



The Parish Door

October 2025

*A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church
PO Box 27, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210*

Shepherdofthebay.org

(920) 854-2988

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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What's your favorite hymn?

I don't know if I have a favorite; I have a list of them that I might call favorites. Several of them are on that list because of connections they have to significant moments in my life.

In the church of my childhood, one we sang often was "Abide with Me." The text draws on Jesus' language in John 15, where Jesus tells his disciples to abide in him. It's a song about God accompanying us through adversity, "when comforts flee," as a "help of the helpless." I was a young singer who was mesmerized by singing in harmony. I learned how to read the notes in the hymnal, and the easy bass line gave me an opportunity to become that person that I admired so much — the one who added harmony to the beautiful melody. Of all the beautiful poetry of this hymn, my mind always settles on this line: "Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee. Oh, thou who changest not, abide with me."

"Abide" is a word we don't use; maybe it's because we aren't very practiced at abiding. Abiding is to stay with someone for the distance. Sticking by their side through ups and downs. That's how God is with us. God sticks by our side through thick and thin, and I would say especially in the moments when all else has failed.

God is faithful. God has promised to be with us.

As children of God created in God's image, we are called to do the same in our own way, accompanying each other through times of difficulty, being a help to the helpless, a voice for the voiceless. When I had my first knee surgery, our older son, Chris, drove up to be with me for a few days while Sheryl had to be at work. My needs were not great, and he did not have to do much care-giving. But to have him there, simply to be present so I didn't have to be alone in the uncertainty of recovery was such a comfort. We didn't do much, except talk some and work on a jigsaw puzzle. His presence was of enormous comfort. That's abiding.

Our ministry is like that: abiding with those who need someone to accompany them in life's challenges. Our food pantry abides with those who struggle to put food on their table. Our children's ministry abides with parents who look for help in raising their children to know and love Jesus. Our new Congregation Care Coordinator will ensure that we abide with our members who need our love and care during challenging circumstances. Through these ministries (and so many others!) we are, in effect, singing "Abide with Me," embodying "Abide with Me," incarnating the central message and hope of "Abide with Me": to accompany and help the helpless, the voiceless, the downtrodden, the lonely, the least of these, the ones living through adversity.

What kind of songs will we continue to sing and embody as a congregation? What new songs will we sing? How can we gather our generosity – our finances, our compassion, our vision, our values – and continue to live out our mission today?

On October 5, we'll launch our Fall Giving Campaign. The theme this year is "A Chorus of Generosity." Using this musical theme, we'll challenge each other and encourage each other to be generous in supporting the work we do in Christ's name.

And we're going to have some fun with this. Each week of our campaign, one of our members will share a favorite song and an encouragement to generosity. And we're going to ask you to nominate your favorite hymns. We'll tally the votes and on Celebration Sunday, October 19, we'll start the service with a hymn sing and make sure that we include all your favorites in that service. We'll also engage in a "30 Day Generosity Challenge," a fun way to practice generosity in our daily lives. You can find the Challenge on page 10 of this newsletter.

I can't wait to share this time with you, a time of inspiration, challenge, and encouragement. A time to celebrate our "Chorus of Generosity."

Pr. Jim Honig



A CHORUS OF
GENEROSITY

You Talked — We Listened!

Introducing our Congregational Care Coordinator

The past two years have been a time of conversation and listening. As a part of the Thriving Congregations initiative, together we have been listening to God in God's word, listening to each other, and listening to the community. In that time of holy, prayerful conversation, we have heard the clear voice of the Spirit calling us to pay attention to the way we care for each other. As a result of the listening that happened in the one on one meetings, listening sessions, data analysis, and the work of our research/action team, the Voice said, "Pay attention to how you care for each other, especially the senior members of your congregation."

To that end, it is with great joy that we announce the addition of a Congregation Care Coordinator to our staff. Meet Amy Hennings. Amy, her husband, Greg Canard, and their children, Dillon and Lila, are members of Shepherd of the Bay. Amy is a licensed clinical counselor with a Ph. D. in Psychology. She teaches at Alverno College in Milwaukee. Her vocational history includes serving as the clinical director for a therapeutic foster care agency and serving as the Casework Department Director for Catholic Charities in Chicago. She brings gifts of empathy, compassion, and strong organizational skills to make sure we do our best job in caring for our members with short and long term needs.

The position is part-time, allowing Dr. Hennings to continue her teaching responsibilities, and also providing us with an extraordinarily gifted person to shepherd our caring ministries. Thanks to be to God, to you, the members of Shepherd of the Bay, for participating in this process, and to Amy for answering the call to ministry.

Dear Shepherd of the Bay Community,

My name is Amy Hennings, and I am honored to introduce myself as the new Congregation Care Coordinator at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church.

My family and I relocated to the Ellison Bay/Gills Rock area in June 2023 and officially became members of Shepherd of the Bay in the fall of 2024. When I read Pastor Jim's newsletter about the creation of this new position, I felt a strong calling to respond. I have been looking for meaningful ways to use my skills in service to our new community, and this opportunity felt like the perfect fit.

For many years, I have worked in social service roles, supporting individuals and families in need of care and compassion. As a former Community Casework Director with Catholic Charities, I bring extensive experience in connecting people with essential resources, whether it is food, housing, medical care, counseling, or other basic needs. I am also a Licensed Professional Counselor in Wisconsin and currently teach future counselors as a college professor at Alverno College in Milwaukee.

My goal in this new role is to learn about the incredible care and support already happening within our congregation and to explore additional ways we can strengthen and expand that work both for our parishioners and for those in the wider community. I truly believe in the power of connection and compassionate service, and I am excited to partner with all of you as we grow this ministry together.

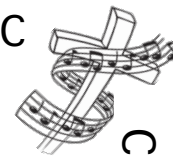
In the coming weeks, I hope to meet with key individuals and groups within the congregation. Please feel free to reach out to me, whether it is to share information about a need in the church, educate me on existing ministries, or introduce local resources that could benefit our efforts.

Thank you for the warm welcome and for the opportunity to serve alongside you.

With gratitude,

Amy Hennings
Congregation Care Coordinator
Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church





LOVE, IN ANY LANGUAGE

Amour ... Liebe ... Amore ... Amor ... Agapi ... Liefde ... Kaerligheden ... Love

No matter what the language, love is universal. We make room for those we love in our lives, in our hearts, in our memories, in our hopes and dreams. To love one another is one of the greatest gifts we can bestow on our neighbors, our family, our friends. By giving love, we open ourselves to receiving love in exchange.

I am reminded that this gesture of loving our neighbor is sometimes a difficult action to pull off. We, being human, seem to categorize folks, placing them in "friends, foes, or others" slots, making self-serving judgments about their worthiness to be loved by us. How short-sighted we often are! We look for clones of ourselves, seeking "likenesses" of opinion, of social status, of educational background, rather than embracing "others" who might offer differing opinions, new insights, good arguments, helping the "scales" of long-held opinion to fall from our eyes through heartfelt dialogue and discussion.

John 15:12-17

Jesus speaking: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Many times on a Sunday morning, as you and your friends are going forward to receive communion, you might have found yourself humming a tune with your neighbors and didn't know what it meant. Well friends, YOU ARE SINGING ABOUT LOVE! THE LOVE OF JESUS. The words are as simple as the tune, both written by Laurie Klein:

***I LOVE YOU LORD, AND I LIFT MY VOICE
TO WORSHIP YOU, O MY SOUL REJOICE,
TAKE JOY, MY KING, IN WHAT YOU HEAR
MAY IT BE A SWEET, SWEET SOUND IN YOUR EAR.***

Love, in any language, celebrates the goodness of our world if we keep our eyes on Him, the center of all things good ... JESUS. May we always see Jesus in our neighbors, our friends, our adversaries as well, because we are all members of the same family, THE FAMILY OF GOD. Let us embrace each other, brothers and sisters all!

Blessings to you,

Judith Jackson, Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist

Handbell Choir

The Shepherd of the Bay Handbell Choir is starting up again this fall! Our first meeting is on Thursday, October 9, at 3:00 PM at the church. We'd love to have everyone—both newcomers and returning ringers—join us for this fun musical experience.

If you have any questions, just reach out to Randy Manges, our organist. Can't wait to see you on the 9th!

Sanctuary Choir

Beginning October 9th, we will resume regular weekly choir rehearsals in the choir loft on Thursday afternoons from 4:00 until 5:30.

So, this is our invitation to you ... if you enjoy singing, if you have been a member of a singing group in your past, if you have never sung with a group, but would like to try it out ... come and sing with us! Join your voice with ours. There is no audition, just your willingness to sing! You won't be sorry that you said "yes" to this opportunity! You will find a welcome home with us.

New Member Sunday

We will be receiving new members on Sunday, Oct 26th. If you are thinking about joining Shepherd of the Bay church either as an full member or associate member, please reach out to Pastor Jim, sotbpastor@gmail.com or 920-854-2988.

A Note from the Treasurer

Online Giving. A Great Option!

Earlier this year, our database software service changed some of its service around online giving. We have made the adjustments to continue reporting your giving accurately. The switch may have resulted in some dates being slightly off. I anticipate some online givers will notice this in their giving statements, but it will not affect the sum total.

Consider using online giving if you aren't already. If you're not comfortable being online, ask Carol in the office for a form to begin regular online giving. OR- You can create your account by going to the Shepherd of the Bay website, shepherdofthebay.org and click on the Donate button in the upper right hand corner. Click on Give Now, and it takes you right to the Vanco site where you can establish an account. I recommend that you use a bank account instead of a credit card for the donation since credit cards regularly expire.

Also, remember that the qualified charitable rollover is a great way to satisfy the Required Minimum Distribution and make a gift to the church. Be sure to instruct your brokerage that you want your name listed as the donor. And if you're reading this and wondering, 'Huh?', well, you're too young!

Thanks for reading,
Grace Rossman, treasurer

Stephen Ministry



Pastor Jim described Stephen Ministry perfectly in his article this month. He said,

"Abide" is a word we don't use; maybe it's because we aren't very practiced at abiding. Abiding is to stay with someone for the distance. Sticking by their side through ups and downs. That's how God is with us. God sticks by our side through thick and thin, and I would say especially in the moments when all else has failed. God is faithful. God has promised to be with us.

As children of God created in God's image, we are called to do the same, accompanying each other through times of difficulty."

Remember, God does not intend for us to face our struggles alone. That's why He has brought us together as a congregation - and why we have Stephen Ministry. A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately and confidentially on a weekly basis to listen, care, support, and remind you of Christ's presence in your life.

If you would like more information or need support, please reach out to Carol at sotboffice@yahoo.com or 920-854-2988.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way fulfill the Law of Christ." - Galatians 6:2



WELCA Book Selections for Monthly Book Group

All meetings will begin at 9:30am, the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please contact Gretchen Farwell if you have any questions regarding the Book Group and its meetings.

October 17

Hammer, Joshua. **The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu**; and Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts. 2016. Abdel Kader Haidara, a young archivist from Mali begins collecting ancient Arabic manuscripts in the 1980s and it becomes his life mission to keep them out of the hands of Al Qaeda and other Muslim extremist groups. He successfully organizes a plan to sneak 350,000 of these texts out of Timbuktu to safety in southern Mali.

Partners in Ministry

Are you looking for an opportunity to help out at Shepherd of the Bay or in our community? Here are a few ways you can help and support Shepherd of the Bay and community programs.

Appalachian Strong/Rebuilding Hollers

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible support during our recent mission trip to North Carolina! Your generosity made a big difference in the lives of those we served.

As we continue our work in North Carolina, we invite you to help us make a lasting impact. A donation box is available in the church Narthex for new towels (bath, hand, washcloth, dishcloth), blankets, and new sheet sets. You can also support future construction efforts by donating to the "Summit Building Account."

To learn more about our trip, please view the team presentation at the beginning of the worship service on August 31st. If you have any questions, Lynda is here to help! Thank you for your support in serving others. Together, we can continue to make a difference!

Klaud's Pantry

Many thanks for all the donations!

Always needed:

Fresh and frozen fruit and veggies
Dairy products (cheese, milk, yogurt, etc.)
Frozen pizza and tv dinners
Juice (bottled and frozen)
Soups like Chunky that can be eaten as a meal.

Non-perishable needs are:

Canned veggies (low sodium) especially carrots, and peas
Canned fruit (low or no sugar)
Pasta and sauces
Canned meat (tuna, chicken, spam, corned beef)
Snack bars
Jam and jelly
Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing)
Crackers
Pasta, Rice, and Potato Side Dishes
Also asking for personal hygiene products.
Thank you so much!

An Important Reminder: Please put all non-perishable food in the shopping cart across from the refrigerator.

School Supplies

With back to school sales starting, please think about purchasing some of the following items to donate. We will be collecting for different organizations in Door County and Nationally.

- notebooks; no loose leaf paper
- ruler
- pencil sharpener
- blunt scissors
- unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- black or blue ballpoint pens
- 16 or 24 crayons
- pink all purpose erasers
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Glue Sticks
- Kleenex
- Wet Hand Wipes



Social 6 (or 7 or 9)

Guatemala Mission Trip 2026

We are planning for the next mission trip in early 2026. If you would like more information or are considering joining us, please contact Nora Zacek at norazacek@gmail.com or call the church office.

Please pray about how you can participate in this mission activity....

Think about it..... Pray about it..... Join us

James 1:27 (NIV) "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka 720-227-4079 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com

Thank you to all who were able to come out to support the SOTB youth aid station at the Door County Bicycle Classic! We made \$400.00, to add to our scholarship funds to help families with the cost of camp, travel fees, etc. Did you know it cost \$650.00 to send one student to Confirmation camp? It is always such a joy when we have an intergenerational effort supporting, and spending time getting to know our youth!

Can you help for an hour with the youth, or behind the scenes? Lynda always needs a second pair of eyes, prayer warriors, and people to help! Here are the programs and activities we have lined up for the year: Little Lambs, Wonderful Wednesdays, Summer Wonderful Wednesdays, Sunday School, Confirmation, High School Youth, Service and Mission trips, Crossways Camps, J1 Picnic, Ellison Bay Day in the Park/Parade, Campfires, Children's Community Garden, and Community Partnerships.



Little Lambs

For infants, toddlers, PreK, and their parents or care providers. Each hour we will enjoy a Bible story, creative play, music, games, and art to take home! **Wednesdays, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.**

Oct. 1st I am Jesus' Little Lamb

Oct. 8th God Made Me

Oct. 15th God's Creation and the Fall Colors

Oct. 22nd Noah and the Ark

Oct. 29th Little Lambs Harvest Party today! Wear your costume!

Sunday School

For Children ages four through grade six. We gather at Children's message within worship, and head to the classroom. We return for Communion. Parents please pick up your children in the classroom after worship. Join us after in fellowship hall as we gather with our church family for good conversation and treats!

Oct. 5 A Seed of Faith-Luke 17:5-10

Oct. 12 Today, during the Children's Message, our incoming Confirmation students, as well as 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders, will receive a Bible! Following Communion, we will head upstairs for **Pancakes and Praise!** (note, one week earlier due to Fall Fest the following Sunday).

Oct. 19 Jacob Wrestles-Genesis 32:22-31

Oct. 26 The Pharisee and the Tax Collector-Luke 18:9-14

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesdays will take place **every 1st and 3rd Wednesday after school** until pick up time at 5:30 p.m. The Shepherd of the Bay Van will arrive at Gibraltar School for pick up. Watch your email for transportation communication! We will have a delicious snack, followed by games, art, Bible stories, service, outreach, and more! Please sign your child out at pick up time, and be sure their registration forms are up to date with Lynda.

Wed. October 1st and 15th

The Story and The Song, and The Beginning, a Perfect Home. Pumpkin prayers and more!

Confirmation

The first three Wednesdays of each month, the church van will pick students up after school and head over to Shepherd of the Bay! We'll enjoy a snack, highs and lows, and a multitude of faith formation conversations, preparing students for Confirmation. Pick-up time is at 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 1, 8, and 15.

Oct. 24-26th-Junior High Blast at Imago Dei

Welcome to Confirmation for the 2025-2026 School Year! Kinsley Buchner, Avery Burress, Ethan Olson, Anthony Torcivia, & Erik Wolfe

High School Youth Group

Come to the Fall Kick Off campfire, **Sunday night, October 5th!** We'll plan our calendar year together, and catch up on the summer, and all we have planned for faith formation, service, and outreach to our community through out the year, from Synod gatherings, Journey with Jesus, to the 30 hour famine, fundraising events, and our big summer mission trip, Summer 2026! See you around the fire, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Shepherd Of The Bay Council Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2025

Present: Tara Torkelson, Pr. Jim Honig, Grace Rossman, Scott Henry, Mark Beecher, Jane Burress, Cheryl Becht, Jeff Johnson, Adam Johnson, Lynda Pietruszka, Julia Keepper Absent: Jane Mohit

The meeting was called to order by President Tara Torkelson at 7:17 PM in the home of Cheryl Becht.

A recommendation was made by Scott Henry that the draft minutes of the June 16, 2025 reflect consistency of the discussion regarding the Congregational Care Coordinator (formerly referred to as the Senior Care Coordinator). Minutes amended as suggested.

President Torkelson summarized the **Committee Reports**.

Outreach Report: 6 people volunteered to share the responsibilities of Klaud's Pantry upon Edee Madsen's departure. On Aug 19, 2025, we will be hosting a Bridges event and volunteers are needed. The Church Bus Ministry continues to be busy serving various needs including the Mission trip to North Carolina and Scandia residents wishing to attend Peninsula Music Festival. The Habitat/Housing Partnership home under construction is moving along quickly according to Tom Tuttle.

Buildings and Grounds report: Night lighting and music room storage are being reviewed. The previously discussed air conditioning has been installed. The security systems and WIFI continued to be evaluated. The stained glass window repairs are being evaluated.

Treasurer's Report: Grace Rossman reviewed some of the items to be stated at the upcoming congregation meeting. Thank You notes were received from 2 scholarship winners.

Youth and Family Report: Lynda Pietruszka reported 9 people will be in the group for the upcoming mission trip.

New Business:

1. Jane Burress request was approved to use of the church property for Girl Scout activities once or twice per month in compliance with standard church use guidelines.
2. Jane Mohit wrote a note regarding the need for carpet cleaning and/or replacement in some parts of the church. This will be referred to Buildings and Grounds.

A closing devotion was shared by Jane Burress. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug 18, 2025 Submitted by Jeff Johnson, Council Secretary

Shepherd Of The Bay Council Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2025

Present: Tara Torkelson, Pr. Jim Honig, Grace Rossman, Mark Beecher, Jane Burress, Jeff Johnson, Adam Johnson, Julia Keepper Absent: Jane Mohit, Scott Henry, Cheryl Becht, Lynda Pietruszka

Meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by President Torkelson. Opening Devotion was shared by Grace Rossman. The July 21, 2025 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: Grace Rossman. Volunteers for the audit committee will be acted upon at a future meeting.

Buildings and Grounds: The Council recommends changing the steeple light time to 9:30 PM, leaving the Air Conditioning schedule as is, and adding inspection of the emergency lights and exit signs to the annual fire inspection.

Old Business:

1. A motion was made by Mark Beecher and seconded by Julia Keepper to accept the recommendation for using a wireless security camera system vs. a hard-wired system. Carried. A motion was made by Grace Rossman and seconded by Mark Beecher to accept the proposal from Quantum to upgrade the WIFI throughout the building. Carried. A motion was made by Mark Beecher, seconded by President Torkelson, to accept the proposal to upgrade the telephone system. Carried. A motion was made by President Torkelson, seconded by Mark Beecher, to engage Schaut Technologies to do a review and provide additional guidance on the cyber security plan for the church. Carried.

2. Pastor Honig reported that an advertisement for hiring a Congregational Care Coordinator will be run in the Pulse newspaper for 1 week.
3. President Torkelson asked if any feedback was available about the recent congregational meeting. Grace Rossman indicated that questions were voiced by attendees, indicating that people were paying attention. By consensus, the council believes another meeting should be considered for July 2026.

New Business:

1. A request has been made by AA to use the church bus, driven by Richard Burress, for a trip to Washington Island. The ferry fee to be paid by AA and donations for gas will be accepted. Motion approved.
2. A request was made by the Norrland Resort Condo Owners Association to use the building for their fall meeting September 6, 2025 at 9:30 AM for 1.5 hours. Instructions for building use and respect for other simultaneous users will be communicated through Carol in the church office. Motion approved.
3. The council discussed updating the congregation's mission statement. Ideas may be guided by the solicitation of values from the congregation, with wording to be considered for an updated mission statement at a later date.
4. An improved volunteer sign up sheet system was discussed. Various locations and content were also discussed. Council members were encouraged by President Torkelson to look around for locations to consider.
5. The September Sunday Fellowship Potluck is scheduled for Sep 7, 2025 .

The meeting was closed at 8:22 PM with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted by Jeff Johnson, Council Secretary

Building and Grounds

Wi-Fi and Phone Service – After having some groups and functions recently that experienced connectivity problems in various parts of the building, B&Gs recommended to the Council that we have Wi-Fi installed throughout the building. Quantum Technologies was here on September 15th doing just that. Now we have service evenly throughout the entire building. Quantum Technologies will also be here soon to upgrade our phones that are very old and no longer supported and provide us with new lower-cost phone service.

Security – The equipment for the outside video surveillance cameras was ordered and delivered. It will be installed soon. Additional quotes for door security have been received and are now being evaluated.

Stained Glass Window Inspection – A second company has been contacted to look at our windows and advise us of their condition. They will be visiting in early October for the inspection.

Emergency Lighting and Ext Signs – The quote has been accepted by the Council to include the 28 emergency lights and 23 Exit signs scattered throughout the building and bell tower to our annual inspection of the fire extinguishers.

Fall Clean-up Day – Wow, Thank you. We had about 10 volunteers come and help on a beautiful day. Inside the kitchen pantry supply shelves were organized and cleaned, all the Sunday Schools chairs and tables were cleaned, and the floors in the sanctuary storage closets were swept. Outside the weeds behind the bus barn were cut down, flower beds were weeded, brushes trimmed or cut down, hoses picked up and rain gutters cleaned out.

Thomas Tuttle - Chair Buildings and Grounds

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Dick Burress, Carol & Karl Omernick, Don Provo, Joel Thomas, Scott Thies, or me. If none of us are around, send me an email or drop a note in the message holder on the custodian's closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms). The Building and Grounds Committee is looking for a new member, ladies, you are welcome. New perspectives are always welcome. Contact Tom Tuttle if you are interested. Thank you.



All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day

This year, we will be observing All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 2nd. It's a time for us to remember and honor those church members who have passed away in the last year, since Nov. 2024.

If you would like to pay tribute to friends or family members by having their names read in the service, please reach out to the church office at 920-854-2988 and leave a message or send an email to sotboffice@yahoo.com by Wednesday, October 29th.

Your participation means a lot to us as we come together to honor and remember our loved ones.



Lessons for October

October 5 : Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Lamentations 3:19-26

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.

Second Lesson : 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Introduction to the readings: A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

October 12 : Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson : Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Ten years before the destruction of Jerusalem, many leaders of Judah were taken to Babylon. Jeremiah sends a letter to those exiles encouraging them, as they live in that strange place, to raise families and even to pray for the welfare of Babylon. God will restore them in due time.

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Introduction to the readings: It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

October 19: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:27-34

After uttering many oracles of judgment, Jeremiah announces a day of hope when God will make a new covenant with Israel and Judah, a covenant written upon their hearts and sealed with God's forgiveness.

Second Lesson : 2 Timothy 3:14 - - 4:5

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Introduction to the readings: Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

October 26 : Reformation Sunday

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Lesson : Romans 3:19-28

Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36

Introduction to the readings: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Ushers :

Oct. 5	OPEN
Oct. 12	OPEN
Oct. 19	OPEN
Oct. 27	OPEN

Communion Helpers :

Please talk to Pastor Honig if you can help with communion.

WELCA Prayer Chain

The WELCA Prayer Chain continues to serve all the members and friends of SOTB for prayer requests.

To send a Prayer Request:

1. Send an email to Cheri Boock at cheriboock@gmail.com

2. State the request with wording that you want for the request. Make sure you have received permission from the person in need of the request.

3. The request will be sent when received by Cheri.

4. The Prayer Chain members always are glad to receive a report of how the person is doing as they are sending out their prayers, so if you request a prayer for someone, please let us know how that person is doing.

If you want to be included as a recipient of the Prayer Chain, and pray for those in need, contact Cheri Boock at 920-854-5493 or cell 920-421-1210 or the above email.

The Parish Door monthly newsletter can be found in full color on our website, shepherdofthebay.org/newsletters. If you would like to be added to the monthly email list, contact the church office at 920-854-2988 or sotboffice@yahoo.com.

Thanks to everyone
who helped with the
Fall Clean-up Day!

