

Welcome to

December 18, 2019



The Shepherd's Staff

Holy Shepherd's Newsletter

Hello People of Holy Shepherd!

What a gift it has been to be with you, even for just a few quick weeks. I have so enjoyed getting to know you and hearing a little bit of your stories. I appreciate the ways that you have all welcomed Andy and me into your community. Your kind words, shared food, and willingness to introduce yourselves to us multiple times had been so appreciated. I am excited to get to know all of you better, and I am looking forward to the ways that God might be at work and calling our community.

And it feels fitting that all of these transitions and new beginnings would be happening during the season of Advent—after all, Advent is a season of beginnings. Advent is the start of the liturgical year and it is the time that we remember Israel waiting for the messiah, even as we wait to see what God might do in our lives, our church, and our community. I have just finished my own period of waiting during the long processes of Seminary, Clinical Pastoral Education, and internship, and now I am looking forward to what God might be doing at Holy Shepherd. And I know that for many of you this season of congregational discernment has felt like a very long season of waiting—a very long season of Advent.

But Advent isn't just about waiting, it is also about preparing. During Israel's 40 years in the desert, God was preparing them for the Promised Land. During their time in exile, God was preparing them for the messiah. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness preparing for public ministry. After his encounter with God on the road to Damascus, Paul waited for days in Damascus to recover his sight, and God was preparing him for ministry. And I am confident that in our own seasons of waiting, God has been preparing us.

I am so grateful for all of the gifts and talents that God has given each of you, and for the ways that you are already using them for the sake of the Kingdom of God. And I look forward to the ways that the Spirit is inviting us to worship, love, and serve together.

Courtney Steitz



Christmas

at Holy Shepherd



Poinsettias

For Christmas the Altar Guild will be ordering Poinsettias plants to beautify our Sanctuary. If you would like to make a financial contribution to help pay for these plants, please put your donation in the worship offering globe or send to the church office and designate for Christmas flowers. Contributions exceeding the actual cost will be donated to Rejoicing Spirits.

Rejoicing Spirits is a "no-shush" worship service for all people and is specifically inclusive of people with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

The Altar Guild at Holy Shepherd has been baking the gluten free communion bread for their monthly worship service at Bethany Lutheran Church.



Christmas Eve

Worship Services

Tuesday, December 24th
3:00pm & 5:30pm

*Word, Holy Communion,
Candlelight, Carols*



Christmas Season

2 weekends of Lessons & Carols
Holy Communion

Saturday December 28th 5:30pm

Sunday, December 29th 9:00am

&

Saturday, January 4th 5:30pm

Sunday, January 5th 9:00am

Faith Formation

Sunday Mornings

Adult Education

9:30am Bell Choir Room

December 22 *Names for the Messiah*
Based on the book by Walter Bruggemann
Conclusion of a 4 week series
Leaders: Pastors Courtney & Michael

December 29 & January 5 No Class

January 12 – February 2
Old Testament
A study on the different genres and styles of the
Old Testament Books
Leader: Pastor Courtney

Monday Afternoons

Women's Early Afternoon Bible Study

The Mystery Hidden for Ages
2nd and 4th Monday of each month, 1:00 PM
Our next study dates – January 13, 27

In the book of Ephesians Paul reveals God's great, eternal plan that was set in motion in Genesis. It is a compact guidebook for understanding the meaning of Jesus' mission on earth, and how he saves us from death and teaches us how to live out our new-found freedom in the household of God.

We invite all women to join us for study, discussion, and prayer time.
Contact me for more information.
Pat Mohrbacher 303-238-5179 or
pbmohrbacher@outlook.com

Tuesdays

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study

January 21, 2020 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
Topic: "We Are Called"
Session 1: Hearing God's Call
Leader: Jan Eckersley Hostess: Betty Morris

Holy Shepherd Book Club

Tuesday, January 21 7:00pm Library
BOOK SELECTION: "Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the F.B.I."
AUTHOR: *David Grann*
Set in Oklahoma in the 1920's, this narrative of non-fiction deals with the discovery of gold on Osage Indian land and the mysterious death of several tribe members.
Leader: Gail Skaggs
All Are Welcome!

Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday Night Life

6:30 - 7:30 pm Library *Teacher: Bonnie Yockstick*
Faith discussions around a variety of DVDs.

January 8, 15 **Our People**
The remarkable story of William & Catherine Booth, people of faith who founded the Salvation Army.

January 22, 29 **The Man of Galilee**
Centered around the familiar places surrounding the Sea of Galilee, we explore the many questions asked of Jesus' followers and enemies. We are also challenged to consider the questions we ask of our Christian faith today.

Thursday Mornings

Lectionary Bible Study

8:30 – 10:00am Multi-purpose Room
Discuss & study upcoming Sunday lectionary readings.
Leaders: Pastor's Michael & Courtney

Friday Mornings

Prayer Group

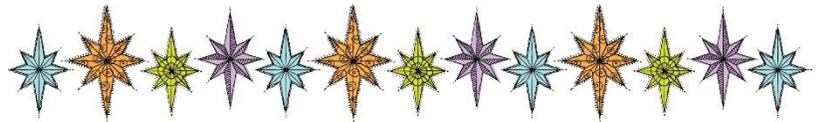
Twice a month, Friday Mornings 10:00am
Administration Building
January 10, 24

Please consider coming to join us every other Friday morning to share concerns and to pray for our church, our staff, and our community. Starting in January we will be using "Beginning to Pray" by Anthony Bloom as our guide. *Everyone is invited to join us.*

Contact Person - Pat Mohrbacher

James 5:16:

"The prayer of a righteous person has great power in its effects."



Saturday Mornings

Men's Bible Study & Breakfast

8:00am Fellowship Hall
Join us for a wonderful breakfast & discussion on a variety of topics.
December 21 **"How We Believe"**
Leader: Randy Updike
December 28 **No Class**
January 4 **Topic TBD**

Church Council Corner



November 18th Church Council meeting:

- Pastor Courtney was welcomed by the Church Council.
- Council continued preparation of the Church's 2020 Budget.
- Council began preparations for the Annual Meeting which will held on January 26, 2020 at noon.
- Leadership Invite: Church Council is seeking new leaders for the following positions: Council President, Council Secretary, and Vision Team Representative for Council. Ministry leaders are also needed for the following teams: Faith Formation, Evangelism, Fellowship, and Property Co-Chair.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of Council. As always, all Church Council meetings are open for attendance. The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for December 16th at 5:30 PM in the administration building.



All Ages! Church Christmas Tree Take-Down

**SUNDAY, January 5th,
12:00pm**

Sanctuary & Narthex

Pizza, Salad & Drinks will be supplied.
Bring a 'Sweet' to share.



Wednesday Night Life

Growing in God's Family

4:45– 9:00pm

WNL is a midweek gathering that will strengthen your body and spirit with food, fellowship, education and song.
Everyone is welcome!

No WNL December 25th & January 1st

4:45 – 5:40

Prime Time Choir

5:50 – 6:30

Dinner & Fellowship

6:30 – 7:30

Handbell Choir

Adult Study

Confirmation

Chancel Choir

7:30 – 9:00



January 15

Meat Loaf

Roasted Potatoes

Scalloped Corn

Hot Fudge Pudding Cake

January 8

White Chicken Chili

Corn Bread, Salad

Apple Taffy Pizza

January 22

Baked Potato Bar

Pistachio Cake

What is God calling you to be involved in at Holy Shepherd? We have a number of important ministry & leadership positions that need to be filled starting in January 2020. Please consider how you could use your gifts to help, and see a Council Member or one of the Pastors should you have any questions.

Property Team – Co-Leaders (2)

1. Oversee the maintenance of the grounds, including the grass, trees, and other plantings.
2. Oversee the maintenance of all buildings and equipment, including all necessary inspections.
3. Oversee snow and ice removal from parking lots and sidewalks.
4. Update church property inventories.
5. Develop and oversee an annual budget for the team.
6. Provide reports to congregation council as requested.

Fellowship Team – Co-Leaders (2)

1. Plan fellowship activities within the congregation.
2. Organize and promote fellowship teams.
3. Oversee the use of the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, and supplies.
4. Develop and oversee an annual budget for the team.
5. Provide reports to congregation council as requested.

Other ministry positions to be filled:

Education, & Evangelism Ministry Leaders

Please contact the Pastors for more information on these leadership opportunities.

COUNTERS WANTED!

Due to recent retirements, we have openings for new counters on our team in 2020. The function we perform is critical to Holy Shepherd, but occurs behind the scenes and out of the limelight. We will provide excellent training and benefits. Members who can count high will be given preference. If interested, please contact Scott Ikenberry or Donna Madsen in the office.



Equal Exchange Coffee

Sale Dates:

Sundays,

January 19 & February 16



Theater & Theology

Denver Performing Arts Center

Cost \$35.00

Contact Barb Stannard (303 987-8200)

Tuesday, January 28 6:30 pm

You Lost Me

Reservation Deadline – January 7

Flow through time as unexpected guests and echoes of the past leave their indelible mark on the inhabitants of a remote shoreline in this poetic and bright new drama.

Prime Timers 2.0



Thursday, January 23, 1-3 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Water Up/Fire Down

A brain based holistic approach to health and wellness presented by **Joan Meister-Bridges,**

Body & Brain and Brain Education practitioner

Get healthier this year and learn tools that help balance the body, mind and spirit.

The workshop includes:

- a conversation about health and wellness
- gentle stretches for flexibility, strength, circulation, and alignment
- breathing exercises to recharge your body and mind
- moving meditation to relax your brain and clear away the busy thoughts of the day

Exercises may be done while sitting or standing and are suitable for all ages, body types, and conditions. Wear comfortable clothes.

A tea ceremony will follow.

Stewardship For All Seasons

Thank You

for your generosity in 2019. For your faithful giving to Holy Shepherd. For your willingness to give to special missions when the need arises. For your numerous volunteer hours. We are grateful for your witness of God's love in our community and world.

As we step into another new year, we will once again have many opportunities to be generous. We are especially excited about our 2020 ministry initiatives of helping children at Eiber Elementary, assisting the homeless at Agape Christian Church and providing additional security for our own facility.

THANK YOU for returning your Statement of Intent forms. Our goal was to give everyone the opportunity to participate in our "Growing In Gratitude and Generosity" campaign. We are delighted to have received back a total of 126 forms of the 232 mailed, with a total of \$430,844 intended giving for 2020.

You are still able to send in your intent form to add to this wonderful generosity of Holy Shepherd.

Again, **THANK YOU** for your generosity.
Stewardship For All Seasons Committee

Holy Shepherd Lutheran

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Pastor's Emergency Phone

Available 24 Hours 303-562-4207

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csteitz@holyshepherd.com

Co-Pastor Michael TeKronyext. 109
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Ministry Partner, Karen Novess.....ext. 101
knovess@holyshepherd.com

Secretary, Donna Madsen.....ext. 108
dmadsen@holyshepherd.com
office@holyshepherd.com

Organist, Dana Anderson

Chancel & Bell Choir Director, Dave Gleason
glea7149@hotmail.com

Prime Time Choir Director, Ron Skabo
rskabo34@msn.com

Children's Choir Director, Mike Madsen

Praise Team Director, Diane Klinkerfues
dklinker@me.com

Sound Tech, Carmine Gabbianelli
carminesamuel@gmail.com

Custodian, Larry Lagerberg

Nursery Coordinator, Pat Braden

Nursery..... ext. 203

Fellowship Hall/Kitchen.....ext. 201

Basement/Kitchen.....ext. 202

Elected Leaders

Executive Team

Jamie Malone, President*

Susan Scott, Vice President*

Winston Herbert, Personnel*

Emily Parkhurst, Secretary*

Scott Ikenberry, Finance*

Vision Team

Kevin Klinkerfues*,

Larry Lagerberg, Tanja Warnick,

Diane Klinkerfues

* also Congregational Council members

Visit our website
holyshepherd.com
for up-to-date calendar
and more information

Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines Article Submission Dates

January 6

Please submit your articles to

Karen Novess at

knovess@holyshepherd.com

Thank You

Holy Shepherd hosted a group of 12 volunteers from Americorps. Many wrote to thank the HS community.

Here are a few of them:

Thank you so much for being so hospitable the past 4 weeks, not only allowing us to stay here, but also welcoming us into your community. We have had such a great time staying here and sure will miss it. Thank you so much!

- *Anna Martino*

Americorps NCCC Team Leader

We are so lucky to have stayed at Holy Shepherd! Thank you for opening your arms to us and letting us join your Wednesday dinners. Everyone was so kind and welcoming.

- *Siri Christopherson*

Thank you for the luxurious stay
- *Matthew Steckler*

Thank you for opening your church and your heart, to welcome the stranger (or 12) at your door. Continue to be a beacon of light in the community.

- *Juven's Jean Noel*



I want to take a moment to let you know **how thankful we are to have supporters like you.** We

wish you and your family nothing but the best this Thanksgiving and throughout the holiday season.

I'm so grateful to have the privilege to eat my Thanksgiving meal in my warm, cozy, home surrounded by loved ones. **There are too many children and their families who will not be enjoying Thanksgiving in their own homes this year.** 1,402 children and their families experience homelessness in the Denver area any given night, 93 of whom sleep unsheltered.

As you sit down this Thanksgiving, please think of these families, and **consider a donation to Family Promise.** Together, we have served 1,197 children in 2019, and **there are many others who need your help!**

Together, we can end homelessness, one family at a time!

With gratitude,

Allie Card, Director of Family Promise

*Let our hearts be full
of both Thanks and Giving*

the ACTION CENTER

COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • CONNECTION

On Wednesday, Dec. 4th, we attempted to break the world record for the Largest Sock Drive!

We collected 37,556 pairs of new socks. Our goal was to collect 10,587 pairs of socks to raise awareness around homelessness issues in Colorado - the number represents the those Colorado residents who were experiencing homelessness last year.



What a monumental feat, we're so appreciative of the community that not only continues to support the Action Center, but believes in helping those in need.



We reached our goal of **400 toys** for The Action Center Holiday Gifts. Thanks so much to everyone for your attitude of "Passing God's Love to others"!!!!



Eiber Elementary News

From the Denver Post: State Performance Awards—15 schools in the Denver Area received Centers of Excellence awards for high rates of student growth on state tests over time". **One of the two Jeffco schools is Eiber Elementary!!**

A huge thank you to all of you who have helped make this possible but making the Eiber children feel cherished and loved! Your generosity with the Eiber Christmas Families and work at the Eiber Family Fun night are so very appreciated!



Weekly Flowers for the Sanctuary

To help beautify our sanctuary area, bouquets of flowers are displayed for each service. If you would like to provide flowers, the 2020 Flower Sign-up Sheet is now available at the Information Center.