



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

November 2017

Pastor's Reflection-

Celebrating our saints

One of the (many) things I love about being Lutheran is our understanding that the “saints” aren’t just people in the Bible, or great leaders of the church, or even dead! Every year, when we remember our saints on **All Saints’ Sunday, we lift up those who have been as saints to us.** I usually give thanks for my parents and grandparents, my high school English teacher, several pastors and bishops, and friends near and far. This year, my list also includes each one of you.

As I prepare to leave Good Shepherd and go to Bethlehem, I am aware of all the ways you have witnessed to me about what it means to be the Body of Christ, and in the process have helped to make me a better pastor. I arrived here with a broken heart, having been bullied by my previous congregation. Not only did you welcome me with loving arms, but a very short 3 weeks later, you arranged to drive me to church and to doctors’ appointments after I fell down the stairs, broke my foot, had to have shoulder surgery, and couldn’t drive! You have received me into your homes, taken me out to lunch and dinner, come to my theatre productions, and put up with my love of the Red Sox. You trusted me enough to share with me your struggles and successes; to accompany you in the deaths of loved ones; and to learn 3 new settings of the liturgy, a new lectionary and innumerable new hymns! You taught me that small churches have lots of gifts simply by

being small, particularly in terms of faith formation and mutual support. You showed me how amazing it is when a congregation takes on a mission, such as giving food to the Food Bank (every week!) and making Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Together we said goodbye to beloved members Alpha, Bernie, John, Joy and Rita; and you have challenged me to be a better preacher and a more compassionate listener. Through it all, you have affirmed my vocation and call.

On a personal level, I have been challenged for years to be fully “out” about my sexual orientation in a congregation, and I know my dating and then marrying the beautiful Lisa took time for some of you to get used to. During these past 5 years, you taught me what it means to affirm someone as your pastor while also figuring out what it means to affirm a LGBTQ pastor, in my case a bisexual one! It took us all a few years to get there, but your adopting a Statement of Welcome, becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation, and coming to my/our wedding showed us all how love, patience, and gentle conversation can change hearts and minds. Your next pastor will be blessed by

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Upcoming Events

11/5, 19	Sunday School
11/15	Council mtg with Rev. Sinnott
11/30	Council Meeting
12/17	Voters’ Meeting

www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar

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

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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	Sally B. Daphne
Claudia	Hawley	Elfriede Anna
Rudy	Pat	Lisa Mary Lou
Jimmy	Sue	Amanda Victoria
Emily	Marianne	David R. Pam
Harold	Arnold	Pat Mike
Rex	Gertrude	Howard Barbara
Alex	Linda & Darryl	Francisco V. Bill & Ellen
Abby	John	Alan

*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*



Annual Turkey Collection

Good Shepherd will be collecting turkeys for the Hamden Food Bank on Nov. 12th and 19th.

Other foodstuffs for Thanksgiving will also gratefully be accepted. Check your local newspapers for discounts on turkeys and canned goods. Feel free to share your coupons at church.

Thank you for your continued support for this mission.

Sue Hartley and John Downs

(Pastor's Reflection continued from pg 1)

the work we did together. Finally, I have appreciated your willingness to be honest with me – not only by telling me when you appreciated something I said or did, but also when you have been upset or angry. You have forgiven me when I have made mistakes, and helped me forgive myself, too. These are all special gifts and I am so very grateful.

From September 2, my first Sunday here, I knew I was blessed to be your pastor. On November 5, All Saints' Sunday, I will give thanks for you as a congregation and as individuals, for all the ways you have shared Christ with and ministered to me.

Pastor Daphne +

PS If there is something that has happened in the past five years that you are still angry or upset about, let's talk about it! I really believe that closure is important in relationships, and we really won't have the chance after December 3.

NEW (Old) LECTIONARY BEGINS in DECEMBER

Since not every congregation uses the Narrative Lectionary, we will be going back to using the Revised Standard Lectionary to make it easier for our supply preachers. The Revised Lectionary is a 3 year cycle (the Narrative was 4): Year A focuses on the Gospel of Matthew, Year B on the Gospel of Mark, and Year C on the Gospel of Luke. Year B (Mark) begins on December 3, the first Sunday in Advent.

FINAL CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation class will be held on the following four days. **ALL CLASSES ARE REQUIRED*** and will last 1 ½ hours. Our curriculum will be *Baptized We Live*, by Daniel Erlander.

Sunday, Nov 5 after church
Wed Nov 8, 7:00 – 8:30
Wed Nov 15, 7:00 – 8:30
Sat Dec 2 TBA



*Sun Nov 12 12:30 – 2:00
Make-up class, just in case.

Advent Giving Tree for Lutheran World Relief

This year we again have the opportunity to contribute to Lutheran World Relief for the holiday season.

Lovely cardboard ornaments will be available in the narthex starting on November 26. Some of the offerings include a goat, chicken or school supplies.

Please choose an ornament and add your donation to your regular contribution and write Lutheran World Relief contribution on the "other" line with the amount on the outside of your envelope.



The tree will be up by the first week of December. You can put your name on the ornament and hang it on the tree.

Many thanks, Sue Hartley

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 8-Jessika Dube'
- 12-Emily Landino
- 13-Elizabeth Ingerson
- 18-John Downs
- 19-Anna Olson
- 27-Carl Sharon
- 27-Barbara Kuslan



Baptisms

Lee Olson, Dottie Podgwaite

Council Notes

Council met 10/25. Pastor addressed to council some things that need to be taken care of after she leaves. A special farewell service will be held 11/26 and her last day, as well as Rite of Confirmation, will be on 12/3/17. Expenses were more than receipts in September partly due to the quarterly insurance payment. It was suggested that we plan now for a supply pastor for Christmas services (Christmas Eve is on a Sunday.) Synod has a list of approved supply pastors on their website. Paul O’Braonain is preparing a press release announcing we are a Reconciling in Christ church. We will have our annual turkey collection on 11/12 and 11/19. Sue Hartley will set up the Christmas tree in December and hang the giving ornaments. (see article on page 3) The mini-grant committee will be reviewing applications and present grant money at a special celebration slated for 2/11/18. The parsonage is pretty much ready for occupancy. Council discussed bringing communion to Elfriede Fleischmann-possibly on 11/19.

Six (6) bags of food and groceries were delivered to the Cheshire Food Bank. They are also looking for whole frozen chickens for Nov. 6th.

FINANCIAL RESULTS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2017

	2017	9/12 of 2017 BUDGET	Over (Under) BUDGET	Prior year Comparative 2016 thru September
Receipts thru September	\$57,721	\$70,125	(\$12,404)	\$53,904
Expenses thru September	\$68,943	\$70,125	(\$1,182)	\$61,846
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$11,222)	\$0	(\$11,222)	(\$7,942)

Our total Operating giving for September was \$5,602 and our expenses were \$7,531 giving us a shortage of \$1,929 and increasing our year-to-date loss to \$11,292. This compares to a 2016 overage of \$575 for September 2016 and a year to date loss of \$7,942. As the above shows our giving this year is ahead of last year by \$3,817, thanks to some extra gifts, but behind our budget by \$12,404. Our expenses through September are under budget by \$1,182 and over last year by \$7,097 primarily because of seasonal expenses. With October projected expenses of \$7,000 and contributions of \$4,680 for the first four weeks of October, we will need \$2,320 of income for the last week to break-even.
John E. Downs, Treasurer

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Date	Acolyte	Worship Assistant	Worship Assistant 2	Cantor	Reader	Ushers	Altar Guild
11/5	Jonathan Olson	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Lisa Martinell	~	Leo Goodrich	John Downs Lisa Martinell	Lisa Martinell
11/12	Nicholas Papa	Linda Kapitan	Sue Hartley	Paul O'Braonain	Linda Kapitan	Sue Hartley James Learned	Linda Kapitan
11/19	Elizabeth Ingerson	John Downs	Ken Watson	~	Ken Watson	Ken Watson Leonard Lye	Chuddy Watson
11/26	Aoife Weischedel	Paul O'Braonain	Leo Goodrich	Paul O'Braonain	Reggie Chang	Reggie Chang Leo Goodrich	Starr O'Connor
12/3	Jonathan Olson	Linda Kapitan	Lisa Martinell	~	Linda Kapitan	John Downs Lisa Martinell	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!

**HYMN SERVICE – Nov 26
A Little Different This Year**

In the past few years, we have celebrated the last Sunday of the church year with a Hymn Service constructed out of verses of the “favorite hymns” of the congregation, and except for announcing the pages, not spoken a word! This year, we will also be celebrating Pastor Daphne’s ministry among us, so we will have fewer hymns and a few more spoken words. It will be a great celebration of music and ministry!

Please be sure to fill out a form with your favorite hymn(s) on it. Forms will be available Nov 5 and 12, or you can cut and paste the following and mail to the church:

My Favorite Hymns		
Your name _____		
Name of Hymn	Hymn # (if known)	Favorite Verse

Mail to 3680 Whitney Ave. Hamden, CT 06518

A NEW CALL FOR PASTOR ... A NEW CHAPTER FOR US

At the beginning of October, Pastor Daphne was appointed by Bishop Hazelwood to be Transition Pastor (with option to be called) for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in East Hampton, CT. A full time position, her first Sunday there will be December 10; her last Sunday here will be Confirmation Sunday, December 3. As a Transition Pastor, Pastor Daphne will walk her new congregation through the interim process, and when they are ready to call their next pastor, she has “right of first refusal.”

While Pastor Daphne’s last Sunday with us will be Dec 3, we will be celebrating the closing of her ministry on November 26. This includes an important litany which acknowledges the various ways she has been a part of our community, as well as a passing on of responsibility to our next pastor.

Part of the process of saying goodbye to a pastor is recognizing that we may no longer contact her after she has gone. While this seems incredibly harsh (to all parties!) it is vitally important that we understand that she is now someone else’s pastor, and that our next pastor knows that we are fully dependent upon her/his ministry.

The council will be meeting with Assistant to the Bishop for Connecticut, Pastor Paul Sinnott, on November 15. They will start working together on the next steps for us as a congregation.

**May God bless us all
in these days of transition!**

CONFIRMATION!

On Sunday, December 3, we will welcome Aoife Weischedel, Anthony Papa, Emily Olson, Jonathan Olson, Emma Ingerson, and Elizabeth Ingerson into full adult membership in the Body of Christ and Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. The rite of confirmation includes the confirmands saying the Apostles’ Creed together, even as their parents said it for them when they were baptized. We will celebrate after the service with a special luncheon – please say “Yes” when Liane Moreland contacts you for help! After their confirmation, Aoife (pronounced “EEfah”), Anthony, Emily, Jonathan, Emma and Elizabeth will be full voting members, as long as they commune and make a donation of record within the year.



“Communion to go” for Elfriede Fleischmann Sunday November 19 after church

Because our faithful member, Elfriede Fleischmann, cannot make it to church as often as she used to, we are going to take a worship service to her! On Sunday, 11/19, after fellowship hour, we will carpool to Elfriede’s house and sing hymns, pray, hear the readings and take communion together. (Pastor Daphne may even ask us to summarize her sermon, so be sure to pay attention that morning!) This is a wonderful way we extend our community out from the church building. Please make plans to stay late that day!

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
Sunday School
(2nd and 4th Sundays)
9:30am

Worship
10:30am



THE STAFF

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Hamden CT 06518-1516

FIRST CLASS MAIL