30-7:30 view film

7:30-8:30 share dessert and discussion

September 8 St. Lukes Episcopal Church, Sister Bay



The Help

In 1960s Mississippi, Southern society girl Skeeter (Emma Stone) returns from college with dreams of being a writer. She turns her small town on its ear by choosing to interview the black women who have spent their lives taking care of prominent white families. Only Aibileen (Viola Davis), the housekeeper of Skeeter's best friend, will talk at first. But as the pair continue the collaboration, more women decide to come forward, and as it turns out, they have quite a lot to say.

October 13 Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship of Door County, Ephraim



The Public

A bitter Arctic blast has made its way to downtown Cincinnati and the front doors of the public library. The patrons, many of whom are homeless, mentally ill and marginalized, as well as an exhausted and overwhelmed staff of librarians who have emotional connections and a sense of obligation to care for these regular patrons. are at odds with library officials over how to handle the extreme weather event. The Patrons turn the building into a homeless shelter for the night by staging an "Occupy" sit in. What begins as an act of civil disobedience becomes a stand off with police and a rush-to-judgment media constantly speculating about what's really happening. Starring Emilio Estevez and Jeffrey Wright.

November 17 Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church



The Overnights

Pastor Jay Reinke sparks a controversy in his North Dakota town by opening his church doors to homeless workers who are seeking jobs in nearby oil fields. A modern-day Grapes of Wrath, it tells an unforgettable story about the promise of redemption and the limits of compassion. "The themes of re-invention and self-invention in American life have long interested me and inspired my film work," says filmmaker Jesse Moss of his award-winning documentary.

Building and Grounds Committee

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Jon Hanson, Eloise Lindem, Karl Omernick, Joel Thomas, Scott Theis or me. If none of us are around, drop a note in the message holder on the custodian's closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms). Thank you for using the message holder and helping to identify things that need to be done.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee will resume our regular meetings in September.

Projects

- **Roof and Siding** - The Contractor is expected to send their roofing proposals Monday Aug 19th. They have indicated that they would like to do the roof yet this year. B&Gs will be reviewing the proposals and making a recommendation to the Council for approval. A thermal imaging scan is being proposed by the Contractor to be done sometime this winter to evaluate the buildings energy efficiency. The results of that test will help us evaluate whether adding insulation to the walls will payback in a reasonable amount of time. The siding will be done next year.
- **Sanctuary New AV System** -
 - **Available** - the old sound system amplifiers and speakers are available for anyone interested. All the components are in working order. Contact Tom Tuttle.

Building Maintenance

- **Sanctuary Lighting** - The lighting over the Chancel and Alter was not replaced with LED bulbs last winter because of the dimmer controls. The plan was to use the old incandescent bulbs in that area until the dimmer issue was resolved. That changed when the last of the incandescent spot lights over the flowers burned out. The 2 spots over the flowers and the Alter have now been replaced with LED bulbs. The remaining Chancel lights have not yet been replaced. Comparing electric bills from last year to this year (Jan thru Aug) we have spent about \$1100 less this year due in part to the new LED lighting and the reduced outside lighting on the building.
- **Sanctuary Blower Fan Belt** - A fan belt was replaced several weeks ago on a blower unit located at the back of the church near the Choir Loft after it started squeaking.
- **Kitchen Dishwasher** - Sunday, Aug 18th during Coffee Hour we noticed water under the dishwasher. A quick check did not reveal the source of the problem. It will be investigated and resolved.
- **Fellowship Hall AC** - The AC unit supplying the Fellowship Hall lost refrigerant and was no longer cooling. This happened the week of the 25th Anniversary. The system was drained, then sealed and refilled. The AC is working normally now.

Garden Club -

- **Stone Accents** - Thank you for adding the stone accents to the flower beds around the steeple. They are an attractive addition. Some of the stone has been placed along the railings to keep the rain water from the roof from splashing mud up on the siding and railings.

Thomas Tuttle - Chair Buildings and Grounds



World Marketplace

Check out our selection of Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate Bars located in the fellowship hall.

The World Marketplace is open every Sunday across the hall from the Pastor's office. We have that perfect gift for any occasion. All proceeds go to help artisans around the world support themselves and their families.

Shepherd of the Bay Council Meeting August 19, 2019

Scott Eckdahl called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Present: Edee Madsen, Les Keepper, Lori Pothast, Pastor Honig, Alicia Kropuenske, George Cobb, John Skogsbakken, Cheryl Becht & Scott Eckdahl. Absent: Scott Henry & Ron Hupe.

George Cobb opened our meeting with a devotion on Psalm 23.

Approval of agenda with two additional items added was made by John Skogsbakken, second by Pastor Honig. Motion carried.

The Council spent a few minutes recalling memories of going back to school. We also spent some time discussing Chapter 7 Survive/Serve. We will read Chapter 8 Save/Sign for next months meeting.

The minutes from the July 22nd meeting were reviewed with a motion made by George Cobb to accept the minutes as presented, second by Cheryl Becht. Motion carried.

Ron Hupe, Treasurer was absent from the meeting but did send out an overview of the Treasurer's report from July. Envelope giving while a -7553 for the month is only -3429 YTD. This reflects many people paying their full year pledges early. There were no significant variances in expenses for the month. Alicia Kropuenske made a motion to accept the Treasurer's comments/report, second by George Cobb. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

1. Pastor Honig has been busy working with the Stewardship for All Seasons committee (Scott Schultz, Les Keepper & Grace Rossman). Their work has been very much appreciated and they are starting to see the fruits of their labor. The congregation is responding positively to the Stewardship process.
Pastor has been invited to preach at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County on March 22nd. The Council approved this request and we will look for a fill in Pastor for that Sunday.
2. Buildings & Grounds report: The roofing project will need to be completed this year as the contractor believes it is most beneficial to fix it before the snow comes. The siding project will be completed next year. The committee continues to keep Shepherd of the Bay Church in working order by completing many tasks around Church. Thank you for your hard work!

New Business:

1. Launch of the Fall Stewardship campaign= Temple talks and bulletin inserts will be happening over the next 4 weeks. September 9th the congregation will be given their donation intention cards. We would like to have these returned by September 15th.
2. Capital Repairs were discussed during the Building & Grounds report.
3. Capital Fund Reserve was discussed with an agreement that Council will need to include a reserve fund in the 2020 budget.
4. A motion was made to allow the community choir of Door County to use Shepherd of the Bay Church on Sunday, April 5th in the afternoon for their Living Last Supper presentation. The usage fee will be waived as our contribution for their fund raiser. If the Sound/AV system needs to be used, there would be a nominal charge. The motion was made by Alicia Kropuenske, second by John Skogsbakken. Motion carried.
5. Council approved the request to use Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church by the Scott Henry family. They would like to use the Church on October 27th for Evan Henry's Eagle Scout ceremony.

Old Business:

1. God's Work Our Hands= Volunteer opportunities with Scandia Village outdoor project and Adopt a Highway. Pastor will reach out to members to see if anyone needs help with small projects around their home and he will also reach out to Peninsula State Park.
2. Lynda Pietruszka, Youth Minister, will begin her work on September 1. The Education Team met last week to establish beginning dates for some of the programs. Sunday School will begin on September 15; confirmation and Wonderful Wednesday, the first Wednesday in October.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and singing of the Doxology. The next meeting will be Monday, September 16th, 2019 at 5:00pm.

Sincerely, Alicia Kropuenske, Council Secretary

Lessons for September

September 1 : Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Proverbs 25:6-7

Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Introduction to the readings: Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

September 8 : Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Second Lesson: Philemon 1-21

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Introduction to the readings: Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship today, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of the Christ in the blessed sacrament and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

September 15 : Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Exodus 32:7-14

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Introduction to the readings: The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

September 22 : Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Introduction to the readings: As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recall that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

September 29 : Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Introduction to the readings: Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.



September Coffee Hour Group

Co-Chair: William & Gretchen Klug 854-2055

Carol Weymier. 920-559-0766

Carol Williams 854-2325

Kristen Demarinis 854-4360

Bob & Cynthia Drey 854-2600

Dennis & Mary Fales 854-7042

Audrey Grasse 854-5796

Janet Johnson 854-7273

Rob & Becky Lonergan 414-704-1779

Jim & Mary Lee Matthes 839-9929

Bob & Carol Olson 743-4346

Sigrid Ostrem 854-2136

Don & Sue Provo 854-9649

David & Arline Ringstad 854-2749

Harvey Stahl 854-4058

Chuck & Lana Tencate 854-5551

Ron & Gerry Weber 854-4506

Ushers :

Sept. 1 Cal & Trish Pierson

Sept. 8 Tim & Sue West

Sept. 15 Scott & Marcia Eckdahl

Sept. 22 Rob & Becky Lonergan

Sept. 29 **OPEN**

Readers :

Sept. 1 Myrma Howard

Sept. 8 Jim Nelson

Sept. 15 Jim Marsho

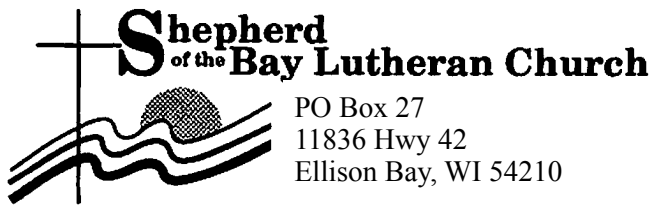
Sept. 22 Linda Smith

Sept. 29 Carol Weymier



Altar Guild :

September - Cathy Mangan & Jill Lhost



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Guatemala Mission Trip March 25 - April 2, 2020

Please consider joining us in sharing the gospel, building homes, installing water filters, setting up energy efficient cook stoves and establishing relationships with the Guatemalan widows and children we work with during the week.

No special skills are necessary, just a willing heart. Ages 10-80 are welcome to join us for a "life changing" event.



For more info or to sign up contact John & Nora Zacek at (920) 421-3345 or (920) 421-3346 or Carol Omernick at the Shepherd of the Bay church office (920)854-2988.

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.