



August 2021

# Good Shepherd Monthly News

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 2, Issue 8

## A Thank You Note from Pastor Barry and Andie

Thank you! Andie and I are blessed in the privilege of worshipping with you and fellowshiping with you in this last year. We truly are blessed in your presence and in the ministry of Good Shepherd.

Whatever God has in mind and heart for the future of Good Shepherd, we look forward to serving in your midst until that becomes clear.

In the meantime, if you have the need for pastoral care or conversation, you can call the church office or contact me at 724-996-2160 or if you wish, my email (as of Aug. 1), [pastorbarry@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:pastorbarry@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org).

We give thanks to God for each of you and your partnership in the Gospel of Jesus.

In Him,  
Pastor Barry

*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. — 1 John 1:7*

### Inside this issue:

<i>A Note from Pastor Barry and Andie</i>	1
<i>Fall Kickoff is Back!</i>	1
<i>Upcoming Sermon Series—"Postcards of the New Testament"</i>	2
<i>LCMS 2022 National Youth Gathering</i>	3
<i>Reopening Committee Disbanded</i>	3
<i>Calendar</i>	4
<i>Birthdays / Anniversaries</i>	5
<i>Preschool News</i>	5
<i>Prayer Requests</i>	6
<i>Good Shepherd on Social Media</i>	6

## Fall Kickoff is Back!

Mark your calendars for our annual **Fall Kickoff on Sunday, September 12!** We'll begin the new Sunday School year and enjoy our church picnic. Worship will be led by Pastor David Weeks. Watch for details in the month ahead.

# Ministry News

## Upcoming Sermon Series – “Postcards of the New Testament”

Postcards are not as popular as they were years ago. We live in a different time where one can take a picture on their phone and instantly share it with friends back home via social media.

Back in the day however, postcards captured a moment or a space, leaving a little bit of space to personalize a message to someone you were missing back home.

Postcards may not be as popular in social circles today but they are timeless in the Word of God. In the New Testament, there are 4 letters or books that are “postcards” among all the other books. Four books that are just one chapter long a piece. Their message is as timely and relevant today as when they were first written. Do you know what four letters I am referring to ?

Philemon  
II John  
III John  
Jude

In a world that is filled with the junk mail of half truths, lies and misleading advice, these four “postcards” are filled with vital life lessons.

Beginning August 8th, we will begin a three-week sermon series, exploring two of these letters – Philemon and Jude.

In Philemon, we will study and learn how to forgive those who have hurt you. Then in Jude, we will examine the importance of finding strength in our life and faith together through a word that we do hear often in our everyday conversation – Doxology.

I hope that you will join me in this three week series, beginning August 8th.

- *Pastor Barry*

*And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. – 1 Peter 5:10*

## LCMS 2022 National Youth Gathering

In less than a year, the LCMS will hold its next National Youth Gathering. The 2022 Gathering will be in Houston, TX, July 9 –13. Held every 3 years, this gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus and the Christian faith.

The Gathering is open to youth entering 8th-12th grade for the 2021-2022 school year. Any qualifying youth interested in attending the 2022 National Youth Gathering, please contact Amy Frantz (412-889-7182).

If you have questions about the Gathering, check out their [website](#). If you want to speak with someone who has previously attended the Gathering to learn more, contact the church office so they can connect you with an adult or youth prior participant.



## Reopening Committee Disbanded with Thanks and Appreciation

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We formed the Reopening Committee of Good Shepherd at the direction of Scott Thurston, our Council President, in June 2020. The Committee consisted of: Jean Barone, Joan Krueger, Sandy Marcovechio, Ashley Miller, Ken Meyer, Pastor Tim Bickel, Sean Thurston, Ray Vogel and Scott Thurston.

It's incredible when you sit and reflect on how much has transpired since then. There has been so much uncertainty, anxiety and change but the one thing that has been constant is the love of our Lord.

We took the bold decision to open our Church on June 21, 2020 (Father's Day) and shortly thereafter made the decision to open the Preschool. Both were good decisions which allowed our Ministry to continue very effectively. These decisions have served our Congregational Family, Preschool Families and Staff safely, considerately and lovingly.

I want to thank all Members of the Reopening Committee for their participation in our decision-making over the last year plus. Committee Members studied vast guidelines and regularly benchmarked other organizations. Their work provided good input and insight for our discussions. Their wisdom, empathy, good judgment and common sense helped us to progress through the pandemic period without the need to close our Church or Preschool.

The service of the Reopening Committee Members has been a great gift to all those associated with Good Shepherd. I want to acknowledge and THANK each of them!

At the direction of Scott Thurston and the Church Council, I have disbanded the Reopening Committee. If a need arises to re-establish a new Committee to deal with pandemic or related matters, we will do so.

- *Your Brother in Christ, Ray Betler*

Be sure to check [goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](https://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org) for a live calendar and up-to-date information.

# August 2021

Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat

<b>1</b> <i>10a Worship</i>	<b>2</b> <i>5p Soc Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i>	<b>3</b> <i>6p Scrapbookers</i>	<b>4</b> <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	<b>5</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	<b>6</b> <i>1:30p Com- munion Service 7p Plastic Model Society</i>	<b>7</b> <i>8a-9p Private Use of Fellowship Hall 9:15a Soccer Shots Make-up</i>
<b>8</b> <i>10a Worship w/ Communion</i>	<b>9</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots Make-up 7p Boy Scouts 7p Council Mtg</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	<b>12</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots Make-up</i>
<b>15</b> <i>10a Worship w/ Communion</i>	<b>16</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots Make-up 7p Boy Scouts 7p Elders' Mtg</i>	<b>17</b> <i>6p Scrapbookers</i>	<b>18</b> <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	<b>19</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>
<b>22</b> <i>10a Worship w/ Communion</i>	<b>23</b> <i>5p Soc Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>7:30p Narc Anon</i>	<b>26</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>9:15a Soccer Shots</i>
<b>29</b> <i>10a Worship</i>	<b>30</b> <i>5p Soccer Shots 7p Boy Scouts</i>	<b>31</b>	<b>Worship Sermon Schedule:</b> 8/1—Video Sermon, Pastor Joel Christiansen 8/8—Pastor Barry Keurulainen 8/15—Pastor Barry Keurulainen 8/22—Pastor Barry Keurulainen 8/29—Pastor Brian Boscian			

Sunday morning worship continues in-person at 10am and it is also being live streamed.

[Click here](#) Sundays at 10am to join us in worship via our YouTube Channel.  
Complete the [Online Worship Fellowship Record](#) to let us know you have joined.

## August Birthdays

8/16—Carol Schaar

8/17—Brittney Molinari

8/19—Larry Mikoleit

8/19—Derek Scheller

8/19—Melinda Scheller

8/19—Pam Spechtold

8/19—Rita Winker

8/24—Joan Steigerwald

8/29—Madelynn Wilson

8/30—Natalie Barkell



## August Anniversaries

8/5—Mark and Bethany Barkell (15)

8/5—Lou and Lynn Pingel (54)

8/9—Larry and Joan Krueger (46)

8/14—Jack and Sandy Overfield (56)

8/21—Larry and Norma Mikoleit (67)



## Preschool News

The Preschool Staff is beginning preparations and are excited for the new school year. We have a wonderful staff getting ready to care for new and familiar faces:

Director:	Ashley Miller
Jr. Kindergarten:	Cathi Storey & Jack Zewe
Pre-K and 3 Yr Old:	Heather Bell & Kim Kern
Learning Together:	Laura Thurston & Cathy O'Malley
Mommy and Me:	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Office Assistant:	Jeanine Bondi



We look forward to the start of school on September 8. There are still class spaces available. Contact the Director, Ashley Miller ([preschool@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:preschool@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org) / 412-884-5960) for information.

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

418 Maxwell Dr.  
Whitehall, PA 15236

Phone: 412-884-3232

Email: [office@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)

Website: [goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](http://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)



### Prayer Requests for Members, Family and Friends:

Erika Similo, Dana McNulty, Jan Kleiser, Sherri, Betsy Thurston, Lisa Brady, Lou Pingel, Don Matthews, Phyllis, Don Richards, Pastor Tim, Debbie Volland, Tiffany, Jennifer Meyer, Earl and Mary Jane Richards, Mary Jane Forrest, Evie Jones, Fred "Butch" Taylor, Dottie Tritsch, Florence Christiansen, Scott Garretson, Hope Leydig, Dennis Lee, John Wilson, Sam Langol, Linda, Barb Hentsch, Melissa Medved, Anne Malone, Gary Cooper, Carolyn Uhlyar, Joan Steigerwald, Norma Mikoleit, Rose Spencer, John Simpson, Tillie Koerth, Pam Spechtold, Rose Marie Koehnke, Joan Uhrinak

## Follow Good Shepherd on Social Media



[Facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/](https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/)



[Instagram.com/goodshepherdpg/](https://www.instagram.com/goodshepherdpg/)



[Youtube.com/channel/UC3Vh06JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Vh06JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ)

(or, go to YouTube and search for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills)

If you are receiving this newsletter in your home mailbox, consider giving us an email address, and you'll receive the newsletter more quickly each month. And just a reminder, the Monthly Newsletter and Weekly Tidings can be viewed on the website at: <https://www.goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/news-to-note/>.