#  *the LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE Good Shepherd*

# A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**~.CONNECTIONS.~**

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**April 2024**

**Sunday Service at 9:30am**

**Sunday School during worship on the 1st and 3rd of the month**

From the Pastor

April 2024

Dear Members and Friends of Good Shepherd,

It seems that spring has finally arrived in Rhode Island. The flowers and

trees are beginning to bud. The wonderful daffodils around our building are

in bloom. They add so much to our grounds with their bright yellow color.

While our fellow New Englanders to the north are still shoveling snow, we

are fortunate to not have to do that. There has, however, been plenty of

rain. Every day I get weather notices about possible flooding of the

Pawtuxet River which is near where I live.

We have gone through Lent and Holy Week. While there were solemn

services in Holy Week, Easter brought a new joy as we gathered to rejoice

in the resurrection and the promise of life with God when our life in this

world is over. Jesus who has shown us the power of life as God raised him

from the dead, assures us that we will be united with our loved ones who

have died. It is something to which to look forward.

New life, hope, and a future with God are the gifts the church has to offer to

our world. I think you might agree with me that this is something we need

badly. The strife we see in Israel and Palestine is disheartening and so

very sad. Innocent people have died on both sides of the conflict and the

leaders of various countries have not been able or willing to find a solution

agreeable to both the Palestinians and Israelis. We need to hold these

people in prayer.

The war between Ukraine and Russia seems almost endless. There too,

too many people have died on both sides of the conflict. Our prayers are

for these people also.

Violence is commonplace in our culture. Some of our citizens think power

and weapons are the only path to unity as a country. Might does not make

things right; in fact, it usually exacerbates the situation. People remain

unhoused in our country. Families and children face shortage of food.

Prejudice and hatred of many kinds are displayed daily. This too leads to

strife. These things also need our prayer.

We find ourselves isolated from others. Community is not valued as a

place of strength. We live with the false idea that we really do not need

other people. We live with the false notion that we must show ourselves as

strong and without needs of any kind.

This picture of humanity as the strong self-contained person is false. We

all have needs. In our vulnerability hope and faith can grow and even

flourish. Think about 12-step groups, communities build around mutual

needs. The church is like that. That is why we begin our worship with

admitting to our need, confessing our sin in the presence of God and one

another, and then hearing the promise God made to you and me in Jesus:

our sin stands forgiven in the love and grace of God our creator.

When we pray, we do so in hope. When we gather on Sundays we gather

in hope and fellowship with sisters and brothers who share this forgiveness

with us by the grace of God.

God is not stingy. God gives abundantly and graciously all God has for us.

And God gives us all God has, not to keep to ourselves by hoarding, but to

build up a community which understands itself as a conduit for blessings to

the whole world.

This spring pray for peace, witness to justice, give generously, sing joyfully,

and worship faithfully. We can do this because Christ is risen and

welcomes us into his new life.

With hope,



**Announcements**

**LCGS Lenten Project**

Many thanks to all who helped to make this project happen!

Throughout Lent, LCGS members and friends painted little canvasses, inspired by Jesus’ “I am” statements. Over 100 canvasses were painted! Then we mounted the these on a beautifully painted background. Please take a moment to view and enjoy this group art project in the Narthex at church. It is a wonderful example of God’s love working through our hands in this community!

**From Natalie Clark:**

As many of you know I recently went to Kenya Africa. I was moved on many levels, but was especially drawn to the Maasai tribe, in which I had the opportunity to visit with one of their villages. I have remained connected to and have communicated with one of the tribe leaders. I witnessed and was further educated about the difficulties the village and their community

experience. There is a level of poverty among them that touched my soul, in a way that I can’t describe.

As a mother, grandmother, and woman, I empathize with the lack of hygiene products they are in desperate need of. The children are unable to attend school if they have no shoes, and many can’t afford them. Their education is the necessary catalyst to overcome their adversities.

I will be returning to Kenya in July and am asking for your help. I will be putting a suitcase in the entrance of the church. If you can donate any of the following needed items, I can’t tell you how much it will be appreciated. They can be new or lightly used.

*Soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo (smaller sizes), face clothes, towels, man woman and children’s underwear, sox, and shoes and any children’s clothing in various sizes both genders. Sanitary pads, tampons, aspirin, diapers, toilet paper. They could use mosquito repellants… Permethrin for clothing, gear, and bedding, citronella anything and any other mosquito repellant product. They have a lot of cases of Malaria every year due to the lack of medical treatment and preventatives.*

And…. If I have not listed it here and you can think of something that could be used…. Please feel free to use your imagination.

**Ongoing Prayers for:**

*For additions or deletions please text or call Nancy Mowbray at 401-744-*

*9051 or the church office.*

Bobbie Peterson

Nancy LaPelle

C. Duncan

Margaret Franks

Nancy Mowbray

Kathy Vigness Raposa

Billy Wernquest

Ruth Wernquest

Norma McEntee

Holly Deutsch

Ellen Bennett

Mary Jane Briggs

Bill Deutsch

Meredith Miller

Gary Durett

Natalie Schanck

Mike Carty

Barbara Smith

Eero Moisio

Phyllis Farley

Lane Leedahl

Brian Mitchell

Barney

Joyce Pearson

Daniel Deutsch

Amy Phillipo

Karolyn Lee

Josh Peterson

Kathy Lee

Chris Rose

Colette Cusson

Dennis Murray

Lisa Ferry
Ellora Hendrickson

Melvin Platt

KC Christensen

Jan Briggs

Ruth McGuy

Bud Godwin

Lisa Lessman

Taylor Lessman

Joan & Sheldon Pratt

Jerry Paquin

Stanley Larson

Ellen Hedlund

Donald & Bernadine Cunnigen,

Maggie Reichgott

Tucker Maute

Karen Perry

Mark Quinn

Rob Ryan

Carolyn Hathaway

Betty Hathaway

Tim Diskin

**+LOVED ONES IN THE ARMED FORCES**+ Manny Morales, Michael Bock

Matthew Kankash, Heath O’Neill, Andrew Anderson, Noah Cooper,

Dan Berkowitz

 **Outreach**

**BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS**

We are once again participating in the Offering of Letters on April 7 and 14 to urge our congressional delegation to renew important food and farm programs through the the farm bill that funds important

programs to fight hunger both in US and globally. Letters will be ready to sign during coffee hour in the Anderson Hall. No donation needed, just a few minutes of your time! Please follow directions

on the tables!

 **Jonnycake Market Bring donations to:**

Jonnycake Center for Hope

 22 Kersy Rd. Peacedale, RI 02879

 **Donation Food List**

**Stock the Market**

If you would like to help us settle into our new home, please stop by and drop off a desired food item for the Jonnycake Market. Donation bins will be on our porch, making it easy to pull up and drop off.

There are a number of healthy items that we would especially like to have on our shelves. Please feel free to share this list with your family, neighbors, and friends and visit [www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/](http://www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/) for more information. **Keep the food coming!** Healthy nonperishable foods, whole grain pasta, organic beans, peanut butter, and some holiday staples are especially welcome.

#  APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Marie Bender-Lee 1

Geraldine Citrone 3

Ann Lessmann 4

Arlene Anderson 6

Kenny Raposa 13

Anja Passananti 19

Kathleen Hemphill 21

Samantha Kimber 27

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***Happy birthday to all! May God bless you with a happy, healthy year.***

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

#  Pastor: The Reverend Dennis Kohl 401-787-2694.

Parish Administrator/Office Manager: Karen Amitrano, 789-7776 (office), 286-8124 (home)

Minister of Music-Heather Skidds

# Please contact the church office for any pastoral needs or emergencies

# 2023 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:

Eric Taylor 783-3969 Caden Baum

Theresa Duffer 742-0525 David Nunez 234 3283

John Bell 783-1354 David Lindstrom 626-8083

Nancy Mowbray 744-9051 Fred Baillargeron 847-3285

Kris Bacon 855-3277

**\*COUNCIL OFFICERS: President-**Theresa Duffer**; Vice President-** Fred Baillargeron, **Secretary -**John Bell**, Treasurer-**Eric Taylor

**WORSHIP ASSISTING SCHEDULES**

**April 2024**

**\* Can’t serve** on your assigned date? PLEASE 1) **ask someone to swap dates**, and 2) **notify the church office**.

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|  | **Apr 7** | **Apr 14** | **Apr 21** | **Apr 28** |  **May 1**  |
| PASTOR---------------Assisting Minister  | D. KohlK. Amitrano | D. Kohl------------K. Bacon | D. Kohl-----------M. Bender Lee | (Presiding)K. Bacon------------F. Baillargeron | D. KohlK. Amitrano |
|  Lector | D. Nunez | F. Baillargeron | R. Stokes | A. Senerchia | D. Nunez |
| Greeter-Ushers  | R. Passananti  | N & F Sawyer | S. Gaunt | J. Vican  | R. Passananti |
|  Communion Assistant(s)  | J. Vican | A. Anderson | D. Crary | K. Amitrano | J. Vican |
| Altar Care | M & G Morrison | A. Senerchia | K. Amitrano |  | M & G Morrison |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2024 | APRIL | SUNDAY |  |  |  |
|  CALENDAR YEAR |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 |
|   |   | 7:30 Peace group 10am Quilters  |   | 7pm Choir |   |   |
| 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 9:30 Worship Sunday School  | I pm Social Group 6:30 Bible Study Zoom | 7:30 Peace group 10am Quilters 7pm zoom Council meeting  |   | 7pm Choir |   |   |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 9:30 Worship  | 6:30 Bible Study Zoom  |   |   | 7pm Choir |   |   |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 9:30 Worship Sunday School  | I pm Social Group 6:30 Bible Study Zoom | 7:30 Peace Group 10am quilters  |   | 7pm Choir |   |   |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 |
|  9:30 Worship  | 6:30 Bible Study Zoom  | 7:30 Peace Group 10 Quilters  |   |   |  |   |