



We are called to be in relationship with God, with God's people
and with God's world every day.

Shepherd's Staff

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter



Photo: Ron Skabo

Just checking in with my bioluminescent Siblings in Christ. Yup, that's you. I recently learned that you and I are bioluminescent creatures, biologically and chemically. It's a thing. We, like fireflies and glow-worms, produce light all on our own. The thing is, the biological light we as humans make, is 1000 times too dull for our eyes to see. But, we are makers of light.

And, we, as Children of God, Baptized and created in the image of God, we are bearers of light that has been shining from the beginning, God's light. At our Baptisms, we first heard God's claim on us as Children of God and then we were sent to shine in the world: shine the light that we are created with, God's light. We are called to shine God's light, EVERYWHERE.

You know what, light seems to shine brightest in the darkness. Into the darkness, is where we are called to shine. And with God's help, and with the light of all of us, we will shine.

Now, it can seem pretty dark at times and the light within us can seem pretty dim. So, we need each other to shine. When my light is dim, your light will shine bright. And, when your light may seem dim, I will shine. Together, friends, we shine. Never alone. We need each other to shine and together we will shine.

As we look to the stars of the dark night sky, we anticipate, again, the light of Christ entering our lives. Christ's light that no darkness will or can overcome, will and has already entered the world. It may be found in some of the most unexpected places: Maybe in loving phone call, or a Christmas card, or in a favorite song, or a therapist or counselor, or in the face of a smiling friend, loved one or maybe a baby.

This Advent season, we wait for what will and has already come to us...light, hope, peace, faith, love, and joy.

May we, created to be bearers of light, shine together. May we shine for one another. And may we shine, knowing there are some for whom, the darkness is surrounding them in ways that make it difficult to shine. And, if you are feeling the darkness this season, know the source of light, God, joins you to illuminate your world with a light that the darkness will not overcome.

Shine, Siblings in Christ. Shine.

Peace, Michael



Sunday Mornings



9:00am Adult Education

10:00am Worship with Holy Communion

1 service Only – In-Person

Holy Shepherd LIVE!

Live Streaming

will begin approximately at 9:50am on the Holy Shepherd YouTube channel

Service is recorded so you can access it at any time after it has been broadcast live.

Fellowship Time – Following Worship

Gather for fellowship in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall & Library to reconnect with others.

Fellowship Hosts for December

12/5 Cheryl & Del Holtz

12/19 Susan Linner

12/12 Pat & Gerry Scholten

12/26 Shirley & Larry Bradsby



Advent & Christmas Eve Worship



Advent Weekend Worship

10:00am

In-person & Live-Streamed

*Advent: A time for watchfulness,
preparation and hope.*

Come worship with us in person or via live stream each week as we stay alert and prepare our hearts in Christ. Visit our website for weekly links to our worship services.

Advent Mid-Week Worship

YouTube Videos

This year, for our mid-week Advent worship, we will be offering a weekly YouTube video focusing on a different Advent theme each week – Hope, Peace, Joy & Love.. These videos will be posted to our YouTube channel each Wednesday morning - **December 1, 8, 15 and 22nd** . The link and the Worship Bulletin will be provided as part of Pastor Michael's weekly devotion. You can watch these services at a time that will work best for your schedule.



Christmas Eve Worship

1:00pm & 5:00pm

In-person & Live-Streamed

Because of COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines, each service will be limited to 120 people in attendance.

It is essential that you reserve a spot before attending.

We will be using [Sign-Up Genius](#) for reservations.

We will provide the link for sign-up in the email for the Worship Resources that are sent out for the week of December 5th. Contact the church office (303-233-2740) if you need assistance. These services will also be Live Streamed on the Holy Shepherd YouTube channel.



Small Groups Gathering

Please contact the church office for zoom links

Small Groups (25 participants & Under)

- Small groups will monitor themselves whether or not to use masks; food & drink allowed.

Large Groups (26 Participants & Over)

- Fellowship Hall & Multi-Purpose Room ONLY
- Mask must be worn
- No food or drink

Women's Early Afternoon Bible Study

Two Mondays of each month, 1:00 PM
December 13, 2021

The book of Hebrews, near the end of the New Testament, presents a stirring defense of the Christian faith. The author shows how Jesus fulfills the Old Testament law and covenants and yet also replaces them.

He is a better prophet and priest, and also the perfect sacrifice for all sin. Hebrews also cheers us on to remain strong in our faith and to "run with perseverance the race set before us."

We hope you can join us! Contact me for a study guide.
Pat Mohrbacher 303-238-5179 or
pbmohrbacher@outlook.com

Men's Fast & Bible Study

Saturday Mornings, 8:00am Fellowship Hall
Bible Discussion & Fellowship.

On Saturday, December 4th, we will have a guest speaker, Martin Rubenis, from the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lakewood.

Everyone is Welcome!!



Prayer Group for Men and Women

Friday Mornings at 10:00am
Next Meeting – December 10, 2021

Come and join us Friday mornings to discuss faith issues, share concerns, and to pray for our church, our nation, and personal needs. Our guidebook this fall is "Traveling Light," which contains meditations on the 23rd Psalm by Max Lucado. For a guidebook or questions contact me. Pat Mohrbacher 303-238-5179

Prayer Time

ZOOM Tuesdays 12:45pm
Leader: Pastor Michael

Adult Lectionary Bible Study

ZOOM Thursday Mornings, 8:30am

Discuss & study upcoming Sunday lectionary readings.

Leader: Pastor

Writer's Group

11:00am – 1:00pm (Library)

Thursday, December 2

All you need are a pen and paper to write about your life and thoughts, a subject you already know quite well.

If you would like to join, please contact Carol Rossini at carossini@comcast.net or 303-989-9660 to be added to the mailing list.

Women's Morning Bible Study

3rd Tuesday morning of the month at 10:30am

January 18, 2022

Study Leader: Doris Frick

Women's Morning Bible Study meets once a month on the third Tuesday morning at 10:00 AM in the Church Library for fellowship and a Bible lesson. We use the studies in the monthly ELCA Women's magazine "Gather" as our guide.

We will not meet in December.

Contact People are Pat Mohrbacher or Doris Frick

Book Club News

December 14th at 5:00 pm in the HSLC Fellowship Hall

On December 14 at 5 p.m., the Book Club will be discussing Fannie Flagg's *The Whole Town's Talking*. This book chronicles the lives and deaths of the citizens of Elmwood Springs, Missouri, a town that was founded by Swedish pioneers in 1889. Still Meadows, the town's cemetery, is full of the departed—but they haven't quite left. Please join us in the church library for a discussion of this funny and poignant book.

Growing With Jesus

All Ages!

Fellowship &
Service Project

Saturday, December 11, 4:00pm
Fellowship Hall & Columbarium

We will gather for dinner (catered) create ornaments as a fundraiser for a charity of the groups choosing and finish our evening with s'mores and caroling outside.

All ages are invited!

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Karen Novess knovess@holyshepherd.com before December 8th

Sunday Morning Adult Ed Classes



- **Dec 5** "What's Happening in Our Neighborhood Schools?" presented by Maria Beken, Family Liaison for Eiber Elementary, and Melissa Alvarez, Family Liaison for Rose Stein Elementary. Come and hear what these two fantastic people are doing to help students and families who are struggling! They will also tell us what Holy Shepherd is doing to support their work, and what their current needs are.
- **Dec 12** "Santa Lucia/Season Of Light" Advent cross-generational class with audience participation and crafts.
- **Dec. 19** **Kwanza**, The history and meaning of this alternative celebration of the holidays
- **Dec 26** **No class**
- **Jan 2** **The Twelve Days of Christmas and the Saints** associated with the celebration.
- **Jan 9** **Stories in Stained Glass** - about the artwork of the windows in our sanctuary



Serving & Reaching Out To All

Holy Shepherd Blood Drive

November 15 **God's Work, Our Hands:**

A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated blood and to all who tried to donate and to Susan Linner, Michael Boehm and Joan Jacobson (from LCM) who worked to make it run smoothly.

The results: 41 donations (a growing number) with the majority coming from neighborhood people, a group that continues to increase.

Blood is Life!

Jim Freeman

Eiber Elementary News

Holiday Fun Night

December 17

We need you to help the children of Eiber make Christmas crafts. Come see some big smiles and lots of laughs!

Hours: 4:30-6:30

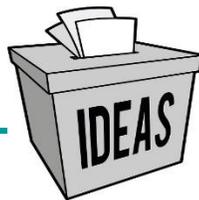
Address: Eiber elementary gym 1385 Independence St

Contact: Shirley Bradsby, lbradsby@gmail.com

Thanks

to all who supported the **Buy & Donate event on November 14.**
The items brighten the holidays for Action Center clients.

The **Mitten/Hat Tree** will be available throughout Advent.
Place your donations on the tree.



Where's Waldo? We have all heard that.

Now, let's have some fun!

Where's the Safety & Security Team Comments Box
(suggestions, etc.)?

CLUE: It's somewhere in the vicinity of the Welcome Desk.

When you find it, please feel free to submit any Safety and/or Security concerns, suggestions, etc. you may have.

Examples: knives in the kitchen not properly stored, a door that does not fully latch, a faulty electrical outlet, Covid concerns, etc. etc.

THANK YOU from your Safety & Security Team:
Bill Carmin, Kevin Klinkerfues, Susan Linner,
Wally Settgest, Jim Freeman

KEEP YOUR INFORMATION CURRENT

Please call the church office to let us know:
If you have new contact information (Phone Number, Email Address, etc)

Or any other changes like...

- * If you wish to stop receiving Offering Envelopes in the mail
- * Begin Simply Giving contributions
- * Change how you are receiving any information from the office

We want to keep in touch so give us a call at
303-233-2740
(Please leave a message
if we miss your call)

Majestic Pines

The season has arrived to view the first falling snow,
On majestic pines in the evening alpenglow,
Their arms seem to reach out to cradle the down,
That's as soft as the breast of a lily white swan.

Oh, evergreen so haughty and towering above,
You're lord of the winter yet you wear a green glove,
Your scarfs woven of needles, your boots anchored in clay,
Through the chill of the night and the warmth of the day.

Your tip wears a crown that's fit for a king,
The winter wind whispers through branches that sing,
A shawl of white ermine covers shoulders below,
Yours is the beauty of the first arctic show.

Come all ye who seek shelter, come to my base,
My canopy serves as safe harbor adorned with God's grace,
There find love that's abundant, all fears to release,
There find hope, faith and justice and all will find peace.



Dave Young 2021

Council Summary 11-16-21

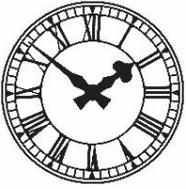
- Council has interviewed and selected a candidate for the transitional pastor. Pastor Julie Brooks will be our transitional pastor and will begin on December 16th.
- Council discussed plans for the annual congregation meeting to be held in person on January 30, 2022
- A proposal from the Safety and Security committee about locking doors during worship was presented. Council will discuss, ask staff for input then make a final decision.
- Recommendations are being gathered for council vacancies of president, secretary and finance chairperson.
- Finance Report –

Quick summary of the Income Statements:

1. October 2021 giving was (\$6,400) below our new 2021 Budget, but slightly higher than our giving in October 2020.
2. YTD giving through October 2021 is \$3,000 higher than our YTD 2020 giving through October 2020, but (\$60,400) under the increased 2021 Budget.
3. October 2021 expenses were (\$18,600) under our new 2021 Budget and were (\$1,700) lower than our October 2020 expenses.
4. YTD expenses are approx. (\$69,200) under the 2021 Budget.
5. Bottom Line: October 2021 net income of approx. \$12,100 as compared to October 2020 income of \$9,600. YTD 2021 net income of \$8,900 vs. YTD 2020 income of \$30,500.

Quick comments on the Balance Sheet:

- Contributions to the Building Fund were \$4,600 in October and are \$42,786 YTD 2021. Contributions through October 2020 were \$67,250. Cash balance in the Building Fund Account at 10/31/21 is approx. \$43,900, with an additional \$6,300 ready to be transferred from the General Fund.
- Solar Loan balance at 10/31/21 was \$81,121. After the November 2021 loan payment, the loan balance is now \$79,791. We continue to receive contributions for early principal paydown on this loan and have applied an extra \$8,665 through 10/31/21.



Church Office & Staff Hours

**Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday
8:00am to 12:00pm**

Staff Office Hours will be:
Pastor Michael & Karen Novess
Tuesday and Wednesday

To ensure that we are able to keep a safe environment we are requesting that you schedule an appointment to visit with a staff member. This will allow us to monitor the flow of individuals at one time in the building.

Continuing the practice of this previous year, the staff, when not in the office will continue to work remotely from their homes.



Transition Update

The council is happy to inform you that we have selected **Julie Brooks** to be our transitional pastor (interim)!

Council has extended a 12 month contract to Pastor Julie and she will be involved with all regular pastor duties as well as assisting us as we look forward in areas of staffing, and our mission as a church. Pastor Julie will begin on December 16th and we are excited to welcome her into our community at Holy Shepherd.

Holy Shepherd Staff & Council

**Pastor's Emergency Phone
Available 24 Hours
720-666-6951**

Church Office: 303-233-2740

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

Property Manager, Kevin Klinkerfues

Custodian, Larry Lagerberg

Organist, Jordan Ortman

Music Ministry Director, Diane Klinkerfues

Chancel Choir & Praise Team

Handbell Director, Karen Novess

Nursery Coordinator, Pat Braden



Lay Leadership Church Council

Diane Klinkerfues, President

Melinda Powelson, Vice President

Judy Ekberg, Secretary

Personnel: Vacant

Scott Ikenberry, Finance

At-Large: Chase Evenson, Dave Irwin



JANUARY Newsletter Article Deadline

December 17th

Please submit your articles to
knovess@holyshepherd.com

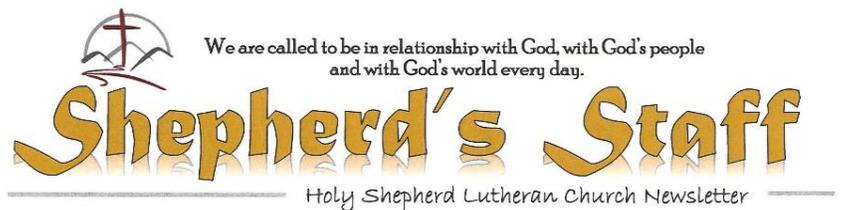


Advent Calendar

Color 1 picture a day as we count down to Christmas

*Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
920 Kipling St.
Lakewood CO 80215*

Worshiping and Growing Together in Christ,
Serving and Reaching Out Joyfully to All!



December 1, 2021