

The Shepherd's Voice

Through the Holy Spirit, we are called by God to live Christ's love as we touch all those in our lives, our church, and our communities.



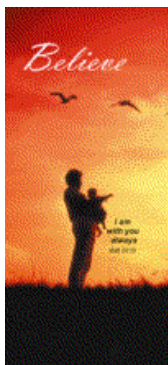
Good Shepherd: The Last 50 years and The Next 50 Years Believe!

"Therefore, I tell you do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to their span of life?"
Matthew 6:25-27

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It has been said that we are living during very dangerous and anxious times. Many people are spending countless hours worrying about everything under the sun. And indeed there are a lot of things to be worried about: high unemployment, a shaky economy, health concerns, educating children, etc. It seems that we could spend our whole life worrying about just about everything. The words I quoted above are from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They are as appropriate today as they were when he first voiced them. "Don't worry, God will provide."

If the founding members of our congregation worried about so many things, there never would have been a church. The fact that they forged ahead is a testament to their enduring faith. I'm sure some of them wondered what the congregation would be like in 50 years. Many of us are wondering what the next 50 years will have in store for Good Shepherd, and there are many things we could worry about. I know that my pending retirement is a cause for anxiety in many people; our budget concerns are another. Then there are the seemingly endless repairs and maintenance that our aging building requires. Our property committee has had a lot to deal with in the past few years, as most of you know. Roof leaks, water in the church, oil tank leaks, new furnaces, parking lot repairs are just a few of the challenges our property committee has faced.



If we concentrate on all our worries, we simply won't have any energy for mission. This year's Stewardship Campaign is based on one word, "Believe!" Trust in the Lord and believe in the words of Jesus that we have nothing to worry about, except maybe worrying itself! So as you pledge your participation in the life and mission of Good Shepherd this anniversary year, believe that Jesus will accomplish what he desires through our hands and our hearts. When you pledge your time, talents, and treasures consider them not so much

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October 2011

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

as obligations but as investments in the next 50 years of faithful ministry knowing not where Jesus will lead us, but following the Good Shepherd into new and unforeseen challenges and opportunities. May the people who will worship and minister from this place in the year 2061 look back on us as favorably as we regard the founding members of 1961. And so let the celebration begin! We look backward in remembrance, celebration, and thanksgiving while looking forward to the future with hope and joy.

O Lord God you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untried and through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward into the future with good courage, not always knowing where we go, but always knowing that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Believe!

Pastor Bryan Leone

Special Update

Pastor Leone will be undergoing same-day hernia surgery on October 12, 2011 and will be recuperating for approximately two weeks at home. For pastoral care please call the church office. Various Pastors from the Southern Connecticut conference will be covering.

Highlights from your Church Council September 14, 2011

Pastor reported that the Council is continuing to establish the Evangelism Committee with a chairperson and new member. If anyone is interested in this please speak to Pastor or Rachel Smith.

Donna Duessel is hoping that members of our congregation will do 50 random acts of kindness to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. They can be recorded on the 50 stars that are on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Plans continue to be made for our 50th Anniversary celebration for November 6th at the brunch and November 11th at the buffet dinner at the Stone Barn at 6:00 p.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting



Please save the date and plan to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting at Good Shepherd on Sunday, **December 4, 2011** immediately following the 10:30 worship service. A light lunch will be provided.

Prayer List

Members: Miriam Kursawe, Audrey Heim, at home recovering from orthopedic surgery; Trudi Black (prayers of thanksgiving for her recovery ahead of schedule), Dorothy Schrecker; Vickye Bell, Joanne Carlson, Ron Basala, Vic Johnson, Ed Mackey, Steve Krajcik, Charlie Miller, Ethan Dikmen, Martha Hoffman, Sue Hough, Bret Jackson, Linda Pleva, Charlie Hoffman - Jewish Home, Kyle Immel, Jill Schmidt, Sarah Mora (had another surgery last week in Colorado); Eric Dreher, and Helen Steinnagel.

The **Prayer Requests for Family & Friends Notebook** is on the counter in the narthex. If you would like to add a loved one to the list, simply write the name in the book. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by email or phone and will be included in the notebook by the church office. Should a loved one need prayers for longer than three months, simply add their name to the list again. **To keep the list current and up to date, only the names recorded in the Prayer Request for Family & Friends Notebook will be listed on the prayer list. If you have not recorded a loved one's name, please do so.**

Family & Friends of Members: Joe, Susan Stockman's niece's husband; JoMarie, friend of Louise Begley; Arleen, friend of Eileen Remlin; Eric, brother of Eileen Remlin; Guy, friend of Matthew Johnson; Teresa, granddaughter of Elizabeth Cukan; Bill, brother of Pastor Leone, brain cancer; Al, friend of the Hassingers, heart surgery; Rick, nephew of Ken & Nina Furnes; Kenny, friend of Amber Serrano; T.J., friend of Amber Serrano; Dorothy, friend of Pastor & Kay Leone; Marge, colleague of Kay Leone; Dave, cousin of Sharon Duda; Bill & Ellen, friends of Pastor Leone; Deborah Finney's father; Mary, sister of Sam Barate; Jim, relative of Donna Duessel; Mirta, sister of Thelma Cleland; Joann, daughter-in-law of Dottie & Charlie Miller; Bob, friend of Dottie & Charlie Miller; Joe, friend of Matthew Johnson; Rose, friend of Nolls & Barate; David, friend of Miriam Kursawe; Anne, friend of Miriam Kursawe; Paul, brother-in-law of Ken & Deb Convertito; Carl, cousin of Arlene Juliano; Joyce, friend of Janet Szulga; Diane, friend of Janet Szulga, Peter, Megan and Caleb, daughter, son-in-law, and grandson of the Begleys; Carl, cousin of Arlene Juliano; Beverly, mother of Vicki Creutz; Rose & Roger, friends of the Julianos; Sandra, friend of the Nolls; Pastor Gene Mitchell (Greater Hartford Conference); Janet, sister of Carolyn Immel; Renate, friend of Kay Leone; Patrick, nephew of Cindy Carlson; Jeff and Laura, son-in-law and daughter of Bill and Marie Fisher; Linda, sister-in-law of Vic Johnson.

Special Prayers for Armed Forces Personnel: Ryan Piccirillo, Scott Crews, Brian Kursawe, Glenn Riccio, Damon Dykes, Megan Dobbins, Phillip Balestrieri and Guy Davis.

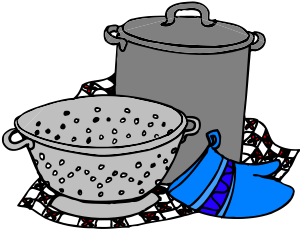
Our deepest sympathy and prayers to:

The Reck and Gorman families on the death of † Alma Anderson †.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147 vs. 3

Community Supper - December 7, 2011
at Golden Hill Methodist Church, Golden Hill Street, Bridgeport



Cooks and set up crew needed between 2:30 -3:00 P.M. There is a serving crew, therefore only cooks are needed from Good Shepherd. If you haven't already signed up and would like to help, **please put your name on the list in the narthex.** We can discuss car pooling if you want to. Servers are responsible for cleaning up, so when we are finished with the meal preparation, we are free to leave. Any questions, please speak to Peg Wesche or anyone who has attended a supper before. Thank you!



Shepherd's Pantry

Soup
Spaghetti sauce
Mayonnaise

Juice
Snacks - crackers and cookies

The Social Ministry and Community Outreach Committee invites you to contribute items to the Shepherd's Pantry located in the narthex. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month. The Pantry also accepts Big Y coins (gold and silver) which can be put in the basket that has been placed on the Shepherd's Pantry shelves in the narthex. If you have any questions, please speak with Diane Hensel.

Spinach Casserole

We have received many requests for this delicious casserole. Special thanks to Leslie Forte for sharing it!

3/4 cup uncooked brown rice
 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
 2 tablespoons parsley (chopped)
 1 lb. fresh spinach (chopped)
 2 eggs (beaten)
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 2 tablespoons wheat germ
 1 tablespoon butter (melted)



Cook rice and combine it with cheese. Combine eggs, parsley, salt & pepper. Add 2 mixtures together and stir in spinach. Pour into oiled casserole dish. Top with wheat germ mixed with butter. Bake at 350° for 35 minutes. Enjoy!



Blessing of the Pets



Do you have a pet? Would you like it to be blessed by Pastor Leone? If your answer is yes - please bring your pet and join Pastor Leone and Reverend Kurt Huber on Sunday, October 2nd at 4:30 p.m. at the Monroe Town Green for a special event: Blessing of the Pets.



Like us on Facebook!



www.gslc-ct.org/like

If you're on Facebook, you can now [like us](#) for updates and announcements straight to your News Feed!

Thank you

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, (dated 9/11/11)

Thank you for your generous donations to support the troops in *Afghanistan*. It means the world to the deployed servicemen & women that people back home remember and appreciate what we are doing overseas and the sacrifices we have made to represent our country. Your generous gifts have lifted the morale of my unit and I'm taking some of the toys, paper & games over to the Bagram Base hospital so that the Afghan children in the ICU will have something to play with & they will know America cares. Thank you again for your wonderful gifts.

Sincerely,

Scott Crews

CDR, USN

Bagram Airfield AF

50th Anniversary Celebration and Challenge

Good Shepherd is celebrating its 50th anniversary in November and the Congregational Council has issued a challenge to the congregation to participate in 50 acts of living Christ's love. Gold stars will be used to track our progress on the Anniversary Bulletin Board near the Pastor's office.

Our celebration includes a celebration service at 10:30 am on Sunday, November 6th with a pot-luck brunch to follow and a dinner at the Stone Barn on Friday, November 11th. There are reservation forms for the dinner on the table in the narthex or call the church office to have one sent to you.

Stop by the table in the narthex and make a sheep to be included on anniversary banners. The Sunday School kids made their sheep on Rally Day. We want to be able to include a sheep for each person in the congregation.

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 ☆	7	8	9	10	11 ☆	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Fall Clean Up Day Saturday, November 5, 2011

Please mark your calendars and save the date to join the Property Committee for fun and fellowship as we rake leaves and clean the church. Many hands make light work! Rain date November 12, 2011.

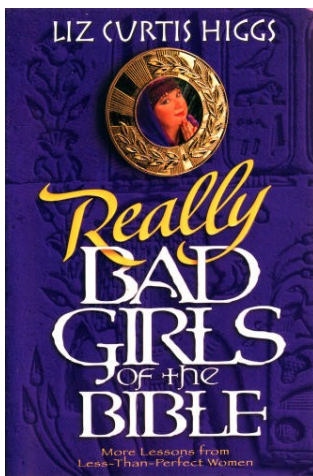
Sunday School News

Attention Sunday School students and parents - dates to keep in mind for October:

October 2: Students will sing their first song of the year at the start of the 10:30 service.

October 16: Will be a regular Sunday School lesson. There is no Stewardship breakfast that day.

October 30: This is our first Family Worship of the year and we are celebrating Reformation Sunday. Students and their families are invited to join us at 9:15 for a brief service and family activity. Remember to wear Red for Reformation!



Women's Bible Study

The women of Good Shepherd continue to explore the Bad Girls and Really Bad Girls of the Bible. The next session is Wednesday evening **October 26th** at 7 pm.

Are you interested in a Saturday morning study in November? If so, express your thoughts and suggestions to Renee Shoop.

The Third Course

Saturday, October 1, 2011 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church 73 Lancaster Street Worcester, MA

Registration \$25.00

Need Information? Speak with Ursula Paradis

Details and Registration forms are on the bulletin board in the hallway.

New England Women of the ELCA

A Day of Food for the Spirit

Happy Birthday

Linda Bespuda	1-Nov	Donna Duessel	20-Nov
Bob Mc Farland	1-Nov	Hans Liechti	22-Nov
Justin Thom	1-Nov	Robert Wheeler	23-Nov
Vicki Creutz	12-Nov	Cheryl Aubrey	25-Nov
Ewald Steinnagel	12-Nov	Christa Buck	27-Nov
Bob Carlson	13-Nov	Dorothy Miller	27-Nov
Jill Schmidt	16-Nov	Joan Doherty	28-Nov
Lori Wheeler	16-Nov	Nancy Johnson	28-Nov
Hilary Vojtek	17-Nov	Lance Kessler	28-Nov
Ethan Hoffman	19-Nov	Sam Barate	30-Nov
Donald Juliano	19-Nov	Kristen Cavaliere	30-Nov

The current month's birthday listing is posted on the bulletin board outside of Pastor Leone's office. If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office and the files will be updated. We do not want to miss anyone's birthday.

Treasurer's Report - August 2011											
Contributions	August		Actual	YTD Bdg	Var	Expenses	August		Actual	YTD Bdg	Var
	Actual	Bdg					Actual	Bdg			
Envelopes	10,365	13,500	128,867	132,800	(3,933)	Pastoral Ministries	\$7,462	\$7,548	\$61,556	\$60,383	\$1,174
Loose Offerings	50	150	1,378	1,450	(72)	Mortgage	1,723	1,650	15,613	13,200	2,413
Church School	0	2,161	401	3,430	(3,029)	Music & Worship	2,216	2,219	20,048	20,597	(549)
Lent & Easter	0	0	1,689	1,600	89	Benevolence	1,042	1,659	15,080	14,277	803
Other	482	58	3,644	1,979	1,665	Property	833	786	10,195	6,442	3,752
Thanksgiving	0	0	0	0	0	Office	1,561	1,379	12,504	15,327	(2,823)
Advent/Christmas	0	0	0	0	0	Utilities	1,970	606	12,018	7,610	4,408
						Christian Educ.	1,251	3,100	1,860	4,035	(2,175)
						Intern	0	0	0	0	0
						Evangelism	44	21	159	167	(8)
						Youth	0	38	0	300	(300)
						Stewardship	0	0	0	0	0
						Insurance	380	404	3,407	3,232	174
						Altar Guild	0	98	212	336	(124)
						Social Ministry	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$10,897	\$15,869	\$135,979	\$141,259	(\$5,280)	Total	18,482	19,507	152,652	145,907	6,745
Variance	(\$4,972)		(\$5,280)			Variance	(1,025)		6,745		
							Dec '10	Aug '11		Var	
Surplus / (Deficit)	Actual (\$7,585)	Bdg (\$3,638)	Actual (\$16,673)	Bdg (\$4,648)	Var (\$12,025)	Cash/Investments*	61,737	\$48,964	(\$12,773)		
Current Intern Fund	\$19,287					Mortgage	163,034	\$153,327	(\$9,708)		
						Pastoral Housing	97,227	\$98,690	\$1,464		
						Capital Reserves	1,300	\$2,633	\$1,333		

* Excludes Memorial, Exchange, Intern, Pastoral Housing and Campership Funds

Significant Activity in August:

Contributions were \$4,972 below budget in August and are \$5,280 below budget year-to-date
 VBS Contributions were budgeted as Operating but it was agreed to record the contributions as Exchange (\$3,000 budget)
 Excluding VBS, Contributions were \$1,972 short of budget in the month and \$3,280 for the year
 Contribution shortfall due to one less Sunday, 8/28 Service was cancelled due to Hurricane Irene
 Expenses were \$1,025 below budget for the month
 - \$3,100 of VBS Expenditures were budgeted, but was agreed that the expenses would be treated as Exchange
 - \$1,251 of VBS Expenses were recorded to Operating as this was the net shortfall in the VBS Exchange balance for the year
 - Oil Expenses were \$1,428 overbudget for the month and are \$5,036 overbudget for the year
 Deficit for the month was \$7,585 versus a budgeted Deficit of \$3,638
 Deficit year-to-date is \$16,673 versus a budgeted Deficit of \$4,648
 If budgeted results achieved from September to December, Forecasted Deficit would be \$12,027
 Budgeted Surpluses/(Deficits): September (\$3,543), October \$2,996, November \$26, December \$5,1667



**LUTHERAN HOME OF SOUTHBURY RESIDENTS'
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SPREE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011
10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**



**The Cathedral Room glows with the Christmas Spirit
A lighted Christmas Tree
Gift tables covered in red and green
Tis' the Annual CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SPREE**

**THERE IS A COLLECTION BOX IN THE NARTHEX FOR DONATED
ITEMS.**

**ALL DONATED ITEMS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE CHURCH BY SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 30th OR YOU CAN DELIVER THEM TO THE HOME BY WEDNES-
DAY, NOVEMBER 2nd. THANK YOU!!**

Any questions, please speak to Dorothy Kaiser or Peg Wesche



**Connecticut
Marriage Encounter Weekend!
November 11-13, 2011**

**A weekend without Jobs, Chores or other distractions.
Just you and the person you chose to spend your life with!**

For details contact Jeff and Karen Jackson For more information or a registration brochure, visit our website
www.GodLovesMarriage.org

No one needs a weekend...
but everyone deserves a weekend.



**Save the Date
Annual Spaghetti Dinner
March 24, 2012**



Don't miss out! Mark your calendars for March 24, 2012 for the Annual Spaghetti Supper. We are planning a special event to include delicious food, great entertainment and wonderful fellowship. Watch upcoming newsletters for more details...

Only 176 days to go...