

July 2023

Find us online at goodshepherd.com



Stewardship Campaign: Forward in Faith

Thank you to all of you for returning your pledge cards for the September 2023–August 2024 budget year! As of June 29th, we have had 168 households return commitment cards for over \$865,000. The average pledge has increased by 9% compared to last year!

Your generosity towards our shared mission supports meaningful weekly worship, faithful stewardship of our physical spaces, and programs & events that help our community engage with their faith.

If you've not returned your commitment yet, there is still time for you to participate in this year's Stewardship Campaign! We encourage you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to support our shared ministry & return a pledge to Good Shepherd.

Blank commitment cards are available in the lobby or you can update your commitment online at www.onrealm.org. For Realm: click the "Giving" link on the left and then the "+Pledge" button at the top. Thank you for your generous support!

Featured News

Campus Ministry

Attending a listening session to discern next steps (Pg 2)

4th of July

Good Shepherd offices closed on July 3 & 4 for 4th of July Holiday

Website & More

Learn about new communications from Good Shepherd (Pg 4)

From Pastor Lorne



Greetings!

We hope this message finds you well. Following Pastor Alice Connor's resignation as Director of Campus Ministry for Good Shepherd, our pastoral and council leadership has taken significant consideration in exploring how we move forward in supporting the work of campus ministry as a congregation.

We wish to invite you, the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church members, to participate in any of three upcoming congregational forums where we will share a brief overview of GSLC's engagement with campus ministry over the years.

Additionally, we will provide an update on how leadership has been thinking about our future involvement in the work of campus ministry following the resignation of Pastor Alice, share our tentative plans moving forward, and listen to your feedback and insights.

Please save the following dates:

- Sunday, July 9th Adult Connect Forum
- Wednesday, July 12th Online forum (zoom link)
- Sunday, July 16th Adult Connect Forum

We ask that you mark these dates on your calendars and extend this invitation to fellow members of our congregation who may be interested in joining these pivotal conversations.

It is essential to recognize that operating a campus ministry requires substantial resources, time, and commitment. We invite everyone at Good Shepherd to attend these forums, regardless of your direct role or connection to campus ministry. Your input, wisdom, and discernment on campus ministry key characteristics and direction are invaluable as we navigate this transition and the future of how Good Shepherd Lutheran Church engages with campus ministry.

In Christ,

Pastor Lorne Hlad, Senior Pastor | <u>lhlad@goodshepherd.com</u> Sharon Norris, Council President. | snorris@goodshepherd.com



Our Mission:

We seek to be a caring,
Christian community
where we share God's
grace, grow our faith,
and serve others

The Shepherd's Horn is a monthly publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cincinnati, OH.

You can learn more and sign-up for events listed in this newsletter at <u>goodshep-herd.com/News-Events</u>.

Archived copies of The Shepherd's Horn can be found online at <u>goodshepherd.com/The-Shepherds-Horn</u>.

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New Website

Good Shepherd has a new website! The website is completely redesigned with new content, pictures, and layout. You can check out the new site at www.goodshepherd.com.

The goal of the new website is to welcome & invite visitors to Good Shepherd, while still providing our community access to the resources they need. Online worship, events, and The Shepherd's Horn are still easily accessible on the new site.

A small group of volunteers have been working on this project for the past several years. Much of that time was spent taking an inventory of our old site, discerning what needed to stay and what needed to be developed, and learning about current website design & strategies.

Over the past 3 to 4 months, the work shifted towards designing webpages, writing content, and taking new pictures for the site. The volunteer group and staff provided their feedback along the way to help refine the overall design & content.

Scott would like to thank the staff & volunteers for their input during the website redesign process. He would especially like to lift up the volunteers who helped: Mark Buelsing, Chris Wittman, and Nick Hawes were there from the beginning. Adrienne Gordon came on this past year to help with the style & content. Emily Hoops participated in one of our sorting & discerning activities.

Thank you for sharing your time & talents in service of creating Good Shepherd's new website!

Church Picnic

Save the date for the annual Church Picnic on August 13th at 4 pm at Bechtold Park in Sycamore Twp.

Connections Cafe

Celebrate Christmas in July with Good Shepherd on Sunday July 23rd after the 9 & 11 am worship services. Enjoy a donut & coffee while you chat with friends.

MOPS is expanding

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is adding MOMSnext this fall! The group will now be open to any moms of school-aged kids. More info coming!

New Publications for Good Shepherd

The new emails & website are part of a greater effort to update how we communicate important information and opportunities for you to connect with your faith at Good Shepherd. In line with that, our publications are getting a facelift in the coming months.

Our Life Together: Our Life Together will continue to provide weekly updates on news, events, and groups at Good Shepherd both in printed & email format. While printed & email versions are very similar, the email version also provides you sign-up links to easily connect with groups & events. If you've not been receiving our weekly emails, please contact Scott at sputhoff@goodshepherd.com to be placed on our mailing list.

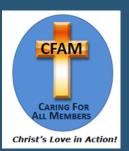
Ministry Guide: Starting in August 2023, this new publication will provide a comprehensive list of opportunities for you to connect at Good Shepherd. It will include descriptions, dates, and contact information for our small groups, youth groups, special events, service opportunities, and CFAM ministries as well as a list of important dates & holidays.

The Shepherd's Horn: Starting in September 2023, The Horn's will become a quarterly publication of ministry updates & impact stories. The September issue will always be Good Shepherd's Annual Report, with 3 more publications following throughout the year. This revamped Horn will provide our ministry leaders & volunteers a new space to talk about where they see God moving through the work & service they are doing. The August Horn will still be the current design & format.

VBS Thank You

VBS 2023 was the biggest party in the neighborhood! Thank you to everyone who supported our Food Truck Party VBS ministry this summer! We had 98 youth participate, over 40 volunteers serve each day and collected approximately 170 items in support of the NEEDS food pantry.

A very special thank you to the Pompilio's Food Truck who graciously hosted our VBS celebration!



CARING FOR ALL MEMBERS (CFAM)

Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you need me. I will hold your people in my heart!

The last line sounds like a promise...wondrously it is a promise we can all make to our fellow members.

CFAM...Caring for all Members is a framework which allows all of us to help God's people at Good Shepherd when they are in need whether it be ...prayers, a listening ear, a call or visit to let them know they are not forgotten; a ride to church, meals in a family crisis; groceries when budgets are tight; home repairs too complicated for aging hands, a reception for the funeral of a loved one and a promise to those who have no nearby family members that our caring pastors will make needed calls to out of town family should the need arise.

Do you hear God calling you? Will you join one of the CFAM teams to help meet these needs. Will you hold your fellow members in your heart?

Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of least of these my brethren, you did it to me.

For more information, please contact Pastor Pat (513-891-1700, ext. 111 or email her at pbad-key@goodshepherd.com) and let her know you want to help or would like more information about a CFAM ministry team.



55+ Club: July 5th at 12 pm. The Club welcomes Matt Disher to talk about supporting & transitioning veterans to the private sector. Contact John VanOsdol (jvanosdol@cinci.rr.com) for more information.

Botanical Bunch: Every Tuesday at 8 am for 2

-3 hours. Help keep GSLC's gardens looking beautiful. No gardening experience necessary. No sign-up required - just come as you can.

Good Shepherd Outdoors: Evening Hike in

French Park on Thursday, July 13th at 6 pm. Enjoy a 4 -mile hike around a local park with friends. Expect some nice hills, creek crossings, and fun. Contact Scott Puthoff (sputhoff@goodshepherd.com) or register on Realm to sign-up!

Good Shepherd Film Discussion Se-

Fies: The theme for the 2023-2024 season of the Good Shepherd Film Discussion series is "Truth, Beauty, and the Meaning of Life: A film series devoted to people who are searching...". Film dates resume on Saturday, September 23rd at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall with Samsara (2011).

Literature & Our Faith: July 17th at 7:30 pm

in the GSLC Library. Please join Literature and Our Faith to discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt. "A charming, witty and compulsively readable exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus"

The August 21st choice is "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge, and our September 18th read is Irena's Children: The Extraordinary Story of the Woman Who Saved 2,500 Children from the Warsaw Ghetto by Tilar J. Mazzeo.

We meet each 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 pm in

the GSLC Library. Contact Karen Mazzei (kmazzei@hotmail.com or 513-290-8819) to sign-up. Reading the book is never a requirement for a great conversation!

MOPS: Join MOPS for summer meet-ups on July 11th (6 pm) and July 22 (10 am). July 11 at 6 pm - MOPS/MOMSnext Moms Night Out: Tahona Kitchen + Bar at Summit Park Blue Ash. Moms of kids schoolaged or younger are invited to join us for an evening of fellowship. Contact Erin Hackman (513-823-1772) or gslcmops513@gmail.com for questions. July 22 at 10 am - MOPS/MOMSnext Playdate: Miami Meadows Park, Milford. Moms and their children are invited to join us for some playground fun. Contact Kenzie Beckmeyer (419-630-4523) or gslcmops513@gmail.com for questions.

Pub Theology: Join Men Doing Life on July 18th

at 7 pm for a beer and discussions about life, faith, and current events. Folks can expect a variety of topics that deepen your relationship with God and others. Pub Theology meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at MVP Sports Bar & Grille in Silverton (6923 Plainfield Rd, 45236). Contact Pastor Alex at ahoops@goodshepherd.com with questions.



July at a Glance

Events Every Week

Mondays | 9 am - Monday Morning Work Crew

Tuesdays | 8 am - Botanical Bunch (Pg 6)

Saturdays | 5 pm - Traditional Worship

Sundays | 9 am - Contemporary Worship

Sundays | 11 am - Traditional Worship

Events on a Day

July 2-8 - Family Camp at Lutheridge

July 3-4 - Good Shepherd Offices Closed (Happy 4th!)

July 5 | 12 pm (DATE CHANGE) - 55+ Club (Pg 6)

July 8 | 8:30 am - Habitat Service Day (Pg 11)

July 9 | 5:30 pm - Gather Cincinnati (Pg 9)

July 9-15 - Family Camp at Hopewood Shores

July 11 | 6 pm - Moms Night Out (Pg 6)

July 13 | 6 pm - GS Outdoors Hike (Pg 6)

July 17 | 7:30 pm - Literature & Our Faith (Pg 6)

July 18 | 7 pm - Pub Theology (Pg 6)

July 20 | 4 pm - Flock Thrifting Meet-Up (Pg 8)

July 22 | 10 am - MOPS/MOMSnext Playdate (Pg 6)

July 22 | 7 pm - Confirmation Overnight (Pg 8)

July 25 | 6 pm - Parent Connect Meet-Up (Pg 9)



Spoke Folk at Good Shepherd (June 2023)



Flowers by the entrance (June 2023)



Having fun before worship (June 2023)



Summer Youth Programs

Confirmation (Rising 7th through completed 8th Grade)

- Confirmation Folder Review: all confirmation folders will be reviewed the week of June 26th. Final Progress Reports will be available the weekend of July 2-3, 2023.
- Christmas in July Overnight: Saturday, July 22nd starting at 7pm Sunday, July 23rd at 9am. Grab your jingle jammies for the festive Christmas-in-July overnight at GSLC. Register via REALM by July 20th.
- **8th Graders: Please schedule your Confirmation Exit Interview** directly with Pastor Pat (pbadkev@goodshepherd.com) no later than July 31st.

The Flock (rising 9th through completed 12th Grades)

• Thifting Extravaganza: Thursday, July 20th starting at 4pm. Get a head start on some back-toschool shopping with an afternoon of popping tags. We will meet at the Valley Thrift Store in Evendale and then share a meal together at a nearby eatery.

Summer Adult Education

<u>Reading the Bible in a Year</u> is a new group started by Amanda and Chris Fitz. The Bible started as an oral tradition where God's people gathered to hear God's Word and discuss their meaning. Amanda and Chris are restarting that tradition at Good Shepherd through a group that will read the Bible in a year and provide opportunities for discussion. **We will meet on the second and fourth Sundays at 5:00 for about an hour to discuss the readings. Learn more and register online at www.onrealm.org.**

<u>Pastor Jodi's Sunday Book & Supper Club</u> is reading "The Soul of Wine: Savoring the Goodness of God" by Gisela Kreglinger. Dr. Kreglinger examines how wine & faith are interwoven. Monthly meetings on Sunday evenings. Contact Pr. Jodi if you'd like to join or if you have questions at jodi@pastorjodi.com or 513-260-2981.

Preschool Spaces Available!

Limited preschool spots for the GS Preschool still available!. Contact Michele, Director, at 928.846.7405 for availability.

Gather Cincinnati

The summer gathering for Gather Cincinnati will be hosted at Good Shepherd on Sunday, July 9th from 5:30pm - 7:30pm. We'll share dinner together, sing, pray, and engage in intentional conversation. Feel free to wear a mask if you prefer. All young adults are welcome! Gather Cincinnati is a new faith community of young adults from around Cincinnati. We are ELCA affiliated, but welcome people from all faith traditions. Gather is not a church but does have connections to young adults that attend churches throughout Greater Cincinnati. This young adult ministry will be what you bring to it. We're glad vou're here, and can't wait to gather together.

Families

Fifiy West Brewing Meet-Up on Tuesday, July 25th at 6 pm. Families of any size or age are invited to join Parent Connect for this fun, relaxed get together at Fifty West Brewing Company. Eat dinner and relax while the kids play in the sand. Reach out to Jill Messner at jillybean141@gmail.com to learn more. See you there!

Summer Reading Enrichment begins July 17th at 10 am. Many children begin the new school year having forgotten skills they learned during the previous year. Good Shepherd member Sue Berkoben, retired Reading teacher, is offering a FREE review to help kids get a great start. There will be eight classes beginning Monday, July 17 and ending Thursday, August 10.

Children who finished Pre-School: Mon. and Thurs. 10:00am to 10:30am | This class will be a review of the letters of the alphabet, letter sounds, letter formation, blending letters together to read words, and some basic sight words.

Children who finished Kindergarten: Monday and Thursday 10:30am to 11:05am | This class will be a review of letters of the alphabet, some simple consonant blends and letter combinations, blending letters into words, and Kindergarten/First Grade sight words.

Children who finished First Grade: Monday and Thursday 11:10am to 11:45am | This class will review letter sounds, letter combinations, blending letter sounds together to read words, basic spelling tips, and reviewing learned sight words plus new age-appropriate sight words. Register on Realm.

From The GSLC Library

With our country's July 4 celebration at hand, here are some suggested materials to be found on the library's book truck:

America's Sacred Sites, by Bruce Barkhauser and Brad Lyons, explores many of our country's most sacred and historical landmarks and monuments that offer opportunities to think about faith and values in deeper ways, with scripture, reflections, and questions to help you consider how you can better live out your faith.

Founders on Religion: A Book of Quotations, by James H. Hutson, is a lively and impartial compendium of our nation's founders' remarks on religious matters. Also, Hutson's Religion and the Founding of the American Republic lays the groundwork for examining the evolving relationship between church and state in America by interpreting the Puritans' arrival in New England in the context of European religious persecution.

An Uncommon Woman, a novel with intricate historical details by Laura Frantz, is intense, evocative, and will transport you to the picturesque and dangerous Western Virginia frontier of 1770.

DVD 150 American Experience: The Pilgrims, narrated by Ric Burns. Who were the band of men and women, English Protestants, whom we call the Pilgrims? This film chronicles the deep history, origins, and critical first decade of the first permanent English colony in New England.



Taft Elementary

Year in Review: Thank you all who participated in the Taft ministry programs this last year whether it was being a pen pal, buying a Christmas present, participating in one of the adopt a class events, helping with the literacy team, helping in the food pantry, tutoring, or any other way you helped build relationships with the Taft children. We all were nominated for the Community Partner of the recognition. Although we didn't win, a very worthy organization, CET, was. We were recognized at the year end celebration as a finalist for the Community Partner of the Year. It feels good to know that Taft believes our actions are done with love and help the students. Beth Townsend and Sue Matz were interviewed as part of the 20 year celebration for the Adopt a Class program and were part of the look back video shown at the Celebration. Here are a few pictures from the breakfast. We hope you all have a relaxing summer.

Food Pantry: One of our GSLC missions, Taft Elementary Food Pantry, provided food to households this past school year, ranging between 30 and 46 each month. Unfortunately we cannot be responsible for the hours that the food pantry is open. The literacy event held in April generated a lot of interest and new clients coming to the pantry. We are always surprised at the families that do not even seem to realize



there is a food pantry available to them at Taft. Core GSLC volunteers are essential to our mission and they include: Roy and Erlys Johnson, Mary Naylor, Carolyn Kercsmar, Sue Matz, Beth Townsend and Patty Jonason. We always welcome additional volunteers. The FreeStore Food Bank supplies most of the items. However, GSLC members have been generous with their donations of items that we need and GSLC has been generous with providing money used for meat that is often is short supply. We will continue to provide magnets to clients outlining our open hours and dates. Obviously the school schedule will dictate new times and we will remain flexible as we work with a new school contact. Thank you to Elizabeth Cone who had been our school contact for many years and for her many years of service.

Personal Hygiene Kits for Taft: Good Shepherd Lutheran will be assembling personal hygiene kits (a very popular item) for Taft Elementary Food Pantry at God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) in September and we are looking for donations this summer. Please place items in Taft Food Pantry Barrel: Toothpaste – Toothbrush – Body wash – Shampoo – Conditioner – Deodorant – Comb.

You may also make a monetary donation to GSLC and write in check memo line Taft food pantry.

We also look forward to assembling kits in September!

Graceworks

Early in 2023 Good Shepherd learned that new clothing protectors were needed at a number of Graceworks Enhanced Living group homes for people with disabilities. Clothing protectors are used by both residents and staff during meal times to . . . protect clothing!

Good Shepherd went to work against this need and, in early June, delivered 50 congregation-made and -packaged clothing protectors to five area group homes. Members enjoyed meeting residents and learning how greatly these new clothing protectors were needed. GSLCers were also impressed by the



dedicated Graceworks professionals who faithfully care for these vulnerable members of our community.

The Graceworks Team plans to continue making clothing protectors in Fall 2023. Please contact Tina Morawski (<u>tinamorawski7@gmail.com</u>) or Mary Adams (<u>adamsmarydmjk@gmail.com</u>) to get connected to this service project.

Habitat for Humanity

Help people in our community improve what they call home by serving with Habitat for Humanity on July 8 at 8:30 am. No previous training required. All tools & training provided. It's a great way to make a lasting impact in our community. Sign-up online at Habitat's website: www.habitatcincinnati.org/volunteer-start-here. Questions? Contact Roy Johnson at rjohn-son138@cinci.rr.com. Can't make this one? Join the crew in August instead. Sign-up using same link.

Piecemakers

In the Spring, 4 quilts were given to Pastora Carmen at VEIL for her members who transitioned from apartments to houses. On May 30, 9 quilts and 3 crocheted/knitted baby blankets were taken to Su Casa and Bethany House for their families. On June 24th, 2 sisters making First Communion at Veil will receive coordinating quilts, and their baby sister, recently baptized, will receive a crocheted baby blanket. God's work,our hands surely, answering the Holy Spirit's call in compassion for God's people.

Contact Tina Moroski with quilting questions, or Jackie Cutshall, if yarn is needed for knitting or crocheting. Blessings to all who give their talents to those in need.

Staff Leadership of GSLC

Lorne Hlad, Senior Pastor lhlad@goodshepherd.com

Patricia Badkey, Associate Pastor pbadkey@goodshepherd.com

Alex Hoops, Associate Pastor ahoops@goodshepherd.com

Samuel Cody, Custodian custodian@goodshepherd.com

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Dr. Kevin Seal, Director of Worship & Music kseal@goodshepherd.com

Join Us For Worship

Saturdays at 5 pm Sundays at 9 am Sundays at 11 am

Sundays also live streamed & on-demand anytime at goodshepherd.com/Worship

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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