



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

April 2017

Pastor's Message-

“Why are you looking for the living among the dead?”

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary (the mother of James) and other women who had followed Jesus were at the tomb, ready to anoint the (dead) body of Jesus, preparing him for a proper burial. When they got there, after taking in the miraculous rolling of the stone from the front of the tomb, they were astounded by finding the tomb empty, and further amazed when two men in “dazzling clothes” said to them, “Why are you looking for the living among the dead?” Which, at the face of it, is a ridiculous question. That’s where they last saw Jesus’ body! Why would they look anywhere else?

It’s the beginning of spring, and many of us are patrolling our gardens, looking for signs of green, poking through the empty brown dirt.

Why are we looking for the living among the dead?

Well, sometimes it’s a good place to start. As we round the corner of the Lenten season, with one more Sunday before Holy Week starts on April 9, some of us (and not just those who gave up chocolate) are more than ready for the good word of the resurrection. But there are others, in our congregation and around the world, who are still mired in feelings of deadness: guilt, frustration, depression, mourning or pain. How is the promise of new life, new beginnings, new hope going to reach us? Where is Jesus our tombs of darkness?

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Upcoming Events

4/26	Council meeting
6/9-6/10	Synod Assembly
6/25	Voters’ Meeting

www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar



PALM SUNDAY April 9, 10:30am

We begin our worship with blessing the palms we carry into the sanctuary as we remember Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem.

12:00pm

Following worship, we will reconvene in the sanctuary to celebrate Jonathan Goodrich’s Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13, 7:00pm

At this evening worship service we call to mind Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples and “the night on which he was betrayed.” As well as celebrating communion, we will remember Jesus washing his friends’ feet, and strip the altar to represent Jesus’ absence following his arrest.

GOOD FRIDAY April 14, 12:00pm and 7:00pm

We gather for a quiet service of prayer and reflection, including the Solemn Reproaches and an opportunity for reverencing the cross.

No communion.

EASTER April 16, 8:45-9:30am

After a delicious breakfast, our children will hunt for Easter eggs

10:30am

We begin our celebration of the resurrection with the proclamation: “Alleluia! Christ is Risen! *He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*” Our hymns and prayers proclaim our joy in Jesus’ being resurrected from the dead.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
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www.goodshepherdhamden.org

The Staff Editor

Brenda Samal
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Council Members
1/1/17—12/31/17

President	Linda Kapitan
Vice-President	~vacant~
Treasurer	John Downs
Secretary	Brenda Samal
Christian Education	Brianne Papa
Evangelism/ Publicity	Paul O’Braonain
Fellowship	Liane Moreland
Financial Secretary	Lisa Ball-Goodrich
Stewardship/ Missions	Sue Hartley
Property	James Learned
Worship	Ken Watson

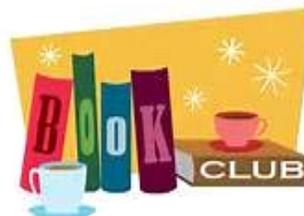


	Pastor	Paul & Stacy
	Daphne	Barnes
John	Elfriede	Anna
Downs & family		
	Lisa	
Rudy	Pat	Mary Lou
Jimmy	Sue	Victoria
Emily	Marianne	Pam
Harold	Arnold	Mike
Rex	Gertrude	Emily L.
Alex	Linda & Darryl	Bill & Ellen
Abby	John	Francisco V.
Lisa		
Martinell & family	Barbara	Starr O.
Sally B.	Rob L.	Claudia
Margaret & family		

*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



Our next book club meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 19 at 7pm at the parsonage.

Barbara has chosen a very interesting book; The Blood of Emmett Till by Timothy Tyson.

I am very much looking forward to meeting with you all again!!

(Pastor's Message continued...)

The answer is twofold. First of all, even though we might not have known it, Jesus has been with us the whole time. In the midst of our wondering how we will pay the next bill, Jesus is with us. As we mourn the deaths of friends and family, Jesus is with us. As we feel like failures in school, or on the job, or out on the playing field, Jesus is with us. There is no road too dark or winding or scary that could keep Jesus away.

Second, whether we've been in that tomb for 3 days or 3 months or 3 years, Jesus has rolled back the stone and beckons us to follow him into the light. The prospect can seem a little daunting – it has gotten “safe” in that tomb, and we don't want to risk being hurt more than we already are. Yet Jesus is quite insistent: “Come with me! Come into the light! Come into the promises I bring of grace, forgiveness, hope, and joy!”

And when we are ready to emerge, out of the darkness, squinting into the light of a new day, then we will be able to say to one another: “Alleluia! Christ IS risen!” And we will have risen too!

Blessed Lent and joyful Easter,

Pastor Daphne †

Congregation Constitution

It's been a while (nearly 10 years!) since we last voted on our congregation constitution. In that time, our New England Synod and the ELCA have modified churchwide, synodical and congregational constitutions in such a way as to make our current constitution invalid. In order to bring us back into the fold, the Congregation Council is reviewing the updated document as proposed by the Constitution Committee (Linda Kapitan, Brenda Samal, and Pastor Daphne).

If you would like to look over and offer your comments on the new version, paper copies can be found in the Carl Podgwaite Fellowship Hall, and a digital copy can be reviewed and downloaded from our website.

www.goodshepherdhamden.org/links.html

Sections that are starred cannot be edited; much of section 10, which deals with the congregation, can.

Any questions or comments can be shared in person with any member of the Constitution Committee, Council, or emailed to Linda Kapitan, Council chair, at lkap16@cs.com.



Good Shepherd is blessed to have three members of our congregation be part of the nonagenarian club.

Ruth P. and Elfriede F. both turned 90 in March and Anna O. will be 94 in November!

Pictured are (l-r) Anna, Pastor Daphne, Ruth and Elfriede.

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

28-Frank & Penny Podgwaite 33 years

Birthdays

4-Justin Barnes
 9-Tyler Knoob
 9-Robert Landino
 17-Jonathan Olson
 23-Aoife Weischedel
 27-Reggie Chang
 29-Aidan Weischedel



Baptisms

Chuddy Watson, Alyssa Aykroyd,
 Elizabeth Ingerson, James Knoob, Jr.
 Victoria Keating, Brian Moreland,
 Paul O’Braonain, Nicholas Papa,
 Sylvia Wakefield

**Easter Sunday Breakfast
 &
 Egg Hunt**

Breakfast will be served from 8:45-9:30am.

I would appreciate donations of fresh fruit, muffins, pastries, apple juice, & orange juice. Please let me know what you can bring so I can make sure everything is covered.

An Easter egg hunt for the children will follow the breakfast. Donations of wrapped candy will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Liane Moreland Brianne Papa
 Fellowship/Special Events Christian Education



FINANCIAL RESULTS THROUGH FEBRUARY 2017

	2017	2/12 of 2017 BUDGET	Over (Under) BUDGET	Prior year Comparative 2016 thru February
Receipts thru February	\$16,849	\$15,583	\$1,266	\$9,535
Expenses thru February	\$17,802	\$15,583	\$2,219	\$14,956
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$953)	\$0	(\$953)	(\$5,418)

Our total Operating giving for February 2017 was \$10,900 and our expenses were \$8,958 giving us a profit for the month of \$1,942 compared to a loss last year of \$4,216. As the above shows our giving this year is ahead of last year by \$7,311, thanks to some extra gifts, and ahead of our budget by \$1,266. Our expenses thru February are over budget by \$2,219 and over last year by \$2,846 primarily because of seasonal expenses like plowing and heating bills. March should also be a struggle as we have additional plowing and a quarterly insurance bills which should put our expenses over budget again. *John E. Downs, Treasurer*

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

DATE	ACOLYTE	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	SECOND ASSISTANT	CANTOR	READER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
4/2	Aiden Weischedel	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Goodrich family	Starr O'Connor
4/9 Palm Sunday	Emma Ingerson	John Downs	Sue Hartley		Reggie Chang	James Learned Sue Hartley	Lisa Martinell
4/13 Maundy Thurs	Anthony Papa	Linda Kapitan	Ken Watson	~	Ken Watson	Ken Watson Leonard Lye	Chuddy Watson
4/14 Good Friday	~	Jonathan Goodrich	~	~	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Goodrich family	Chuddy Watson
4/16 Easter	Nicholas Papa	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Martinell	Paul O'Braonain	Barbara Kuslan	John Downs Lisa Martinell	Lisa Martinell
4/23	Elizabeth Ingerson	Linda Kapitan	Sue Hartley	~	Linda Kapitan	James Learned Sue Hartley	Starr O'Connor
4/30	Aoife Weischedel	John Downs	Ken Watson	Paul O'Braonain	Ken Watson	Ken Watson Leonard Lye	Chuddy Watson
5/7	Jonathan Olson	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	~	Reggie Chang	Goodrich family	Lisa Martinell

*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!***

EASTER PLANTS

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex also. The cost of a plant is \$8.00

Name	In Memory / Honor of



Donations needed by IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services) of New Haven

Help give a new refugee or immigrant family a home!

Recently we designated several coffee hour donations to support IRIS and their work supporting the resettlement of immigrants and refugees. (\$100 in donations) Pastor Daphne went to a community meeting to learn more about the ways they enlist religious communities in resettling refugee families. Since part of the work is supplying each family with a furnished apartment, there is always a need for household items in good condition. Note that they can pick up the items directly from you if given enough notice (they ask for at least 2 weeks); if you have something to donate but can hold onto it until they need it, just use the email below to tell them what you have.

Essential items include:

Linens: towels, sheets, blankets, comforters, tablecloths, washcloths, pillows
 Curtains and rods
 Alarm clocks
 Rugs
 Microwaves
 Pillows
 Dressers
 Kitchen tables and chairs
 Kitchen supplies: pots, pans, silverware, dishes, etc.
 End/coffee tables
 Lamps
 CD and other music players
 Fans
 New Hygiene Items: Deodorant, soap, shampoo & conditioner, toilet paper, tissues
 Cleaning Items: Brooms, mops, garbage cans, roll/box of garbage bags, bleach, dish soap, laundry detergent, sponges, cleaning detergent (Pine-Sol, etc.)
 Miscellaneous: Light bulbs, plungers, notebooks and pens
 Bagged vacuum cleaners
 Bicycles
 Musical instruments

Umbrellas
 Strollers
 Winter blankets/quilts, any size in good, clean condition
 Thermal underwear (new, any size, especially adult)
 Can openers (preferably manual)
 Medical kits, with first-aid supplies and over-the-counter medicine
 9 Volt batteries (for smoke alarms)
 AA batteries (for alarm clocks)
 Cloth shopping bags
 PLEASE NO CLOTHING

Please contact IRIS Housing and Donations Coordinators Brittany Hall and Bethany Delahunt at donations@irisct.org. In your email, please include photos, descriptions (dimensions) and pickup/contact info.

After they have spoken with you about your donation, they will decide if IRIS can collect it, or if they will ask our partner, Helping Hands, to collect it. If your donation is collected by Helping Hands, please tell them that IRIS referred you, so that items needed to set up apartments for new refugees will be set aside for IRIS; other items will be sold in their thrift store and a portion of the sales will be given to IRIS.

WEBSITE:www.irisct.org

Baskets of Promise

This Lent we are participating in Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise campaign. Everyone has been very generous bringing in an item each week.

March 5	Bars of soap (4-5 oz)
March 12	Bath towels (52x27)
March 19	Toothbrushes
March 26	Combs

There are 2 more weeks-

April 2	Metal nail clippers
April 9	Bars of soap (4-5 oz)

Thank you for your contributions!

Reconciling in Christ Process!

At our last voter's meeting, we agreed to "move forward" with the process to become Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. This means that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Lutherans and their friends and families who move into our area and are looking for a safe (and welcoming) place to worship will be able to find us on the National RIC directory. <http://www.reconcilingworks.org/ric/> . There are currently 9 RIC congregations in Connecticut, of which 3 are in New Haven and one is in Branford.

What will be the process as we "move forward"? Barbara Kuslan, Aoife Weischedel and Pastor Daphne have formed a committee (**more members are welcome!**) and will be looking over the congregational survey which was distributed on March 26 to determine how far along we are in our understanding of what it means to be fully welcoming of LGBT people. They will then work on a "Welcoming Statement" (see a sample below) which they will share at fellowship hours for feedback and present to the Congregation Council. (Small group meetings may also be held, depending on what seems appropriate.) With the Council's approval, they will submit the Statement to the next voter's meeting.

Once the welcoming statement is approved by the congregation, it will be submitted to Reconciling Works for their approval. Once Reconciling Works approves of the statement, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd will be added to the website listing all RIC congregation that are publically "safe" for LGBT people.

For more information, reading material, or to become a part of the committee, please talk with Barbara, Aoife or Pastor Daphne.

SAMPLE WELCOMING STATEMENTS

Who is welcome here?

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White...

If you are male or female or transgender...

If you are three days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old...

If you've never stepped foot in a church; or if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic or are a life-long Lutheran...

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered...

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, or bisexual...

If you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Socialist, or not registered to vote...

If you have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

If you own your home, rent, live with your parents, or are homeless...

If you are fully-abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities...

You are welcome here!

This congregation is committed to being a radically loving and Welcoming community of faith, centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ. Therefore, in faithfulness to the Gospel and our Lutheran heritage, and to the best of our ability, we promise to provide programs, ministries, and pastoral care to all who seek God in this place.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Philadelphia PA

* * * * *

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, queer, filthy rich, dirt poor, or no hablo Inglés. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying new-borns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just
(continued on page 8)



*Leo Goodrich and Lisa Ball-Goodrich
request the honor of your presence at
the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for*

Jonathan Edward Goodrich

Boy Scout Troop 810

*Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 12:00 PM
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
3680 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut*

*A reception will follow the Court of
Honor*

*Please RSVP by April 6
203-287-9748
leo.goodrich@sbcglobal.net*

(Sample welcoming statement cont.)

woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... and you!

All Saints Lutheran Church, Aurora, CO

Voters' Notes

A voters' meeting was held on 2/26/17 with 27 in attendance. The 2016 annual reports were distributed. Emma Barnes resigned from fellowship. Liane posted a coffee hour sign-up sheet and has baked and purchased food, dated it and placed it in the freezer. Others can do the same if they wish. Many people were thanked for their continuous work throughout the year. The church ended the year in the red—but did meet our Synod mission pledge. In My Backyard Grant Committee still needs two more non-council members. A motion was made to move forward with the process to becoming a Reconciled in Christ church. (Other area churches on the registry are Bethesda, Tabor and Emanuel.)



Council Notes

Council met on 3/22/17. Pastor and Paul O. have been working on a welcoming brochure and the proof was distributed. Schedules are set for April and we will have an Easter breakfast and egg hunt. Linda has someone willing to serve on the mini-grant committee. There was discussion on renting the parsonage when pastor moves out in August. Ken, Jim and John volunteered to look at the pros & cons of renting it out. We need two representatives for Synod Assembly in June. Pastor will be recognized for her 30 years in ministry and Lisa Martinell will be graduating from lay ministry program. Council reviewed portions of the Proposed Constitution and will continue doing so each month.

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 10:30am

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship



THE STAFF

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
3680 Whitney Avenue
Hamden CT 06518-1516

FIRST CLASS MAIL