



# Shepherd's

## August 2023 Newsletter

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,  
Oak Park IL Volume 58, Number 8

# STAFF

## Good Shepherd Block Party!

Let's celebrate the end of summer as well as Pastor Kathy's fifteen years at Good Shepherd (and ... her birthday is on August 25!). We'll head to the front lawn immediately following our 9:30a worship service on Sunday, August 27.



We'll be looking for volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up, food prep, children's activities, and putting together a keepsake for Pastor Kathy. Talk to Joan & Phil Taylor (GS Connects chairs), or Gail Frost to sign up!

## Upcoming Events!

**August 27:** In addition to our Block Party, bring your school or work bag to worship for a [Backpack Blessing!](#)

**September 24:** The popular [Neighbor-to-Neighbor Brunch](#) is back! On September 24, we'll gather in our neighbors' homes in community with each other after our Sunday worship. See page 6 for details!

**September 30:** *Prosit!* [Oktoberfest](#) is back! This annual tradition features German food, dancing, and fun for all ages! Details on page 4.

**October 7:** [Donut Day!](#) We're looking forward to using the new and improved kitchen facilities at Pilgrim Church. Sign ups will begin in late August.

**October 20-22:** High Schoolers—the Metro Chicago Synod is have a [synod-wide youth gathering!](#) We'll spend the weekend experiencing great food, games, music, and interactive learning. See page 3!

## Reflections on Fifteen Years at Good Shepherd

On July 31, I completed my fifteenth year at Good Shepherd. At first glance this could be summed up with statistics:

- 81 baptisms
- 77 students confirmed
- 239 new members installed
- 35 members lives celebrated with memorial services



For me, though, the years aren't gathered in statistics, but stories; stories where our lives intersected, and life became rich and full. Within the many stories is the way that your lives became part of the tapestry of my life, beginning in the weeks before I came to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

While my first official day was August 1, 2008, I remember Jan Salzman, as council president, and a contingent of members at my mother's funeral in July. While my mom had been terminally ill, her passing was a hard shock to me and my sisters. Experiencing the compassion of Good Shepherd even before I started as your pastor was reassuring and a spiritual confirmation of my call.

When I purchased a house in Oak Park there was a whole team of people who arrived ready to help me unbox my contents. Jeff King set hangers in the brick fireplace for my artwork, John Wallick washed down dusty walls, Karen Stratton led a whole flurry of members who put away everything in the kitchen. While I am certain that curiosity spurred some of the volunteering, what I felt was the embrace of people who wanted to say, "Welcome home."

And in those early years my home was a place for ministry, the flexible open concept allowed extra tables for me to host a grilled cheese and soup lunch for Daytimers and a wine tasting party led by Barb Hunt. For several years I gathered E.J. & Nick Roginic, Tim & Amy Clute, and other young adults for board games. (Who knew that the game "pandemic" would become real?)

*continued on page 8*

## PHASE 2 RENOVATIONS

### Task Force Update

Following a thorough analysis of various scenarios for managing Good Shepherd's mortgage debt from Phase 1 (fire recovery renovation and repair), as well as the impact of this debt on our ability to finance Phase 2 renovations, the Phase 2 Renovation Task Force Core Team has recommended that Good Shepherd use a significant portion of our renovation-related funds to pay down our mortgage.

The Finance Committee has endorsed this recommendation with the caveat that enough renovation-related funds be maintained to replace/repair the existing fire escape, as well as pay fees needed to continue the study and planning related to Phase 2 renovations (such as architect fees).

At its July meeting, the Congregation Council received this recommendation and authorized a \$400,000 payment to pay down our mortgage principle. Once this payment is made, Good Shepherd's mortgage balance will be approximately \$300,000. Financing term options of the remaining balance will be considered with the goal of paying future mortgage payments from Good Shepherd's unified (operating) budget and committing capital campaign contributions (current and future) to financing Phase 2 renovations.

Our ability to pay down such a significant portion of our mortgage, and our ability to consider making future mortgage payments from our unified/operating budget, is the result of the **generosity of the Good Shepherd community** – those who have contributed to the Capital Campaign, those who have pledged to make future contributions to the Campaign, and those who give so generously through regular offerings to Good Shepherd.

THANK YOU for your generosity and for your commitment to the future of Good Shepherd's ministry. Our vision to be a community of faith that welcomes ALL people equally, including people of all physical abilities, is empowered through YOU. Thank you for being a blessing to Good Shepherd so that Good Shepherd can be a blessing to many.

More information about the financing of the Phase 2 renovation will be shared in September in conjunction with our congregation's stewardship campaign. In the meantime, the work of the Phase 2 Renovation Task Force continues:

- Refreshed architecture plans for the entrance vestibule and those spaces impacted by this new, accessible welcome space are in the works;
- Construction budgets are in development;
- Fire escape repair/replacement plan design and construction options are underway;
- Capital Campaign planning (current and future) continues.

Please consider joining the Task Force. A variety of perspectives and a broad base of participation is needed to fully realize the impact potential of Phase 2 Renovation. For more information about the Phase 2 Renovation Task Force, please contact the church office.



Our sanded and refinished sanctuary floors look amazing! Many, many thanks to all who helped to move chairs, pews, and other furniture!

### TITHE.LY: Give Anywhere from Any Device



Tithe.ly is an easy way for you to donate to Good Shepherd. Download the app on your smartphone or go to your computer and search for Tithe.ly. Once you have found the app and logged on, look for Good Shepherd Church. Use it to make your contributions to the church via mobile, text, or web.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Sunday School News



### August 27: Block Party and Backpack Blessing!

Bring your school bags along to worship to receive a blessing and backpack tag for the year ahead! Stay after worship for a fun day of food and games as we celebrate the kick-off of the program year, as well as Pastor Kathy's 15 years with Good Shepherd.

### September 10: Sunday School Starts and Grandparents Brunch

Students that are age 2 through grade 6—join us for Sunday School! We are excited to return to a full program, now that we have walls that create individual classrooms! You can register your child/ren now by using the above QR code, or by going to <https://tinyurl.com/gslc23-24SundaySchool>.



After worship, we will celebrate **Grandparents Day** with a simple brunch for students and grandparents. Family not close by? We have amazing seniors at Good Shepherd that would be thrilled to be “adopted” as grandparents for the day! Speak to Deaconess

Debbie if you'd like to be connected.

### September 16: Bible Workshop

Students in 3rd and 4th grade (and at least one parent or other designated adult) are invited to join Pastor Kathy for a Bible Workshop! She'll give an overview of the types of writing we find in the Bible, teach how to look up Bible verses, and share why this is her favorite book. Meet at Good Shepherd at 9:00a.



### September 17: Bible Presentations in Worship

During worship we will be presenting age-appropriate Bibles to our students. We're catching up from pandemic years, so Deaconess Debbie will be reaching out to parents to see if your child has received one yet. Cheers to catching up!!

## Confirmation News

Students in grades 7 and 8, and their parents are asked to attend an information meeting about our confirmation program. We will meet on **Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00p**. You may join us in person or via Zoom. A reminder and the Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date.

## High School News

### August 8: Service Opportunity-Housing Forward

High Schoolers, please come and help prepare lunches for those experiencing homelessness. We'll meet at Good Shepherd at 4:00p and should wrap up no later than 5:00p. Please let Deaconess Debbie know if you will be coming so she can plan accordingly.

### August 28: Come and Learn about Youth Gatherings

Parents and high school students are invited to join Pastor Kathy and Deaconess Debbie for an information meeting at 7:00p as we introduce two Youth Gathering opportunities:

#### 1. October 20-22, Synod Youth Gathering

For the first time, the Metro Chicago Synod will be having its own gathering for high school youth from around the synod! We'll be meeting at the Tinley Park Convention Center for times of worship, reflection, group games, and a large group service project. Cost and registration details will be shared soon!

#### 2. July 16-20, 2024, National Youth Gathering

After a couple of Covid-delays, the ELCA Youth Gathering is BACK! The dates are July 16-20, 2024; the place is New Orleans. All students that are in 8th-12th grades in the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to attend.



Although it seems far away, an event of this size and scope requires *early registration* (registration opens on September 15!!). Join us for an informational meeting on **Monday, August 28 at 7:00p** as we share the what, when, where, and how of the Youth Gathering.

# GS CONNECTS

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Linda Thomas  
 Anders Olson  
 Lynn Zamora  
 Valerie Peiler  
 Becky Serpe  
 Lucy Scott  
 Ivy Loentz  
 Nathan Sargent  
 Nathan de Groot  
 Dwayne Washington  
 Harry Patterson  
 Brynn Thompsen  
 Emerson Thompsen  
 Reginald Mortha  
 Nola Roth  
 Paul Pedersen  
 Amy Overby  
 Vicki Scaman  
 Fran Arcuri  
 Talley Hann  
 Caitlin Rank  
 Cassie Scaman  
 Daniel Scherer-Emunds  
 Fred Bryant  
 Paul Wilson  
 Kathy Nolte  
 Christiane Broihier  
 Karson Karnachanaphati  
 John Caldwell  
 Kelly Guagenti  
 John Jackson

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Mary & Meinrad Scherer-Emunds  
 Paul & Kathy Schlichting  
 John Jackson & Michelle Sukup Jackson  
 David Settje & Paul Wilson  
 Billie & Robert Navarro  
 Jo Mohan & Sean Daly  
 Kevin Olson & Betsy Bowen  
 Tim & Amy Clute  
 Jean & Bill Peterman  
 Lee & Jen Fritz  
 Dave & Nola Roth  
 Liz Lemke & Dan Feiertag  
 Carrie & Carson Cook

**Please note:** Personal information, such as birthdates, anniversary dates, and personal contact info are stripped from the web-site version of our newsletter. If you would like a complete newsletter, please contact the church office.

### Oktoberfest, September 30

Oktoberfest is back!!! A fall tradition that began in 2012, this community event combines German traditions, good food, and ethnic dancing for an evening of fun for the entire family. Music will again be provided by Paul Collins of Ethnic Dancing Chicago. Paul has led us in a wide range of ethnic dancing for many years. Food will include German roast pork, sauerkraut, spaetzle, potato salad, and German desserts. (We will be seeking volunteers to help with the event. If you would like to be part of the cooking crew, please let Barb know.)



Oktoberfest will be held Saturday, September 30 from 5:30 until 8:00p in Fellowship Hall. Tickets will cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 14 and will go on sale in mid-August. For information, contact the church office.



### MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

Fred Bryant turns 85 and John Caldwell turns 97 this month!

### Book Club

The Flock o'Readers book club will be discussing the book *Still Life* by Sarah Winman on August 23 at 2:30p at church. We will also be selecting books for the fall at this meeting. For information, contact Barb Hunt.

### Daytimers

Daytimers will visit Cantigny Park on Tuesday, August 8. Cantigny has beautiful gardens and is the home of the First Division Military Museum. Lunch will be at the bistro in the park. We will leave church at 10a. For information, contact the church office.

## Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessing



On July 16, members and friends brought pets of all kinds to be blessed.



## Reflection on Blessings

Pastor Kathy's sermon on July 9 really struck a place in my heart. She preached on blessings and how blessings flow through us and beyond us. It made me realize all of the blessings that I have been given - being born into a loving family, a very much wanted child; having a loving family of my own; stable relationships; and a loving church family. I am blessed. I believe we all are blessed. And as we are blessed, these blessings flow through us and beyond us. How do blessings flow through you - who has helped you - who has blessed you?

As we have been blessed, we as a church are blessed together. It is these blessings which enable us to bless others - in the hospitality we share with everyone who comes through our doors, with the outreach we do - either helping with lunches to Bethel Lutheran's neighbors, or helping migrant families who have come to our area.

- ⇒ We are blessed with all of the people who contribute to our worship services - from setting up for communion each Sunday, to reading the lessons or prayers or by participating in the choir.
- ⇒ We are blessed with those people who share their tech gifts so we can be on-line for worship each week.
- ⇒ We are blessed with people eager to participate in our Christian Education program - from Sunday School leaders to our students and families.
- ⇒ We are blessed with people who look after our building and grounds, from those who water and weed in the summer to those who shovel snow in the winter.
- ⇒ We are blessed with leadership: Pastor Kathy, Pastor Kersten, Deaconess Debbie, Carl Heine, Kimberly Adami-Hasegawa, our congregation council, and committee chairs.
- ⇒ We are blessed with the monetary gifts and a spirit of generosity that flows from this faith community.

We are blessed! And our blessings are to be shared with one another. That is the way that blessings work - going through each of us and out into the community. I hope that my blessings have made me a person who does what is needed. I hope I have used my blessings for the greater good.

How will you use your blessings? Where will we see you blessing our community? Because it does take each and every one of us to keep Good Shepherd alive and well and be a blessing to all!

*Gail Frost, Council President*

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# transformed living

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In a sea of vulnerable and closing congregations, Good Shepherd is a rare pearl; a vibrant, diverse, and active place, connected to the greater world. This fall we take it up a notch, using a program based upon the book *Treasures of the Transformed Life*. Everyone connected with Good Shepherd, whether a member, friend, or casual visitor is invited to participate in the program.

Our church family will embark on a forty-day study that can literally change the way you feel about prayer, church attendance, acts of service, and even financial giving. By the time it's all said and done, you'll be able to see your relationship with God in a whole new way, confidently understanding how to "live all the days of your life," per the well-known Irish blessing. There are many ways to participate:

## **August 27<sup>th</sup> Block Party**

Architect renditions and drawings will show the proposed addition to the building for a new ADA. Learn more about how this entrance will transform both the way that we interact with one another from the moment we step in the door, and how it can enhance our ministries to the community. Within your commitments to the congregation, you'll be invited to participate in a capital improvement campaign. Find out about the plans and connect with the Phase Two leader, Mark Ledogar, on this day of celebration.

## **September 24 - Neighbor-to-Neighbor Brunch**

After years of being disconnected due to the pandemic, it's time to transform the way that we live in connection with one another. After worship on Sunday, September 24, everyone is invited to gather in small groups at people's homes for brunch. These brunches are a wonderful way to connect with people you might only see passing in church. Every member and regular visitor will be assigned a location, with an option to opt out.

Experience tells us that we need 10-15 host homes. The host provides a location for people to gather and share a meal. Some hosts limit the number of guests to the chairs around a table, others open their homes more broadly. You decide. The guests bring the food. Sign-up to be a host home now through the Sunday Prayers and More form or by sending a message to the office.

## **September 10-October 22 – Small Group Study**

Everyone will have access to a 40-day study based upon *Treasures of the Transformed Life*. It contains 2–3 minute readings with thought-provoking questions to ponder. You can opt to do this study on your own, but we encourage you to participate in a small group to openly discuss what you're learning. While this may seem like one more thing to do in a busy schedule, we hope that you see it as a chance to be transformed both by God's word and other people's stories.

During August we will be looking for people willing to gather small groups, either in their home or perhaps in a coffee shop, on a weekly basis. There will also be a few zoom-based gatherings offered.

# SOCIAL MINISTRY

## Bethel Lunch Program, August 24

Bethel Lutheran Church, located in the West Garfield Park neighborhood, serves 110 to 150 hot lunches every Thursday. **Good Shepherd helps serve on the fourth Thursday of every month.**

To work the whole shift, arrive at 10:30a and leave at 1:00p. We carpool from Good Shepherd at 10:15a.

The address of Bethel is 130 N Keeler, Chicago. If you cannot volunteer but wish to donate towards the meal, contact Pastor Kathy. Sign-up on the Prayers and More.



Good Shepherd and Bethel celebrate 1 year of partnership in serving Thursday lunches.

## Other Social Ministry News:

1) We will be starting our fall rotation soon, for delivering lunches to Housing Forward on Tuesday evenings. New participants are needed! Please contact Bill Peterman, if you'd like to be part of this team.

2) Household items like pots and pans and dishes are needed for asylum-seekers moving out of the police station in Austin. Contact Mary Scherer-Emunds if you have items to donate.

3) Thank you to those Good Shepherd members who represented our congregation in the Gay Pride parade.



## Youth Service Trip, Milwaukee



In July, four youth joined Deaconess Debbie and Tim Novak for five days of service in Milwaukee. We spent our time doing weeding and gardening, helping at food pantries, cleaning up at local parks, and preparing meals for the rest of the participants. We also found time for ice cream, hanging out at the beach, and spending time with new friends from other congregations.



*Continued from page 1*

In June of 2012, Harry and I married amid the Vacation Bible School props created by the Wegener family as the whole congregation joined us in the celebration. Soon after, Shirley and Jack Christell welcomed us as family into their home, starting with lunches that reflected their value of hospitality. When Jack became frail, it was a joy to create "Jack's Pajama Crew," with seven teams of members to show up nightly to help change Jack for the evening. Harry knew Jack and Shirley well by that time and eagerly took his night. My favorite Christell memories are standing with members around their bedsides in the days before they passed joining voices in familiar hymns and prayers.

The statistics of babies being baptized isn't just about sprinkling heads. In that first year, Elizabeth Overland kept calling me about a mom-to-be who was getting close to giving birth. I couldn't understand the urgency in her calls until the babies were born, and soon I was standing in the NICU with Leah and Anthony praying over three tiny babies. How I miss that family now that they've moved to California! So many prayers over children, sometimes from afar, sometimes next to a hospital bed. Within those prayers are always ones for the parents, who will remember the anxiety and pain, while their children blissfully grow beyond the crisis, too small to remember.

When the part-time youth leader resigned just six weeks before the National Youth Gathering, leaving many details, such as transportation, unfinished, Gail Frost stepped up quickly to organize the crew. She did all that was needed to ensure that the youth had a great experience.

I'd like to say that I can remember the grace extended to me in the year after my lightning strike (also in 2012), but I really can't because my brain was deeply damaged by the electrical overload. What I do know is that for the first two months, when my brain was not function-



ing, you allowed me to keep working. Work has always grounded me and was important at that point. Staff and congregational leaders picked up the slack, making all decisions. Within weeks Good Shepherd hosted twenty-five guests from Haiti for the Taizé gathering at DePaul. Dave Roth stepped up and made certain that the right plans were in place.

Our family-like connections were truly evident during summer family retreats. Someone cared for kids at the beach while other parents took much needed rests. Everyone pitched in to create meals. Grace, love, and laughter abounded as the rich tapestry was woven.

By September 2018, when we had the fire, we knew how to lean into one another in order to both rebuild and to expand our ministries. A crisis like that has the ability to expose and amplify fatal flaws in the relationship between pastor and congregation. Instead, I experienced a sense of trust and shared problem-solving that continues to resonate, not just in my leadership at Good Shepherd, but in my hope for the institution of organized religion. It has been amazing to work with people who truly believe that the message of God's love found through the life and words of Jesus Christ is a healing balm to a broken world.

In addition to the statistics at above, there are five administrative staff who have come and gone: Vicki May, Jean Pepler, Catie Withers, Jan Rizzo, and Rosemary Dyson. Four musicians/directors of music have passed through: Stuart Leitch, Mark Law, Daniel Endow, and Jonathan Oblander. The last four years have seen the greatest stability in staff of my tenure. Yet these are the years of our greatest challenges, as we worked through the repair from the fire and moved in and out of a pandemic.

As I enter my sixteenth year, I am grateful for the amazing, talented, flexible, committed, and caring staff and many leaders that I work with. Dan Feiertag, Lynn Railsback, Mark Ledogar, and Gail Frost are strong threads in the tapestry as they have taken so many roles throughout the years. I am especially grateful



for Deaconess Debbie, who has served alongside me for most of my fifteen years. Early on we realized that our individual differences were our combined strength. I am a visionary with lots of ideas. She is grounded in depth and details. I love activity and action; she is thoughtful and measured. I wait till the last minute to complete things, continuing to add more information and options along the way; she has a to-do list that she works through faithfully. If all of you are family, Deaconess Debbie is like a sister.

There are so many more memories that have built the tapestry of our life together, but I've already written more than my allotted space allows. Going into the sixteenth year I am excited for upcoming ministry. I truly believe that the pandemic is enough in the past that we can begin expanding our ministries. We have both walls for classrooms and many young students for Sunday School. We've made strong connections for Social Ministry, and ideas are already expanding for how we might enter in. Worship has already enjoyed restarting some great traditions, such as outdoor worship and pet blessing, while incorporating new possibilities, such as livestream and movable chairs.

The biggest challenge for this sixteenth year is whether we can complete the vision we had not in 2018, but in 2011: creating a front entrance for everyone. In that 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we talked about our mission statement and our expressed value for every human being. Yet that statement was, and is, at odds with the fact that those with walkers, wheelchairs and strollers are unable to join us at the front door. They must go to a back door, ring a bell, wait for someone to come open the door, take a small lift that often barely meets their needs, and then awkwardly enter the sanctuary from the front. No slipping in quietly for that group.

The challenge isn't whether the vision is faulty, but do we have the will, the energy, and the financial commitment necessary to build an addition that will allow everyone access to a space that leads to staircases and an elevator for all? We've gone through a lot, especially since 2018. Many of you have given generously to get us this far. It seems like a huge hurdle. But as I look at the tapestry of our time together, I can't imagine us not doing it. We've done amazing things together. My gut says we've got this... just like we had so much in the past.

*Pastor Kathy Nolte*

## Invitation and Welcome

I recently received an invitation to a friend's birthday party. The invitation was easy, intentional and personal. The host asked me to join them . . . I was invited. When I arrived at the party, I was greet-



ed warmly, and the sense of love and friendship continued throughout the evening. The host was glad I was there . . . I was welcomed.

Our Good Shepherd family has the opportunity . . . the privilege . . . the responsibility . . . to INVITE and WELCOME people and share with them the assurance of God's love. In many ways, we are the hosts of the most wonderful, love-giving, life-affirming party around! Let's continue to lean in to inviting and welcoming those around us.

Special thanks to those who have recently contributed in special ways to inviting and welcoming:

- Pete, Rose, Gail, Barb, Joan, and Phil for representing Good Shepherd at Oak Park's Day in Our Village.
- Michelle, John, and Lisa, who organized and hosted visitors at Good Shepherd for the Garden Walk.
- Everyone who likes, follows, and shares Good Shepherd's posts on social media.
- Those who are intentional about greeting others during worship as exemplified by our Sunday morning Visitor Hosts –Rose, Phil, Joan, Fred, Tecla, Leslie, Rich, Linda, Susan, Paul, and Richard.
- Those who have already started to think about people they would like to invite to Good Shepherd for the start of our program year beginning with our community party on August 27.

Please contact me for more information about invitation and welcome at Good Shepherd, and to share your thoughts, ideas, and talents.

*Mark Ledogar, Evangelism Champion and Chair*

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Pastor at Synod 5:30p Christian Ed	2 7:30a Matins (Offsite)	3	4 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> 5:30p Persist 8p AA	5 10a Blackberry Farm 10a Celebration of Life
6 1p Ray of Hope 7:30p AA	7 10:30a Staff Meeting 12p Worship Planning 7:30p AA <b>Pastor Kathy vacation</b>	8 10a Daytimers 4p Youth prepare lunches for HF	9 <b>Council Reports Due</b> 7:30a Matins (Offsite) 7p Circle of Care	10 7p WMA	11	12
13 1p Ray of Hope 7:30p AA	14 10:30a Staff Meeting 12p Worship Planning 7:30p AA	15 <b>Deadline:</b> <b>Shepherds Staff</b> 7p Finance	16 7:30a Matins (Offsite)	17	18	19
20 1p Ray of Hope 7:30p AA	21 10:30a Staff Meeting 12p Worship Planning 7p Council 7:30p AA	22 Pastor at Synod	23 7:30a Matins (Offsite) <b>2:30p Flock o' Readers</b>	24 10:30a GS at Bethel	25 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> 8p AA	26
<b>Block Party</b> <b>Backpack Blessing</b> <b>Pastor Kathy's 15 Ann.</b> 9a Scratch Choir 1p Ray of Hope 7:30p AA	28 10:30a Staff 12p Worship Planning 7p Youth Gathering Mtg 7:30p AA	29 Pastor at Synod	30 7:30a Matins (Offsite) 7p Circle of Care	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           Summer Sunday Worship Schedule:            9:30a Worship (in-person &amp; livestreamed)            10:30a Fellowship         </div>	

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

611 Randolph, Oak Park, IL 60302  
708-848-4741 | [goodshepherdlc.org](http://goodshepherdlc.org)  
[churchoffice@goodshepherdlc.org](mailto:churchoffice@goodshepherdlc.org)

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod (mcselca.org) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (elca.org).*

### Staff 708-848-4741

Rev. Kathy Nolte, Pastor (ext. 2)  
Rev. Kerstin Hedlund, Associate Pastor  
(leave message with Admin. Asst.)  
Deaconess Debbie Speer, Director  
of Christian Education (ext. 4)  
Dr. Carl Heine, Music Director  
Kimberly Adami-Hasegawa,  
Office Administrator (ext. 3)

### Council Officers

Gail Frost, President  
Pete Chapman, Vice President/Personnel  
Richard Sehl, Secretary  
Dan Feiertag, Treasurer

### Council Liaisons

Rose Mabwa, Social Ministry,  
Evangelism, Worship, Music & Arts  
Carrie Cook, Finance, Sustainability,  
Stewardship  
Lee Fritz, Property, Christian  
Education, GS Connects

### Committee Chairs

Christian Education – Kristin de Groot  
Evangelism – Mark Ledogar  
Finance – Laura Knitt  
GS Connects – Joan & Phil Taylor  
Property – Rich Novak  
Social Ministry – Mary Scherer-Emunds  
Stewardship – *open*  
Sustainability – Michelle Sukup Jackson  
Worship, Music & Arts – Lynn Railsback

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00a - 3:30p  
Friday: 9:00a - noon

Pastor is available  
by appointment:  
[calendly.com/revk](http://calendly.com/revk)

## Worship

On August 13, we will welcome jazz trumpeter James Davis for a service steeped in blues and New Orleans jazz.

The final Scratch Choir of the summer will be on August 27. Meet in the sanctuary at 9:00a to learn a song to sing with the choir during that day's service.

Our summer worship hours end on Labor Day weekend. Beginning on September 10, we will worship at 8:30a and 10:30a, with Education Hour beginning at 9:15a.

## Ways To Give

Did you know about these ways you can make contributions to Good Shepherd?

- Stock or other securities given via ELCA Foundation, <https://foundation.elca.org>.
- Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA, when your age is at least 70 1/2. Find out more from your IRA administrator.
- Vehicles--running or not, even riding lawnmowers: <https://www.ncsvehicledonations.com/nonprofits/good-shepherd-lutheran-church/>

If you are contributing in these ways, thank you. And, please let Kimberly in the Church Office know so your gift can be properly recorded.

## Knitters/Crocheters Needed

Do you knit or crochet? Contact Pastor Kyle Severson at the Synod office if you'd like to help support a special project for the Metro Chicago Synod: [kseverson@mcselca.org](mailto:kseverson@mcselca.org).

## Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Kathy will be on vacation from August 7-19. Please contact the church office for any needs during her absence, and they will direct you to the appropriate person.

For Financial updates, please contact the church office.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
611 Randolph, Oak Park IL 60302

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Good Shepherd  
Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

611 Randolph St, Oak Park

Worship Service, 9:30a

(thru Labor Day)

www.GoodShepherdLC.org

708.848.4741

ChurchOffice@GoodShepherdLC.org

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, where our doors  
are open wide to people from all backgrounds.  
We want to be a place of blessing. If you are just beginning to  
wonder about Christianity, this is a safe place to ask questions  
and to explore possibilities. If you have been journeying with  
Christ for some time, this is a place to grow deeper in your walk  
as a disciple. If you have wandered here and there or up and  
down in your spiritual journey, this is a place to speculate,  
marvel, seek, and find.  
And whether you live out your faith primarily through study,  
meditation, emotional experience or social activism, you can find  
others at Good Shepherd who share your spiritual temperament.  
This is a place of open doors, open minds, open hearts, open hands.