

# The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail

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## OCTOBER 2024

### **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear friends, peace and joy be with you.

I remember sitting with my clinical supervisor one fall, as the leaves began to change. She said the leaves were therapeutic and symbolic because they can teach us how to enter into a new season of life. To begin a new season sometimes requires shedding or releasing things that have been a part of our life.

With the change of season, I think about our own transformation. I've been with you almost a year, and in this year, we've come a long way. Most of what we have done has centered on relationship building: just getting to know one another. Organizationally, however, we have identified our mission statement, "A community celebrating God's grace".

A mission statement is important because it describes *why* we are here. We exist to celebrate God's grace. We celebrate for a reason: we have experienced something, received something, and *that thing* has done something to us, moved something in us, and caused us to respond with joy.

The joy is contagious. We can't keep it to ourselves. If this joy is like a banquet, with lots of food, this is something we can celebrate amongst ourselves, but it is something we can also invite others into as well. Buddha once said, "A thousand candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared." We exist to not only experience, and continue to experience, God's grace but to also make this experience present and available to others so that they can join in the celebration too!

1 Peter 4:10 talks about grace. The author says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received, faithfully stewarding God's grace in its various forms." Every one of us has been given the gift of grace. This grace may be the same, for some of us, it may be similar, or it may be completely different and unique. To celebrate God's grace, to be who we are and who God made us to be, is to allow ourselves to be drawn more deeply into this mission: to celebrate God's grace. And to celebrate God's grace is to share it, to make it something that someone else can see and hear and feel or touch and experience.

As we continue to move forward, let's do one thing: be who we are. As I learned in the fellowship hall at Al Moen's celebration of life, meeting with many people, Al wasn't the only one with a bright light. He stood in the legacy of other great lights that had come before him. He stood in the lineage of men and women of Christian character, who had been given incredible gifts and who spent their lives responding to the grace God had given them, in its various forms. So, as we move forward, let's simply be who we are: a community of grace with something to celebrate. And as we celebrate, let's celebrate in a way that invites others into this great celebration.

I am so grateful to be your pastor and continue this exciting journey with you. Let's pray to the Lord of the Harvest and see what God will bring about in this next new season of life.

Peace and joy,  
Pastor JP

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

***Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs:***

*Our own congregation as we search for a Music Director*

*The Moen family on the loss of Al Moen*

*Chris Homme's sister, Julie, as she faces breast cancer*

*Tom McCutchan as he serves in Argentina with the Young Adults in Global Mission*

*Jon Tollefson, undergoing cancer treatment, cousin of Cheryl McCutchan and Chad Masche.*

*The Moen Family on the loss of Al's sister, Elaine Moen Heichel*

*The Robinson family on the loss of Lisa's husband, Weston, and her mother, Barbara*

*For health concerns:*

*Lena Joy Bozhinov newly born to Sharon and Bogdan*

*Lucas Taylor, Joy Vaughn's cousin's grandson, as he battles a form of lymphoma,*

*Cathy Karlsen and her son, Rob, who has a serious infection*

*Lisa Robinson's Sister-in-law, Debbie, as she continues to recover from an auto accident*

*Richard McCutchan's sister*

*Heidi Ferria, Pat Heifort's daughter*

*For all others who are in need of healing and wholeness,*

*For peace all around the world,*

*For Pastor J.P. and our Congregational Leaders and for all people according to their needs.*

***Into your hands, Oh, Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.***

*Prayer requests should be submitted to Pastor JP or Pat Pehling  
Please notify Pat if and when a prayer request should be removed*

### **NEW ARRIVAL**

Congratulations to Sharon and Bogdan on welcoming their beautiful baby girl, Lena Joy Bozhinov, into the world September 29 at 11:35pm! Lena Joy came in at 6lbs 14oz via C Section delivery. Please continue to pray for Sharon as she recovers and Lena Joy as she will spend the next week in the NICU for observation. Congratulations Sharon and Bogdan!!!!

### **THANK YOU TO**

- \* Those who help keep the lawns mown and the gardens looking good
- \* All those who are providing bulletins and helping provide the recordings of our Worship Services!
- \* The Sunday Supervisors, Readers and Fellowship Hosts
- \* All those who assisted with Al Moen's Memorial Service. The family is most appreciative!
- \* Those who brought great dishes to share and those who grilled burger and hotdogs for our Sunday School kick off potluck

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH & ADULT FELLOWSHIP – Lisa Robinson & Cheryl McCutchan**

We are so thankful for the Kloes family, Pat & Lori Pehling, and Al & Marilyn Errey for providing the fellowship treats in September, and to all that brought items to share for the start of Sunday school BBQ, plus so grateful for Jim Flynn and Terry Danner for manning the grills.

For October Fellowship, the first and second Sundays have been filled, but the third and fourth are available.

Oktoberfest is on Sunday, October 20th from 3-5pm. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. Kristin and Kathy will be lending their accordion skills to the festivities. Hope to see you there.

Make note that the advent fair is slated for Sunday, November 24th and pie social on Wednesday, November 27th.

Tim Noah's "Faces of Christmas" holiday show at the Thumbnail Theatre in Snohomish is on Saturday, December 21st at 4pm. Tickets are \$30 and tend to sell out quickly, so if you are interested in attending as a group, please let us know.

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE – Pat Veale**

**THE 27TH**

**Snohomish Community**

**CROP WALK TO STOP HUNGER**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 13, 2024 12:30 PM**

**AT**

**ST. John's Episcopal Church**

**Please consider giving a donation or walk**

**This is a great activity to do especially for family or singles to do.**

**Great way to meet and get connected to our community**

Monies raised from local CROP Hunger walks fund **Church World Service (CWS)** and our local **Community Kitchen**. Community Kitchen receives **25%** of the funds raised.

**Now more than ever the world's hungry and displaced need our help.**

**Church World Service (CWS)** was founded in 1946 and is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions, providing sustainable self-help, development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance around the world. The CWS mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice at the national and international level.

In Snohomish the money raised will provide meals to the needy through the all-volunteer **Snohomish Community Kitchen**. The Community Kitchen delivers and serves in-house approximately 95 meals each Monday and Thursday. Funds are needed to pay for delivery costs, rent and food to keep this important resource available to people in need of a meal.

Please donate, walk and support our Walk with your prayers.

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP– Karla Kloes**

As many of you already know, Greg has declined our offer for Music Director. He was looking for more of a supportive role than leadership. We have another person, Cindy Goetz, who originally stated that she would be our long-term sub but changed her mind. She will be our substitute for the first three weeks in October and I hope she likes it so much that she will change her mind again and stay (LOL). So, back to the drawing board for the hiring committee. I will be in touch about our next meeting.

Pastor JP will be out of town on Sunday, October 13th and we will have pulpit supply that day.

Exciting news is that Lily and Noah will be confirmed here on Sunday, November 3rd. We will be celebrating with a cake at fellowship time. Because they went through their confirmation course at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Snohomish, they will also be having a confirmation service there with all the other confirmands on Sunday, October 27th so Pastor JP will not be here, and Pastor Erik will be filling in that day.

Again, thank you to Mary and Donna for filling in for me and/or helping out with communion prep and clean up. I appreciate you both.

Please let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns about worship and music.

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION –Dean Kloes**

The Sunday evening 6:00 pm bible study at the Barstad's home is working through a study titled *Making Sense of the Christian Faith* by David L. Lose.

Also, the monthly Friday women's bible study group will continue their study of 1 Corinthians on October 11th at 10:00 AM and November 8th in the Anderson Chapel.

Youth Sunday School begins each Sunday at 10:45 AM in the Anderson Chapel and the Sunday School students & families are planning to go bowling on October 27th at 2:00 PM at Strawberry Lanes in Marysville.

**MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE- Doug Garland**

I am very happy to say that currently there are no major projects going on at the church.

The roof is complete and ready for winter, thank you congregation for your patience and support.

The Academy started on schedule and there have been no major problems or expenses that have needed to be addressed to get them back in session. They are a good tenant and work very well with the God's House ministry, we're very happy to have them on board.

Thanks to all that participated in church work parties we've had over the summer; I'd say overall the church is looking pretty good. We'll get the irrigation system blown out this month and we should be all set. We'll continue the work parties in the spring.

We've had an idea come up that maybe it's time to do some cleaning and sprucing up of the fellowship hall. Some painting, cleaning carpet or replacing, getting rid of clutter and light fixtures. We'll add this to the next council meeting agenda.

**MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Donna Garland with Cheryl McCutchan**

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who have been faithful this summer in your offerings and support of Good Shepherd. Your generosity of time, talents, and offerings are very much appreciated! As a result of your generosity, we are currently running ahead of budget.

**GIVING OPTIONS**

- Contributing during our weekly service
- Mailing checks to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5511 64th Street S.E., Snohomish, WA 98290
- Utilizing your bank's bill pay option (Check with your bank or your on-line banking website)
- Using Tithe.ly donate link on our website, <https://www.swanstrail.org>

**FINISHING UP:**

The roof project has been completed and all obligations have been paid!

**Special Occasions in our Congregation**

*(Check with Pat to be sure your family's special dates – Birthdays and anniversaries - are included in the appropriate month!)*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO**

October 4 - Sharon Danner Bozhinov  
5 - Gus Melnyk  
9 – Skip Sheppard  
11 - Jack Walkley  
22 - Cindy Martina  
24 - Katie Kloes Greeny  
26 - Tyler Goodnight  
29 – Bruce DeVault  
30 – Pastor J.P. Paxton  
30 – Chris Nofziger

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO**

October 19 Pat & John Veale

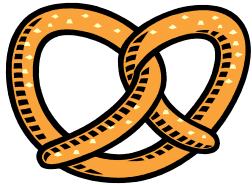
# Oktoberfest!

**Join Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
in celebrating harvest blessings**

**Sunday, October 20**

**From 3 – 5 p.m.**

**Special live music  
with Kristin and Kathy!**



**Brats ~ along with all the fixings  
& beverages will be provided.**

**Please bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to share,  
German style if possible, and family and friends.**

**For more information contact  
Cheryl or Lisa**

## October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <i>Project Linus 10-10</i>	<b>4</b> <i>Project Linus 10-10</i>	<b>5</b> <i>Project Linus 10-10</i>
<b>6</b> Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Bible Study 6pm	<b>7</b> <i>4-H Meeting 6-9pm</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <i>Project Linus 10-3</i>	<b>10</b> <i>Pilchuck Camera Club 7pm</i>	<b>11</b> Women's Bible Study 10am	<b>12</b> <i>4-H Meeting Noon-3pm</i>
<b>13</b> Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Bible Study 6pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <i>4-H Meeting 6-9pm</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <i>4-H Meeting 4-9pm</i>
<b>20</b> Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Oktoberfest 3-5pm Bible Study 6pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <i>Project Linus 10-3</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <i>Burnell Anniversary Party 11am-5pm</i>
<b>27</b> Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Family Bowling 2pm Bible Study 6pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

