

Welcome to

March 19, 2020



The Shepherd's Staff

Holy Shepherd's Newsletter



Dear Siblings in Christ,

When we chose our Lenten theme of “journeying through the wilderness and death for the sake of life,” none of us really knew the type of wilderness we would be facing this Lent. For many of you and for us as well the past few days and weeks have felt like a wilderness. There are unknowns and uncertainties—some of us are choosing to practice social distancing by staying home, others have no choice but to venture out and we feel that risk too. Our daily routines have been profoundly disrupted and now with church closed the community we are used to seeing on Sunday and throughout the week is absent.

In the midst of such changes it is normal for us to become lonely, anxious, and upset. While some things at Holy Shepherd will look different in the coming weeks, who we are as Holy Shepherd will not change. There will be Sunday worship sent to you via email as a video and a PDF, there will be Bible study on Thursdays via a video platform called Zoom, and don't worry if you have trouble accessing the Zoom video chats, we will help you. We encourage you to reach out to one another and your neighbors in safe ways—call them, text them, write them a letter. Please know that as always, Pastor Michael and Pastor Courtney are praying for you and want to talk with you and hear how you're doing. With God's help, we will continue to be people who *worship and grow together in Christ, while serving and reaching out joyfully to all.*

This Shepherd's Staff is devoted to detailing how exactly we plan on living in this new reality together. You will find information about worship, office hours, and much more as we seek to still be united with God and one another—just like we always have. These are just our initial steps; we are working on finding even more ways to connect with one another, to continue to grow in faith, and to serve our neighbor. If you have ideas or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We want to know how each of you is doing during this time, and please know that we will be reaching out to all of you and holding you in prayer.

God's peace,

Pastor Michael and Pastor Courtney



Do You Have the Virus?

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please contact Pastors Michael or Courtney in the office. We want to be able to care for you and for the sake of healthy community, we want to keep the community aware of pertinent information that will assist in keeping Holy Shepherd healthy, also.

Holy Shepherd Facility Closure

Based on the recommendation from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Governor's office and the Rocky Mountain Synod's Bishop office prohibiting gatherings of 50 people or more statewide, Holy Shepherd will be suspending all worship services and activities (including outside groups) until **May 11th**.



Office Hours & Staff Contacts

8:00am – 12:00pm Monday – Thursday

The church office will have at least one staff available to answer phones during these hours. If you need to reach a staff person outside of office hours, please leave a message on their respective office phones or contact them through email. (See Page 6 for numbers) Staff will be checking periodically throughout the day, both their phones & email messages.

If you have an emergency, please call the Pastor's emergency number 303.562.4207 (Emergencies ONLY)

Pastor Courtney Maternity Leave Update

After consultation with Pastor Michael, the church council, and the rest of staff, Pastor Courtney is returning early from maternity leave to help with Holy Shepherd's response to Covid-19 and the recommend closure. Pastor Courtney will take the rest of her maternity leave (2 weeks) later this summer once church has reopened and scheduling and programing have returned to normal.

Worship

Since we will not be gathering as a community at the physical space at Holy Shepherd for worship each week, we will be offering a new way to be "community" in the world outside of Holy Shepherd to hear God's Word. The staff will be creating a worship video each week – which will include songs, readings, prayers and a message from the pastors - that will be available for you to experience and engage with on your own time. The video will be sent out each Friday along with a PDF file of the order of service, via email & mail, and will be available on Holy Shepherd's website, holyshepherd.com.

You are also invited to be a part of a virtual community by watching each week's video on Sunday mornings at 9:30am at which time our pastors and staff will be watching. Knowing that others are worshipping at the same time – together - we hope, will help all of us stay connected, in one way, with one another.

Prayers: We will be lifting up our neighborhood, communities and world during prayer time in our worship services. If you have a prayer request, please email or leave a voice mail for Pastor Michael (mtekrony@holyshepherd.com or 303.233.2740 ext. 109) or Pastor Courtney, (csteitz@holyshepherd.com ;voicemail or text (651.769.7287) with your request by Wednesday at noon of each week for them to be shared with the community each week.



Holy Week

Worship services will be sent out for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday at the appropriate time during Holy Week.

Staying Connected

The pastors are in process of organizing a ministry that will focus on “Staying Connected.” Our hope is that all of Holy Shepherd will be contacted regularly with a loving phone call or email. More information on this important ministry will be coming your way, soon.

Staying Connected: Bible Studies/Meetings etc.

Zoom Instructions:

For the next several weeks, we will be holding Bible studies and other meetings over a video conferencing platform called “Zoom.” If you are interested in participating in any of these events, please contact the office. You will receive a Zoom link in your email from someone at Holy Shepherd with the information about what the meeting is and when it will begin.

To access the meeting:

- Click on the link.
- If you move your mouse toward the lower left corner of the Zoom window you will see a microphone and a video camera.
 - To turn your microphone on, click the “unmute” button.
 - To start your video click the “start video” option.
 - If you click the icon with four arrows at the top right corner of your Zoom window, it will expand to full screen.

If you do not have access to a computer with a microphone/webcam you can call the phone number provided at the bottom of the email. You will be able to listen and participate with the people that have connected with their computer.

If you are logging in from an iPhone, iPad or other smart device, we recommend downloading the app from the app store before logging into your first meeting. This will be much easier than trying to access Zoom through your browser.

We are working to put together a team of tech savvy folks that can help others figure out how to log into Zoom as well. We will let you know when this is available and who these people are.

Giving and Reaching Out

Even during times of stress and anxiety, Jesus invites us to be generous with our money and resources—no matter how much or how little we may have. God always calls us to care for the most vulnerable in our society. During this time we know that there are several non-profits in our area that are in need of extra support as they respond to the spread of Covid-19, a lack of volunteers, and a dip in financial giving. We encourage you to think creatively and generously about how you might support these vital organizations that serve some of the most vulnerable in our community.

The Action Center:

The Action Center is in need of non-perishable food items and monetary donations. Because of social distancing, they have canceled their “Beautiful Junk Sale,” which normally generates close to \$70,000 dollars in donations. Consider donating to the Action Center on their website, or if you are out stocking up on you own supplies, pick up some extra canned good and drop them off at the Action Center.



Giving and Reaching Out

Family Promise

To slow the spread of Covid-19, Family Promise is currently recommending that churches refrain from hosting families inside the church. Instead, Family Promise is hosting families at a local motel. The cost per week to house these families is \$2,000. Holy Shepherd has the funds to cover our upcoming week of Family Promise, but many churches are not able to contribute the total amount needed. If you are able to help contribute to housing families experiencing homelessness in Denver during the Covid-19 outbreak, please consider donating to Family Promise via their website.

Holy Shepherd will still have a role to play during our hosting week, even though the families will be staying at a hotel. Cheryl is looking for people who could pick up or drop off breakfast items and snacks at the Day Center, people willing to cook the evening meal, and people willing to deliver the evening meal to the hotel. If you are available to help, please contact Cheryl Holz.



Giving to Holy Shepherd

You can continue to give your financial support to Holy Shepherd during this time in the following ways:

Offering Envelopes or Checks

These can be mailed directly to the church office. In each monthly Offering Envelope packet, there is an envelope addressed to Holy Shepherd that you can use – or write out your own envelope. We will continue to make a weekly deposit to our bank.

PayPal or Credit/Debit Card

Visit our Web-site: www.holyshepherd.com and select the 'Giving Tab'. Then click on the 'Donate' button to make a contribution via PayPal or Credit/Debit Card. These contributions are automatically credited to our bank account.

Simply Giving – Automatic Deductions

Deductions can be made directly from your bank account using the Simply Giving program on a weekly, semi-monthly or monthly basis. Contact the church office to have a form mailed out to you. Just complete the form with your information and authorization and return to the church office. We will process your request for these deductions. These contributions are automatically credited to our bank account.

Caring for Our Neighbors

In Scripture Jesus instructs us to “love our neighbor as ourselves.” In the midst of social distancing and quarantine we can still find ways to care for our neighbors. If you are part of a lower risk group and are still out running errands and working, consider picking up some groceries or a prescription for your neighbor who doesn't feel comfortable leaving their home. Remain in contact with the people you love and care about—call them, FaceTime them, or write them a letter. Do what you can to support local agencies working with vulnerable populations during this time. And as always, no matter how we are coping with this crisis, we can pray for the health and safety of our neighbors, for the wisdom of community leaders, and for the healing of the world

Property Manager, Holy Shepherd Facility



Job Description

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church is hiring a Property Manager for our facility.

Skills needed: Basic handyman, good communicator, able to create a facilities management manual, works well with volunteers and church staff.

Pay: \$30/hr, 20-30 hours per month.

Please go to holyshepherd.com to see the full job description and to print an application.

Application deadline is April 8th.

Questions: Contact Pastor Michael TeKrony

Eiber Elementary News

It's Amazing How God Works

At Eiber, we received the news at 8 pm on Thursday, March 12th that the last day of school for at least two weeks would be Friday, March 13th.

Not knowing what to do, I went to my office at Eiber to work the last school day. All morning people came in with gift cards for Safeway and Walmart, with eggs and produce, with one dish meals. I had not asked for any of it but knew God was in control.

That afternoon, our population in need starting coming. I was able to have enough food and gift cards for everyone who needed them. Not only that but they were communicating with each other. One family would talk to another about the problem of child care. Many of the mothers who were going to be staying home volunteered to watch their children. I know God was there. Everyone who asked was helped and the only person I asked for help was God.

I am so grateful to Holy Shepherd for all your support. Through your efforts, we have become a real caring community.

Cynthia Sanders
Community liaison
Eiber Elementary



**AARP
Safe Driver Program
scheduled for
April 29, 2020 - Cancelled.**

Registrants who desire to complete the AARP Safe Driver Course prior to May 1, 2020 may enroll in the [Online AARP Safe Driver Course](#)
This course may be hosted at a future date.



Equal Exchange Coffee

Sale Dates: **Sunday May 17**

Eiber

CARNIVAL

Stay Tuned! Date TBD



Thank You

Have-A Heart Month

Many thanks to all who generously donated needed items to Have-A-Heart during the month of February.

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

Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines
Article Submission Dates May 11
Please submit your articles to
Karen Novess at knovess@holyshepherd.com

Church Council Corner



Church Council Summary of Discussion
from February 18, 2020

1. Safety and Security Comment Box is located at the Information Center desk in the narthex. It is for the congregation to communicate questions and comments regarding the church and grounds.
 1. Examples of questions to place in the box:
Where is the AED?
Where do we go if there is a fire alarm?
2. Holy Shepherd has an aging facility. Maintenance and repair needs will be prioritized and addressed in stages.
3. The new employee position of Facilities Manager will be advertised internally and externally. Duties include overseeing building and grounds details.
4. Holy Shepherd has been blessed with payments from Susan Gourley's estate totaling \$581,000. A Large Gift policy is being developed, which will possibly reside under the umbrella of the Trust Committee.

Church Council meetings are held the third Tuesday
of each month at 5:30pm via Zoom.
All are invited to attend!

IMAGINE being homeless

IMAGINE being homeless with a husband and toddler

IMAGINE being homeless and pregnant ready to give birth

IMAGINE being homeless and leaving the hospital
with a newborn

IMAGINE being homeless and knowing there is a warm
and secure place waiting for you

IMAGINE being homeless and knowing there is a crib
to place your precious newborn

IMAGINE being homeless and knowing there are loving,
supportive people surrounding you

IMAGINE being homeless without Family Promise

IMAGINE being homeless without Holy Shepherd

IMAGINE being homeless without YOU!!



The Dennis Jacobson Memorial Hunger Dinner:

a Fundraiser for ELCA World Hunger

POSTPONED

Post-High School Scholarships Available

Students pursuing a post-high school education are encouraged to apply for a scholarship from the Holy Shepherd Aid Fund - \$500.00 - 2 scholarships will be given out.

Applications are available in the office and must be returned by **May 17th**.

Scholarships will be given out in August. Please contact Karen Novess at 303.233.2740 if you have any questions.

Holy Shepherd Lutheran

Office Phone - 303-233-2740

office@holyshepherd.com

www.holyshepherd.com

Pastor's Emergency Phone

Available 24 Hours 303-562-4207

Co-Pastor Courtney Steitzext. 106
csteitz@holyshepherd.com

Co-Pastor Michael TeKronyext. 109
mtekrony@holyshepherd.com

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

Lay Leadership

Church Council

Diane Klinkerfues, President

Susan Scott, Vice President

Judy Ekberg, Secretary

Vacant, Personnel

Scott Ikenberry, Finance

Jen Kurtz, Member-at-large

Kevin Klinkerfues, Vision Rep

Vision Team

Kevin Klinkerfues,

Larry Lagerberg, Tanja Warnick,



To Our Holy Shepherd Family,

This letter is to inform everyone that after much prayerful deliberation and planning that Lisa and I are moving to Wyoming. We have been contemplating this move for awhile and just felt that now is the appropriate time. Our move is due to the following reasons. Lisa has accepted a job working for the Department of Corrections for the state of Wyoming. I have been working for an interior plantscape company and the owner of this company will be selling the business at the end of this summer/fall. We are both wanting to be closer to our daughter Clarissa and our son-in-law Luke. They will either reside in Laramie or Cheyenne, WY. Another reason for our move is due to the increased population in the city of Denver. We both are ready for a slower paced city that is smaller.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being the organist of Holy Shepherd for over 37 years. I have worked hard to enhance the worship experience at church through music from day one. It will not be easy for either one of us to leave with so many wonderful parishoners and staff that support this church. I will always consider Holy Shepherd as my home congregation. It's hard to believe that I have been a part of this church for 60 years. I was baptized, confirmed, and we were married in this church as was our daughter.

I hope to still play the organ and piano on a reduced schedule as I feel God has blessed me with this talent. We look forward to the new challenges that God has in store for us in Cheyenne. In these days of uncertainty with the coronavirus, I had no intention of having to exit from my position in this manner, but due to the circumstances this seems to be the best way. We both ask for your prayers and support as we step into the next chapter of our lives.

With deep appreciation and gratitude –

Dana and Lisa Anderson



A celebration to honor the Anderson Family and Dana's many years of faithful ministry will be held at a later date