



# THE STAFF

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

October 2016

### *Pastor's Message-*

What is it worth?

“How much does it cost?”

“How much will I make?”

“How much do I owe?”

“How much will I get for this much?”

“How much will I be paid?”

“How much will I pay in taxes?”

“How much will I have left?”

For better or worse, most of us ask, or are asked, at least one of these questions every day. Whether buying groceries, paying bills, fixing something broken, or planning a vacation, few of us can avoid the question of cost. None of us are immune to the constant calculations in our heads about what we can afford. Rarely does it put us in a good mood.

Giving, on the other hand is different. It is fun to buy someone a present. It feels good to help out a good cause. It gives us joy to make someone happy, enable a project to come to fruition, or make someone smile. When we are able to give, our spirits are uplifted in part, I think, because we don't feel *limited* or weighed down by cost; we are set free to make a difference, whether large or small.

As a pastor, I have always tithed to the church- which is to say I take my monthly pay, lop off a zero, and put that in the plate (I admit, I'm not a tithe purist- if so, I would put 10% of my gross pay, not the net.) When there is a special appeal, I often can't give any more, but since I didn't hold back the first time, I feel ok about that. I also feel bound to contribute to my college and high school- but often not more than \$5 or \$10 a *year*. There were other organizations as well, Soulforce and Lutherans Concerned, in particular, that I support- at an equally low level. I often felt guilt about not being able to give more, but I have always been grateful that I could give *some*. That's when I realized how gratefulness is connected to generosity. I went on a seminary tour once, before I was ordained, and I

remember the preacher saying, “write your checks to the church first, and then pay your other bills.” Frankly, that was not always easy advice to take- as I'm sure many of you know. I'm also sure that many *others* of you know how good it feels to make that donation. Generosity and gratefulness go hand in hand.

Then I was called to be the chaplain to the University of Richmond. I earned enough to buy a house, and when Lutherans Concerned was making a major appeal, I could make a major pledge. I was so happy to be able to give freely and generously! When I lost that job, one of my first thoughts was that I would be unable to complete my pledge- although I did continue giving. I admit that members of my family kept telling me to pay for groceries first, and sometimes I did, but mostly I just trusted that it was going to be alright. So far, it always has. Generosity also goes hand in hand with trust. Sometimes I pay bills later than I'd like to- but they always get paid. And I am grateful for the employment I have that makes it possible!

Most people assume that pastors tithe (we don't) and that gratefulness and trust come easily to us (they don't). I'm telling you about this, not because I want you to think I'm so great (I don't) or that I want you to feel badly about what you are or are not able to give (I *really* don't!) but during this month, when we are presented with an opportunity to reexamine what generosity as a spiritual practice really looks like, I want to offer you this:

When we are grateful, we are generous. When we are generous, we trust that we don't have to worry about whether we will be able to take care of ourselves, in part because God does that. For which we are grateful. And there you are- back at generosity again!

What is that worth to you?

Blessings to each and every one of you!

*Pastor Daphne +*

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OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
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***The Staff Editor***

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

**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



	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Paul &amp; Stacy Barnes</i>
	<i>Daphne</i>	<i>Barnes</i>
<i>John Downs &amp; family</i>	<i>Elfriede</i>	<i>Anna</i>
<i>Family of Holly John W.</i>	<i>Lisa B-G</i>	<i>Mary Lou</i>
<i>Jimmy Sue</i>	<i>Amanda</i>	<i>Victoria</i>
<i>Emily Marianne</i>	<i>CindyLu</i>	<i>Pam</i>
<i>Harold Arnold</i>	<i>Pat</i>	<i>Mike</i>
<i>Rex</i>	<i>Gertrude</i>	<i>Howard Emily L.</i>
<i>Alex</i>	<i>Linda &amp; Darryl</i>	<i>Dube family Bill &amp; Ellen</i>
<i>Abby</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Alan Francisco V.</i>
<i>Lisa Martinell &amp; family</i>		

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

**Directory Update**  
**Friends of Good Shepherd**

Bill & Cindy Strickland  
39 Silo Way  
Bloomfield CT 06002  
860-242-2922

## Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's council has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

*New Consecration Sunday* is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Council President,  
Linda Kapitan

## Council Notes

Council met on 9/8/16. Council was receptive to continuing picking hymns until Advent—with the exception of Consecration Sunday. Pastor and Lisa will be in England from 9/20-10/5/16. The supply pastors will be Rev. Ruth Drews and Rev. Jackie Flanagan. Financial reports show contributions about \$8-9,000 less than last year. Jim has been securing estimates for a new roof on the parsonage and garage. He will bring this before the voters'. The Town of Hamden was very appreciative of the donation of school supplies. Starr and Pastor are working on a 'Welcome Brochure'. Fellowship is planning a church picnic held in conjunction with the voters' meeting on 9/11. Sunday School starts 9/11 and Pastor will be communicating with parents of confirmands of a new schedule. Participants in Consecration Sunday events will meet with the leader 1:30pm on 9/11. Brianne went back to Best in Backyards and talked with a woman there. They are having a limited time offer sale on playscape display models. Council approved Brianne picking out either the Dream or Dreamscape model. Council also approved the trimming of overhanging branches on the driveway side and dead branches in the back. John will gather financial records and speak with the finance committee and the Lye's about conducting an audit.



## October National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the second most common kind of cancer in women. About 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point.

The good news is that many women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early. A mammogram – the screening test for breast cancer – can help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat.

**National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Make a difference! Spread the word about mammograms and encourage communities, organizations, families, and individuals to get involved.**



### **John Wright** **July 5, 1918 - September 11, 2016**

John entered the kingdom of heaven on 9/11/16. Following his memorial service, some of the family graciously posed for this picture.

L-R: Craig (son), Paul & Dianne (daughter), John (nephew) and his wife, and Dan (nephew)



**SCHEDULED TO SERVE**

DATE	ACOLYTE	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	SECOND ASSISTANT	CANTOR	READER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
10/2	Aoife Weishedel	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Martinell	Paul O'Braonain	Ken Watson	John Downs Lisa Martinell	Starr O'Connor
10/9	Jonathan Olson	Jonathan Goodrich	Sue Hartley	~	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	James Learned Sue Hartley	Lisa Martinell
10/16	Aidan Weishedel	Linda Kapitan	Ken Watson	Paul O'Braonain	Ken Watson	Ken Watson Dorothy Podgwaite	Chuddy Watson
10/23	Elizabeth Ingerson	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	~	Linda Kapitan	Goodrich family	Liane Moreland
10/30	Nicholas Papa	Paul O'Braonain	Lisa Martinell	Paul O'Braonain	Barbara Kuslan	John Downs Lisa Martinell	Starr O'Connor
11/6	Emily Olson	Jonathan Goodrich	Sue Hartley	Trish Rowold	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	James Learned Sue Hartley	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!***

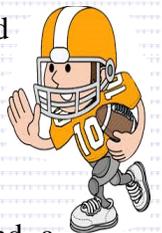


A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out.  
'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam 's underwear!'

Come out to cheer on Anthony Papa and his teammates as they play their last home game of the season on Sunday, October 9th at 3pm located at the Cheshire High School turf!



There is a \$1 donation at the gate and a concession stand that serves burgers, hot dogs and other snacks & refreshments all in support of Cheshire Junior Football.

-Brienne

**Reminder:**

**Pirates of Penzance Show**

Saturday, 10/15/16 2:00pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, 10/16/16 2:00pm

Tickets: \$22.50 in advance for 10 or more tickets

Students are \$13.50

We plan on going to the Saturday, 2:00pm performance. See John Downs for tickets or additional information (203-248-8566).

**REACH THE BEACH RESULTS 2016**

Thursday, September 15 - Saturday 17

Reach the Beach 2015 was just fantastic! Another great run and another wonderful show of support for Camp Calumet's Annual Fund. More than 1000 gifts came from over 800 donors. We had to get the adding machines out of the closet. \$70,000! Wow!! And Thrivent Financial came through again, too, with additional funding of about \$10,000 in fundraiser seed money -- plus another \$5,000 of other support!

Reach the Beach is no small endeavor. In fact, it has become one of Calumet's major fundraisers and it involves a whole lot of people. 48 runners. 8 drivers, 4 New Hampshire congregations, legions of volunteers, a couple of handfuls of support staff, countless followers on Facebook, and one thousand donors.

(Members of Good Shepherd who took the Walk Challenge were Pastor Daphne, Lisa Martinell, Sue Hartley, Sue Boor, Lee Olson & Brenda Samal.)

**OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS**

**Anniversaries**

8-Leo & Lisa Goodrich	28 years
11-Sean & Korrine Leary	8 years
17-Michel & Kathy Dube	29 years
20-Paul & Stacy Barnes	26 years

**Birthdays**

7-Lisa Martinell  
 14-Christi Sharon  
 14-Suzanne Boor  
 18-David Goodrich  
 18-Dorothy Podgwaite  
 27-CindyLu Peterson



**Baptisms**

David Aykroyd, Suzanne Boor, Sue Hartley, Christopher Olson

**FINANCIAL RESULTS THROUGH AUGUST, 2016**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>8/12 of 2016 BUDGET</b>	<b>Over (Under) BUDGET</b>	<b>Prior year Comparative 2015 thru August</b>
Receipts thru August	\$45,854	\$62,243	(\$16,389)	\$54,714
Expenses thru August	\$54,371	\$62,243	(\$7,872)	\$56,149
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$8,517)	\$0	(\$8,517)	(\$1,435)

Our total Operating giving for August 2016 was \$4,531 and our expenses were \$6,071 giving us a loss for the month of \$1,540—giving us a year-to-date loss of \$8,517.

As the above shows, our giving this year is behind last year by \$8,860 and behind our budget by \$16,389. Our average expenses are below our budget but should be around budget over the next four months as we head into increased seasonal costs.

September should be better with income of \$8,049 and estimated expenses around budget we should have a small profit.

*John E. Downs, Treasurer*

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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Hamden CT 06518-1516

FIRST CLASS MAIL