



**CELEBRATING  
CREATIVE PLAY'S  
50TH YEAR**

# *The Shepherd's Voice*

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

**MAY 2019**

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

Last month, the world watched with horror as Notre Dame cathedral burned. We then watched as people rallied. "Notre Dame will be rebuilt!" rang out the cry. Money was raised in massive sums. And we were all relieved to see how much had survived. Now comes the challenge of rebuilding, honoring the true spirit of a beautiful building built to the glory of God, and acknowledging the contemporary context in which that building is raised.

As I watched all of this, I thought about how often church buildings catch on fire and how virtually none of those fires lead to the end of the Church itself. In fact, often times, fires reignite the passion of the community. So, while I'd never recommend a fire (and am very grateful for all of the safety precautions that Good Shepherd takes and for the work of firefighters in this community and beyond), I don't think they are the end of the road. They are not what destroys churches.

Other things destroy churches. And those things aren't big and obvious and news worthy. And, after watching Notre Dame's fire, I began to think about them. I think the things that destroy churches are things like hatred — hatred of others, hatred of difference — hatred eats at souls and turns us away from a God of love, a God of the cross, a God of life. And if we turn from that god, what are we worshiping? And how can a church live turned to worship something other than the God made visible in Jesus?

I know that conflict — unmanaged, unhealthy, unresolving conflict — can be deadly to churches. Conflict itself is healthy and necessary. We're all different people. And while Paul reminds us in Philippians that we should be of "one mind" in Christ, that doesn't mean always seeing eye to eye on things. It simply means that we should be honest enough to talk it through together. We should love one another enough not to let things smolder or to let disagreements spread in factions through rumors and pitting people against each other. And we should also be humble enough to not make our opinions into our gods.

I also think that apathy destroys churches. It has a way of emptying sanctuaries and disengaging volunteers (the very heart and life blood of the Church). There is this way that apathy makes us lukewarm, not really caring about much at all and that doesn't seem to jive with a passionate God nor a movement of resurrection hope (which is what the Church really is ... a movement). I've heard it said that the opposite of love is not hate but apathy. That reminds me of God's not so nice words to an apathetic church in Revelation (which I invite you to read on your own: Revelation 2: 15-22. Eesh...)

I'm beginning to think that busy-ness kills churches too. Not productive activity, that's not what I'm talking about. Churches can appear to be really busy when they are actually deeply active in productive activity. I'm talking about the way that we get going doing a million different things that don't necessarily align with our deeper meaning, purpose, or passion. I think that kind of busy-ness leads us down the road of exhaustion and apathy, and we know about how good apathy is for us.

I imagine there are more things that can run through churches like fire but more quietly, destroying them from within. What about you? What do you think are the things that destroy churches? And do you see any of these things hiding in your own heart or life? I know that I catch glimpses every once in awhile and I am grateful for the confession on Sunday morning and God's grace that calls me back to life. I'm grateful that the Church is in the Death and Resurrection business and so I know that while we die, we will live. I'm grateful for a God that continually calls us out of the grave.

Peace to you,

Pastor Lena Warren

## **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”**

### **WORSHIP**

Sundays: 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays: 7:15 p.m.

### **CONTACT US**

Church Office: (845)735-2243

Fax: (845)735-0819

E-mail: [office@gspr.org](mailto:office@gspr.org)

Web site: [www.gspr.org](http://www.gspr.org)

Creative Play Pre-School: (845)735-2737

### **AT YOUR SERVICE**

The Reverend J. Lena Warren - Pastor  
Anthony Armenio - 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 by April 12th, for the May 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](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@gspr.org), as well as the e-mail address you'd like us to use.

## **LIFE STATIONS**

### **Baptism**

Skylar Lynn Spoelstra 4/7/19

### **Deaths**

Grace L. Roos 4/19/19

Walter E. Bryant, Jr. 4/29/19

Jane Woodward 5/02/19

Paul DeCicco 5/05/19

### **General Memorial**

In memory of Grace L. Roos, given by Bob & Marge Vatter

In memory of Grace L. Roos, given by Brian & Lindsey Torrey

## **DO YOU HAVE A 2019 GRADUATE IN THE FAMILY....**

If you have someone in your family graduating this spring, and would like us to publish their name in the June issue of the *Shepherd's Voice*, please email information (name, school, degree, future plans, etc)...to [secretary@gspr.org](mailto:secretary@gspr.org), by May 12th.  
Thank you!!



### **2019 CHURCH COUNCIL**

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

## WELCA

Spring is finally here and our season of WELCA meetings is winding down. We've had a very inspiring and productive season. First and foremost has been the collection and sending of Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. We collected 109 Kits. This is outstanding and we want to thank all who helped us do this.

Our last meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM in the Parlor. Please join us. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Barbara Bow at 845-215-5866 or Mary Iseman at 845-623-7638.



### Calling All Gardeners!

A Day in the Dirt...Please join us on May 4<sup>th</sup>, as we plant the flowers that help make Good Shepherd so beautiful. Feel free to come any time between 8:30 am and noon. Every bit of assistance is welcomed and appreciated.



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION—MAY 19th

First Holy Communion will be held on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at the 10:30 service.



### ROCKLAND CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRIC CENTER LOOKING FOR ART SUPPLIES...

Rockland Psych was so pleased and happy with the response from Good Shepherd at Christmas and they wanted us to know how thankful they were to receive the many gifts for the children and teens.

They are now looking for art supplies (pads of art paper, coloring books, both for young and adult type for older teens, crayons, puzzles, etc.). One restriction is no pads of paper with metal spiral binding where they could get hurt. A box will be available for donations in the coatroom at the back of the sanctuary.



### Thank You!

Thank you to the Men's Group for the wonderful Easter Breakfast and thank you to our congregation for your breakfast donations, which will help support our youth as they begin their efforts to

**We thank you, God, for loved ones dear  
Who clung to faith beyond their fear,  
Who served and paid the highest price  
For freedom bought with sacrifice.  
May they remind us of your Son  
Whose death our final freedom won.  
—Heidi L. Mann, 2012**



**MEMORIAL DAY  
MAY 27TH**

### **GOOD SHEPHERD....the church of friendly, warm and welcoming people!**

Good Shepherd's Evangelism Committee would like to start a GREETER PROGRAM. Greeters would stand at the main entrance door before regular worship services, connecting with people and welcoming members, guests and friends.

If you would be interested in being a greeter, contact the church office or a member of the Evangelism Committee.

**SO, GET OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE—GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHURCH AND FEEL THE CONNECTION—THE PURPOSE AND THE JOY THAT BEING A GREETER CAN GIVE YOU!!**



**You are Cordially Invited to a  
FESTIVE COFFEE HOUR  
IN CELEBRATION OF THE  
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOOD  
SHEPHERD CREATIVE PLAY  
WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 5TH**

**WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**WHEN: FOLLOWING THE 10:30 SERVICE**

Please come and celebrate their long and successful church and community program.

*Sponsored by the Good Shepherd Creative Play Governance Board*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
AT GOOD SHEPHERD!!!**

August 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am – 12:00pm  
Ages 4 (by the fall) to 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
“To Mars and Beyond!”

Registration form is included in this “VOICE.”  
We are looking for adults who can help!  
Contact Lisa Holliday in the church office at  
(845) 735-2243 or [lisa@gspr.org](mailto:lisa@gspr.org) for more  
information.



**CREATIVE PLAY NEWS....**

May flowers, springtime weather and outdoor play...what could be better!

Our children are very busy creating Mother's Day gifts; the three-year-old children are planting a spring flower in their specially-created planter, and our four-year-old children have designed a one-of-a-kind plate. What wonderful memories for our moms!

The classroom caterpillars have grown and are in their chrysalis. The children can't wait for them to awaken and become beautiful, Painted Lady butterflies, ready to be released outside.

Our annual school picnic takes place in mid-May, at Kaufman Campgrounds. The children will wear their special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary blue t-shirt to the picnic. The day is filled with fun games, activities and watermelon!

If you have an interest in any of our school programs, please call the office for more information.

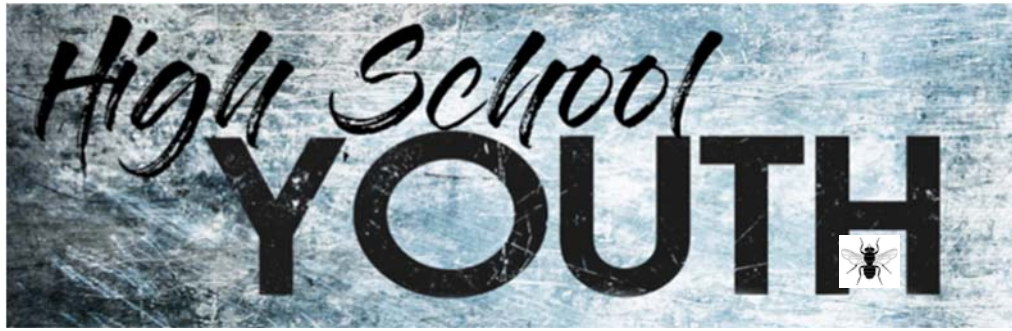
Maureen Connelly, Director

*Help us grow*



*A convenient, consistent way to help our church grow*

Consider scheduling a recurring contribution today. It's very convenient. You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.



Date Day	Activity	Location
5/10-5/12 Fri-Sat	Ma-He-Tu Weekend	Harriman State Park

Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade and High School youth are invited to join for a weekend of faith and fun!  
Adult chaperones and cooks are needed– contact Lee to reserve your spot

*Lee Warren*

[glwarren@gmail.com](mailto:glwarren@gmail.com)



5/5	Sunday	Craft	Youth Room	10:30-11:30am
5/12	Sunday	Mother's Day surprise!	Youth Room	10:30-11:30am
5/19	Sunday	LAST UPPER ROOM	Youth Room	10:30-11:30am
5/26	Sunday	No Upper Room Memorial Day		

<i>Sharon Martini</i> <a href="mailto:sharonfmartini@gmail.com">sharonfmartini@gmail.com</a> 845-642-5455	<i>Brielle Nostro</i> <a href="mailto:nostrob@gmail.com">nostrob@gmail.com</a> 845-213-8385	<i>Kristin Ventry</i> <a href="mailto:kristin.ventry@gmail.com">kristin.ventry@gmail.com</a> 917-968-3211	<i>Matt Lauer &amp; Dylan Martini</i> The Game Makers!
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## CONFIRMATION NEWS – MAY 2019

### 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes

#### May Confirmation Classes

**6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade** – 6:30 to 8:15 pm

Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – *Thinking about our own experiences of God and what difference it makes in our lives.*

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Family BBQ and *“The Season After Pentecost”*

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade** – 6:30 to 8:15pm

Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> - *Money*

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Family BBQ and *“The Season After Pentecost”*



Dear Good Shepherd Families,

Thank you to all the children, youth, adult choir members, and bells who joined together in musical shouts of "Hosanna!" on Palm Sunday! We are so grateful for your contributions to our worship experience!

We would also like to thank all those who attended the choir's moving performance of the St. John Passion, by John Ferguson. Thank you to the choir for all their hard work on this piece, and thank you for all your kind words and email messages about the evening.

### **Reminder: Rescheduled Spirituals Concert**

Please join us on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for an Afternoon of Spirituals, featuring countertenor Augustine Mercante with Elaina Burns, piano. We were sad to have to postpone this event, but we felt it was the safest choice for everyone involved!

### **Opportunities to join us in making music at Good Shepherd**

If you play an instrument and you'd like to play a prelude, postlude, or other special music during a service, please let us know! We would love to have you share your love of music with the church! You are welcome to join us throughout the year, so please find one of us before or after a church service or email [elaina@gspr.org](mailto:elaina@gspr.org) to learn more about how you can participate!

Please feel free to contact us to learn about dates for all ages to get involved!

Brian and Elaina Burns

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY COLLECTION FOR CENTER FOR SAFETY AND CHANGE**

Social Ministry is collecting personal care items to donate to the Rockland Family Shelter, now known as the Center for Safety and Change. So many victims of domestic violence are forced to flee their homes with literally just the clothes on their backs. Your donations of shampoo, body wash and other items listed below mean so much to these folks.

Please place your donations of **NEW, UNOPENED** items in the ROCKLAND FAMILY SHELTER box in the coat room, during May or June.

**NEW** TOWELS AND WASH CLOTHS

SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONERS

SOAP and/or BODY WASH

A & D OINTMENT

**UNOPENED** TOOTH BRUSHES AND

TOOTHPASTE


GIFT CARDS FOR ShopRite, Pathmark, Stop & Shop, Amex, Visa, Target, Walmart, and Kohls

DISPOSABLE DIAPERS (all sizes)

UNSCENTED BABY WIPES

DISPOSABLE RAZORS IN PACKS

VASELINE AND/OR AQUAPHOR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:15 Holy Communion Service—FH	<b>2</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 10:00 Bible Study—Parlor 7:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	<b>4</b> 8:30-12:00 Garden Planting & Clean-up 6:00 Iron Chef—FH
<b>5 Easter III</b> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Contemporary Communion Service 9:30-10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Holy Communion/SCS/Upper Room 11:30 Creative Play 50th Anniversary—Special Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall 6:00 AA—Fellowship Hall	<b>6</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 6:30 Confirmation 6th & 7th 6:30 Fellowship Mtg.—Parlor 7:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>7</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 1:30 WELCA—Church Parlor 7:00 Boy Scouts—FH 7:00 Book Group—Parlor	<b>8</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 11:15 Staff Mtg. 7:15 Communion Service—FH	<b>9</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 10:00 Bible Study—Parlor 7:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT MA-HE-TU 7:45 AA/Fellowship Hall	<b>11</b> 6:00 Boy Scout Pasta Dinner—FH HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT MA-HE-TU
<b>12 Easter IV</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> 8:00 Holy Communion Service 9:15 Contemporary Communion Service 9:30-10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Holy Communion/SCS 6:00 AA/Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 6:15 Confirmation 8th	<b>14</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:00 Boy Scouts—Ed. Bldg. 7:00 Creative Play Change-over Dinner—Fellowship Hall	<b>15</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 4:30 Executive Committee Mtg. 7:15 Communion Service—FH	<b>16 Metro NY</b> <b>Synod Assem.</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 10:00 Bible Study—Parlor 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	<b>17 Metro NY</b> <b>Synod Assem.</b> 9:30/12:30 Creative Play?UPK 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	<b>18 Metro NY</b> <b>Synod Assem.</b> 9:00 Men's Breakfast—FH
<b>19 Easter V</b> 8:00 Holy Communion Service 9:15 Contemporary Communion Service 9:30-10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:30 First Holy Communion/SCS 11:30 First Holy Communion Reception—FH 6:00 AA/Fellowship Hall	<b>20</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:00 Confirmation Family Dinner—Fellowship Hall 7:00 Food, Faith & Friends	<b>21</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:00 Boy Scouts—FH 7:00 Church Council—Parlor	<b>22</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:15 Communion Service—FH	<b>23</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 10:00 Bible Study—Parlor 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	<b>24</b> 9:00/12:30 Creative Play/UPK 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	<b>25</b>
<b>26 Easter VI</b> 8:00 Holy Communion Service 9:15 Contemporary Communion Service 9:30-10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Holy Communion/SCS/Upper Room 11:30 Coffee Hr.—Parlor 6:00 AA/Fellowship Hall	<b>27 Memorial Day</b> No Creative Play CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> No Creative Play	<b>29</b> 7:15 Communion Service—FH	<b>30</b> 10:00 Bible Study—Parlor	<b>31</b> 7:45 AA—Fellowship Hall	<b>2019</b>



## 2019 Vacation Bible School Registration Form Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

**To Mars and Beyond!**  
**Aug. 5 - 9, 2019**  
**9:00 to Noon daily**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's D.O.B. (must be 4 by the fall): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade child will be entering in the fall: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/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. 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 17<sup>th</sup>.

**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](mailto:lisa@gspr.org). **BE SURE TO FILL OUT PHOTO RELEASE FORM AS WELL.** 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 as-signs, 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 in 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 web site, 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 \_\_\_\_\_