

# Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

## October 2021 Newsletter



### What would make church more purposeful and fulfilling?

The Vision Council approved the creation of a Mission Vision Task Force to develop ministry recommendations and a staffing structure to support our Mission for the next 3-5 years. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd is important to all of us, and so are your ideas, experiences, and feedback. We are using a Mission Vision Survey to solicit your thoughts.

Please complete the Mission Vision Survey by October 10, 2021.

- Online at <https://lcsduluth.org/survey/>. An online response is preferred if you are able.
- Return a completed paper copy to the survey box in the office. A survey is enclosed.
- Each person in your household is encouraged to complete a survey.
- Survey responses are confidential.
- We will be sharing the overall survey results with the congregation with further discussion.

We encourage you to complete the survey as soon as you can - and please encourage family members and friends in the church to do so as well. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important way to share your thoughts and ideas for our future.

SCAN ME



Sincerely, LCGS Mission Vision Task Force Members:

David Chura, Co-Chair

Sara Hendrickson, Co-Chair

Cyndi Venberg, Vision Council President

Pastor Dave Mesner

Pastor Nancy Hong

Nan Asperheim

Emma Johnson

Jennifer Julsrud

Mike Klopp

Tim Kreft

Chris McIntosh

Katie Rich

Julie Seidelmann

Paula Tsufis

### Connection & Call: What's Your Story?

#### Stewardship Annual Financial Response 2021: October 10-24



During this year's Annual Financial Response, the Stewardship Committee invites the congregation to deeper discipleship and shared learning from the NE MN Synod lay leader program. We give financially to things in our life that have meaning and value in our lives. In our troubled times, our church's vital mission of personal transformation and salvation for the world is needed more than ever.

Psalm 40 is titled "Thanksgiving for Deliverance and Prayer for Help." As I was enjoying Pastor Dave's Sabbatical Psalm study this summer, I was struck how well verse 10 captured the importance of not continuing to keep our stories "hidden." Our stories are powerful to share our connection with God and others during difficult times. We also share our stories of thanksgiving and joy and calls to increased personal commitment to God's mission. We invite you to sign up for a 3-week small group in October to share (or listen) to our stories of struggles, saving help and faithfulness. Sign up will begin mid-September in the Gathering Space.

We are very excited also to have Dr. Andrew Root as our guest homilist and adult forum speaker on Sunday October 10, 2021. Root puts together theology and storytelling to explore how ministry leads us into encounter with divine action. At the forum he will speaking on "Why are we all so exhausted? The Church in a Time Crisis"



**Childcare will be provided. Please contact Katie Rich who will be organizing that 525-1922**

### Join us for worship Sunday at 8:45 and 11:00am

8:45 will be in the sanctuary, masks required.

11:00 worship service this Sunday will be outdoors in the upper parking lot (weather permitting) All are invited to bring a lawn chair.

With the exception of October 10, when Andrew Root will be our guest homilist, all 11:00 services through October 24 will be scheduled outdoors, weather permitting. We want to provide as safe a worship environment as possible for children under 12 who have not had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

"Due to the increase in the highly contagious Delta variant of Covid-19:

1. We now require masks that cover your nose and mouth.
2. We are using recorded songs and instrumental music, instead of hymns.
3. For the time being there will be limited communion Sundays

Thank you and we wish you well!"



### "A People of Hope: Until All Are Fed"



You're invited to celebrate World Food Day with "A People of Hope: Until All Are Fed," featuring **Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton** and guidebook author and travel TV host **Rick Steves**. This online benefit for ELCA World Hunger will take place on **Thursday, Oct. 14**, at 7:30 p.m. Central time. Special guests include the Rev. David Beckmann, who is being honored for his lifelong service to end hunger; the Rev. Rebel Hurd; Willie and Anne Langdji; and the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla. There will also be performances by Rachel Kurtz, Peter Mayer and the St. Olaf Choir.

As a church, we remain focused on supporting our neighbors near and far as the pandemic continues disrupting and impacting lives. At this event, you will learn about the ways ELCA World Hunger is responding.

Register today. <https://community.elca.org/online-registration/a-people-of-hope-ELCA-World-Hunger>



## Halloween Food Drive

Halloween is on a Sunday this year! Let's celebrate with a "Reverse Trick or Treat" Halloween Food Drive – instead of collecting candy, Sunday School kids will be collecting Food Shelf Donations for CHUM! Don't you just love kids in costumes?! Come see and celebrate with us by bringing in food, money, and loose change for the food shelf. (Confirmation Sunday will also be happening on October 31 at 11:00 am - so we'll keep the Halloween Celebration earlier at 8:45 am and 10:00 am – both worship and Sunday School.)



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd continues the exterior work to make our entrances inviting. We are looking for mums, fall pumpkins, corn husks, gourds and other fall things to use by the doors. We also need a variety of green pine branches in November. If you have anything to share please call Cyndi Venberg at 218-391-8953. Thank you.

Thank you and God's Blessings to Katie Rich who has celebrated 10 years of ministry with LCGS! Through the years she has walked with youth and their parents on their faith journeys. We are all blessed by her messages on Sunday mornings. She has adjusted so beautifully to the current pandemic by continuing ministry here in new and thoughtful ways. We are so grateful and blessed to have her on our staff!! Please wish her well!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are going to keep Sunday School flexible and creative this year. Worship is back in person, but things aren't "normal" yet. Right now, masks are required for all in the church building. We will follow the church and school district's mask recommendations throughout the year. And, we will also meet outside on nice days when the weather cooperates.

**October 3 – Lost/Prodigal Son**

**October 10 – No Sunday School; but childcare will be provided so that parents can attend the forum at 10:00 am. Please contact Katie Rich if you want/need child care that morning.**

**October 17 – Lost Coin, Lost Sheep, and Lost Son** – Recapping all three stories we've learned so far...

**October 24 – Pumpkin Sunday!** Decorate a pumpkin, bring it home, and remember to practice giving thanks every day from now until Thanksgiving...

**October 31 – Blessing of the Halloween Costumes at 8:45 am, plus a Reverse Trick or Treat Food Drive** and other fun activities

**Sunday, October 3 is a big day here at church!**

**First Communion Sunday for 6th and 7th Graders,**

**plus the Bible Milestone for 3 Year Old's, 3rd Graders,** and any adults who want or need a Bible. The 8:45 Worship will be inside the Sanctuary; the 11:00 Worship will be outside (weather permitting...)

**Save the Date...** New Wrapped in God's Love Milestone will be expanded this year to include 4 Year Olds, 6th Graders, and Adults! Come see what we mean on November 14

## CONFIRMATION

7th, 8th, and 9th Graders at Good Shepherd:

Save the date: Starting Wednesday, October 6

**Hello Confirmation Families,** Confirmation will start on Wednesday, October 6th with a Kick Off Night for all grades (7th, 8th, and 9th) and their parents. We might meet outside...We might meet one grade at a time... That's all "to be determined" but I promise to keep you posted. Just know that *\*yes\** Confirmation will happen this year, but we are going to wait a couple weeks and let you adjust to the "new normal" at school first.

Thinking about you, praying for you, and hoping to see you soon...Katie

**The theme for Confirmation is "How To"** – the Mission Statement Year. We'll learn how to be a Good Samaritan... How to ask good questions... How to help others (and ask for help, too...) and much, much more. You can pick up a full calendar during our Kick Off/Open House:

October 6 – Kick Off / Open House from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

October 13 – Good Samaritan: How to Make a Friend

October 20 – Good Samaritan Service Project

October 27 – Good Samaritan: How to Welcome

## HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9-11)

It's time for the ELCA Youth Gathering! We'll be Gathering in Minneapolis next summer **with 30,000 other Lutheran youth from across the country.**

Sign up this fall so we have time for fundraisers and group meetings to get ready for this lifechanging and faith-changing experience.



## Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (ELCA)

1325 North 45th Avenue East, Duluth MN 55804-1507



2021

Change Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG

US Postage

PAID

Permit No 28

Duluth, MN

Place address label here.

(new postal regulations)

## Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

### Office Hours

Mon-Th : 9-4:00pm

Fri: 8-12pm

Phone: 218-525-1922 •

Website: [www.lcgsduluth.org](http://www.lcgsduluth.org)

## MEET THE STAFF

Pastor Dave Mesner, Lead Pastor

(home) 218-529-9715

email: [dmesner@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:dmesner@lcgsduluth.org)

Pastor Nancy Hong, Interim Pastor

email: [hongnancy284@gmail.com](mailto:hongnancy284@gmail.com)

Katie Rich, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

email: [kkrich@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:kkrich@lcgsduluth.org)

Christine Whitcomb, Office Manager

email: [office@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:office@lcgsduluth.org)

Amie Abenth, Communications Coordinator

email: [communications@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:communications@lcgsduluth.org)

### Music Team:

Linda Turpening, Organist email:

[linda@archdirect.com](mailto:linda@archdirect.com)

Debbie Sanders, Good Shepherd Choir Director

email: [debra.k.sanders@icloud.com](mailto:debra.k.sanders@icloud.com)

**Worship at 8:45am and 11:00 Sundays!**

**Sunday School at 10:00am**