

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
Monthly Newsletter

September 2025
goodshepherdpxtang.com

The



Call

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It's happening, the start of another academic school year. Driving around in the morning or the afternoon involves leaving a bit of extra time to allow for children crossing the street or trailing behind a school bus making lots of stops. Many have returned from their summer vacations, while others are breathing a sigh of relief that the "season" has ended and they are now planning their trips with an "off season" rate. For me, this is the time of year when a hymn echoes in my daily prayers.

*Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.*

***Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home.
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"***

*Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? Refrain*

*Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. Refrain.*

—ELW #608

We now think about returning to our regular schedules, and we hear our Lord's call to come home. We hear our Lord's gentle invitation to come back to worship and to join in faith formation through a Sunday Church School class or Bible Study or Living Room Dialogue. We gear up for Community Day (have you signed up to volunteer or donate?) and for In-Gathering (have you brought in supplies to fill school kits or personal care kits?). We hear our Lord say, "It's alright. I love you and I want you in my fellowship."

As always, we gather for worship on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

***Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home.
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"***

*Peace, and many blessings,
The Rev. Kathleen J. Baker, STM
Pastor*

Parish Staff:

Kathleen J. Baker, STM, Pastor
 Nicholas P. Werner, Music Director
 Beth C. Fine, Church Administrator
 Kester T. Sobers III, Pastor Emeritus
 Herbert O. Fowler, Cantor Emeritus

Church Officers:

Fred Sprunk, President
 Sue Bricker, Vice President
 Don Lausch, Treasurer
 Dix McCauley, Secretary

Congregational Council Members:

Bill Baum, Greg Borzok, Karen Borzok, Sue Bricker,
 Don Lausch, Dix McCauley, Robert Roller, Fred Sprunk,
 and Ann Vazquez

THE CALL is a monthly publication of
 The Evangelical Lutheran Church
 of the Good Shepherd
 3700 Rutherford Street
 Harrisburg, PA 17111
 717-564-0385
 goodshepherdpxtang@gmail.com
 Pastor: The Reverend Kathleen J. Baker, STM

The editor reserves the right to edit for brevity and clarity.
 Unless otherwise publicized, the deadline for submissions is
 the third Sunday of the month.



From Our Treasurer: July Financials

	2025	
	JULY	YTD
Giving	16,570	155,505
Spending	19,719	143,176
Surplus/(Deficit)	(3,149)	12,329

BALANCES

General Fund	33,076
Exchange (Restricted)	34,053
Memorial	19,471
Mission Investment Fund CD	32,924
Investments	394,367



COMMUNITY DAY SORTING & PREP September 7 after 10 a.m. worship

BAKED GOODS NEEDED!

Drop off—September 12 from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.
 Wilhelm Road side of Breezeway

COMMUNITY DAY AT GOOD SHEPHERD Saturday, September 13 8 a.m. until Noon

10 a.m.
 Keystone Concert Band Performance

Questions? Contact Dix McCauley.



September 1
Jody Coleman

September 8
Diane Knight

September 11
Greg Borzok, Sandra Davis,
and Darlene Schlegel

September 12
Kirk Barbour

September 17
Torri Cordner

September 20
Emily Bricker and
Susan Girolami-Kramer

September 21
Edna Hafer

September 22
Alan Rehm

September 28
Russell Corbett

September 30
Mark Erney, Jacqueline Frye,
and Mark Stradley

September Readings

- 9/1 2 Chronicles 12: 1-12, Hebrews 13: 7-21,
Psalm 119: 65-72
- 9/2 Isaiah 2: 12-17, Titus 1: 1-9, Psalm 119: 65-72
- 9/3 Isaiah 57: 14-21, Luke 14: 15-24, Psalm 119: 65-72
- 9/4 Genesis 39: 1-23, Philippians 2: 25-30, Psalm 1
- 9/5 Deuteronomy 7: 12-26, Colossians 4: 7-17, Psalm 1
- 9/6 Deuteronomy 29: 2-20, Matthew 10: 34-42, Psalm 1
- 9/7 Deuteronomy 30: 15-20, Psalm 1, Philemon 1-21,
Luke 14: 25-33
- 9/8 2 Kings 17: 24-41, 1 Timothy 3: 14—4:5, Psalm 101
- 9/9 2 Kings 18: 9-18, 1 Timothy 4: 6-16, Psalm 101
- 9/10 2 Kings 18: 19-25; 19: 1-7, Luke 18: 18-30, Psalm 101
- 9/11 Genesis 6: 1-16, 1 Timothy 1: 1-11, Psalm 51: 1-10
- 9/12 Genesis 7: 6-10; 8:1-5; 2 Peter 2: 1-10a, Psalm 51: 1-10
- 9/13 Exodus 32: 7-14, John 10: 11-21, Psalm 51: 1-10
- 9/14 Numbers 21: 4b-9, Psalm 98: 1-4,
1 Corinthians 1: 18-24, John 3: 13-17
- 9/15 Amos 7: 1-6, 1 Timothy 1: 18-20, Psalm 73
- 9/16 Jonah 3: 1-10, 2 Peter 3: 8-13, Psalm 73
- 9/17 Job 40: 6-14; 42: 1-6, Luke 22: 31-33, 54, 62, Psalm 73
- 9/18 Exodus 23: 1-9, Romans 3: 1-8, Psalm 113
- 9/19 Ezekiel 22: 17-31, Romans 8: 31-39, Psalm 113
- 9/20 Isaiah 5: 8-23, Mark 12: 41-44, Psalm 113
- 9/21 Amos 8: 4-7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2: 1-7, Luke 16: 1-13
- 9/22 Proverbs 14: 12-31, Acts 4: 1-12, Psalm 13
- 9/23 Proverbs 17: 1-5, 1 Corinthians 9: 19-23, Psalm 12
- 9/24 Proverbs 21: 10-16, Luke 20: 45—21:4, Psalm 12
- 9/25 Proverbs 22: 2-16, 2 Corinthians 8: 8-15, Psalm 146
- 9/26 Proverbs 28: 3-10, Ephesians 2: 1-10, Psalm 146
- 9/27 Proverbs 28: 11-28, Luke 9:43b-48, Psalm 146
- 9/28 Amos 6: 1a, 4-7, Psalm 146, 1 Timothy 6:6-19,
Luke 16: 19-31
- 9/29 Amos 6:8-14, Revelation 3: 14-22, Psalm 62
- 9/30 Hosea 10: 9-15, James 5: 1-6, Psalm 62



Messiah Lutheran Church Fall Fest 2025

Saturday, September 20
5:30 until 8:30 p.m.

\$35 per person

Messiah Lutheran Church Social Hall
Corner of Commonwealth and Forster
Harrisburg

To benefit Messiah's Capital Improvements with a portion of proceeds going to the Harrisburg Area Food Pantry (formerly the Ecumenical Food Pantry)

Join us for an evening of good fun, food and fellowship. Come, sit back, and relax while enjoying the smooth sounds of keyboardist Chris Purcell and an abundance of gourmet hors d'oeuvres, desserts, mulled cider, coffee, and tea. BYOB! There will be a 50/50 raffle and some great silent auction items to bid on, featuring the practical (firewood delivered) and the fanciful (e.g. Jan Crum's handmade greeting cards, an afghan). There may even be a vacation rental or two.

God's work, Our Hands helps us to be fiscally responsible stewards supporting the missions and needs of Messiah Lutheran Church.

Your support is greatly appreciated! Reserve your \$35 per person tickets by contacting Messiah's church office (717-233-6731 or officeadmin@messiahhbg.org). You may also purchase tickets online at messiahhbg.org/shop/fallfest/.



Good Shepherd participated in a Community Multi-Faith picnic held August 10 at the 40 and 8 Club Pavilion on Chambers Hill. Guests also included members of St. Catherine Laboure and Paxton Presbyterian. Those attending included Pastor Baker, Sandy Baum, Vicki Delp, Mary Sprunk, Sara Sprunk, Pastor Joel Petruschke, Fred Sprunk, and Bill Baum (not pictured).



What is W/ELCA? Part 2

Places to Go and Gather as Sisters in Christ:

Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women of the ELCA Events

- Leadership Training Event (tbd)
- Day of Renewal (tbd)
- Annual SWO Convention (tbd)
- Camp Hebron Retreat 2025:
In the Potter's Hand
October 24 through 28
Registration deadline is September 8

For more information on these event registration forms check out the *News & Views* Newsletter at lss-elca.org/ click on “Mission Partners”, and then choose the last option down the list:

Women of the ELCA LS SWO
or go to: lss-elca.org/mission-partners/women-of-the-elca/

Women of the ELCA Churchwide Events:

- Triennial Gathering: welcatg.org

For more information on other current events, check out www.womenoftheelca.org.

Our logo—
with the cross,
water, and a white
lily—



identifies women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God; baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty, and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA

Good Shepherd W/ELCA meets on the second Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room, September through June.

W/ELCA will reconvene on Monday, September 8 for fellowship and part 2 of the Women of the Bible study— “For All the Faithful Women Who Served in Days of Old.” All women of Good Shepherd are welcome to join us in the Gathering Room at 9:30 a.m. that day.

For more information, please contact Lois Griffiths.

—Lois Griffiths

Family Promise Update



August 10 through 17 was Family Promise Host Week. We partnered with Our Saviour Lutheran Church and hosted the guests at Our Saviour. The guests spent their day at the Day Center and were transported to the church at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Promise van where they received a hot meal and spent the night before returning to the Day Center in the morning. Morning departure vary with work and school bus schedules.

This was a very challenging week because we had several volunteers who became ill and were not able to help, and on Friday the van was to have an oil change, but had other problems as well and was taken out of service. Because we had 8 guests, a regular mini-van was not sufficient, and some volunteers were needed to transport some guests in their personal cars.

This week we hosted 3 adults, 2 teenagers, and 3 small children ages 4, 18 months and 10 weeks!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped either by driving the van, preparing a meal, or staying overnight. We are very grateful for all of you and the help you provided. The guests were very kind and appreciative and told us constantly and thanked us for all we did for them.

We received “thank you” notes from both families. They are posted with pictures of the children on the Family Promise Bulletin Board in the Breezeway.

Family #1 – “Thank you church and volunteers. We are very grateful for your kindness and support while hosting our family at your church during our stay with Family Promise. You all made an impact on our lives that will stay with us always!”

Family #2 – “Dear Church and Volunteers, Thank you for hosting our family during our stay with Family Promise. Your kindness and support in our time of need will forever be etched in our hearts.

OUR NEXT HOST WEEK will be October 12 through 19. Mark your calendars now!

—Georgia Rehm



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Get ready to tee up for a powerful cause! The **Mission Classic Golf Tournament** is more than just a day on the green—it's a chance to drive real change for families in our community who are working to overcome homelessness and housing instability.

Join us on **Friday, October 3 at 1:30 p.m.** at the beautiful **Rich Valley Golf Course** for an afternoon filled with friendly competition, fresh air, laughter, and purpose. Whether you're a scratch golfer or more of a "swing and a prayer" kind of player, **this event is all about coming together to support the life-changing mission of Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region.**

Your participation helps provide shelter, case management, transportation assistance, employment coaching, and so much more to families striving to rebuild their lives on their journey to stability and independence.

Register to play (individuals and foursomes welcome) or to be a sponsor. **For more information: familypromisehcr.org/mission-classic/.**

—Georgia Rehm

Workshop News

Donations have been made to **Morningstar Pregnancy Services** and to **UPMC** this month.

We have been busy packing items for School Kits and Personal Care Kits for In-Gathering which will be held the weekend of October 4-5. **Thank you** so much for the donations that have come in and are still very much needed. We pack boxes each week, based on the supplies that come to us. **Back to School sales** are on right now. We try to take advantage of sales whenever we can. A complete list of needed items can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Donations may be placed in the green tubs in the Breezeway and the Chapel and Nave Narthexes.

Here's how YOU can help with In-Gathering:

- **Come and join us on a Tuesday morning and help us pack!**
- **Monetary donations** to help with the cost of shipping the needed items are welcome! Look for blue envelopes in the Narthex and outside of the Chapel closer to In-Gathering.
- **Donations of needed items** to put in the kits are also welcome!



Items needed for School Bags include: 70 sheet spiral bound notebooks (**currently \$.35 at Target and \$.40 at Walmart and Staples**), rulers with inches and centimeters, pencil sharpeners, black or blue ball point pens, Crayons (16 or 24 count), 2.5" erasers, and unsharpened pencils

Items needed for Personal Care Kits include: nail clippers, towels (thin 52"X 27" dark color preferred), large tooth combs (not picks), Toothbrushes, and individually wrapped bars of soap



Items needed for Sewing Kits: fabric (60" – 2 1/4 yd., 42"-45" – 3 yd., 34-37" – 4 yd.) and matching or neutral color thread 250 – 300 yds.

Please contact Georgia Rehm with any questions.

—Georgia Rehm

In-Gathering October 4 and 5

Good Shepherd members are to be commended for their great outreach to our neighbors. We have provided many of God's people with basic needs and nourishment. We ask your support again this year.

The **MISSION & MINISTRY COMMITTEE** will be supporting families in need by providing items for the Harrisburg Food Pantry. The Committee is seeking donations of the following items:

- **Paper Products**—paper towels, toilet paper, and/or tissues
- **Toiletries**—shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, and/or handsanitizer
- **Non-perishable food items**—canned, boxed, and/or bagged
- **Infant items**—Baby food (all stages), formula, diapers (all sizes), and/or wipes
- **Other items**—Laundry detergent, dishwashing detergent, dishwasher detergent

Please place your items in a paper grocery bag (available in the Narthexes) and return the bag with contents prior to worship service(s) on **Saturday, October 4 or Sunday, October 4**. The donations may be placed in chancel area or around the chancel railing in the Nave. The committee welcomes, appreciates and thanks you for your generosity.

Matthew 25:35—“For when I was hungry, you gave me food...” and basic needs.

— Susan Master.



*Our prayers
and the comfort of
the Christian faith
are with*

*the family and friends of
Jack Esworthy, Jr.
who died July 29.*

*A funeral service will be held
Saturday, October 4 at 11 a.m.
at Good Shepherd
with Pastor Baker presiding.*

*Our prayers
and the comfort of
the Christian faith
are also with*

*the family and friends of
Arthur Wayne Wallace
who died August 8.*

*A funeral service was held
Saturday, August 16
at Good Shepherd
with Pastor Baker presiding.*



*And, our prayers
and the comfort of
the Christian faith
are also with*

*the family and friends of
Gary Stradley
who died August 14*

*A graveside service was held
August 27
at Shoop's Garden of Rest
With Pastor Baker presiding.*



Pastor's Bible Study begins Sept. 16 I AM

In the Gospel according to St. John, Jesus uses a series of "I am" statements, seven of them to be exact. For Bible study this academic year, we will dive into each of these statements. We, hopefully, are well-familiar with Jesus saying that he is the Good Shepherd. We know that verse. We like that verse. But what about when Jesus says that he is a door, or light? What do we imagine he is referring to? What is he communicating with these images? And, what does it have to do with us today? Yes—as usual, we will cover the good, the bad, and the ugly. We will discuss the bread of life, the resurrection, the way, and much more. Bring your Bibles, your listening ears, and your questions. Typically, we will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (with some variations for holidays and holy days) in the Gathering Room from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Our first meeting on September 16 will focus on John 6: 35, 47-51—I am the Bread of Life. All are welcome!

—Pastor Baker

Worship Sponsorships

	Flowers \$25	Bulletins \$30	Lamps \$10
September 7	Frischkorn	Frischkorn	Frischkorn
September 14		Sprunk	Breon
September 21		Bricker	
September 28	Sprunk	Boyne	

A central calendar is also posted in the Narthex of the Nave. Sign your name to that Calendar as well and turn in the form to the office. We can also do double dedications.

Sponsorship Form



Please return this slip with your contribution to the church office. Dedications are printed in the bulletin each week. For Sunday, _____ 2025

____ Flowers \$25 ____ Bulletins \$30 ____ Sanctuary Lamps \$10

____ To the Glory of God ____ In Memory Of ____ In Honor Of ____ In Celebration Of

Submitted by: _____

Amount: _____ Deadline: Wednesday a.m. prior to the upcoming Sunday

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR DAY Church Office CLOSED	29:30a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH)	39:30 a.m. W&S (Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)	4	5	65 p.m. W & S (Chapel)
7 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. W & S (Nave /YouTube) 9:30 a.m. Summer Fellowship (Wilhelm Rd. Patio) 10 a.m. W & S (Chapel) 11 a.m. Community Day Sorting & Prep	86:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH) 6:30p.m. Congregation Council (Gathering Rm.)	99:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH) 7 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (Martin Luther)	109:30 a.m. W&S (Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)	11	12	138 a.m.-noon Community Day 10 a.m. Keystone Concert Band Program (Nave) 5 p.m. W & S (Chapel)
14 OCT. CALL DEADLINE 8:30 a.m. W & S (Nave /YouTube) 9:30 a.m. Summer Fellowship (Wilhelm Rd. Patio) 10 a.m. W & S	15 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH)	169:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH) 7 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study (Gathering	179:30 a.m. W&S (Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)	18	19	205 p.m. W & S (Chapel)
21 8:30 a.m. W & S (Nave /YouTube) 9:30 a.m. Summer Fellowship (Wilhelm Rd. Patio) 10 a.m. W & S (Chapel)	22 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH)	239:30 a.m. Workshop (St. LydiaASH)	249:30 a.m. W&S (Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)	25	26	27 5 p.m. W & S (Chapel)
288:30 a.m. W & S (Nave /YouTube) 10 a.m. W & S (Chapel) 9:30 a.m. Summer Fellowship (Wilhelm Rd. Patio) 6:30 p.m. Living Room Dialogue (Gathering Room)	29 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH)	309:30a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH)				

Save the Date!
Pet Blessing
Saturday, October 5
2:00 p.m.
Good Shepherd Rose Garden



You are invited to join in this opportunity to have your special animal (or animals) blessed, with Pastor Baker presiding.

Christian Churches United
Golf Tournament Update

It has been 2 months since we gathered at Sunset Golf Course for a beautiful day of golf! \$16,000 was raised that day to support individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty. Your support and presence at the Golf Tournament has accomplished much within our community. We've been able to celebrate 2 individuals graduating from HELP's Rapid Rehousing Program in that time. In the last two months **20+ people** received support at Loads of Love. A family whose child utilizes a heart monitor was prevented from losing power at their home. We have helped *prevent* homelessness for **51 households** through different Rental Assistance Programs. **Thank you!**

NOTE: Two foursomes from Good Shepherd participated in the tournament.

Our Purpose

To be the eyes, ears, hands, feet, and voice of Jesus.

Guiding Principles

When you see us at our best, you will see us in worship and living our faith by being:

welcoming/accepting

generous and giving

supportive and caring

active/involved

joyful

spiritual/faithful



Church Office

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

Phone: 717-564-0385

email: goodshepherdpxtang@gmail.com

website: www.goodshepherdpxtang.com

Holy Eucharist

5:00 p.m. Saturday (Chapel)

8:30 a.m. Sunday (Nave)

10:00 a.m. Sunday (Chapel)

9:30 a.m. Wednesday (Chapel)

*Adopted by the Congregation Council of
Good Shepherd on October 11, 2020*