



# THE STAFF

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

July–August 2019

### *Pastor's Message*

Dear Friends,

It was a delight to join with our brothers and sisters from the four other Lutheran congregations in New Haven and Hamden on Pentecost Sunday, June 9. The mood was festive and expectant. The worship was vibrant. The Spirit was alive. And the picnic after terrific.

It was a privilege for me to preach to that splendid gathering. For those of you who weren't able to participate in the worship and community building of that day, the theme of my sermon was "keep the windows open." As the anxious followers of Jesus gathered together to pray after his ascension, they were urged to keep the windows of their lives open for the Spirit to come guide and empower them into a new day. We too, in these uncertain days for the church and the world, are called to keep our own lives open and available to the Spirit's leading.

While that band of Jesus' followers prayed fervently for the Spirit's coming, they had little clue just how the Spirit would come to them or just where it would send and lead them. But came the Spirit did. And the Church came alive, bursting with new energy, with a message that drew together people from incredibly diverse backgrounds into communities of hospitality and compassion for one another and for all they met along the way. Old barriers between people crumbled, tired old suspicions and patterns and traditions gave way to the Spirit's new wave of community building and bonding, freeing the people to focus fully on bearing witness to God's healing, reconciling love for the whole creation.

Over the past few months I have sensed the Spirit's stirrings as representatives from our five New Haven and Hamden congregations — Trinity, Emanuel, Bethesda, Christ and Good Shepherd — have been meeting and seeking ways to partner in ministry (the Pentecost service was an outgrowth of those continuing conversations), and as our two Hamden congregations began planning our shared summer worship services. We are keeping windows open.

No one can say for sure just where the Spirit is leading and calling us, but it is safe to say the Spirit is opening up new directions and shapes for the church that will not only challenge and test us, but embolden and excite us for a new day of ministry in Jesus' name. The Spirit is not about coddling the church trying out one survival tactic after another. Rather it is all about energizing people of all ages to dream new dreams and seek new paths into mission, proclaiming and witnessing to a new generation thirsty and hungry for the healing mercies of God.

My prayer for this congregation, for our neighboring partners in mission, and for the whole Church is that we continue to keep open

*(continued on page 2)*

### **Upcoming Events**

7/17	Coffee & Conversation
7/21	Voters' Meeting
8/5	Council meeting
8/14	Coffee & Conversation

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

**LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

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Transitional Pastor  
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*The Staff Editor*  
Brenda Samal  
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**Council Members  
1/1/19—12/31/19**

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



<i>Claudia</i>	<i>Hawley</i>	<i>Elfriede</i>	<i>Anna</i>
<i>Rudy</i>	<i>Angela</i>	<i>Francisco V.</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Mary Lou K.</i>
<i>Lisa</i>	<i>Sue</i>	<i>Amanda</i>	<i>Victoria</i>
<i>Emily</i>	<i>Marianne</i>	<i>Dottie P.</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 K.</i>
<i>Alex</i>	<i>Darryl</i>	<i>Alan</i>	<i>Ellen</i>
<i>Abby</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Barbara</i>	

*Members of Good Shepherd who are homebound*

*Family and friends whom we name in our hearts*

*Military personnel*

*Mission of the church*

*Congregations of Greater New Haven*

*(Pastor's message... continued from page 1)*

the windows of our lives and communities, to keep opening them ever wider every day. Be fervent in prayer. Be available. Trust in the Spirit's guiding, encouraging and empowering. A new day awaits us. Let's step into it with courage, grace and expectation.

Your partner along the Spirit's way,

Les Swenson,  
Transitional Pastor

## Thanks for Generous Pentecost Worship Offering!

During the festive Pentecost worship service at Bethesda Church in New Haven on June 9 a special offering was received to support both local and global ministries. The total of the offering was \$1,851. It was split evenly between the Diyanet Mosque of New Haven which was severely damaged by an arsonist's fire in May, and the Augusta Victoria Hospital, a ministry of the Lutheran World Federation providing critical medical care in the West Bank of Jerusalem. Bethesda Church doubled the amount of the offering to the Hospital from a special grant from its Endowment Fund.



## STEWARDSHIP

We have received an email from Melanie Gibbons at Lutheran World Relief thanking all who contributed personal care kits in May. You may be interested to know that kits have already been sent to El Salvador and Lebanon.

Along with Christ Lutheran Church, we will continue to serve our community by collecting school supplies to fill backpacks which will be donated to Hamden Youth Services. This project will start in July and continue through Mid August; details to follow.

Just an additional reminder: We will be counting up the change contributed in the God's Global Barnyard boxes in early July. If you have not yet turned yours in; please do so by Sunday, July 14th. Thank You!

*Starr O'Connor*

## Important Things to Remember about Summer Worship...

As we step into summer, and with our plans to share worship with the folks at Christ Lutheran Church in Hamden twice a month, here are the key things to remember:

- Worship begins at **9:30** every Sunday.
- We will be worshipping at Good Shepherd every Sunday except for July 14, August 11, and September 8 (the second Sundays of each month), when we will be worshipping at Christ Church, 600 Shepard Ave., Hamden.
- We look forward to welcoming the people of Christ Church on the fourth Sundays of each month, July 28, August 25, and September 22.
- Our two congregations will be using the same summer liturgy every Sunday morning, whether together or apart.
- Look forward to greeting one another warmly as we seek to step into new places and to build a constructive relationship between our two congregations.
- Make coffee hour a time to meet new people and build new connections together!

Christ and LCGS are but 7 minutes away from one another on the map. Let's bring that distance even closer this summer!

## VOTERS' MEETING

**July 21, 2019**  
**Following worship**

- \* Light luncheon served
- \* Fellowship will supply the meats
- \* Please bring a favorite salad/side dish to share

**JULY CELEBRATIONS**

**Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**

9-James Learned  
9-Mike Dube  
10-Robert Knoob  
29-Thomas Knoob

**Baptisms**

Barbara Aykroyd, James Knoob, Sr,  
Mary Lou Knoob,



**AUGUST CELEBRATIONS**

**Anniversaries**

10-Joseph & Tracy Costa                      17 years

**Birthdays**

4-Frank Podgwaite III  
11-Ruth Lye  
17-Liane Cassidy

**Baptisms**

Mike Dube, Lisa Ball-Goodrich,  
Linda Kapitan, Robert Knoob,  
Jonathan Olson, Brianne Papa

***NHELP***

**New Haven Hamden Evangelical Lutheran Partnership**

We met on Saturday, June 29th at Christ Lutheran in Hamden. Representatives from all 5 churches plus Pastor Sinnott were present.

\$1850 was raised at the joint Pentecost service.

A plan for Christian Education for 2019/2020 was discussed. Each church will talk with families who have Sunday school/Confirmation age children to see what might work for them. We will then talk at our next meeting to develop a proposal.

Trinity will hold VBS this year. It runs from July 21st—July 28th. It will begin at 5:45 with dinner and end around 8:00. The cost is \$25 per child. Fliers are available if anyone is interested. They will be in the Narthex.

To participate in God’s Work, Our Hands, another joint worship service will be held on September 15th at Trinity Lutheran. There will be a pot luck luncheon and then we will complete a service project. Service projects will be determined at the next joint meeting. The NHELP representatives will canvas their respective congregations for ideas.

The next meeting will be held at Bethesda in New Haven on August 17th at 9:30. If you have any questions, please see Lisa Ball-Goodrich, John Downs or me.

*Linda Kapitan*



## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Date	Acolyte	Worship Assistant	Worship Assistant 2	Reader	Ushers	Altar Guild
7/7 9:30 am	Nicholas Papa	Anthony Papa	Ken Watson	Ken Watson	Ken Watson John Downs	Starr O'Connor
7/14	JOINT SERVICE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 600 SHEPHARD AVENUE, HAMDEN 9:30AM					
7/21	Nicholas Papa	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Leo Goodrich	Linda Kapitan	Leo Goodrich Jonathan Goodrich	Linda Kapitan
7/28	Elizabeth Ingerson	Jonathan Goodrich	Starr O'Connor	Leo Goodrich	Starr O'Connor John Downs	Sarah DeLong
8/4	Nicholas Papa	John Downs	Ken Watson	Ken Watson	Ken Watson James Learned	Chuddy Watson
8/11	JOINT SERVICE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 600 SHEPHARD AVENUE, HAMDEN 9:30AM					
8/18	Nicholas Papa	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Starr O'Connor	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Starr O'Connor John Downs	Starr O'Connor
8/25	Nicholas Papa	Linda Kapitan	Leo Goodrich	Linda Kapitan	Leo Goodrich James Learned	Linda Kapitan
9/1	Nicholas Papa	John Downs	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Ruth Lye Leonard Lye	Starr O'Connor

*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!*

### Council Meeting



Council met 6/12. Pastor asked council's thoughts on the joint Pentecost service. Comments— was a nice service, music was beautiful, enjoyed seeing all pastors contributing to service, and the picnic fellowship and food was great. Christ Lutheran will be attending our worship service on 6/23. Area Lutheran churches meeting again on 6/29. (See article on page 4.) Stewardship is working on a group project for God's Work Our Hand's— filling backpacks for distribution at Keefe Community Center. Ken and Chuddy attended Synod

Assembly— over 450 voting members there. Thrivent reported abundance of funds not being used by churches. Linda volunteered to look into that resource. Synod is establishing Jubilee 2020— seminary debt reduction fund— to help reduce tuition costs for Lutheran seminary students. May financial reports showed lower operating receipts in comparison to 2018. Average attendance for May- 20, new guestbook ordered, light luncheon planned for voters' meeting 7/21, mowing schedule will be posted for volunteers to sign up, and God's Global Barnyard contents will be counted.

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**

**Summer Worship  
9:30am (6/16-9/8/19)**

**Worship**



**THE STAFF**

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
3680 Whitney Avenue  
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FIRST CLASS MAIL