

THE MESSENGER

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
June 2022



Pastor's Message

THE REV. JOSHUA SULLIVAN

Grace and peace to you from God our beginning and our ending Jesus Christ,

The end of May and the beginning of June have been difficult and sad days. With mass shootings targeting people of color in Buffalo, New York and innocent children and teachers in Uvalde, Texas, the horrendous violence that Sin causes is quite close to our minds now. I know many of you are angry and sick at the injustice of these very visible gun-deaths. We weep with those who weep. Let us also speak courageously for change.

In last months' newsletter, and from the pulpit too, I wondered: "How and when has the Holy Spirit been working on you in our past 8 months together?" With the circus of death and grief on display in our country, compounded with COVID and the on-going suffering in Ukraine, I got the feeling that the question I'd been asking you all might have been kind of confusing, or at least ill-timed.

So, here's a different question for the season after Pentecost: **Why are you here?**

Why do we do what we do?

Why drag yourself out of bed on a Sunday morning? Why come out on a Thursday evening for devotions or classes. Why bother? We believe and confess that we are justified and forgiven by God—by God's absolutely free grace. It's a gift, we don't need to come to church to earn or prove anything. So why?

Our Forward Leadership Community teams have been asking and answering this question, as well as our Sunday morning Cross-Generation class, and our congregational council. At our congregational meeting on June 12th we will reflect on this question as well.

I must say: the answers so far have been powerful. Many answers to this question are inspiring akin to the story from the book of Acts when the Holy Spirit rushed upon Peter and the earliest Church.

- *Acts 2: 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place.*
* Folks say they are here because they belong here, they are loved here. The merger freed you all of any unhealthy love of buildings and traditions to reveal that what draws you here is the sense of family, love and belonging. God's Spirit has gathered us all together in one place.
- *2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.*
* Many, also, have said they believe the Spirit is here. God is here in the Sacraments, in the Word preached and sung. The Spirit is here, encouraging us to adapt and helping us change—transforming, growing and building us up. But the process of the Spirit coming, through the merger, was tough! You could say it was like a violent wind that had to blow some things down and shake others up.
- *3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.*
* Here is a mysterious part of the story. Divided tongues as of fire? Think of these maybe as visible representations of God's power. And there was a tongue for them all. As we continue to gather together and find our stride as Christ the Good Shepherd, as our ministry teams, bylaws, and committees form, we are here because all are invited to serve and to participate with their own unique gifts.

(continued on page 3)

**CHRIST THE GOOD
SHEPHERD LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
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Council Members

1/1/22—12/31/22

President: Ken Watson

Vice-President: Leo Goodrich

Secretary: Brenda Samal

Treasurer: Ruth Lye

Financial Secretary: Lisa Ball-Goodrich

Worship: John Downs

Fellowship: Linda Kapitan

Inreach: Ursula Hunter

Outreach: Sharon Napolitano

Property: Durbin Hunter

Learning: Krista O'Brien

Stewardship: Rob Landino

***In Our
Thoughts & Prayers***



Ruth	Anna	Don
John	Elfriede	Peggy
Linda	Mary Lou	Jim & Joanne
Paul	Elaine	Tom
Kathy	Jessika	Elinor
Phil	Greg	Christine
Joni	Florence	Silas
John		



July 3, 2022—
September 4, 2022
9:30am

Affirmation of Baptism

June 5, 2022

Grace O'Brien
Anna Hansard
Jess Hansard



**Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Mission Statement**

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is called and committed to building a vibrant, welcoming community to proclaim Christ, nurture the faith, serve others and bear bold witness to God's love throughout the greater Hamden region and beyond.

(Pastor's message..continued from page 1)

- *4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*
- * Many have also said that our community is growing to become a brave space—a place to share our God-stories and our trials boldly in a language that all can understand. Others have confessed that they are here because our community endeavors to be an inclusive and welcoming place—to meet our shifting and changing culture and community half-way, and to share God's timeless love and forgiveness and presence in the language of others.

What would you add to this discussion?

What does your “tongue as of fire” teach you to say and spur you to do in this time and place?

Yours in the Spirit,

Pastor Josh



COLLABORATE
for Christ's sake
SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2022

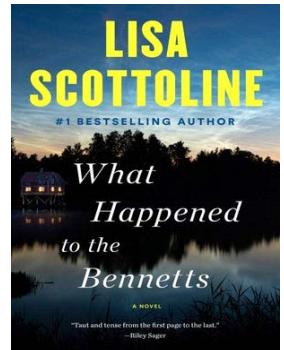
Synod Assembly!
June 9 - June 11, 2022
DCU Center, Worcester, MA

Pastor Josh, Leo Goodrich and Rob Hansen will be attending, representing Christ the Good Shepherd!

CGSL Book Club

As posted on Goodreads--- Jason Bennett is a suburban dad who owns a court-reporting business, but one night, his life takes a horrific turn. He is driving his family home after his daughter's lacrosse game when a pickup truck begins tailgating them, on a dark stretch of road.

Suddenly two men jump from the pickup and pull guns on Jason, demanding the car. A horrific flash of violence changes his life forever.



Later that awful night, Jason and his family receive a visit from the FBI. The agents tell them that the carjackers were members of a dangerous drug-trafficking organization - and now Jason and his family are in their crosshairs. The agents advise the Bennetts to enter the witness protection program right away, and they have no choice but to agree. But WITSEC was designed to protect criminal informants, not law-abiding families. Taken from all they know, trapped in an unfamiliar life, the Bennetts begin to fall apart at the seams. Then Jason learns a shocking truth and realizes that he has to take matters into his own hands.

* * * *

The CGS book club will be meeting in person on July 13 at 6:30. Please go through the door to the Fellowship area. If you would like to participate, please feel free to pick up a copy of the book and join us. I got my copy from Libby (a library online app)—both the print and audio are available.

Hope to see you there!!!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Please note that newsletter articles for the July 2022 issue of the Messenger are due June 26, 2022.

**Still time to sign up for the Camp Calumet
Walk the Walk**

Christ the Good Shepherd has a team of eight signed up so far. We hope more will join in on this two month (July-August) walk to support Calumet.



You don't strictly have to walk. You can run, bike, swim, kayak, etc. -- really any kind of movement counts! Keep track of how many miles you log in each day and our team captain, Cyndi Hansard will request your miles at intervals.

Walk the Walk is less about athleticism and more about camaraderie and supporting Calumet.

Go to www.calumet.org/walkthewalk2022 for more info, and contact team captain Cyndi Hansard with any questions.



Class of 2022

Graduating from Cheshire High School~

Elizabeth Ingerson
-daughter of Sarah DeLong

Anthony Papa
-son of Anthony & Brianne Papa

"May He grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans!" Psalm 20:4



Council held its monthly meeting on May 18, 2022. A motion was made and approved to accept Chris, Carla, Caitlin and Kara Trutnau as members of the new church, Christ the Good Shepherd. Discernment discussion was about "Finding our Why". Next on the agenda was hearing from the confirmands. Grace and Jess were able to attend the meeting and Anna's interview was done via Zoom. Three questions posed to them were—

1) What one thing stands out with the time together? That God is all loving and always there; Old and New Testament readings, time from Adam & Eve to the Risen Christ; Learning the history of Lutheranism.

2) What one thing would you change to improve the course? Loved the lessons and discussions; having lessons outdoors; readings from the Bible.

3) What do you look forward to doing after confirmation? To do volunteer work for the church; help with serving; likes seeing the changes at our church and would like to help out; learn more about the sport of fencing.

A motion was made and approved to accept the confirmands as adult members of the church.

Worship-Motion was made to begin Summer worship schedule of 9:30am the first Sunday of July through Labor Day.

Financials— Reports for April were very good. *Property*— Many updates continuing. Meeting room completed, receiving quotes for lighting and ceiling tiles, driveway repairs underway, room rearrangements and a new table rack approved for purchase.

Facility Renewal—Many items have been completed on the color-coded job list.

Fellowship— No coffee hour if no one signs up.

Learning— Confirmation is June 5. Intro to Lutheranism has been going well.

Outreach— Food collections continue.

Inreach— Calls continue to be made.

Congregational Meeting: June 12, 2022
Council Meeting: June 15, 2022

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Ushers	Altar Guild
6/5	John Downs	David Brown	James & Joanne Learned	Lorraine Brown
6/12	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Rob Hansen	Durbin & Ursula Hunter	Ursula Hunter
6/19	Durbin Hunter	Paul Snyder	Ken Watson Paul Snyder	Starr O'Connor
6/26	Linda Kapitan	Sharon Napolitano	Phil & John Napolitano	Sharon Napolitano
9:30am 7/3	Rob Hansen	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	David & Loraine Brown	Lorraine Brown
7/10	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Durbin Hunter	Starr O'Connor John Downs	Ursula Hunter
7/17	Linda Kapitan	David Brown	James & Joanne Learned	Lorraine Brown

If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please find a substitute, and make the change on the master schedule. Thank you for serving!

Trash Duties for June, 2022



Date bins out / in	Responsible Party	Recycling?
June 1-2	John Downs	No
June 8-9	Leo Goodrich	Yes
June 15-16	David Brown	No
June 22-23	Rob Hansen	Yes
June 29-30	Leo Goodrich	No



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
				7-8pm- Lutheranism Class		
5 Day of Pentecost 9:00am Cross Generation Faith 10:00am Holy Communion Confirmation	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Synod Assembly		
12 The Holy Trinity 9:00am Cross Generation Faith 10:00am Holy Communion Congregational Meeting	13	14	15 7pm Council	16	17	18
19 Second Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Cross Generation Faith 10:00am Holy Communion	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Third Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Cross Generation Faith 10:00am Holy Communion	27	28	29	30	<i>July 1</i>	2
3 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Holy Communion (Summer worship schedule)	Happy 4th of July	5	6	7	8	9



Masks optional

In light of the changes in mask policy in the town of Hamden and decreased COVID cases across the state, the congregational council has voted to make masks optional during worship and inside the building.

Facebook Live will always continue to be available.

If you are immuno-compromised, unvaccinated, feeling sick, have been exposed to someone who tested positive, or you yourself have tested positive, or you just are not comfortable worshiping in-person—please join us via Facebook Live! Remember to say “Hi, from so-and-so!” in the comments section so we know who is worshiping with us.

Holy Communion continues.

The communion elements are prepared by our altar guild with masks and gloves. If you are not comfortable removing your mask to receive, come forward with arms crossed for a blessing. *Please wait at the first pew in the center aisle, and allow the person in front of you time to receive both bread and wine before you come forward for bread.*