



The Shepherd's News

132 East Valley Forge Road · King of Prussia · Pennsylvania 19406 · 610.265.4545
September 2019 · October 2019 · November 2019

Fall 2019

The church is in the midst of the “Long Green Season.” This means that from June 23rd - October 20th the paraments will be green. It is the extended season of Pentecost. For some of us it is rather boring, but for the altar guild it is a welcome break! But there is one exception ... one day when the altar guild will change the green paraments to white and that will be on Sunday, September 29th. Liturgy Geek Alert: Whenever a saint day falls on a Sunday, the saint day is observed. This year, on Sunday, September 29th we will celebrate Saint Michael and All Angels.

Of all the saint days, this is one of the most popular. I imagine that is because many of us are fascinated by angels. Probably the most familiar angel is the one we hear about at Christmas ... the angel Gabriel. But my favorite angels are the ones that pay a visit to Abraham and Sarah under the Oaks at Mamre.

It was a quiet summer afternoon and Abraham was sitting in the doorway of his tent, within the shade of the oak grove at Mamre (a few miles from Hebron in Palestine). He was looking across the field in the mid-afternoon when he saw three travelers walking along. This was an unusual site indeed! Rarely did one see travelers in the heat of the day. When he saw them, he suddenly sprang into action! He begged the men to stop and rest, and to eat with them. They did. The strangers brought Abraham and Sarah a message that would change their lives forever. They told the couple that they will have a son. In their old age, their dream of becoming parents would come true and that through them, an entire nation would be born.

The Apostle Paul reminds us, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2) It’s one thing to imagine angels with wings and halos, but quite another to imagine that they may look like us! At Good Shepherd we have visitors come through our doors almost every Sunday. It is our job to welcome them in Christ’s name. We rarely know who these people are or what has brought them through our doors. Who knows, they might be angels ... sent to us ... coming with a message.

I look forward to seeing you at worship on Sunday, September 29th as we celebrate Saint Michael and All Angels and every Sunday. One never knows when we might be visited by an angel.

Peace,

Pastor Julie

Pastor Julie DeWerth

SPECIAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL

Beginning September 8th we will return to two Worship Services at 8:30 & 10:45 A.M.

Holy Communion will be offered at both services weekly.

September 8th — Rally Day — Blessing of Backpacks and Installation of Sunday School Teachers

September 15th—Pulpit Exchange—Pastor Joe Varshani from Saint Michael’s will exchange pulpits with Pastor Julie DeWerth for the day.

September 29th—Saint Michael and All Angels

October 6th— Blessing of the Animals at 2:00 P.M. in the outdoor sanctuary

October 27th — Reformation Sunday—**wear red**

November 3rd — All Saints Sunday — The names of those who have been baptized at Good Shepherd during the past year and those who have entered the church triumphant this year will be recognized during the prayers of intercession.

November 10th — “Hearts and Hands” will display their handiwork.

Veterans will be recognized during the prayers of intercession. Baptism of Leo Cangiano at 10:45 am.

November 24th— Christ the King Sunday—Commitment Sunday — Members will be invited to bring forward their 2020 gift intention to Good Shepherd during the offering at both services.

GOOD SHEPHERD MONTHLY OUTREACH

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH—The September Outreach funds will support **Silver Springs Martin Luther School**. Founded in 1859 as an orphanage, today Silver Springs provides education, nurturing, and healing services for more than 2,300 vulnerable children and families each year, many of whom have experienced significant traumas and losses. Your support during the month of September will go toward Silver Springs “Fund the Mission.” Good Shepherd’s support of the “Fund the Mission” allows them to leverage our gifts to encourage others to support the ministry and the vulnerable children they serve. *Checks may be made payable to Good Shepherd and designated for “Outreach.”*

OCTOBER OUTREACH —The October Outreach funds will support **Grace and Cecil Bean Soup Kitchen**, which is housed at St. John’s Episcopal Church on Airy Street in Norristown. The soup kitchen serves over 600 warm meals on a weekly basis. The kitchen has been serving the hungry of Norristown for over thirty years. Good Shepherd makes casseroles and then serves lunch on the 3rd Saturday, every other month. Your gifts will help support this very important ministry. Consider lending your "sweat equity" by participating. (see page 6 for dates and details) *Checks may be made payable to Good Shepherd and designated for “Outreach.”*

NOVEMBER OUTREACH —The November Outreach funds will support **Face to Face** in Germantown. At **Face to Face** struggling families, individuals and the homeless are welcomed and treated with dignity and respect. Their goal is to meet basic human needs and reduce suffering; thereby assisting their guests to a better future. **Face to Face** serves 2,500 guests annually and has been a stable presence in Germantown for over 20 years. **Face to Face** believes that each guest is the equal of each staff member and volunteer. *Checks may be made payable to Good Shepherd and placed in a pew envelope marked “Outreach.”*



Baptisms

June 23, 2019

Travis Ian Palmer

Son of Ryan Palmer and Stephanie Ruda



August 18, 2019

Landon Romano Lutz

Son of Richard and Stephanie Lutz



August 18, 2019

Mason Edward Phillips

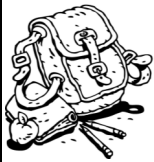
Son of Timothy Riggle and Tina Phillips

Wedding

October 5, 2019

Erin Rackovan and Jason Malarchik





Bring your backpack on Rally Day for a Backpack Blessing at Sunday's services

RALLY DAY—September 8, 2019
Worship Services—8:30 and 10:45 A.M.
Education Hour—9:30 A.M.



Rally Day is the day when the church “rallies” together to launch all of the educational ministries for the upcoming school year. We will celebrate Rally Day on September 8th. All (adults and children) are invited to join us in Founders Hall at 9:30 A.M. for a presentation (See below). Of course we will end with light refreshments!

Our Sunday school program will start each week at 9:30 A.M. in our Education Building classrooms and continue until 10:30 A.M. Our program has been designed to provide meaningful Christian education for children and adults wherever they may be on their faith journey. Classes are offered for adults, youth and children from age 2 on up. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Karen Lehman at karen_lehman@verizon.net.

Thank you volunteers!

Co-Superintendents: Sue Groff and Karen Lehman

Teachers: Beth Bullwinkle, Pam Kamat, Jen & Karen Lehman, Jason Malarchik Barbara Petroske and Erin Rackovan
 Substitutes: Lysbeth Feliciano, Peter Fleischer, Heather Francis, Sue Groff, Donna Montich and Liz Smith

Important dates for our Fall Sunday school calendar are:

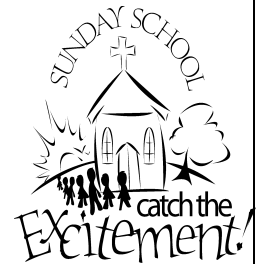
9/8/19—Rally Day

Presentation of Bibles to Kindergarten & 5th Grade Students

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Blessing of Backpacks

12/1/19—Thanksgiving Break—No Sunday School



RALLY DAY SPEAKER

September 8, 2019

9:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

In Founders Hall



Elise Seyfried has published a fourth collection of pieces that celebrate her hectic, funny life as a church worker (she's Director of Spiritual Formation at Christ's Lutheran Church in Oreland), author, actress, mom and grandma. *In Discovery: Thoughts on an Unfolding Life* includes stories about Elise's search for a baby Jesus for her church Christmas pageant, breaking up with her Fitbit, yard sale failures, and New Year's resolution triumphs. Elise learns to let go of her five kids as they leave the nest: one spends a year as an exchange student in Thailand, a son enters the Naval Academy, her youngest daughter backpacks solo through Europe. Adventures near (attempting to outsmart a resident mouse, fighting over back-to-school supplies in Staples) and far (getting lost in Barcelona and Paris, sleeping in a haunted Irish castle) inspire Elise to look for the extraordinary in the everyday, and the hand of God in all of it. She encourages all of us to look for, and find, the miracles in the mundane moments of our lives.

Elise has written essays, devotions, plays and skits for *Living Lutheran*, *The Word in Season*, *Clergy Stuff*, *Arches 'n Bells*, as well as essays for many other publications including *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Purple Clover*, *Modern Loss*, *Grok Nation* and *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. She also co-produces and writes for *Able, Together*, the quarterly synod disability newsletter.

FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE***Saturday, September 14th—9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.***

Mark your calendars for this year's flea market. There will be tables to rent (\$20) for anyone who chooses to display and sell his/her own crafts or wares. Space is available outside. Set up for inside tables will be Friday, September 13th 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Set up for outside tables will be Saturday, September 14th at 7:00 A.M. Please call the church office to reserve your table today! (610-265-4545)

CALLING ALL BAKERS!!!

Hearts and Hands needs baked goods for the bake table at the Good Shepherd Flea Market on September 14th. Baked goods can be dropped off at Founders Hall on Friday, September 13th from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. There is a sign up sheet on the credenza in the Narthex or contact the church office with any questions (610-265-4545).

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE—Friday, September 27, 2019

Good Shepherd will be hosting this important mission on Friday, September 27th from 2:00—7:00 P.M. In addition to the regular blood donors in the King of Prussia area, the Red Cross would like to find some 'new blood'! We ask that you consider becoming a blood donor and if you are not able, perhaps there is another family member, neighbor or friend, who you know that may be a willing donor. Please do not wait to be called to volunteer! If you are willing and able, contact the church office as soon as possible and we will schedule a time for you to donate. Kendra Zadrejko is coordinating this event and can be reached at 484.213.7023 or email kzadrejko@gmail.com.

Thank you for considering this vital outreach!

GOOD SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL NEWS

Did you know Good Shepherd's preschool program is 30 years old? We welcome 50 children two, three or four mornings a week between September and May. We still have a few openings for this school year if you know a preschooler who could benefit from a loving, Christian preschool. Contact Diane Smith for more information. 610-265-0733

PRESCHOOL ICECREAM "FUN"DRASER

The preschool program is having a Family Fellowship "Fun"draiser at Petrucci's at Nor-view Farms (670 N Henderson Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406) on **Thursday, September 12th from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**. The congregation is welcome to join us to see the animals, purchase a treat and meet our staff and families and help raise money for the Good Shepherd Preschool.

HOMEBOUND VISITATION MINISTRY

June Bachman sends her love to all the members of her faith family! Hele and Mark Vondra had a wonderful visit with June, who just turned 93. June is one of the most joyful people Hele has ever met. Spending time with June is always uplifting! Your faith family needs a few more people to visit homebound members like June. We only ask that you do one visit per month, at a time convenient for both you and our member. If you would like to share your love by visiting our homebound members, please contact Janice Rackovan at jcrackovan@gmail.com.



The Music Ministry of Good Shepherd



We are about to start a new year of music, and there are opportunities for you to get involved in our Music Ministry. If you have *thought* about joining us.....well, what are you waiting for? Come speak with me and let's get you plugged in and offering your talents here at Good Shepherd!

Here is all the start-up information:

The Chancel Choir

will resume rehearsal on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th, 7:30pm-9:00pm.**

All are welcome to join us for the year, or even seasonally.

The Chancel Ringers

will resume rehearsal on **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12th, 6:30pm-7:30pm.**

The Good Shepherd Orchestra

will resume rehearsals starting in October.

The music is accessible for folks of all musical ability.

If you play any instrument, let's get you a seat!

Instrumental or Vocal Solos

Anyone who feels led to do either of these is welcome to do so here at Good Shepherd.

Let's talk about how you can offer your talent.

Parents: If your child has started learning how to play a musical instrument, I would LOVE to know about it! It's important to me to provide opportunities here at church for them to - as Philippians 4:9 says, "put into practice what they've learned." Perhaps they could play an introit, or join us in the orchestra. Let's talk about it!

As always, if you have questions about our music ministry or perhaps are still hesitant to join us, please contact me at: (484) 369-1017 or at GoodShepMusic@yahoo.com.

Let's make a joyful noise!

Yours in Song,
Ross

Women's Retreat at Bear Creek Camp

Pastor Julie will be leading the Bear Creek Camp Women's Retreat this year, September 27 - 29, 2019.

Come spend the weekend delving deeper into God, nature, and community while staying in our cabins. The fire-side lounge offers quiet seating for meeting, reading, and relaxation. The retreat will include outdoor activities to test your wild side. Our chef prepares delicious meals with vegetarian options, beginning on Friday with a buffet dinner and ending with Sunday's lunch. Mark Your Calendars Today!

Register now at Bearcreekcamp.org. The cost for the weekend is \$175. There is an early bird discount of \$10.00 if you register by the beginning of September and an additional discount of \$5 for those who have never attended this retreat. We will be carpooling up from Good Shepherd.

Pastor Julie would like to keep a list of those who register for carpooling purposes, so please email her when you register at juliedewerth@gmail.com.

**Join us on September 23rd for another
Manna Monday - Dinner & Speaker Event**

Topic : Christian Minimalism

Jump onto the Minimalism movement! Learn about the freedom that adopting a minimalist lifestyle offers and how beautifully it ties into Christian lifestyle.

Featured Speaker: Christian Minimalism blogger Pastor Becca Ehrlich.

Join us for either part or both parts of the evening. This event (as with all of our events) is open to the community.

**Dinner 6:15pm to 7:00pm (*please RSVP*)
Speaker starts @ 7:00pm (*no charge & no RSVP necessary*)**

The Bubeck family will be cooking a delicious, homemade dinner. Dinner will include deconstructed lasagna both chicken and beef, salad, bread and dessert.

\$5.00 per person/\$20.00 max per family. Please request vegan/vegetarian option in advance.

Dinner RSVP with church office: 610-265-4545 / gskopstaff@verizon.net

October 28th—Manna Monday is Haunted Hallways—please put that date on your calendar for a spooktacular evening.

**FALL MEAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES
Saturdays, September 21st and November 16th**

It is just one meal, but it fills the body and, we pray, the soul, for at least one afternoon. It has been a blessing both to those who are food insufficient and to those of us who serve. We are looking for volunteers on Saturdays, September 21st and/or November 16th to make and serve meals to our “cousins” in Norristown at the Cecil and Grace Bean Soup Kitchen held at St John’s Episcopal Church located at 23 Airy Street, Norristown, PA 19401. We need volunteers to make the casseroles and the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches on Saturday morning beginning at 8 am at Good Shepherd (done by 9:30). Two drivers are needed to transport the food from Good Shepherd to the soup kitchen in Norristown at 11:30 am. Ten people are needed at the soup kitchen to serve beginning at 12 noon. You will be finished by 2:30 pm. Youth ages 12 and up can help us in the kitchen. We also need volunteers to bake cookies to serve as dessert. Please drop cookies off at the church that week no later than Saturday morning by 11 am. We need to know who will help prepare, drive or serve so please sign-up in the narthex. Please call or email Janice Rackovan at 610-715-2601, jcrackovan@gmail.com, with any questions or to sign-up.



CARDMAKING WORKSHOP



Birthday coming up? Need to send a thank you to someone? Want to get a head start on holiday cards? Join us on Sunday, October 6th, from 12-1pm to craft your own handmade greeting cards. We'll have examples of the type of cards you can make along with all of the supplies you'll need. Please sign up on the sheet on the card table in the Narthex. A light lunch will be provided. The class is free. A good will offering will be accepted to offset the cost of the lunch.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS — SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th



This special event will take place in the outdoor sanctuary (Founders Hall if raining) on October 6th at 2:00 P.M. We will have a short liturgy. No pet is too big or too small, too slimy or too furry. Even if you don't have a pet, come out and enjoy other people's special friends! *Come one ... come all!* This special event honors St. Francis of Assisi. In the event of rain, we will bring our friends indoors.

FALL DINNER for the WOMEN OF GOOD SHEPHERD Wednesday, October 23, 2019—6 P.M.

You are invited to the Annual Hearts & Hands Pot Luck Supper! This year's dinner will take place on Wednesday evening, October 23rd, beginning at 6:00 P.M. in Founders Hall. Ham, rolls and beverages will be provided and you are asked to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to compliment the meal. After dinner there will be entertainment by an award winning barbershop quartet, which is part of The Mainliner from Bryn Mawr, PA. This group is very entertaining and, at times, will invite their audience to join in. It will be a evening of food, fellowship and fun! All the women of Good Shepherd are invited and you are welcome to bring a guest! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex in the coming weeks.

Saint Michael's in Kensington, our Partner Congregation An opportunity to give and an opportunity to serve!

Saint Michael's has a "Hope Chest" which serves their community. They give away clothing, sheets, pillowcases, towels, pillows, and kitchen items (pots, pans, utensils etc). If you are able to donate, there is a large box in the narthex marked "Saint Michael's Hope Chest."

On Saturday, October 26th from 9am - 1pm we will send a group down to Kensington (carpooling from Good Shepherd) with the items and help members of their congregation sort. The day will conclude with lunch. If you are interested in helping (or have any questions) please email the church office at gskopstaff@verizon.net.



PUB THEOLOGY

Join us monthly for great food and/or thoughtful conversation about life's deep questions. Gatherings are in the Saison Room at McKenzie Brew House 324 W.

Swedesford Road. Berwyn PA 19312. Food (individual bills) from 6:30pm to 7:15pm.

Discussion 7:15pm to 8:00pm. Come for either part or both parts. Check church website each month for the discussion topic. All ages welcome! Bring a friend.

Upcoming dates :

10/07/2019, 11/04/2019, 12/02/2019 (no discussion, Christmas caroling)

1/06/2020, 2/03/2020, 3/02/2020, 4/06/2020, 5/04/2020

OPERATION SHINING STAR

Our Shining Star gift gathering for the children at Silver Springs Martin Luther School will begin November 3rd. Look for the tree in the narthex and help make a child's Christmas a little brighter. For more information please contact Diane Smith at teach2tots@aol.com.

Lay Preaching at Good Shepherd

At their August meeting, Good Shepherd's Congregational Council approved the use of Lay Preachers. While only ordained clergy are permitted to preside at Holy Communion in the Lutheran church, the denomination has always made room for lay preachers.

What is a Lay Preacher, you may ask? A Lay Preacher is a non-ordained person who preaches. It is as simple as that. Have you ever looked at a scripture reading and thought, "I would love to share what I think this text is saying." If so, now is your time!

If you are interested in preaching at Good Shepherd, please contact Pastor Julie DeWerth (juliedewerth@gmail.com). She would be glad to speak with you and assist you in the process of writing a sermon.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is already working towards ensuring that our campaign this year will set the church on firm financial footing for 2020.

First though, we want to hear from you! We are planning to have a number of "neighborhood house meetings" on several evenings in September and October. The meetings will be short, about an hour long, and focused on discussing the things that make Good Shepherd Lutheran Church special to you. We would love to hear from you if you would like to host one of these meetings in your neighborhood. Please contact Theresa Haenn who can explain all the details.

At each meeting, a member of the Stewardship Committee will facilitate the discussion. We will have a set of questions and conversation starters to make sure we are gathering information across the community that will really reflect your opinions.

This is an exciting opportunity for our church members to share what connects you to our congregation, what you love having the church do, what you'd like to see that would be different and how we can ensure that the most important things we do continue for years to come.

You'll hear more about this in the coming weeks, but if you want to be involved or have questions, please call Theresa Haenn at 610-517-1681 or send an e-mail at tthaenn@icloud.com.

SUMMER BOOK CLUBS at GOOD SHEPHERD (7:00PM in the church library)

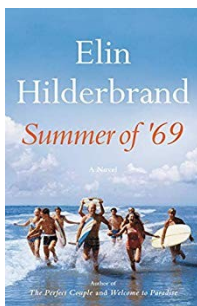


Monday, September 30th—*Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

Everyone in Shaker Heights was talking about it that summer: how Isabelle, the last of the Richardson children, had finally gone around the bend and burned the house down.

In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is meticulously planned – from the layout of the winding roads, to the colours of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules.

Monday, November 25th—*Summer of '69* by Elin Hilderbrand



Welcome to the most tumultuous summer of the twentieth century. It's 1969, and for the Levin family, the times they are a-changing. Every year the children have looked forward to spending the summer at their grandmother's historic home in downtown Nantucket. But like so much else in America, nothing is the same: Blair, the oldest sister, is marooned in Boston, pregnant with twins and unable to travel. Middle sister Kirby, caught up in the thrilling vortex of civil rights protests and determined to be independent, takes a summer job on Martha's Vineyard. Only-son Tiger is an infantry soldier, recently deployed to Vietnam. Thirteen-year-old Jessie suddenly feels like an only child, marooned in the house with her out-of-touch grandmother and her worried mother, each of them hiding a troubling secret. As the summer heats up, Ted Kennedy sinks a car in Chappaquiddick, man flies to the moon, and Jessie and her family experience their own dramatic upheavals along with the rest of the country.

Gifts and Memorials:

We would like to thank Elizabeth Locker, Linda Mack, as well as, John & Joanne Kerr for their gifts in memory of Evelyn Stambaugh.

Gifts were received in Preston King's name from Al & Barbara Schneider, Dorothy Polinka & Linda Mack.

Bernard Stypinski was honored by Patriot Financial Partners.

Helen Purdum continued to be remembered by Dorothy Polinka, Edith Pochettino, Al & Barbara Schneider, Joan Bannas, Karen & Jennifer Lehman, Alice Frazier, & The Barthold Family.

Dorothy Polinka also honored Virginia Bingham's memory with a gift to the church.

We are blessed to have such a caring Community in Christ. Thank you to all who gave freely in remembrance.



Monday's at Good Shepherd

First Monday of the Month is Pub Theology.

October 7th, November 4th and December 2nd
(Christmas Caroling)

Second Monday of the Month is Committee Meetings

Please check if your committee is meeting.
September 9th, October 14th and November 11th

Third Monday of the Month is Council Meeting

September 23rd, October 21st and November 18th

Fourth Monday of the Month is Manna Monday

September 23rd, October 28th, January 27th and April 27th

**SAVE THE DATES
LOOK FOR DETAILS IN THE
MONTHS TO COME**

Saturday, December 14th, 2019

Breakfast with Santa for all ages
From 10:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. in
Founders Hall

Sunday, January 26th, 2020

Annual Congregation Meeting with lunch
Immediately following the second service in
Founders Hall

Sunday, February 9th, 2020

Unwind and Paint
Immediately following the second service



BEAR CREEK CAMP

Explore, celebrate & grow in God's creation!

August 14, 2019

Congregation Council President
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
132 E. Valley Forge Rd
King of Prussia, PA 19406

I am writing to offer to you, your leaders and all the people of Good Shepherd a deep, deep thank you for providing the time for your Pastor to serve as Chaplain this summer at Bear Creek Camp.

Pastor Julie served the fourth session of camp this year. During that time, not only did she come with a generous heart and an inspired attitude, she also participated in setting a very positive theological, biblical and prayer-centered tone for our "Step By Step" summer program. Her pastoral support of the summer and full-time staff, as well as her spirited engagement with the campers of all ages, which the Lord brought here that week, was wonderful and invaluable.

So, again, thank you. Please share this not only with your companion leaders, but with the entire congregation. We believe Bear Creek is an extension of the ministry that God does among and through the people of your congregation each day. We deeply appreciate your partnership.

Blessings,

Jimmy Lee Werley
Interim Executive Director

A ministry of the Northeastern PA
and Southeastern PA Synods of the ELCA
www.bearcreekcamp.org

BEAR CREEK CAMP
P.O. Box 278
Bear Creek, PA 18602

info@bearcreekcamp.org
phone 570-472-3741
fax 570-472-3742

Bear Creek Camp
 [bearcreekcamp](https://www.youtube.com/bearcreekcamp)
 @bearcreekcamp

THANK YOU FROM THE PEACMAKER AWARD RECEIPIENT

Pastor DeWerth (and the great people of Good Shepherd),

Thank you so much for choosing me to be the 2019 recipient of the Peacemaker award! I was completely surprised when I recieved the award because I didn't realize I was even nominated. The award was very helpful and I put it towards an online summer math class that I am taking to help better prepare me for Gwynedd Mercy!

*Sincerely,
Bridget Power*

2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly summary of actions

Gathering under the theme "We are church," voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church. The assembly, the chief legislative authority of the church, met Aug. 5-10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. More than 900 voting members:

- Reelected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer, currently serving as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, was installed during the assembly's closing worship on Aug. 10 and will begin her term Nov. 1.
- Approved the social statement "*Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action*" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.
- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of church and state.
- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.
- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments. At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members approved the \$198 million campaign to help sustain and grow ministries of the church.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.



The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

132 East Valley Forge Road

King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406-2031

(610)265-4545 (PHONE) (610)265-4771 (FAX)

Email: gskopstaff@verizon.net

Web: www.gskop.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Shepherd's News † Fall 2019

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE...MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th

Please submit your articles to the Church Office via email or by using a pink form found in "forms" slot in the credenza in the Narthex. Place forms in "Office" mailbox slot or email print ready copy to the office at gskopstaff@verizon.net

FALL OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9:00 A.M. - Noon Through Oct.
Monday—Friday 9:00 A.M.—Noon Oct.-May

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 and 10:45 A.M. Services Of Holy Communion
Education Hour—9:30 A.M.
(This schedule begins Sunday, September 8th)



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Pastor—Julie DeWerth	610-308-2675
Director of Music Ministries—Ross Boerner	484-369-1017
Parish Administrator—Kay Shiners	610-265-4545
Preschool Director—Diane Smith	610-265-0733
Sexton—Ray Erwin	610-265-4545

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor Julie	juliedewerth@gmail.com
Music Mail	goodshepmusic@yahoo.com
Office Mail	gskopstaff@verizon.net
Preschool	gskoppreschool@verizon.net