



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

October 2019

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends,

I am excited that we will be joining with our brothers and sisters from the five Lutheran congregations of New Haven and Hamden for worship on Reformation Sunday, October 27. (See all the details inside!) It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together around Word and Table and raise our voices as one in song and prayer on this day when we celebrate our heritage in faith and our singular calling to be a living, vibrant church always being reformed and made new by the Holy Spirit.

When our forerunner Martin Luther pushed open the doors on the continuing movement of the reforming church 502 years ago, he reawakened the whole Church to the central importance of vigorously and faithfully proclaiming and embodying the living Word of God not only within the Church but in every dimension of our daily lives.

At the very heart of that movement Luther initiated were the freely given gifts of godly grace poured into and through our lives, gifts of immeasurable extravagance: forgiveness, mercy, restoration and welcome; the promise that nothing can separate or divide us from the love of God revealed and given to us in the crucified-risen Jesus; and the ringing call for us to look beyond ourselves, to love one another as Christ has loved us, and to live joyfully within the wide embrace of the God who loves the whole creation in which the lives of all people are woven together in a single intricate, intimate, fragile but precious and beautiful tapestry.

Grounded in these timeless godly graces and promises, bathing in them through the waters of

baptism, hearing them in the Word humbly but bravely preached and taught, received expectantly in the Meal, and experienced within the holy community of the Church, we are always being reformed and made new in order to more boldly and vibrantly express and live them for a world still hungry for what we are given to offer — the gifts of healing, reconciling love; genuine, unfailing hope; and joy in the worth and dignity of all.

As this congregation continues to lean into the promise of new life still being shaped by the Spirit's certain work among and through us, celebrate through the days ahead the opportunity and promise of Christ's church always reforming.

*We are not yet what we shall be,
but are growing toward it.*

*The process is not yet finished,
but it is going on.*

*This is not the end, but it is the road.
All does not yet gleam in glory...*

Martin Luther, 1521

Your partner along the way,
Les Swenson,
Transitional Pastor

Upcoming Events

- 10/6 Joint worship at Christ Lutheran
- 10/16 Mid-month Coffee & Conversation
- 10/23 Council meeting
- 10/27 Joint worship at Trinity Lutheran
- 12/8 Voters' Meeting

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
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The Staff Editor
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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



*Claudia Hawley Elfriede Anna
Rudy Angela Francisco Jim & Mary
V. Lou K.
Lisa Sue Amanda Victoria
Emily Marianne Dottie P. Pam
Harold Arnold Pat Mike
Rex Gertrude Howard Barbara K.
Alex Darryl Alan Ellen
Abby John Barbara Jessika D.
James C. Goodrich
family*

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

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please update your copy of the church directory-

Kathy Dubé xxx-xxx-xxxx

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

8-Leo & Lisa Goodrich	31 years
17-Mike & Kathy Dubé	32 years

Birthdays

14-Suzanne Boor
 14-Christi Sharon
 18-David Goodrich
 18-Dorothy Podgwaite



Baptisms

Suzanne Boor,
 Christopher Olson

Joint Worship Services with Christ Lutheran Church Move to First and Third Sundays Beginning October 6

After four months of vibrant twice-a-month worship services together, the people of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (LCGS) and Christ Lutheran Church of Hamden will continue this practice this fall with one notable change.

Beginning Sunday, October 6, we will be joining together on the first and third Sundays of the month. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. A coffee hour follows worship providing a great opportunity for folks from the two congregations to join in conversation and to deepen friendship with one another.

On the first Sunday of the month the two congregations will worship as one at Christ Church, 600 Shepard Ave. On the third Sunday of the month (the 20th in October) we will gather together at LCGS.

A new liturgy for the autumn season will be unveiled on October 6.

The two congregations will continue to worship separately on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, each at 10:00 a.m., each using the same liturgy.

The decision to continue worshipping together twice a month is a clear affirmation of the positive steps we have taken since early summer to find ways for the two congregations to develop a vibrant partnership in ministry together.

In addition to worshipping together, the two congregations joined in a terrific “pack the backpack” project for Hamden elementary school children in August, and enjoyed a festive church picnic on September 8. The Congregation Councils of the two churches held a productive, positive meeting together on August 25.



Learning Ministries for All Ages for Good Shepherd and Christ Lutheran People

A Sunday school class for young people (through 6th grade) is offered at Christ Church (third Sunday at LCGS) every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

A Bible Study/Discussion group for adults is available at the same time. The group is focusing on the Scripture texts that will be heard during worship on the upcoming Sunday.

Young folks of confirmation age (7th-8th grade) from Christ and LCGS are participating in the confirmation ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church in New Haven on the third Tuesday of every month. If you are interested in finding out more about this ministry, please talk with Pastor Swenson.

Council Meeting



Council met 9/10. Pastor asked for council's perceptions of the joint council meeting. Comments were that people are congenial and read to move forward. We will have another joint council meeting with Christ on 11/3.

Financial reports were reviewed. The 2020 budget needs to be ready for November council and December voters' meeting.

Sunday School at Christ and monthly confirmation classes at Trinity begins. Jim is repairing the railing on the east steps and there are only two people mowing the church lawn at this time.

The September voters' meeting has been canceled as we will be worshipping at Christ. Instead an informal discussion will be held during coffee hour on 10/13.

A volunteer is needed to chair the Nominating Committee.

The next council meeting is 10/23.

OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH

October 13, 2019
Pastor Appreciation Day

“October is national Clergy Appreciation Month, a time set aside to recognize the contributions and service of pastors, priests, reverends, ministers, and all other clergy members. Within Clergy Appreciation Month is Pastor Appreciation Day. Pastor Appreciation Day (also referred to more generally as Clergy Appreciation Day) falls on the second Sunday in October and is a day when the faithful come together nationally to pay tribute to our pastors and their staff.”

- Pastors and clergy serve the church daily.
- Pastors and clergy serve the church and community during major life moments.
- Missionaries sacrifice their comfort and safety for the gospel.

Thank you , Pastor Swenson, for leading us on our spiritual journey.

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

1 Timothy 5:17



**Celebrate Reformation Sunday,
October 27...**

**Five Congregations Worshipping as One
at Trinity Lutheran Church, New Haven,
10:15 a.m.**

Join our neighboring ELCA churches of Hamden and New Haven (Bethesda, Emanuel, Trinity, Christ and the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd) for this combined Reformation festival worship service on Sunday, October 27 at 10:15 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 292 Orange St., New Haven.

The Rev. Bonita Grubbs, Executive Director of Christian Community Action (CCA), will be the preacher. The pastors and lay folks from the five congregations will assist in worship leadership.

A special offering will be received to support the various ministries of CCA, an ecumenical social service organization that expresses faithful witness by providing help, housing, and hope to those who are poor in New Haven. CCA has served the New Haven area for 51 years. (For more information about CCA, view their website: ccahelping.org.)

A ham dinner and potluck will follow worship. You are invited to bring a side/salad/dessert/vegetarian dish to share. Some fun activities are being planned for the meal.

Free street **parking** available near the church, or in the Propark lot across from church front doors. **Carpooling** is encouraged. Two options — folks from LCGS are invited to gather in the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. to form carpools, or drive to the Bethesda Church parking lot on Whitney Ave. New Haven, where shuttle service will be available.

A handicapped-accessible entry is available at Church's Wall Street entrance.

Interested in singing in a combined choir for the day? Choir rehearses Thursday, October 24 at 7 p.m. at Trinity, and again at 9:30 a.m. on Reformation Sunday.

And remember to **wear something red** on this festive occasion when red is the color of the day!



Lutheran Disaster Response

Thank you to all for your prayers, concerns and donations to Lutheran Disaster Response for victims of Hurricane Dorian.

Prayers after the Storm...

Loving God, we come to you trusting in your mercy and knowing that your steadfast love endures forever.

Look with mercy on those who are harmed or displaced by Hurricane Dorian.

Give them your strength to meet the days ahead, your peace, which surpasses all understanding, and renewed hope for restoration and rebuilding.

Move in those who are able to give aid, that we may be your hands and heart on earth.

Be with all who offer assistance; may your Spirit may uphold them.

As you have made water a sign of your kingdom, and of cleansing and rebirth, grant your people vision to see new life on the other side of disaster.

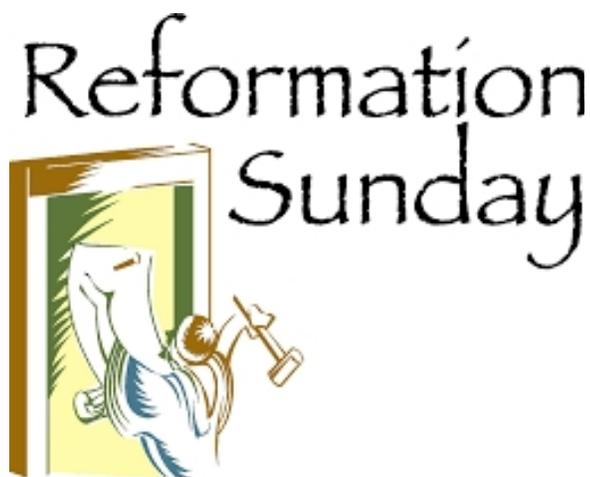
To you be given all honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Occasional Services for the Assembly, page 395)

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Date	Acolyte	Worship Assistant	Worship Assistant 2	Reader	Ushers	Altar Guild
10/6	JOINT SERVICE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 600 SHEPHARD AVE, HAMDEN					
10/13	Nicholas Papa	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Starr O'Connor	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Joanne Golanski James Learned	Starr O'Connor
10/20	Elizabeth Ingerson	Linda Kapitan	~	Linda Kapitan	Leo Goodrich Ken Watson	Sarah DeLong
10/27 10:15am	JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, NEW HAVEN					
11/3	JOINT SERVICE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 600 SHEPHARD AVE, HAMDEN					
11/10	Nicholas Papa	Anthony Papa	Brianne Papa	Rob Hansen	Starr O'Connor John Downs	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!



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

Worship

10:00am



THE STAFF

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

3680 Whitney Avenue

Hamden CT 06518-1516

FIRST CLASS MAIL