

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

PO Box 27, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210



Shepherdofthebay.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

(920) 854-2988

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## Sunday Morning Worship

Join us for Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30am in the sanctuary, parking lot or in your own home.

In accordance with CDC revision of the guidelines, we will be continuing to observe social distancing but will be relaxing mask and Pre-registration. Attendance for the service inside the church will NOT be limited. If you have been fully vaccinated, you do not have to wear a mask inside the church.

We will continue live streaming our Sunday morning Worship Service on [shepherdofthebay.org/services](https://shepherdofthebay.org/services) beginning at 9:15am. We will post a recorded version of the live streamed service on our website for viewing later.

As a third option, you can continue to listen on your radio in your car from the parking lot.

Communion will be available.

## FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE RETURNS

We will be beginning to bring back a Coffee and Fellowship time after the Sunday Worship Service. We are going to start with coffee only. We will be trying different ideas to keep everyone safe and healthy so bear with us as we joyfully gather for fellowship and coffee.

## "Adopt a Bench" Youth Fundraiser

The Youth of Shepherd of the Bay will be building benches to put around our outdoor worship space (aka the Fire Pit Area). Their goal is to make at least 12 benches.

All proceeds go towards the building materials and to help the High School Youth go to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer.

More information on how you can adopt a bench on page 6.



In the classic novel, *Alice in Wonderland*, there's a scene in which Alice is not quite sure what is next. She stands looking up at the Cheshire Cat perched on a tree branch above her; she addresses the wise, wily feline.

"Cheshire Puss, would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"

"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.

"I don't much care where —" said Alice.

"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat. "Any road will get you there."

At the annual meeting in May, the leadership of Shepherd of the Bay announced that we would soon be embarking on a congregational planning process. There are a variety of factors that suggest that this is just the right moment to engage in those important conversations.

In the larger culture, churches are generally in decline. For many reasons, people are not as interested in affiliating with congregations than they were 30 or 40 years ago. It's been well-documented by such organizations as Gallup Polls and the Pew Research Center that both evangelical, conservative denominations and mainline, progressive denominations have been losing members and closing churches for some time. The data on Shepherd of the Bay reflects that larger trend. Our congregation has been on a trajectory of declining attendance and membership for at least 15 years.

Still, decline and death need not be the story that we tell at Shepherd of the Bay. How do we move forward as a flourishing congregation, with a vitality that suggests that our best years are still in front of us?

A big part of writing that story of vitality is to have a clear picture of who we are and what we are called to do. These are important questions of identity and purpose. Strong individuals, organizations, and congregations can only move forward in a positive and productive way if they have a strong sense of identity and purpose.

Organizations can only determine identity and purpose through conversation. It's not a top-down process with leaders dictating their own understandings. It has to be wide and far-reaching conversations among all the people who care about the future of the congregation.

One of the most important Christian spiritual practices is spiritual discernment. Discernment is the practice of listening for the voice and leading of the Spirit. It is different than decision-making. Decision-making is a rather quick and efficient process that looks at the data at hand and makes what is thought to be a rational choice. Discernment takes longer. Time for reflection and conversation is essential. It trusts the promise of Isaiah 40: "Those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. They shall mount up on wings like eagles; they shall run and not grow weary; they shall walk and not grow faint." Discernment is a process that looks to the stories of scripture for guidance, is bathed in prayer, and takes the time for conversation about meaningful and important things.

In order for discernment to happen, communities need to know how to talk with each other about important things. So, the first step in our process will be to practice holy conversation. Beginning in October, we are inviting you to participate in 3 Sunday evening sessions in which we will practice the art of holy conversation. Our conversations will be an invitation for each of us to share our stories in the context of our communal call to be the body of Christ.

That will set the stage for a second round of conversations around our congregational values. That conversation will happen in the spring and early summer of 2022. Core values are the fundamental operating principles that guide our internal conduct as well as our relationship with the community and the world. Core values is to help define the kind of congregation we hope and strive to be. They will be descriptors of our culture, our ethos. For instance, these are some values that other congregations have determined are fundamental to their life together: integrity, boldness, honesty, trust, accountability, inclusion, hospitality, commitment to the community, joy. What are the values that we as a congregation hold most dear?

The next step in the process will be to have conversations around our mission and vision. Mission answers questions like, "Why are we here?" "What is God calling us to do?" The mission is our reason for being here, the fundamental purpose of our existence. We will grapple with questions like, "Why did God decide that it was important for Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church to have a presence in Ellison Bay in northern Door County?" What do we strive to achieve in this moment in time? Mission defines our ministry in terms of biblical understanding, a clear focus on our place in this community, and what gifts we bring to our unique ministry.

Vision builds on our understanding of mission by asking the question, “What difference will we make?” If our mission helps us to understand what our purpose is, our vision helps us imagine what that means for who we will become and what is the important work that we believe we are called to do. Who and what do we want to be? What would we look like if we were able to fulfill our mission? How will we be different in 5 years if we are able to accomplish our mission? It’s an articulation of our aspirations. The conversation to develop our mission and vision will take place in the fall of 2022.

The final step in our planning process will be strategic. We will convene conversations around how to turn our values and mission and vision into actual strategies that will insure that we become the kind of congregation that we hope to become. This is where we begin to make actual plans.

My friend, Dick, decided in his 30’s that he wanted to retire at 55. That was his vision. In order to do that, he made a plan and began putting that plan into action. It started with the purchase of one retail location in inner-city Boston, and culminated in the ownership and building of two other retail establishments. It required long hours, sacrifices of time and possessions, but at age 55, he sold his 3 stores, sold his home, and moved to Florida where he lived modestly for the rest of his life.

The strategic part of our process is similar to that. We have come to an understanding of who we are, what is important to us, and what we are called to do. Now, how do we make that all happen? Our hopes and dreams get translated into objectives, goals, and strategies.

When God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, it took 40 years for them to learn their lessons and be formed into the people of God. I hope it won’t take 40 years for Shepherd of the Bay, but I look for a similar process to happen. Through our conversations, our prayer, our reflection on the stories of the bible, I’m confident that we will emerge from this time of uncertainty and disruption to become the strong people of God, bearing witness to the life we have in Jesus, for the sake of God’s mission in the northern Door communities.

## Stewardship 2021

As always, we are grateful to all of you faithful people of God who regularly give of your time, talents, and treasure to keep our ministry healthy and moving forward.

As always, we believe that full disclosure of the current status of our congregational health is in everyone’s best interest. So, I want you to know that our congregation is currently experiencing a shortfall in our income versus expenses.

In many ways, our giving has been extraordinary. You have responded to our annual appeal and so many of you have given to help meet our operating fund obligations.

Still, we are short. Your continued help is needed to help us fulfill our financial obligations for the year. Each year, we strive to finish the year without a deficit, positioned for a strong start in 2022.

Your gifts this past year have helped

- . . .transition to multi-platformed worship
- . . .a hybrid response to our ministry to children and families
- . . .a creative and imaginative VBS to fill in for the cancellation of the community VBS
- . . .the increased person to person care-giving ministry by lay persons and pastoral staff
- . . .support of ministries in the community
- . . .a vital food pantry ministry
- . . .support of the larger ministry of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- . . .keeping up with always increasing expenses for general operations and building maintenance

If you are on schedule to complete your pledge, thank you. If you’re somewhat behind schedule, please do all you can do to catch up.

And if you are feeling the prompting of the Spirit to send a special gift to help us out at this critical time, please know that your generosity will be deeply appreciated.

This has been a beautiful summer in Door County. The beauty has been in our ears and in our eyes in every moment. May it be a reminder of the beauty and mystery of God’s rich provision for us and for the world. And may we together keep bringing this good news of God’s love for us and all creation to as many people as we can.



All my life, African American spirituals have visited me in music and in message. These beautiful soul-wrenching, haunting, hopeful and faith-filled melodies often wake me up in the morning and accompany me at the end of the day. When I was younger, I found connection in the beauty of the music and the yearning of the text. When I look deeper into the history that served to create these beautiful spirituals, my heart swells with sorrow and amazement, that an enslaved people could sing songs of such beauty to give solace to a person like me generations later.

***My Lord, what a morning: my Lord, what a morning;  
Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.***

1. *You'll hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*
2. *You'll hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*
3. *You'll hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*

***My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;  
Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.***

A reference to water is often found in the subject of familiar spirituals, as a barrier and as a beacon to freedom.

***Deep river, my home is over Jordan,  
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.***

1. *Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?*
2. *Oh, when I get to heaven, I'll take my seat, and cast my crown at Jesus' feet. Oh,*

***Deep river, my home is over Jordan,  
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.***

The legacy of music and message found in these beautiful and haunting African American spirituals is rich and powerful for today's generation as well. We all yearn to be free of whatever burdens our lives, the fears, the uncertainties, the hopelessness we sometimes feel, especially in these Covid-centered days. We would do well to turn to the messages of the spirituals, finding hope and promise "on the other side," rather than being consumed with the hardships of the day.

***Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!  
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.***

1. My Lord calls me, he calls me by the thunder:  
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.
2. Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a trembling;  
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.
3. Tombstones are bursting, poor sinners stand a trembling;  
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.
4. My Lord calls me, he calls me by the lightning;  
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

***Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!  
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.***

May the assurance of God's promise accompany us throughout all of our days. We are God's chosen people ... each one of us. That gives me tremendous hope for today ... and faith for tomorrow.

Blessings to you all.

Judith Jackson, Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist

## WELCA Serves up Spaghetti

Thank you for your support at our spaghetti dinner July 24th! We served until we ran out- and we disappointed some hungry folks- but we can certainly call our event successful. HELP of Door County and STRIDE Mental Health for Kids will benefit from the proceeds. If you were unable to come that day and still would like to support our effort for these two groups, please write a check to WELCA and mail or deliver to the church.

You may have seen some of our volunteers taking orders and delivering food out in the driveway, and there were some behind the scenes as well. Let me thank them all here! Big thanks go to Dave and Cheri Boock, Glen Rossman, Sharon and Bob Pluff, Barb and Tom Tuttle, Sue and Tim West, John and Pat Skogsbakken, Gerry and Micky Swanson, Judy Perkins and Dave Keen, Char and Dan Bogda, and Jan Peterson. We all got our 'steps' in!

This event was a Thrivent Volunteer event, which means that most of our supplies were paid for through Thrivent. That makes a good event a great one!

Thank you again for your support!  
Gratefully, Grace Rossman, WELCA president

### 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](mailto: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.

### Book Selections for Shepherd of the Bay Book Group – 2021

All meetings will be via Zoom beginning at 9:30 am, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning of the month. Marcia Eckdahl will handle the technical details for the meeting; Gretchen Farwell is the convener.

#### August 19, 2021

Richardson, Kim. **Book Woman of Troublesome Creek**. 2019. Historical fiction about a librarian in the Appalachian mountains of Kentucky who brings books on a packhorse to the mountainous rural communities. We will meet at **Vicki Amundson's** house in Baileys Harbor. Her address is: 7972 Thimbleberry Lane; Telephone: 920-839-5013; Email address: [amundson@aol.com](mailto:amundson@aol.com)

#### September 16, 2021

Estes, Kelli. **The Girl Who Wrote in Silk**; a novel of Chinese immigration to the Pacific Northwest. 2015. "explores a horrific, little known era in our nation's history." – **Place to be Decided**.

## “Adopt A Bench” Youth Fundraiser

The inspiration for “Adopt A Bench” began from the 2020 Scholarship contest we held for our youth at Shepherd of the Bay; to design an outdoor worship space. Makenize Koehler’s design was chosen, and she will receive her scholarship upon her high school graduation! Congratulations Makenize!

Within the framework of the outdoor worship space, are benches based on author and ecologist Aldo Leopold’s classic design. “Adopt A Bench” is evolving into something so much bigger than simply a way to build an outdoor worship space. By adopting a bench:

- We will build our intergenerational/family ministry by partnering youth with those who can teach a woodworking skill! Your bench will be built by the hands of your church family and youth!
- Proceeds from the bench will be split between covering the cost of materials to build the bench AND help to send our youth to the 2022 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer!
- Your bench will have your most treasured scripture reference carved into the back rest for all to enjoy!
- Benches will be located around the fire circle and will be accessible to ANYONE who would like to quietly meditate during the day, or join in on a campfire, or future worship setting!



You can purchase a bench on your own, or partner with another family, or small group of friends! Simply sign up (either on the board in the narthex at church) or by contacting Lynda Pietruszka at [sotb.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:sotb.lynda@gmail.com) or 720-227-4079. Please state who will be adopting a bench (individual or group), state your most treasured bible passage that you would like engraved on the backrest, ie: John 3:16, and simply write a check to Shepherd of the Bay with “Adopt a Bench” in the memo column. We will begin taking orders August 1<sup>st</sup>.

\$125.00 per bench, checks made out to SOTB with “youth bench” in the memo column.

## Klaud’s Food Pantry

We continue to be very grateful for all the donations and support for Klaud’s Pantry. This outreach has fulfilled a real need in the community, heightened because of the pandemic these past months. We value and respect the people who come to the Pantry, and want to give them the best food and products possible. Towards that end, we ask that you please check the expiration dates on what you donate, and refrain from giving anything past the date on the label. We also appreciate food that is unopened and in the original packaging. One solution for expired food would be to compost for gardens instead of donating it.

Again, thank you for your part in this special ministry at SOTB.

### ***Klaud’s Pantry Wish List***

*Fresh or Frozen Fruit & Vegetables*

*Frozen Dinners & Pizza*

*Fruit Popsicles*

*Lunch type items for kids now that school is out. Ex: Uncrustables (Frozen PB&J Sandwiches), Canned Pasta, Chicken Nuggets, Ramen Noodles, Fruit and Pudding Cups, Bread, Cheese Slices*

*Canned Meat & Fish*

*Seasonings & Condiments Crackers*

*Dairy Products*

*Dish Soap*

*Feminine Products*

*Shampoo & Conditioner*

*Deodorant*

*Pet Food*



## Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka

920-854-2988 or [sotb.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:sotb.lynda@gmail.com)

### Joyful Joyful Summer Sunday School!

for ages 3 through grade 6

August 1<sup>st</sup> Be Patient Like Anna

August 8<sup>th</sup> Be Humble Like Mary

August 15<sup>th</sup> Be Persevering Like Job

August 22<sup>nd</sup> Be Forgiving Like Joseph

August 29<sup>th</sup> Be Bold Like Moses

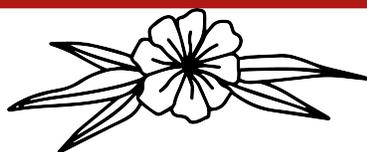
### Little Lambs Reunion Picnic

Little Lambs, their siblings, parents and care providers! Get ready for the "Little Lambs Reunion Picnic", Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Ellison Bay Community Park! Lunch and Play provided! Invite a friend, or a new mom/dad in the community! It will be wonderful to spend time together after being apart! Safety first, mask up if needed. We will meet at SOTB fellowship hall if it rains!

Please rsvp to Lynda so that we may prepare for your arrival! 720-227-4079 or [sotb.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:sotb.lynda@gmail.com)

### Four Faith Filled Families around the FIRE... resumes!!

Every Thursday night through out the Summer, thru Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. !! Sign up on our website, [www.shepherdofthebay.org](http://www.shepherdofthebay.org). Picnic supper and s'mores, activities for children and youth! Family devotion and fellowship time for adults! We had a great time last summer!! If it rains, we will reschedule!



### Parable Park!! A Summer Adventure of Wonderful Wednesdays!

**The important details!** Families may choose for their children; a full day or a half day, at "Parable Park"!! For ages 4 through grade 6! Please register online at [www.shepherdofthebay.org](http://www.shepherdofthebay.org) and click on "events calendar". Sign up for all the dates and times you would like your child to participate, beginning Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>! We'll have a structured morning program that looks a lot like VBS, and continue with an afternoon of free play; creative station arts and crafts, an afternoon movie, beautiful books, games, and more! Timing is 9:00 a.m. to noon, or the entire stay up to 4:00 p.m. If you plan to stay the entire day, pack a lunch! Snacks and beverages will be provided. Safety is the highest priority! Access to an online registration form will be available, or stop by church and pick up a paper copy prior to your child's arrival!

#### Parable Park Fun! Music, Service, Arts and Crafts, Puppets, Bible Stories, Games and more!

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** The Vine and the Branches (John 15)

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** The Farmer (Luke 8:4-15)

**August 11<sup>th</sup>** The Mustard Seed (Matthew 17:21)

**August 18<sup>th</sup>** The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7)

**August 25<sup>th</sup>** The Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32)

#### What to bring each Wednesday!

Sunscreen, hat, water bottle, swim wear, shoes to run in, towel, lunch if staying all day, any supervised medications.

**Questions or Concerns, please contact Lynda Pietruszka at 720-227-4079 or [sotb.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:sotb.lynda@gmail.com)**

### Mark your Calendars!

Rally Day/Back Pack Blessing Sunday Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>!

Confirmation Campfire for incoming and current Confirmation Students! Date and Time TBD!

# Shepherd of the Bay Council Meeting

July 19, 2021

**Present:** Pr. Jim, Dick Burress, Ron Hupe, Vicki Amunson, Lynda Pietruszka, Micky Swanson, Les Keeper, George Cobb, Sue Daubner. Edee Madsen attended by Zoom.

**Call to Order:** 7:00 PM

Approval of June 20, 2021 Council Meeting. Motion made by George Cobb, second by Dick Burress  
Approval of tonight's Agenda. Motion to accept by Sue Daubner, second by Dick Burress.  
Dick Burress has volunteered to take care of sending out the monthly Council Agendas.

Devotional was given by President Dick Burress

Video shown to Council regarding working with a church congregation. The first in a series by Dr. Peter Steinke.

## Committee Reports

- Pastors Report: We are gradually re-opening to something close to normal. However, our drive in church attendance is pretty steady with 5 cars and will continue.  
We have discontinued the hybrid Tuesday Bible Classes with only in person classes.  
Pastor has sent out the outline for the Phase 1 of our planning process to the Council. Also sent to his peers for review. SOTB will enter into a covenant with Pastor Jim starting August 1, 2021 and ending Phase 1 on October 31, 2021.  
Pastoral in-person visits are now increasing.  
Pr. Jim has been contemplating the Fall Stewardship campaign  
Staff in-person meetings will be held twice a month
- Property and Grounds: Discussed permanent signage for the Drive In Church and Klaud's Pantry.
- Education and Youth: Lynda Pietruszka - Lynda gave a report on the benches the young people will be putting together as a fundraiser. The benches will be \$125 each and will have the donors favorite Bible verse reference routed on the back of the bench. She is also asking for help from adults to assist the kids in this project.  
Motion made to approve Committee Reports by Dick Burress, second by Les Keeper

## Old Business

A/V Assistant Update: Cooper Gaddes has joined the team to assist with A/V duties.

Wedding fees update: Pastor Jim will bring a proposal to the August Council meeting for updated wedding policies and fees.

God's Work, Our Hands: The Council has agreed to move the date from the second Saturday in September to the first Saturday in November. The suggestion was made to

Focus on the elderly or disabled in our congregation who might welcome a helping hand.  
Confidentiality would be paramount.

## New Business

- Discussion was held on funerals, funeral fees and a funeral co-ordinator. Greg Casperson, Sharon Pluff, Carol O, Pastor Jim and Tom Tuttle to meet on this subject.
- Council agreed to re-instate coffee hour starting August 1 in the Fellowship Hall, serving just coffee for now. Vicki Amundson has volunteered to head this up.
- Europe Lake HOA has requested the use of the Fellowship Hall for their yearly owners meeting.  
Passed

- Evaluation of the Live Stream Service will be handled by the Music and Worship Committee.
- Les Keeper suggested that a bio of the organizations that the Outreach Task Force has recommended that SOTB support, be put in our newsletters to increase the visibility of our outreach efforts within the SOTB community. The Outreach Task Force will tackle the issues of funding, keeping our community informed and upticking the awareness of the community to SOTB.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Daubner, Secretary

## Building and Grounds Committee

**Sanctuary AV System** – Camera Corner updated the system on Monday July 12<sup>th</sup> to allow the Parking Lot FM transmitter to be plugged directly into the sanctuary system. This will eliminate the separate wired microphones used to support Parking Lot church. It has also enhanced the sound quality of the broadcast. Hopefully you noticed an improvement in the Parking Lot sound quality and were able to hear the entire service. Camera Corner returned Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> to make a minor modification to one of the operator’s control screens making it easier to verify that the recording and streaming are working.

**Garden Club** – The new John Deere tractor has been performing beautifully on the lawn. Two new operators have been trained for mowing. It has also been used for a variety of other jobs like grading, moving dirt piles, moving picnic tables, moving tables from the Fellowship Hall to the Bus Barn for Sunday School. The poison ivy along the south edge of the property line continues to be a battle. The ivy and some brush in a 6-10ft wide strip along the property line was sprayed at the end of June and will continue to be sprayed periodically throughout the summer to see if it can be pushed back.

While the Garden Club crew is reduced in size from previous years, they are continuing the maintenance of the grounds. Weeding and trimming help are the greatest need. The Club meets Thursday mornings at 8am. Come whenever you can, it does not have to be a weekly commitment. If you can’t make Thursday morning and would be willing to help some other time, talk to Scott Thies or Tom Tuttle.

### Building Maintenance

**HVAC** – The fan belt on the circulation fan at the organ end of the sanctuary was changed after it started squeaking a couple of weeks ago. This fan runs constantly to keep the air moving around the organ and has been running through belts approximately every 6 months. Looking at the worn belt revealed that the pulleys were not aligned properly. That was corrected so hopefully the belt life will be improved.

**Sanctuary Fire Door** – The magnetic latches on the wooden door were adjusted so that they would hold the door closed.

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, Mark Glasser, Eloise Lindem, Karl Omernick, 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). Thank you.

## Memorials and Honorariums

### Ken Western (Music Fund & Concert Series)

Ken & Carole Bergner  
Roberta Kutlik

George & Sharon Cobb  
Eloise Lindem

Gary & Cheryl Doudna  
Mary Perdue

Ron & Donna Hupe

### Jack Axelson

John & Pat Skogsbakken

### Betty Ann Heard

Josephine P. Thiell

### Youth Fund Donation

Thank you Josh & Alicia Kropuenske and sons, Tyler & Ryan for the many volunteer hours that were given by your family for Shepherd of the Bay and the Door County Community. You are greatly appreciated and Loved! You are missed!

Eloise Lindem

# Lessons for August

## August 1 : Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

First Lesson: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-16

Holy Gospel: John 6:24-35

**Introduction to the readings:** Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

## August 8 : Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:25 - - 5:2

Holy Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

**Introduction to the readings:** Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

## August 15 : Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Proverbs 9:1-6

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:15-20

Holy Gospel: John 6:51-58

**Introduction to the readings:** Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine.

## August 22 : Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Second Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

Holy Gospel: John 6:56-69

**Introduction to the readings:** In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

## August 29 : Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Second Lesson: James 1:17-27

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**Introduction to the readings:** Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

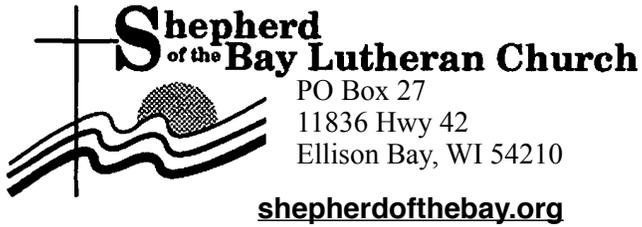
## Readers

8/1	Kristen Demarinis
8/8	Paul Lings
8/15	Sue Daubner
8/22	Tara Torkelson
8/29	Robert Loss



## Altar Flowers

The 2021 Flower chart is on the bulletin board in the hallway to the fellowship hall. The Cost is \$25.00 per arrangement. Fill in your name, if it is in memory or honor of someone and if you want one or two arrangements. You can take the flowers home after the Service. Please sign up to donate Altar Flowers.



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# Adopt a Bench Youth Fundraiser



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