



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

May 2016

Pastor's Message

From Easter to the Long Season of Pentecost

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May 8 is the last day we will greet one another with the Easter proclamation until next year. I don't know about you, but Easter Sunday seems so far away (it was in March!) and by the time we reach this 7th Sunday in Easter, it feels a bit odd to be still singing hymns celebrating Christ's resurrection. Taking a month of Sundays to observe and reflect upon what it means to follow the risen Christ can seem like a long time! And then I think -- isn't that the task of our entire Christian lives? Looked at in this way, celebrating Easter for 7 weeks may seem like a short time!

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them ability.

Then, without warning, we are catapulted into Pentecost. The third of the three Great Holydays of the Christian calendar, Pentecost Sunday is often given short shrift. There are no Pentecost cards, no Pentecost gifts, and while it might be most appropriate, the sale of doves does not increase on this day, either. Yet Pentecost is often called "the birthday of the church," because after the Holy Spirit rested upon the disciples and enabled them to speak in other languages, they were then called to invite others to join them in their faith in Christ.

While moving from Easter to Pentecost may feel like a slow transition for us, it was emotional whiplash for the disciples! They were still getting over the loss of their friend, master and lord. They had been training to be good followers at which they were successful – some of the time. After Pentecost, they were asked to become leaders and tell the stories and proclaim the gospel and create communities and... well... put together what in time became the church.

All in 23 weeks! (well, that's how long Pentecost season is for us this year.)

It seems to me, that just as with the liturgical season of Easter, while we might get that sense of "same old-same old" feeling about the green paraments which will be hanging until November, the time we are given in the Season of Pentecost to reflect upon the very issues which the disciples faced is really a very short period of time. It is still easier for modern Christians to be followers than leaders (at least in telling others about their faith), easier to listen to stories than tell them, easier to expect the pastor to be the one who proclaims the gospel than to volunteer to stand in the pulpit, easier to join a community than start one. Not to mention the challenging idea of re-creating the church, which beckons to us every day!

While we may not be given the ability to speak other languages (without study), and while thinking about how "Christ is risen!" may fade into the back of our consciences, our liturgical seasons grant us opportunities to dig in deeply to the experiences of our Christian ancestors. Perhaps we will find their struggles familiar, and that just as they overcame their fears and apprehensions through the years, we can too.

Your sister and servant along the journey,

Pastor Daphne †

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------|--------------------------|
| 5/1 | Confirmation with Pastor |
| 5/14 | Spring Outdoors Cleanup |
| 5/15 | Confirmation with Pastor |
| 5/22 | Confirmation cluster |
| 5/25 | Council meeting |
| | June– Voters' Meeting |

www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar

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The Staff Editor

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**Council Members
1/1/16—12/31/16**

President	Linda Kapitan
Vice-President	~vacant~
Treasurer	John Downs
Secretary	Brenda Samal
Christian Education	Brianne Papa
Evangelism/ Publicity	Starr O'Connor
Fellowship	Sue Landino & Emma Barnes
Financial Secretary	Lisa Ball-Goodrich
Stewardship/ Missions	Sue Hartley
Property	James Learned
Worship	Ken Watson



Pastor Barbara
Daphne Kuslan &
family

John Downs & family	Elfriede Anna
Stacy Holly	Jessika Mary Lou
John W. Sue	Kathy D. Victoria
Emily Marianne	CindyLu Pam
Harold Arnold	Catherine Mike
Rex Gertrude	Howard Paul Barnes
Alex Linda & Darryl	Amanda John
Abby Joe & Peg	Alan Emily L.

*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*



June 10-12, 2016

The theme is year is-

There are no reservations in the kingdom of God

Sue Hartley is attending as LCGS delegate. There is still another voting delegate spot open. If you would like to go, please talk to pastor or Linda Kapitan.

READINGS FROM CORINTHIANS

From April 24 – June 26, our preaching texts are from the First and Second Letters to the Corinthians (although scholars tell us that the First letter is actually the *Second*, and the Second letter is actually the *Fourth!*). As you may know, the city of Corinth was a lively place in the time of Paul! A crossroads in trade routes (and recall, “trade” meant people walking/riding camels or donkeys from one place to another, so a stop in Corinth might have been a regular occurrence), the city had a diversity of occupants, and with them, a diversity of religious traditions and practices, some dating back centuries. There was a large and well-known Temple to Aphrodite there, and the powerful and well-connected were among those who spoke highly of the temple prostitutes, who served as a connection between the earthly and the divine. There was a Jewish synagogue there and, once Paul arrived, a Christian community.

Paul’s letters (the ones we have) indicate that the Christians at Corinth were a lively bunch. They questioned him, they questioned each other, and on occasion, reports of their behavior to Paul gave him heartaches, about which he speaks quite eloquently. Paul’s letters speak of an intimacy with this mission

congregation as he shares his sorrows and pain even as he listens to theirs. And all of this, always, points to Christ. If we are suffering, it is to make our faith stronger. If we are fighting, it is to learn something. If we don’t understand something, all we need to do is remember Jesus and his sacrifice on a cross on our behalf, and since these letters were written in the 1st century CE, the community memory of such events is still pretty strong. (Think of how many stories you know about your grandparents’ lives to get an idea of how stories stay alive across generations). I look forward to delving deeper with you and the texts this summer! – *Pastor Daphne*



We have a new riding lawnmower - Now we need volunteers to help keep the church lawn looking neat and trim. Please speak to Jim to schedule yourself in! Thanking you in advance for your donation of time.

FINANCIAL RESULTS THROUGH MARCH, 2016

	2016	3/12 of 2016 ADJUSTED BUDGET	Over (Under) BUDGET	Prior year Comparative 2015 thru March
Receipts thru March	\$16,673	\$23,341	(\$6,668)	\$23,658
Expenses thru March	\$22,947	\$23,341	(\$394)	\$22,715
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$6,274)	\$0	(\$6,274)	\$943

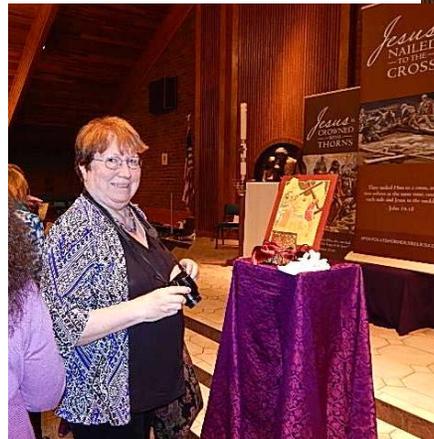
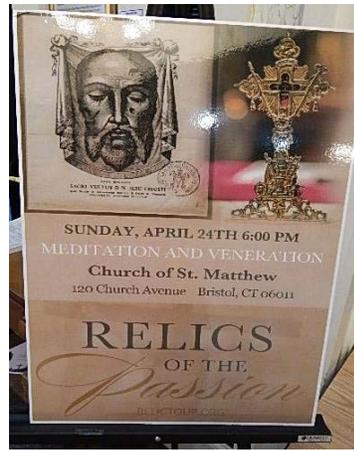
Our total Operating giving for March 2016 was \$7,135 and expenses were \$7,991 giving us a deficit of \$856 for the month of March and a year-to-date deficit of \$6,274 compared to last year’s income of \$943. The prior year receipts were inflated by one time memorial gifts of \$1,462 used for operating expenses at the request of the family. March expenses are inflated a little because of a quarterly insurance payment of \$1,179 but expenses for the first quarter are in line with the budget.

We thank everyone for their contributions, whether they be monetary or donations of time and effort to make this such a meaningful and caring congregation. *John E. Downs, Treasurer*

Relics of The Passion Exhibit

Susan, myself, Sue Hartley and Paul O'Braonain went to see the Relics of the Passion exhibit at St. Matthews Church in Bristol. It was a fascinating display although some of the relics were so tiny it was hard to visualize them as they once were in their original environment. Most interesting were the holy nail, a piece of the crown of thorns, two small pieces of the True Cross, and a piece of stone which was once part of the table that the Last Supper was served upon (yes, it was made of stone, not wood). I found the courage to ask the curator how many pieces of the True Cross still existed and was the old rumor true that there was enough of them to build a church? She made a face and told me there was really only enough to assemble a small cross about one third of the original.

Rob Landino



Looking for a way to help veterans? Got 30 minutes?

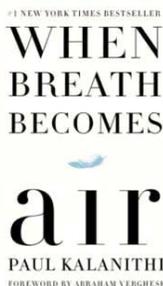
ACP (American Corporate Partners) is an organization that connects people with business and corporate experience with veterans who want to enter the workforce after returning from service. If you have 30 minutes to look over a résumé, give career advice, and support someone who has given years of their lives to serve our country, log on to www.acp-advisornet.org.

You will make a difference!

DID YOU KNOW?

Do you have expired or unused prescription medication in your home? If you want to dispose of it, you can do this:

- 1) empty the bottles and put the pills in a plastic bag.
- 2) go to your local police station. There is a receptacle (looks like a mailbox) in the lobby. Just put your meds there!
- 3) you can take the pill bottles to Walgreen's for their disposal (this also preserves your privacy)



The book that was chosen "out of the hat" at the last meeting was:

When Breath Becomes Air
by Paul Kalanithi

The next book club meeting is
May 18 at 7-8pm at the
parsonage.

VOTERS' MEETING

JUNE, 2016

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

DATE	ACOLYTE	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	SECOND ASSISTANT	CANTOR	READER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
5/1	Aidan Weishedel	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Martinell	—	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Martinell John Downs	Liane Moreland
5/8	Jonathan Olson	Jonathan Goodrich	Ken Watson	—	Ken Watson	Dorothy Podgwaite Ken Watson	Chuddy Watson
5/15	Aoife Weishedel	Paul O'Braonain	Sue Hartley	Trish Rowold	Barbara Kuslan	Sue Hartley James Learned	Starr O'Connor
5/22	Anthony Papa	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Emma Barnes	Linda Kapitan	Goodrich family	Lisa Martinell
5/29	Elizabeth Ingerson	John Down	Lisa Martinell	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Lisa Martinell John Downs	Liane Moreland
6/5	Emily Olson	Jonathan Goodrich	Ken Watson	Trish Rowold	Ken Watson	Dorothy Podgwaite Ken Watson	Chuddy Watson

*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!***

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

MAY

- 1- LCGS only
- 15- LCGS only
- 22- BERGS cluster at LCGS - we provide lunch.
- *** I know this is off our regular schedule, but May 29, when we would normally meet is during Memorial Day weekend (among other things).

JUNE

Sometime this month we plan an all cluster gathering/party/hike, and we may use one of the dates below and the other one we'll hold for make-up classes.

- 12 - LCGS only
- 26 - LCGS only

WORSHIP SERVERS

We could use more readers and ushers. Please talk with Pastor or Ken Watson if you are interested in serving in these capacities.

Thanks to all those who donated for the new hymnals. We should be able to use them for Pentecost on May 15.

Ken Watson

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our regular worship and Sunday School schedule will continue through the month of June. Beginning July 3, we will move to meeting at 9:30 am until Sunday September 4.

Council Notes



Council met Wed 4/27. Pastor reported as of 4/24, we have 104 hymnals ordered, 6 large print and one leaders edition. (See breakdown on next page.) We now have enough to begin using on Pentecost Sunday. The processes leading up to Consecration Sunday were reviewed. Mark Winzler has agreed to speak to council and the congregation. The date for Consecration Sunday was set for Reformation Day, 10/30 - but needs to be confirmed with Mark. Good Shepherd will be host site again this year for the Ingathering Quilts on 5/20. We also discussed making personal health kits to donate with the quilts. (See list of supplies and how to put together on page 8.) The short worship service at John W.'s home had to be postponed. A new date was set for Saturday, 5/21 at 3:00pm. The financial reports for March showed expenses greater than contributions. Work needs to be done on the church grounds. A spring cleanup date is scheduled for May 14 from 9-12pm (rain date May 21.) Brianne is looking at options for a replacement playscape after the swing set was destroyed by a fallen tree. Summer worship hours begin 7/3/16 at 9:30am and go through Labor Day, 9/4/16. Synod Assembly is June 10, 11 & 12. Sue Hartley is going as a representative. We can send one more person. See Pastor or Linda Kapitan if you would like to attend. A committee needs to be formed for the Consecration Sunday process. So far Lisa Ball-Goodrich, Linda Kapitan and Ken Watson have volunteered. If you can help out, please speak to a council member. The last 3G Stewardship Workshop is in Portland, ME on 5/14. The May council meeting is 5/25/16 at 7:00pm.

Operation Fill a Tubtrug ♦ To Support New Lands Farm (a Refugee Farmer Collective)

Step 1 Purchase a 3.5 gallon Tubtrug

Step 2 Fill the Tubtrug with any of the following items:

- Hand trowels and cultivators
- Garden gloves
- First aid supplies
- 1-2 gallon sized fish emulsion
- Large spool of garden twine

MAY CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

3-Douglas & Barbara Aykroyd	36 years
24-Leonard & Ruth Lye	30 years
30-Anthony & Brianne Papa	7 years

Birthdays

13-Mary Lou Knoob
 13-Christopher Knoob
 16-Linda Kapitan
 16-Brenda Samal
 17-Miranda Dinkla
 18-Lisa Ball-Goodrich
 18-Jonathan Rowold
 20-Jim Knoob
 21-Joseph Costa
 23-Sharon Knoob
 25-Kristine Gallaher
 26-Sue Hartley
 27-Pastor Daphne
 28-Christopher Olson



Baptisms

Elfriede Fleischmann, Emily Olson,
 Ricky Rosa, Patricia Rowold, Micah Sharon,
 Aoife Weishedel

- Metal pistol water spray nozzle
- Gift cards to Home Depot, Lowes, Tractor Supply
- Organic seeds-marigold, cucumber, squash, cilantro, daikon radish, beans, sunflowers, peas (preferred provider jonnyseeds.com)

Step 3 Bring your donation to the Ascentra vendor table at Synod Assembly. New Lands Farm will present a workshop at Assembly on Saturday.

(A Tubtrug is a super flexible, durable tote used in gardening. Can be purchased through an online retailer such as Amazon.)

THANK YOU to all who donated hymnals!
As of April 24, the following donations/pledges were received:

107 pew hymnals:

2 in memory of Rita Morino (*Anonymous*)
6 in memory of Joy Downs (*John Downs*)
1 in honor of David and Jonathan Goodrich
(*Lisa Ball-Goodrich and Leo Goodrich*)
1 in memory of Laverne and Letitia Ball
(*Lisa Ball-Goodrich and Leo Goodrich*)
3 in memory of Irene Hodge
(*Irene Hodge Memorial Fund*)
3 in memory of Mimi and Bernie Kapitan
(*Mimi Kapitan Memorial Fund*)
2 in memory of Lou Kuslan (*Barbara Kuslan*)
1 in memory of Francis and Shirley Shay
(*Sue and Rob Landino*)
5 in memory of Dorothy Learned (*Jim Learned*)
20 in memory of Fred and Gert Liedke
(*Chuck and Fran Liedke*)
2 in memory of Verla Schenarts
(*Verla Schenarts Memorial Fund*)
2 in memory of Verla Goodhue
(*Verla Goodhue Memorial Fund*)
32 in memory of Jennifer Samal
(*Jennifer Samal Memorial Fund*)
27 in memory of Doug Turner
(*Doug Turner Memorial Fund*)

6 Large Print hymnals: (we could use 2 more @ \$88/
per book)

1 in memory of Charles Hartley (*Sue Hartley*)
1 in memory of Branislav Kapitan
(*Mimi Kapitan Memorial Fund*)
1 in memory of Fred and Gert Liedke
(*Chuck and Fran Liedke*)
1 in memory of Charlotte Martinell (*Lisa Martinell*)
1 in memory of Julius H Luschenat (*Starr
O'Connor*)
1 in memory of Charlotte and Alfred Sharon
(*Carl Sharon*)

1 Altar Book in honor of Pastor Daphne Burt
(*Lisa Martinell*)

If you would still like to give a gift to complete our set, please consider the following binder options. We need a total of six of either of the following; we will use plain red binders from Staples in the meantime!

Set of 4 ceremonial Binders (for Large Print bulletins) – \$110 (*includes shipping*)
Green, red, blue and white, to match the liturgical season
Red ceremonial Binder (for Large Print bulletins) – \$39.81 (*includes shipping*)
Can be used all year long

ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

Special Offering: May 15

The New England Synod has received a generous “challenge grant” to match, dollar for dollar, every gift of \$100 from congregations in the synod to ELCA World Hunger. We will have a special offering on May 15th (Pentecost!)* Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd have shown, again and again, great generosity in the face of need. ELCA World Hunger works all over the world to relieve chronic and emergency hunger. Please be as generous as you are able! (*Note: a special offering is in **addition** to your regular offerings, not in the stead of!)

From the ELCA World Hunger website (www.elca.org/hunger):

“Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Hunger facts

- 795 million people around the world – that’s 1 in 10 – can’t access the food they need to live active, healthy lives.
- 1 billion people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.25 per day. That’s 14.5% of the world’s population.
- At some point in 2014, more than 48 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from.
- 46.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2014. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$23,850.”

Excerpts from Bishop James Hazelwood letter to the community of New England Synod Re: Information of the present and future of pastoral leadership in the NE Synod and our congregations

Bishop Hazelwood has served on the ELCA Task Force Theological Education Advisory Committee. One of its purposes was to look into ways the church can better prepare clergy, deacons and lay leaders with a new set of skills in this changing culture. The following are concerns voiced to the Bishop when he visits congregations.

"Will there be enough new pastors for the church?"

There is a trend toward declining enrollment in the eight ELCA seminaries. This does not include students who may be studying at other Divinity Schools.

The total # of candidates available for first call has decreased from 100 last year to 76 this year. The NE Synod requested six first call candidates but only received two.

"What does this mean?"

This will have an impact on congregations who prefer a first call pastor.

"What is happening with the overall picture of all clergy in the ELCA?"

The largest # of ELCA clergy serving congregations are in the 61 age bracket. The age group 55-65 is part of the largest generations in US history and with that comes the trend of retirements in New England. The Synod anticipates retirements will steadily increase in 2016-17.

With declining enrollment in seminaries and increasing retirements, it is reasonable to deduce that there will be a shortage of clergy.

The task force has been taking steps to address this. Retired pastors are serving on a voluntary capacity to enlist and evaluate potential candidates to the NE Synod. Staff at the Synod is working with congregations on creative ways moving forward. Churches need to look within for future pastors or deacons that could be in our confirmation classes, youth groups and worship. Theological education needs to be made more affordable also. The NE Synod has started a Fund for Leaders.

(The full report of the TEAC (Theological Education Advisory Committee) can be found online.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS

When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world.

The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. You can share God's grace and love by providing that simple comfort.

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit-

- 1 Light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27")- dark color recommended
- 2 Bath-size bars (4-5 oz) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 Adult size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 Sturdy comb, remove packaging
- 1 Metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Bring to church by 5/15.



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
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FIRST CLASS MAIL