



The Shepherd's Voice

OCTOBER 2020

SERVING ROCKLAND COUNTY, NY & NORTHERN BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

+ A Letter from the Pastor +

Beloved of God,

At the end of September, Christ Lutheran in Suffern celebrated their last service and closed their doors after 305 years of ministry. You read that right, three hundred and five years of ministry. Closing services are always a mixture of sadness and celebration. Celebration of the years of ministry, the lives touched, the promise of the resurrection and that the ministry of Christ is always larger than a single congregation and will continue on. Sadness, of course, that this community in this place has come to an end.

For us in Rockland County, this is a significant loss. There aren't particularly many Lutheran churches in this area and now there is one fewer. It is, I think, a reminder that a congregation doesn't just go on and on forever and that it matters a great deal that people, individual members of the church, be an active, living part of the church. Without them, without you, there is no congregation at all.

And so, I want to take this moment to thank you for the ways you are involved in Good Shepherd.

If you serve on a committee (even if they aren't active at the moment, thanks to COVID), *you matter*.

If you have participated in small groups like Food Faith and Friends or a Book Group or a Bible Study, and struggled and grew in your faith with others there, *you matter*.

If you volunteer to help out at social events or outreach activities or worship services, *you matter*.

If you teach Sunday School, *you matter*.

If you care about the youth of the church and have supported fundraisers or lock-ins or youth group activities of any kind, *you matter*.

If you drag your youth along to church because you know that faith formation is important—and that worship and Confirmation and Sunday School are an important part of faith formation for your child, *you matter*.

If you come and sit in the pew on Sunday or tune in to our livestream and pray with us in person or online, *you matter*.

If you put money in the plate or have signed up for online giving to support paying staff and keeping the building open and doing ministry here, *you matter*.

If you tell others about your congregation and what this community means to you, *you matter*.

If you reach out to others in the congregation and community with care and fellowship and even just a kind word, *you matter*.



THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

112 N. Main Street Pearl River, NY 10965

OUR MISSION

"To reach out in inclusive love and generosity so that all may know the love of Jesus"

LIFE STATIONS

OBITUARY

Boris Wiik, September 3, 2020

GENERAL MEMORIAL

In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Vera Timberg & Family
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Karen & Ruth Lagerquist
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Ann-Lis & Borje Holmqvist
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Ago Software
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Karin Wegner O'Keefe
In memory of Gerhard Burfeindt, given by Mary Olson
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by The Boecker Family
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Maureen & Joe DiDonato
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by The Sironen Family
In memory of Boris Wiik, given by Elke & Dino Donofrio

AT YOUR SERVICE

The Reverend J. Lena Warren, Pastor
Jake Daniels, President
Robert Bergman, Treasurer
Brian Burns, Director of Music
Elaina Burns, Organist
Renee Bucci, Creative Play Director
Dale Damon, Church Secretary
Lisa Filatov, Bookkeeper
Timothy J Chew, Coordinator of Faith Formation
Katy Wong, Communications Coordinator
Gina Danialinia, Volunteer Coordinator
Gisele Saldana, Sexton

2020 CHURCH COUNCIL

J. Lena Warren, Pastor
Jake Daniels, President
Anthony Armenio, Co-Vice President
Donald Widmayer, Co-Vice President
Kim Arcidiacono, Secretary
Robert Bergman, Treasurer*
Jeff Bergman
Werner Boecker, Financial Secretary*
George Boothby
James Cleary
Wendy Gates
Kristin Hanifin
Linda Hecker
Deanna Lauer
Carole Meehan
Mark Olson
Lucy Pinedo
Christopher Ryan
Debra Thaler

*Non-voting

C O N T A C T U S

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: 845-735-2243
Fax: 845-735-0819
Email: office@gspr.org



@GoodShepherdPR
WWW.GSPR.ORG



CREATIVE PLAY PRE-SCHOOL

Phone: 845-735-2737
Website: gscreativeplay.org

If you have helped install hand sanitizer dispensers or fans or painted some of the building or dealt with mice or bats or all the other critters that find their way in, or pulled a weed or trimmed a bush or planted a flower, or fixed a thermostat or spent way too much time working with our boilers, *you matter*.

If you have pushed this congregation to care about our neighbors in need in some specific way, *you matter*.

If you've ever folded a bulletin or stuffed an envelope, *you matter*.

If you have done any number of things that I have forgotten to mention: counting the offering, data entry, singing in the choir, playing an instrument to bless our worship service, the many thankless tasks of leadership, setting the altar and caring for communion, and so many other things, *you matter*.

If you haven't really done much at all ... know that you matter, too. And we can't be the church without you.

I'm praying for you all, Good Shepherd. I'm giving thanks for the amazing community of faith you are and I'm praying that God continue to guide us into the future, with hope and vibrancy and life. We are going through a challenging time. But God has guided God's people through worse. So, I invite you into the prayer that we be, as a community, God's people in this time. Also, I invite you to pray for those who now don't have a faith community of their own, with the closing of Christ, Suffern. If you know anyone from that congregation, reach out to them and let them know you care. Let's be the body of Christ for one another.

Blessings to you.

Pastor Lena



Thank you to all who ordered Good Shepherd's masks! All proceeds above and beyond the cost of the masks themselves will go to Lutheran Disaster Response's Hurricane Relief Fund, a ministry of the ELCA. If you'd like a mask, we have a few extra available for purchase, while supplies last! Contact the Church Office.

Worship

We are meeting in the Sanctuary for worship on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am! There will be drive-in services every second Sunday of the month at 10:30am (no 8am service on these days.) Please remember to wear your mask and practice social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be available. As always, stay home if you are not feeling well.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have been helping us set-up our services! If you are planning on joining, please sign up online at the links provided below, as attendance will be limited. You can also register online to lead worship or help with set up.

October 4th 8:00

<https://volunteersignup.org/4YPK4>

October 4th 10:30

<https://volunteersignup.org/B9CJW>

October 11th Drive-in 10:30

(no 8am service)

<https://volunteersignup.org/EK998>

October 18th 8:00

<https://volunteersignup.org/D7YHA>

October 18th 10:30

<https://volunteersignup.org/T4C44>

October 25th 8:00

<https://volunteersignup.org/B4RDW>

October 25th 10:30

<https://volunteersignup.org/RRFWT>

November 1st 8:00

<https://volunteersignup.org/THWKY>

November 1st 10:30

<https://volunteersignup.org/TJ8KK>



THE SANCTUARY IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER!



Tuesday 4pm-7pm
Thursday 10am-2pm

-

Come and pray as you like during these hours. Masks are required to enter the building - hand sanitizer will be available. Please sign in upon your arrival!

Any questions, contact the Church Office
at 845-735-2243

The Church Office is now open at half-staffing! Please call before your arrival so we know to expect you. Masks are required for entry, for your safety as well as the staff. There will be mandatory temperature checks as well as a sign-in sheet. Hand sanitizer available at all entry ways.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesday 10am - 2pm
Wednesday-Friday 10am - 4pm
Closed Monday

STAY CONNECTED

During this time of social distancing, we have made it easier to stay connected online! Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter, "By The Way," sent on Thursday evenings. Email communications@gspr.org with your name and email address to be added to our list.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram.



www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdPR
www.instagram.com/GoodShepherdPR



Both apps can be downloaded on Android and iPhone operating systems. As always, you can visit our website at www.gspr.org.



We are now on YouTube! While we are having in-person services, they will still be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. Once the video is uploaded, it will be available to watch anytime after! Pastor Lena also uploads regular reflections throughout the week. Visit www.youtube.com/c/GoodShepherdPearlRiver

Sundays at 10:30am

So you can follow along, the bulletin for the service is available via a link below the YouTube video. You can also join us in-person! (More info on our "Worship" page.)

Mondays at 9:30am

Start your week with a Monday morning prayer. Pray wherever you are!

Thursdays at 9pm

We will be streaming Compline - an evening prayer with beautiful, ancient roots, and wonderful way to calm your soul before bed.



Ways to Give

This time of uncertainty has been, and continues to be very hard not just for our community life but also for the financial health of the congregation. If you are able, please consider signing up for online giving. Even a one-time special gift would be helpful.

Here are some easy ways to give:

ONLINE

Go to our webpage, www.gspr.org/give and click the "give" button. Then, follow the instructions on how to give.



GIVE+ TEXT

Text **877-771-4850**, click on the registration link and enter your cardholder name and credit/debit card information. You will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email. For future giving, send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! You can even text "repeat" to make it a recurring donation.



MAIL

Send your offerings to our mailbox at **112 N. Main St. Pearl River, NY 10965**, or stop in during our office hours.



♥ **Thank you for your generosity in giving to Good Shepherd!** ♥

FOOD DRIVE

Saturday, October 17 from 9am-1pm

thru

Help us help the hungry! Good Shepherd and Creative Play will be collecting non-perishable food donations for *People to People* during this Food Drive-thru. Drive up with your donations, pop your trunk, and we'll do the rest! Donations will also be collected on **Sunday October 4 & 11**. A list of items we are collecting includes cereal, oatmeal, canned juice & veggies, 100% juice boxes, fruit snacks, soup & tuna cans, beans, pasta, jar sauce, mac 'n cheese, etc. Any questions, contact Carol Hoerter (carol@dbheatingandcooling.com). Thank you!



Creative Play News

Hello Families,

As we close out the first couple weeks of the 2020 school year, I am in awe of the students who have adapted flawlessly to their new classrooms and new routines! The energy we all as educators crave was back in our building (and on the playground)! We had some tears as children and parents separated, but most of those tears fell from the parents (tears of joy, perhaps to grab a pedicure or a coffee in peace, lol).

The staff welcomes the weekend to recharge and re-ready for Monday and another week of in-school learning. I give a great amount of respect and thanks to all our teachers and aides who guided their students and managed their classrooms in order to create an ease for the transition back to school!

"My favorite part of the day is when I am in School" ~ Emmet Brazil, 4-year-old UPK student

Let's continue to do our part in keeping our doors open and everyone healthy!

Be well, be safe and be happy

Renee Bucci, Director (renee@gspr.org)



CREATIVE PLAY FALL FUNDRAISER

Please help support Good Shepherd Creative Play in its Fall Fundraiser!

The money earned goes toward the school and the students. This year we are all navigating new territory and as a result, the funds are more needed than ever. Aside from the benefit to the school and the children, their products are really great.

Who can resist reversible gift wrap with legos on one side and popsicles on the other? Maybe you prefer the dinosaurs and candy canes, or the flamingos and stripes. Not to mention their edible treats, candles, cookware and household knick-knacks.

Please consider making a purchase and please share this with your friends and family so they can purchase too! All the support is much appreciated. Purchases must be made by **October 5th** to count toward the fundraiser.

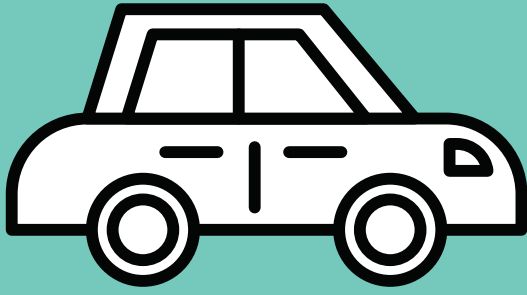
Go to www.charlestonwrapstore.com/schoolcodeinput.php and use **organization ID 11665**.

Any questions, please contact the Creative Play office (845) 735-2737.

Thank you!



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
10:30AM IN PARKING LOT**



PRAYER CHAIN

If you, a loved one, or friend experience difficulty and desire prayer support, the Good Shepherd Prayer Chain is helpful. When you have a request or thanksgiving to share, contact:

*Ione Mensing at 201-664-1235 &
himensing@gmail.com*

OR

*Carol Westphal at 845-624-5732 &
carolwestphal9@gmail.com*

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

+DRIVE-UP CHURCH +

Join us for an outdoor, socially-distanced worship in our parking lot on the second Sunday of every month. Stay in your car as we broadcast the service right to you over the radio. No sign-up necessary, all are welcome!

If you're interested in helping with set-up, sign up online at this link:

<https://volunteersignup.org/EK998>

Contact **Gina@gspr.org** if you have any questions.



ShopRite

SHOPRITE GIFTCARDS

Buy a ShopRite gift card and Good Shepherd receives 5% from each gift card purchase, in support of our Youth. Cards can be purchased in the church office and used at any ShopRite location. \$25, \$50, \$100 card amounts available - cash & checks accepted. Any questions, contact Cindy Sealander (**csealander@optonline.net**).

Meet our new Coordinator of Faith Formation!

Currently studying for a Master of Divinity with Spiritual Direction, in New York City, Timothy Chew is a Tennis Coach, Outreach Pastor, former Teacher, School Chaplain and Youth Worker. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing from the University of Bournemouth and a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Bedfordshire, UK. He is the founder of Faith

and Fitness, now called Free & Fit International, in which he has created curriculum, prayer streams, and a sports network across London. He has been the youth leader, teacher and school chaplain at St. Mark's Federation and St. Mark's Kennington, Church of England, where he trained, delivered and facilitated Alpha (an experience introducing people to Christianity) and 24-7 prayer courses. He also led and assisted sports teams at under 13 and under 18 level in football, cricket, volleyball, basketball, and others. Tim has immense passion for the Christian faith and for all types of sports. He's always looking for opportunities to introduce people to both.





Already love Amazon? How about using **AmazonSmile!** The same great Amazon you love but with .05% of the profits being automatically donated to us!

Currently, 20 people from the church are contributing to Good Shepherd through Amazon Smile. We have been issued a \$12 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity.

Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and agree to support us! Remember to use Amazon Smile instead of Amazon in order for Good Shepherd to receive the donation. For more information, contact Cindy Sealander at csealander@optonline.net. Thank you for your generosity!



Greetings from Brian and Elaina! Would you like to sing or play a solo during one of our in-person services? If so, please email elaina@gspr.org and we will plan a date for you to offer your music in worship. Thank you!



WELCA meeting is on Tuesday, October 6th at 1:30PM, in Fellowship Hall. Please join us for an interesting program, fellowship and refreshments.

Our September meeting was very well attended. It was wonderful getting back together after so many months of being quarantined due to COVID. 74 Personal Care Kits were delivered to the pick-up location. This project has now been canceled by WELCA, after many years. Thank you to all who contributed kits and helped to put this all together

Ladies, if you are a member of Good Shepherd, you are a member of WELCA. We meet the first Tuesday of every month, until May. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Barbara Bow at 845-521-2611 or Mary Iseman at 845-623-7638.

God's peace and blessings to all.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION



On Thursdays at 3pm, I'm going to get a cup of coffee at Dean's Coffee Co. in Pearl River, weather permitting. There are tables outside Dean's, which are nice and shady, and comfortable, too. I'll be there for an hour or longer if we're having a good conversation. I invite you to join me!

+ Pastor Lena



Save the date! We are hosting another Blood Drive on Saturday, October 31. Due to COVID-19, walk-ins will not be accepted. Schedule your appointment online at the link below:

https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/282671

BOY SCOUTS



Hello Good Shepherd!

Scout Troop 36 wanted to update the congregation about our "restart" this fall. As we have all had to adjust our personal, social and business lives, so has Scouting. As we begin our activities, meetings and projects, we want to keep the safety of our Scouts, families and of course the community, first and foremost. We developed a safety plan that incorporates safe behaviors, as well as protocols to ensure we can continue the group spirit of Scouting.

We held our Welcome Back BBQ at Anderson Field pavilion, hiked the walking trail on the Mario Cuomo Bridge (Tappan Zee), canoed down the Delaware, and will be completing the mulching of the church property on October 10th, to start off the year. I am pleased to say our leaders and Scouts have been adapting well to our "new normal."

We want to thank the congregation as a whole for its ongoing support that is so critical for Scouting to continue. If you have a son or grandson looking for a troop to join, please let me know.

Greg Sealandar, Charter Organization Representative (csealandar@optonline.net)



BLESSING OF ANIMALS

On Saturday, October 2, Good Shepherd invited the community to stop by for a Blessing of Animals!





112 N MAIN ST. PEARL RIVER, NY 10965
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MONSEY, NY
PERMIT NO. 6212

V
O
T
E

Early voting locations, hours set by counties

Nine-day window starts Oct. 24

Mark Lungariello Rockland/Westchester Journal News
USA TODAY NETWORK

You probably have friends on social media who seem like they can't wait to vote this year. They're in luck. For nine days before the Nov. 3 general election, anyone can vote early and in-person at specified locations within the county where they're registered. If your county has more than one early-voting site, you can vote at any of them from Oct. 24 to Nov. 1.

This is the second year of early voting in New York state and it's expected to be a popular option to skip potential lines on Election Day and avoid voting by mail.

With concerns over spread of the coronavirus, an unprecedented number of mail ballots are likely this year but there are questions about the U.S. Postal Service that have some worried if their ballots will be properly delivered and counted.

There is one early voting site in Putnam County, four in Rockland County and 17 in Westchester County. Voters who choose to use an absentee ballot can drop off their completed ballot at an early voting site within their county. Westchester agreed to promote the early-voting option after a legal threat from a voting access group. Westchester "assigned" early voting locations last year and during June primaries based on people's home addresses and the group VoteEarlyNY accused the county Board of Elections of failing to notify residents they could vote at any early-voting site regardless of their home address.

Here is a list of when and where to vote in Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties between Oct. 24 and Nov. 1.

Putnam County

When:

- Saturday, Oct. 24: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 28: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 1: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where:

- 1 Putnam County Board of Elections, 25 Old Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512

Rockland County

When:

- Saturday, Oct. 24: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 27: Noon-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 28: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29: Noon-8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 1: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where:

- 1 Clarkstown Town Hall, 10 Maple Ave., New City, NY 10956
- 2 Haverstraw Town Hall, 1 Rosman Road, Garnerville, NY 10923
- 3 Orangetown Town Hall, 26 West Orangeburg Road, Orangeburg, NY 10962
- 4 Ramapo Town Hall, 237 Route 59, Suffern, NY 10901

Westchester County

When:

- Saturday, Oct. 24: Noon-5 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 25: Noon-5 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 26: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 27: Noon-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 28: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29: Noon-8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 31: Noon-5 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 1: Noon-5 p.m.

Where:

- 1 Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Place, Eastchester, NY 10709
- 2 Dobbs Ferry Village Hall, 112 Main St., Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
- 3 Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Ave., White Plains, NY 10607
- 4 Veterans Memorial Building, 210 Halstead Ave., Harrison, NY 10528
- 5 Pound Ridge Town House, 179 Westchester Ave., Pound Ridge, NY 10576
- 6 Mamaroneck Town Center, 740 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, NY 10543
- 7 Mt. Kisco Memorial Complex at Leonard Park, 1 Wallace Drive, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549
- 8 Mt. Pleasant Community Center, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla, NY 10595
- 9 Mt. Vernon City Hall, 1 Roosevelt Square, Mt. Vernon, NY 10550
- 10 New Rochelle City Hall Annex - 90 Beaufort Place, 90 Beaufort Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801
- 11 Joseph G. Caputo Community Center, 95 Broadway, Ossining, NY 10562
- 12 Peekskill Nutrition Center - Neighborhood Center, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill, NY 10566
- 13 Somers Town House, 335 Route 202, Somers, NY 10589
- 14 Westchester County Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas St., White Plains, NY 10601
- 15 Grinton I. Will Library, 1500 Central Park Ave., Yonkers, NY 10710
- 16 Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701
- 17 Yorktown Cultural Center, 1974 Commerce St., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Mark Lungariello covers government and politics. Follow him on Facebook @lungariello and Twitter @marklungariello.