



# THE STAFF

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

February 2018

### *Pastor's Message*

Dear New Friends of Good Shepherd Church,

First, let me say how grateful I am for the warm welcome you have given me as I begin my ministry with you as your transitional pastor. You truly are, as a little pamphlet about Good Shepherd Church I saw in the office declares: "A small congregation with a big heart."

I look forward to getting to know all of you as we journey through the coming weeks. Even though my covenant with you calls for only a few hours a week (Sunday mornings and 4-7 weekday hours), I trust we will be able to fill that time with vibrant worship, prayer, community building, learning, and careful, thoughtful, discerning conversation about how God is calling this congregation into the future.

In order to help in getting to know one another, I will be in the church office on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30. Please feel free to stop by, or even call me to set up an appointment. But beyond that, please let me know if you are hospitalized, in need of pastoral care, or if I can be helpful to you in any way.

A few notes to let you know a little about me. I grew up in Rockford, Illinois, graduated from Augustana College and then Yale Divinity School, interned in New York City at St. Peter's Church, and then over the course of my ministry served congregations in Marlboro, MA, Needham, MA, New Haven (Bethesda),

Iowa City, IA, and Old Saybrook, where we still live. My wife, Liz, is also a graduate of Augustana College as well as the Yale School of Architecture. She is still working full time, currently at the CT Department of Housing. We are the parents of Emile, who now lives in Portland, ME.

I retired from full time ministry five years ago, but my friends tell me I'm not very good at retirement. I think I'm enjoying it, doing things I love to do! Last June I finished a three year part time transitional ministry with St. Mark Lutheran Church in Norwich. And now I have begun again with you. In my free warm weather time I enjoy trying to play golf, kayaking, and gardening. In all seasons I like to read. And every day our yellow lab, Calvin, takes me on long vigorous walks. I'm an avid Red Sox, UConn basketball, Boston Celtic, Yale football, Chicago Bear and Patriots fan.

As I reflect on my ministry, certain themes have woven their way through it — the church as a servant community centered in Christ, a passion for sound Biblical preaching  
*(continued on page 3)*

### **Upcoming Events**

Sunday School	February 4 & 18
Ash Wednesday	February 14
Council Meeting	February 15
Voters' Meeting	February 18

[www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar](http://www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar)

**LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

3680 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden CT 06518-1516  
(203) 248-7420

The Rev. Leslie Swenson  
Transitional Pastor  
Office- 203-248-7420

[www.goodshepherdhamden.org](http://www.goodshepherdhamden.org)  
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*The Staff Editor*

Brenda Samal

E-mail: [bsamal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsamal@sbcglobal.net)

**Council Members  
1/1/18—12/31/18**

President:	Ken Watson
Vice-President:	~vacant~
Treasurer:	Leonard Lye
Secretary:	Brenda Samal
Christian Education:	~vacant~
Evangelism/ Publicity:	Paul O'Braonain
Fellowship:	Linda Kapitan
Financial Secretary:	Lisa Ball-Goodrich
Stewardship/ Missions:	Starr O'Connor
Property:	James Learned
Worship:	John Downs



*Ash Wednesday*

*Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.*

*~Ecclesiastes 3:20*

February 14, 2018  
Imposition of Ashes  
7:00pm

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we will hear in Ash Wednesday's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

*(Pastor's Message ... continued from pg 1)*

and healthy worship, hospitality that honors and welcomes all people, an abiding concern for the care of the creation, and keeping an open ear to God's calling and invitation into a future that is at once uncertain but hope-filled. I hope that what I have learned in ministry and continually seek to learn, will help contribute to the life of this congregation I am privileged to serve.

Now as we step into the season of Lent, a time of remembering and renewal in our baptismal faith, a time of prayer and reflection in journeying toward the cross, I invite your expectant participation in the life of this community of faith. May your lives of faith be deepened, and our calling to live and serve in Jesus' name be broadened and strengthened.

Your partner along the Way,  
Rev. Les Swenson

**VOTERS' MEETING**

**February 18, 2018**

Following worship  
Annual reports will be distributed.

A light lunch will be served.

Desserts will be welcomed.

**FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS**

**Anniversaries**

8-Christopher & Michelle Rowold 15 yrs

**Birthdays**

22- Sophia Papa



- |                |                               |                  |                 |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Claudia</i> | <i>Hawley</i>                 | <i>Elfriede</i>  | <i>Anna</i>     |
| <i>Rudy</i>    | <i>Pat</i>                    | <i>Lisa</i>      | <i>Mary Lou</i> |
| <i>Jimmy</i>   | <i>Sue</i>                    | <i>Amanda</i>    | <i>Victoria</i> |
| <i>Emily</i>   | <i>Marianne</i>               | <i>David R.</i>  | <i>Pam</i>      |
| <i>Harold</i>  | <i>Arnold</i>                 | <i>Pat</i>       | <i>Mike</i>     |
| <i>Rex</i>     | <i>Gertrude</i>               | <i>Howard</i>    | <i>Barbara</i>  |
| <i>Alex</i>    | <i>Linda &amp;<br/>Darryl</i> | <i>Francisco</i> | <i>Ellen</i>    |
| <i>Abby</i>    | <i>John</i>                   | <i>Alan</i>      |                 |

*Members of Good Shepherd who are homebound  
Family and friends whom we name in our hearts*

*Military personnel*

*Pray for the mission of the church*

## Rides for Ruth

Feb 4	Linda Kapitan
Feb 11	Jim Learned
Feb 18	Linda Kapitan
Feb 25	Lisa Ball-Goodrich
March 4	Jim Learned

13 bags of food  
delivered to  
Hamden Food  
Bank

## Council Notes 1/14/18

Rev. Swenson expressed his appreciation for the welcoming luncheon today. He would like to set up office hours for Wednesdays, 10-12:30pm. He will be away on 2/4—Rev. Scott Harris will preach.

Pastor had some questions about our church and council members answered.

Annual reports for 2017 are due as soon as possible. The financial reports showed a profit for December. Lisa Ball-Goodrich is preparing 2017 giving statements. The audit committee, Leonard & Ruth Lye and Reggie Chang, will conduct an audit of 2016 records. The Hernandez family moved into the parish house. Fellowship will not have Shrove Tuesday or St. Patrick's Day dinners but will host an Easter Breakfast. The next council meeting is February 15 at 7pm.

## FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has helped to keep coffee hours going by setting up, bringing in food, cleaning up and of course, sharing in the camaraderie every Sunday. One of the things that people really enjoy about our congregation is the good food and coffee that we provide. If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, there is a calendar in the Fellowship Hall. This includes setting and cleaning up.

As I move into my new position on council, I am also looking to start up the Fellowship committee again. If you love to cook, this would be the committee for you. In the past, the committee has been responsible for organizing our special engagements (Easter Sunday, church picnic, funerals, celebrations, etc.) If you are interested in serving, please contact Linda Kapitan at 203-314-2687.

Thank you again to everyone who has pitched in many different ways to ensure that we have coffee and after church.

*Linda Kapitan*

Darryl  
&  
Linda

12/9/17  
Wedding



## Project Promise - Personal Care Kits

Again this year, we will be participating in Lutheran World Relief's Project Promise—preparing Personal Care Kits. Throughout Lent, we will be collecting the various items for the kits. The schedule is:

2/18 First Sunday in Lent	<b>One</b> light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" and 52"x27"), dark color recommended
2/25 Second Sunday in Lent	<b>Two</b> or <b>three</b> bath-size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
3/4 Third Sunday in Lent	<b>One</b> adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
3/11 Fourth Sunday in Lent	<b>One</b> sturdy comb, remove packaging
3/18 Fifth Sunday in Lent	<b>One</b> metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

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### SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER-

- ♥ Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- ♥ Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- ♥ Please give new items only.
- ♥ Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- ♥ Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

The kits will be assembled prior to the Ingathering Quilts on May 16 where they will be picked up.

*Thanking you in advance for your generous donations to the personal care kits!*

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Date	Acolyte	Worship Assistant	Worship Assistant 2	Reader	Ushers	Altar Guild
2/4	Nicholas Papa	John Downs	Ken Watson	Ken Watson	Ken Watson Leonard Lye	Chuddy Watson
2/11	Elizabeth Ingerson	David Goodrich	Sue Hartley	Reggie Chang	Sue Hartley James Learned	Sarah Delong
2/14 Ash Wed	Anthony Papa	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Starr O'Connor	Ken Watson	John Downs Starr O'Connor	Starr O'Connor
2/18	Jonathan Olson	Linda Kapitan	Leo Goodrich	Linda Kapitan	Reggie Chang Leo Goodrich	Linda Kapitan
2/25	Aoife Weischedel	Paul O'Braonain	Ken Watson	Barbara Kuslan	Ken Watson Leonard Lye	Chuddy Watson
3/4	Nicholas Papa	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Sue Hartley	Leo Goodrich	Sue Hartley James Learned	Sarah Delong

*If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please find a substitute, and make the change on the master schedule. **Thank you for your service!***

### **To the good people at Good Shepherd,**

My gratitude to you—it's been a special Advent and Christmas season serving you for a short interim. You all have made it special—tree and poinsettias, candles and music. Thank you also for your generous Christmas gift to me. I have tripled it and made a donation to “Parenting in Critical Times” - a palliative care service that serves chronic pain pediatric patients, children who suffer from chronic diseases and are approaching an early death. The program I donated to is

located in St. Louis, MO and a friend of mind heads it up. You help this program and its facilities. Thank you!

Blessings and every good wish in 2018 to all of you,

Rev. Angelika Zollfrank



As called Christians responding to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20), we commit ourselves to nurturing the spiritual growth of our congregation by proclaiming the Gospel, bearing witness to God's saving grace, being stewards of the earth, and serving others, in our congregation, our community, and in all the world.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
MISSION STATEMENT**

**Worship**  
**Sunday School**  
**(2nd and 4th Sundays)**  
**9:30am**

**Worship**  
**10:30am**



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FIRST CLASS MAIL