



The Shepherd's Voice

Serving Rockland County, NY, & Northern Bergen County, NJ

June 2018

Reaching and Risking to Welcome the World in the Word that has come among us in Jesus Christ.

FROM THE PASTOR...

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good ... Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.” - 1 Corinthians 12, selected verses

What is the Church? Sometimes we think the Church is the building that we come to on Sunday morning (and other times during the week). You can hear that in the language, “I’m going to the church.” Sometimes we think the Church is the leadership – the council, the pastor, the staff. You can hear that most often when we’re complaining: “I don’t like the direction the church is going.” “Did you hear what the church decided to do?!?”

Did you realize that, in fact, you are the Church? It’s not the building, the leadership, the other people in the pews (though they are the Church too – just not to the exclusion of you). YOU are the church.

In baptism you became a member of the body of Christ. And, therefore, you became the Church. Just like your kidney is part of your body, you are the Church ... and we don’t function as well without you. Don’t tell me that you’re fat cells or the appendix or tonsils, please. It’s not true. And besides, even those parts have some sort of function (even if medical science hasn’t figured out what that is). You have gifts and talents and a piece of the Spirit of God to add to the whole, and we can’t really do as well without your presence with us. There are no vestigial organs in the body of Christ.

The whole reason that we gather together on Sunday morning as Church is not just to worship God. I know that might sound like a bit of a surprise (and maybe even heretical), but actually, that’s a by-product of our gathering. It’s certainly a part of it, but really, we gather more to practice and to grow. (So, please, don’t tell me you don’t need to come to church services because you can worship God on the golf course or at the beach. Besides making me jealous on beautiful days, it’s not really the point.)

Gathering together for “worship” is to practice what it means to be the body of Christ in the rest of our lives – to be the living Church walking in the world. Our weekly (or more) practice of gathering together includes teaching us to worship God with our whole selves, to live into confession and forgiveness, to grow in gratefulness, to practice seeing Christ in our neighbor, to learn and read from the Word, to practice the hospitality of being welcomed and welcoming everyone to the table, to grow in generosity, and to speak our faith in prayer and song so that it is easier to speak that faith in conversation and life. The worship service is also a chance to be fed so that we are stronger as we go back into the world and follow Jesus in our daily lives.

We are entering the season that I used to refer to when I was a child as, “the long, boring, green season.” That is, the season after Pentecost when the colors on the altar and the pulpit and lectern are green and nothing much seems to happen. The truth is though, this is the season of growth. This is the season in which the Church most consciously focuses not so much on Jesus as on the reality that the Spirit has been poured out on us and we are now called to be Jesus in the world. This is the season where we are called to grow in our own faith and understanding, where we are called to dream the visions that God has for us, where we are to practice following after Jesus with our lives, and where we are to grow in grace.

I’m excited about this season this year at Good Shepherd. This summer, we have a great opportunity to gather after our one 9:00am summer service on Sundays, to have Adult forums (see p. 3), and keep the learning and growing going (a list of topics and dates are found in these pages. I will also be doing an “Ask Pastor Lena” Sunday (and Wednesday) again (that will be on June 10th and June 13th) and I imagine that I will develop some of the questions into a sermon series over the summer (for two reasons – some of your questions deserve more time and discussion and, as I learned last year trying to answer every question can go a bit long and I want to respect your time on a Sunday morning). We will be continuing our Wednesday evening services at 7:15pm (outside as much as weather will allow) and hope to sprinkle a few barbecues into the mix beforehand – including one on July 4th when we will also have a patriotic hymn-sing and head over for fireworks afterward. Also, this summer will be a season of planning for small groups, for a new short series for adult learning throughout the fall, for new ways of reaching out into the community and more.

I want to invite you to be intentional during this time to be here in worship, to be a part of this community, to contribute your gifts and talents to this place, so that we might all grow and be blessed, so that we can be a blessing in the world.

See you in worship.

Pastor Lena

**The Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Good Shepherd**

112 North Main Street
Pearl River, New York 10965

OUR MISSION

**“Welcoming the World in the
Word that has come among us
in Jesus Christ”**

SUMMER WORSHIP

Sundays: 9:00 a.m.
Wednesdays: 7:15 p.m.

CONTACT US

Church Office: (845)735-2243
Fax: (845)735-0819
E-mail: office@gspr.org
Web site: www.gspr.org
Creative Play Pre-School: (845)735-2737

AT YOUR SERVICE

The Reverend J. Lena Warren - Pastor
Don Widmayer - Council President
Robert Bergman - Treasurer
Brian Burns - Director of Music
Elaina Burns - Organist
Maureen Connolly - Creative Play Director
Dale Damon - Church Secretary
Lisa Filatov - Bookkeeper
Lisa Holliday - Coordinator of Faith Formation
Dagmar Klein - Church Administrator
Janet Maleski - Council Secretary
The Reverend John R. Taylor - Pastor Emeritus

Voice Publication Deadline

Items to be included in *The Shepherd's Voice* must be submitted June 8th for the July/August issue.

Electronic submission (e-mail) is preferred. Articles submitted after the deadline may not be published, due to space and time restrictions. Please e-mail articles to: secretary@gspr.org.

GET YOUR COPY OF THE VOICE E-MAILED....

It will be exactly the same *Voice* that you've been receiving through the mail, but delivered via e-mail instead. That way you receive your copy faster, and we save on mailing expenses. To sign up for the *e-Voice*, send an e-mail to secretary@gspr.org, as well as the e-mail address you'd like us to use.

LIFE STATIONS

Deaths

Cheryl Vavaro 5/01/18
The Rev. Bill Johnson 5/22/18

Baptism

Nicholas James Barschdorf 5/6/18

General Memorial

In memory of Helen Drummond & Norma Girard, given by Kim Girard

2018 CHURCH COUNCIL

J. Lena Warren, Pastor
Donald Widmayer, President
Anthony Armenio, Vice President
Janet Maleski, Secretary
Robert Bergman, Treasurer *
Kim Arcidiacono
John Balison
Werner Boecker *
James Cleary
Jake Daniels
Wendy Gates
Linda Hecker
Jayne Knarich
Deanna Lauer
Carole Meehan
Kenneth Merring
Mark Olson
Christopher Ryan
Debra Thaler
(*non-voting)

**Good Shepherd Church
is on Social Media**

See our church webpage at: www.gspr.org
"Like Us" on Facebook at:
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

PRAYER CHAIN

if you, a loved one, or a friend experience difficulty and you desire prayer support, the Good Shepherd Prayer Chain may be helpful.

When you have a request or a thanksgiving to share, please call: Ione Mensing at 201-664-1235; email: himensing@gmail.com or Carol Westphal at 845-624-5732; email: carolwestphal9@gmail.com

The Prayer Chain will then be activated, and many will be praying with and for you.



Summer Adult Forums

During the summer, as we go down to one service, we are planning a series of opportunities to learn about faith, life, music, church, generosity, and more!

Below is the current schedule and we hope you will join us! These presentations will begin shortly after worship (beginning no later than 10:30) and go about an hour. The two movie discussions will go a little longer, as each film is around 80 minutes in length.

- June 10** "Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity" – Peter Manke from Thrivent
- June 17** "From Camels to Kings: The Archeology of the Biblical Patriarchs"– Dr. Ira Spar, from Ramapo College
- June 24** Stewardship: More than you think – Pastor Lena
- July 1** *I Am* Movie and Discussion
- July 8** The Age of the Spirit: The Future of the Church – Pastor Lena
- July 15** "Pipes, Pedals, Keys, Countries, and Culture: A musical presentation" – Elaina Burns
- July 22** "The Lord's Supper: Remembrance, Communion & Hope" – Merold Westphal
- July 29** *Connected: an Autobiography of love, death & technology* Movie and Discussion
- August 5** "Deep River: The African-American Spiritual" – Brian Burns
- August 12** A Tour Through Hell: *It isn't just August in NYC* (How various religions view the afterlife) – Rich Bowman
- August 19** Enough: Christian Minimalism, a movement ancient and new – Pastor Lena
- August 26** "Walking Wet: Living as the Baptized" – Lisa Holliday

Music Notes

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Music Ministry's many activities this program year! It was wonderful beginning to get to know everybody, and we're delighted with the dedication of our volunteer musicians. We hope everyone will continue participating, and we hope some other folks will consider joining us as we contribute to worship!

As to the summer months, we are looking for folks who are interested in performing musical offerings, for our single 9 a.m. service and our Wednesday evening service. Please contact me if you are interested.

Summer Choir will sing on **Sunday, July 15th** at the 9 a.m. service. We will have one rehearsal, on **Thursday, July 12th** at 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to come and sing! Bring some friends!

We will be holding some jam sessions to put together a bit of music in a morphyic / contemporary vein during the summer months, as well. Keep an eye on the Cross Connections for more information!

Book Group!!

The Sunday evening book group will be reading ***A Bigger Table: Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community***, by John Pavlovitz, over the summer months.

Because it is over the summer, we will be reading more leisurely and do not intend on meeting every week. This is a great chance for those who would like to read with us but can't meet as often to join in!

If you would like to read with us (or read along, even if you can't join us for discussion), please let Pastor Lena know (email: pastorlena@gspr.org). If you would like to reimburse the church for the cost of the book, the price is \$14.00.



CREATIVE PLAY NEWS



What a wonderful school year we have just completed! It has been a joy for our teachers and staff to watch your children grow in friendships and learning.

We thank all our parents who have helped out during the school year, either in the classroom as a helping parent, working on a committee or volunteering for our special events. We can't do this without your help and we love that you are involved in our school.

A special thank you to the Church staff and Pastor Lena for their support of our school, and always promoting our mission.

We will have 4-year-old Graduation on Monday, June 11th, for three of our Creative Play classes, and our three UPK classes will graduate on Tuesday, June 19th. We are excited for the families and children as they move on to their new adventures.

Summer camp will begin the first week in July and everyone is looking forward to summer fun days. There are still spots in some of our programs; 3-year-old, 4-year-old and Time for twos/Toddler; if you are interested in these programs, please call the school for more information.

We wish everyone some lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!!

Maureen Connolly
Director

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Come one, come all!

Learn that when we get "shipwrecked," we're rescued by Jesus!"

"Shipwrecked" is the theme for our Vacation Bible School this summer, open to children turning 4 up to 4th grade.

**July 30 – Aug 3 from
9am - Noon**

We need many helpers to make this week a success! We need adults to be team leaders for the children's groups, and we need someone willing to lead crafts. Children older than 4th grade can be helpers. Contact Lisa Holliday at lisa@gspr.org or call the church office if you can help out.

If you would like to register your child(ren), there is a registration form included in this "Voice" (one per child). Registration deadline is June 12th – get it in soon because we filled up last year and we hate to turn anyone away!



On May 20th, we rejoiced to have six of our young people receive their First Holy Communion. Please keep Lars Burkhardt, Patrick Coyle, Sofia Lauen, Timothy Model, Christopher Pond and Kevin Riker in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith and in appreciation of the tremendous gifts we all receive in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

2018 Vacation Bible School Registration Form
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Shipwrecked VBS
July 30 – Aug. 3, 2018
9:00 to 12 noon daily



Child's Name: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Home Church: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

Grade Child will be entering in the fall _____ (must be 4 yrs. old by the fall, up to entering grade 3)

Allergy/Medications/Medical Needs (list all): _____

Health Insurance Policy Number: _____

Family Doctor: _____ Phone No.: _____

Emergency Contact (name): _____

Emergency Contact (phone): _____

To whom shall your child be dismissed after VBS each day?: _____

*In the event of an emergency, every effort will be made to contact the parent or guardian at the above number.
 I hereby give my permission to the VBS staff to authorize proper medical care until such time as I can be contacted.*

(Parent or Guardian): _____

REGISTRATION: Fee for the program is \$35 per child (\$85 maximum per family). A separate form is needed for each child. Forms are available in the *May Voice* and online at www.gspr.org. Make checks payable to *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*. Payment must accompany form in order to process registration. Church members are urged to register as early as possible, as registration is on a "first-in" basis. Registration deadline is June 12th.

Forms can be mailed to the church (112 North Main St. Pearl River, NY 10965) or left in Lisa Holliday's mailbox in the counting room. Questions? E-mail lisa@gspr.org. BE SURE TO FILL OUT PHOTO RELEASE FORM, AS WELL (p. 6). Registration will be confirmed by end of June.

Picture Release Form – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

IF THE PARTY is 18 years old or older, complete the following down to the Consent section; otherwise, the parent or legal guardian must also sign.

I, _____, give Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC), its assigns, licensees, and legal representatives the irrevocable right to use my picture, portrait or photograph in all forms and media and in all manner, for the advertising, trade or any other lawful purpose for the benefit of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church only. I hereby forever waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product, including but not limited to, written copy and/or an image in print or on the website, which may be created in connection therewith. I am eighteen (18) years of age or older. I understand that GSLC cannot control the unauthorized use by persons other than Good Shepherd, of my image once such image is published. Any claim I may have concerning unauthorized publication of my image must be pursued by me against the unauthorized user. Good Shepherd disclaims any responsibility for such unauthorized use of my published image.

I have had sufficient time to review and seek explanation of the provisions contained above, have carefully read and understand them, and agree to be bound by them. I voluntarily and irrevocably give my consent and agree to this Release and Waiver.

Executed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signature _____ Witness _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Consent

If person is under the age of 18, his or her parent or legal guardian must also sign.

I, _____, am the parent or legal guardian of the person listed above. I have read and understand the provisions of this document. I consent to the person participating, as described above, and I fully enter into and agree to the above Release and Waiver, and forever waive any rights therefrom.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____



It's hard to believe we've come to the end of our Sunday School year. Our Sunday School teachers work hard every week to bring lessons of faith to our children to help them grow in their knowledge and experience of God's love for them. **PLEASE** thank our teachers and assistants when you see them in worship or at coffee hour. They work mostly behind the scenes, but the work they do is vital to the health of our congregation!

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Jocelyn Witherell

Nicole Lai

Leigh Tuohy

Linda Hecker

*staff assistant Tom Vislocky

Jeanette Kunow

Stephanie Schloss

Darcy Matthys

Debra Thaler

OUR ASSISTANTS

Rianna Spero

Jillian Young

Melissa Young

Bridget Klein (graduating HS senior)

Stephen Klein (graduating HS senior)

Nick Bowman

ROOM SET-UP/CLEAN-UP Stephen Klein (graduating HS senior)

As you can see, we will be losing two classroom assistants and set-up/clean-up person next year because they're going to college. If you would like to serve in our Sunday School in any way, please contact Lisa Holliday at lisa@gspr.org, or call the church office.

Stewardship
is not a program.
Stewardship
is not about raising money.

but. . .

Stewardship
is a journey.

Stewardship
is about life.

In fact. . .

Stewardship
is a way of life.

Author unknown



Thrivent Financial in Montvale, NJ (the office that we work with), has an employment opportunity for the right person. Below is the summary job description. If you are interested, the posting is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y96dg72e>.

Our well-established, high-performing team is currently looking for a Client Service Professional. This is an incredible opportunity for the right person to grow both professionally and financially and become a key player on this team. If you are a self-starter, focused, hardworking individual, we want to speak with you. The ideal candidate has excellent communication skills as you would be communicating with members and prospects. Other critical factors would be to multi-task effectively and thrive in a fast-paced environment. Prior financial services industry experience is preferred.

Thrivent Financial is a mission-driven, not-for-profit financial services organization with approximately 2.6 million members. As the nation's largest fraternal benefit society, we're here solely to help others. We help, every day, through the financial solutions we offer, the member activities we support, and the resources we provide to the Christian community and nonprofit organizations. Thrivent Investment Management Inc. is a FINRA and SIPC member and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Thrivent Financial.

Good Shepherd recognizes our 2018 graduates. Congratulations to them all!

Kristina Nicole Demou—received her Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, from the University of Delaware, with a major in Communication/Media and minors in Art and Photography. She was a member of Gamma Sigma Sigma. Kristina spent a semester in Rome, Italy and has done many Internships. Kristina has accepted a position with a communication group in NYC this summer.

Katherine Filatov—graduated from Ithaca College in May, with two degrees: Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance and Bachelor of Music in Music Education. She has accepted the position of Middle School Band Director at Blue Mountain Middle School, in Cortlandt, NY, part of the Hendrick Hudson Central School District.

William John Havrilla—will be graduating from *The Learning Experience* in Monroe, NY, and heading off to kindergarten in the fall.

Rachel Holliday—will graduate from Northern Valley Regional High School in Old Tappan in June, and will attend CCNY (City College of New York) in the fall, majoring in International Studies.

Matthew Klein—graduated from SUNY Oswego in May 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History, and a minor in Psychology.

William Klein—will be graduating from Pearl River High School in June 2018. He will be attending SUNY ESF (Environmental, Science and Forestry) in the fall, majoring in Conservation Biology.

Bridget Klein—will be graduating from Pearl River High School in June 2018. She will be attending SUNY Buffalo in the fall and has been accepted into their Pharmacy program.

Stephen Klein—will be graduating from Pearl River High School in June 2018. He will be attending SUNY Buffalo in the fall, majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Alexandra Lapes—graduated in May from Pace University School of Law

Matthew Lauer—will be graduating from Clarkstown North High School in June. This fall, he will attend Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, as a Marine Biology major.

David Martini—will be graduating from Nanuet High School in June. He is attending the University of Dayton to study business.

Brielle Nostro—will graduate from Clarkstown South High School in June, and will be attending SUNY Purchase in the fall, majoring in Musical Theatre.

Steven Tillette—will be graduating from high school in June and will be attending Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX.

Tyler Tillette—will be graduating from high school in June and will be heading off to join the Marines in September.

Thomas Wilson—will be graduating from Pearl River High School in June 2018. He will be attending SUNY Stony Brook in the fall, majoring in Sports Medicine.

**Oh the places you'll go,
Today is your day! 
Your mountain is waiting,
So ...get on your way!
--Dr. Seuss**

 **The Lutheran Church
of the Good Shepherd**

112 North Main Street • Pearl River, NY 10965
Address Service Requested

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HUNGER DOES NOT TAKE A SUMMER VACATION...help support
People to People

...items always needed:

- Cold/Hot cereals
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Cold drinks, like juices and iced tea/lemonade
- Cans of tuna or chicken
- Flour, sugar
- Juice boxes

- Canned soups/vegetables
- Pasta/rice
- Canned fruit
- Diapers
- Tea, coffee
- Boxed macaroni & cheese



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays—9:00 a.m.

June 3th —September 2nd.

Wednesdays—7:15 p.m.

June 6th—September 5th.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be open
Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.,
from June 18h to August 31st.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<h1>JUNE 2018</h1>				I 9:00/12:00 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	2
3 Pentecost 2 <u>Summer Worship Schedule Starts</u> 9:00 Holy Communion Service 10:00 Lemonade on the Lawn 10:30 Internment—Columbarium Garden 6:00 AAF/Fellowship Hall 7:00 Rockland Symphony Orchestra—Yth. Rm.	4 9:00/12:30 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 7:00 Confirmation Family Night—Fellowship Hall 7:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry	5 9:00/12:00 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 1:30 WELCA Luncheon—Off-site 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 36—FH	6 9:00/12:00 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 6:00 Witness Night 7:15 Holy Communion Serv.	7 9:00/12:30 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 7:00 CP New Member Mtg.	8 9:00/12:00 UPK 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 7:45 AAF/Fellowship Hall VOICE ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR July/August Voice*	9
10 Pentecost 3 9:00 Holy Communion Service 10:15 Youth Gathering Mtg.—Parlor 10:30-11:30 Adult Forum 6:00 AAF/Fellowship Hall 7:00 Rockland Symphony Orchestra—Yth. Rm.	11 9:00/12:30 UPK 10 am & 12 pm CREATIVE PLAY GRADUATION	12 9:00/12:30 UPK 7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.—Parlor 7:00 CP & UPK Mtg.—Sanctuary/FH	13 9:00/12:30 UPK 11:00 Staff Mtg. 4:30 Executive Com. Mtg. 7:15 Holy Communion Serv.	14 9:00/12:30 UPK 7:00 Food, Faith & Friends Off-site	15 9:00/12:30 UPK 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	16 9:00 Men's Breakfast—FH
17 Pentecost 4 9:00 Holy Communion Service 10:30 Adult Forum 6:00 AA/Fellowship Hall	18 9:00/12:30 UPK	19 9:00/12:30 UPK GRADUATION 9:30/1:00 Creative Play 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 36 Court of Honor	20 7:15 Holy Communion Serv.	21 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER	22 7:45 AA/Fellowship Hall	23
24 Pentecost 5 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Safe Church Training—Youth Room 6:00 AA/Fellowship Hall	25	26	27 11:00 Staff Meeting 7:15 Holy Communion Serv.	28	29	30