

# The Parish Door

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church PO Box 27, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210 (920) 854-2988

Shepherdofthebay.org

**A Stephen Ministry Congregation** 

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This year, we will be observing All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 3rd. It's a time for us to remember and honor those church members who have passed away in the last year, since Nov. 2023.

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 30th.

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

## **Navigating the Caregiver Journey**

A caregiver conference and resource fair called "Navigating the Caregiver Journey" is being sponsored by the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) on Thursday, November 14th, 2024 from 8am-2pm at the center 916 N. 14th Ave., Sturgeon Bay. If you are a caregiver or are interested in this topic this opportunity is for you. There is **No Cost** but you **MUST** register by **October 31st, 2024.** Breakfast and Lunch are included. Information and registration form are in the Narthex. Questions? Call the center at (920)-746-2372. We will be taking the church bus. If you would like to ride the bus please call Dick Burress at (920) 421-0600 to reserve a space. They have some good speakers and I think it will be very informative.

It is not too late for you to let the senior care research team know how the church can best help you. Please fill out the survey, available in the Narthex and put it in the box. Your opinion is important to us.

God Bless, Pat Skogsbakken

#### Colin & Friends Concert at SOTB

Join us at Shepherd of the Bay for a concert for Indigenous Peoples' Day on Monday, October 14 at 2:00 pm presented on piano and organ by Colin Welford and guests. It will be an enriching, eye-opening, entertaining, and valuable cultural experience for all. Invite your friends!

## Coming up in October!

10/2	Wonderful	Wednesdays and	Confirmation Begin

10/3 Sanctuary Choir Practice begins

10/6 Bible Sunday: Students in 3rd & 4th grades and Confirmation receive bibles.

Fellowship Potluck & Greg Beem Retirement Celebration

10/13 First Communion Sunday

10/20 Celebration Sunday for Stewardship

## **Daylight Savings Time Ends**

We want you to come to church on November 3rd but not an hour early. Remember to set your clocks back an hour, Daylight Savings Time ends.



When I was a child, we usually spent a few weeks every summer with my dad's parents in Kansas. Grandpa was a pastor, and so life in their home included prayers at every meal, a scripture reading at the breakfast table, and a longer devotion at the dinner table. Grandpa's go-to meal prayer was a verse from Psalm 104. "The eyes of all wait on Thee, O Lord, and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest Thine hand and satisfiest the desire of every living thing." Of course, Grandpa only read and recited the bible in the King James Version And because I heard it so often when I start quoting Psalm 104, it's the King James Version that comes out of my mouth. My fond memories of the Psalm, however, can't begin to express the profound depth of this great psalm of praise.

Psalm 104 is a hymn of praise to God as creator. It's remarkably comprehensive in its survey of earth and space, flora and fauna, topography and geology. The psalm's list of these diverse aspects of creation extols God's greatness, with particular attention to God's control of and power over that creation. Like any good poet, the psalmist provides no dry recitation of species' names but rather paints a picture of the landscape using vibrant imagery and powerful metaphors.

The psalmist addresses God boldly, telling God what God has done, even though God needs no such information. The boldness must be born of wonder. The delight with which the psalmist surveys God's creation allows the psalmist to glimpse, however imperfectly, God's own joy at what God has called "good." The psalmist sings out of joy, in hopes that the song will be pleasing to God.



Psalm 104 also provides the inspiration for this fall's giving campaign. Organized around Psalm 104's celebration of all God's creatures, including humanity, we'll give some thought to what "being human" is really all about, and how it involves living into – and living up to – the *imago Dei*, the image of God: creative, generous, and joyful. That's what "stewardship" really means, and over the course of the weeks of our campaign, you will be invited to consider how generosity and joy are at the heart of who we are. At any age and stage of life, when we give and care and love, we

become the people God made us to be!

So, plan to engage fully with us in this delightful invitation to consider and plan for our own generosity.

I also want to take this chance to say a heartfelt word of thanks to Greg Beem as he retires from his position as Principal Organist at Shepherd of the Bay. No one who has heard him doubts Greg's Exceptional skill and musicianship at the organ bench. For the past 9 years, our congregation and the larger community have benefited from his excellence. My gratitude, however, goes far beyond that. I have witnessed in Greg a deep faith, outstanding churchmanship, and genuine servant spirit. Greg's ego never got in the way of his serving as a member of a team to guide our worship life. As a colleague, I have trusted Greg and enjoyed a rich collaboration where our mutual planning with Greg, Judy, and me has been a genuine partnership. The three of us working together have been more than the sum of our parts, and Greg has been a critical member of that team. Thank you, Greg.

I hope you'll be able to join us on October 6 after morning worship. We're using the occasion of our regular monthly potluck brunch to celebrate Greg and Cindy, to give thanks for their service and friendship, and to wish them Godspeed as they open a new chapter in their lives.

By the time you all get this newsletter, my follow-up immunotherapy treatment will be about two-thirds completed. So far, the treatment is going well and I have been able, for the most part, to continue with daily life and keep up with routine responsibilities. Thank you for your words of kindness and support and for your prayers.

#### THOUGHTS FROM THE MUSIC



#### CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

## THE FALLING LEAVES DRIFT BY THE WINDOW THE AUTUMN LEAVES OF RED AND GOLD ...



There are so many signs of change in this season of reds and golds, some of which we embrace and others we bemoan. CHANGE IS SO HARD!!! And yet ...

If there were no change, there would be no vibrant colors in the trees, no sweaters and scarves to wear, no crisp apples to enjoy, no hot chocolate to savor in front of a warming fire. The summer heat and humidity would continue to bake our earth and exhaust our days. We have chosen to live in a place when the changing seasons are a welcome aspect of our days. No whining, people! CHANGE IS NECESSARY!!!

One of the changes that go in effect in October each year is the resumption of regular weekly choir rehearsals after a summer of "Choir-lite" worship experiences. Instead of rehearsing only on Sunday mornings before the worship begins (a minor miracle in itself!!!), the Sanctuary Choir now meets in the sanctuary choir loft on Thursday afternoons from 4:00 until 5:30, during which time we explore and rehearse upcoming choir anthems for future worship services. This affords us the opportunity to put some fine touches on our music, serving to enhance our music-making efforts and allowing us some breathing room for our corporate work together. Besides ... we like each other and enjoy each other's company!

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! We have some "party favors" for you at our musical gatherings: your own music folder, filled with your own music, a sharpened pencil, a place to sit with friends and share some laughter and some good work and, yes ... A BRAND NEW CHOIR ROBE!!! All God's children gotta robe!!! (We'll be wearing our new robes soon ... and very soon!!!)

So what does all this talk about the Sanctuary Choir have to do with CHANGE? Let me count the ways! Your schedule will change to accommodate the ever-fun and rewarding Thursday afternoon rehearsals. Your seat in the sanctuary will change from the assembly to the choir loft. Your purpose in the worship service will change to more of a leadership role. You will inherit a whole bunch of wonderful new friends, who share a common goal with you, as you gather together to lift your voices in song. You will encounter JOY JOY JOY JOY down in your hearts!!!



#### CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD

Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953



Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.







This is my invitation to you. Come. Sing with us. Join your voice with ours. Be part of something bigger and better than any of us could achieve on our own. There is no audition, just your willingness to sing! You won't be sorry that you said "yes" to this opportunity! WE ARE A WONDERFUL, WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF SINGERS! You will find a welcome home with us.

You can call or text me (920) 421-1371 or email me at: jajackson46@outlook.com for more information ... or speak with one of the fine singers in our merry, joy-filled group for more information. And remember: EVERYBODY, EVERYBODY, EVERYBODY IS WELCOME HERE!

Blessings to you all on this beautiful Autumn day, Judith Jackson, Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist

## **Thriving Congregations**

Vicki Amundson

The Thriving Congregation team picked "Senior Care" as one of the topics for a Research Action Team to explore. Pat Skogsbakken agreed to be the Team Leader and she recruited five team members. They are Dick Burress, Carolyn Hitzeman, Ruth Ann Hjelle, Nancy Megan, and Sue Provo. Their first research actions are to do a survey to get information from the congregation, to visit with people who may not have received the survey at church on the 2 Sundays they were distributed, and to collect information from organizations that serve seniors in our communities.

A representative from the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) attended the Senior Care August meeting to share information with the whole team, including telling us about a Caregiver Conference and Resource Fair being held in November. The team will continue to do research and meet monthly, with the goal of developing 2-4 recommendations for specific programs/activities by the end of 2024.



## Fellowship Pot Luck Brunch

Join us for a fellowship potluck brunch after the church service on **Sunday, October 6th** in the fellowship hall. We will also be celebrating our organist, Greg Beem's retirement. Bring a friend or a neighbor as everybody, everybody, everybody is welcome.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you can register on our website, on the Event Registration page under the events tab. Click here to sign up! You do not need to sign up on both. See you there!

## **Technology Class**

After many requests, it is finally going to happen! Carol Omernick is going to teach a technology class. We will meet from 3:00-4:00pm on Thursday, Oct. 10th in the Fellowship Hall. The first class will focus on downloading the Church directory app on your smartphone. We will also talk about apps in general. What they are and how to use them. They are not just for playing games.

What should you bring to class: 1) Your smartphone and 2) **ALL** of your passwords. This includes your email account, Google Play Store, apple app store, (just bring them all).

We will also discuss what you would like to learn in future classes. Contact Carol in the office if you have suggestions.

## Men's Faith & Fellowship

All men are invited to join us for the Men's Faith and Fellowship Group. We've heard that people want to feel more connected, so we're excited to be meeting in the church parlor on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 in the evening.

Whether you're a regular attendee or a seasonal resident, all men are welcome. There's no pressure to commit to every meeting, so feel free to drop by whenever you can. Join us on Tuesday, October 22nd for some great conversation and spiritual growth. And, of course, dessert.

Looking forward to seeing you there! Joe Megan

### **Outing to Concert in Green Bay**

Join us for an amazing concert in Green Bay in which our very own Dan & Char Bogda will be performing with the symphony, and Erik Torkelson in the Dudley Birder Chorale

The Civic Symphony of Green Bay and the Dudley Birder Chorale of St. Norbert College join forces to celebrate two big milestones: the orchestra's 30<sup>th</sup>, and the chorale's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. The ensembles also welcome students from Green Bay Preble High School choirs, the St. Norbert Youth Choirs, and the Appleton Boys Choir.

Sign up today, for a ride to the concert on the Shepherd of the Bay van! Come and enjoy this wonderful concert taking place Saturday, October 26th at 2:00 p.m. entitled "Milestones". The cost is \$29.00 for Adults, \$24.00 for Seniors, and \$19.00 for students. The church van holds 14 passengers, so it is first come, first serve. The van will depart from the church parking lot at noon. Be sure to eat before departure. Snacks and beverages will be available on the van for the return home.

Questions? Contact Lynda at 720-227-4079 or <a href="mailto:sotb.lynda@gmail.com">sotb.lynda@gmail.com</a>. Sign up in the church Narthex today!



# Are you ready to talk? Stephen Ministers are ready to listen.

Is there something in your life that you'd like to discuss with someone in confidence? It doesn't matter when it happened - whether it was last week, last month, last year, or even several years ago. When you're ready to share, we're here to listen and offer support.

If you, or someone you know, would like more information on Stephen Ministry contact Carol Omernick or George Cobb at <a href="mailto:sotboffice@yahoo.com">sotboffice@yahoo.com</a> or 920-854-2988.

## Klaud's Food Pantry

We would appreciate donations of:
Canned meat and fish
Coffee, tea, and juice
Dairy - Milk, cheese, yogurt
Boxed cereal and oatmeal
Canned peas, green beans, carrots and tomatoes

Soup, stews and chowders
Snack bars
Frozen Foods - Vegetables, pizza,
chicken/fish strips, French fries
Fresh Vegetables and fruit
Toiletries and cleaning products
Bar soap

Rice and pasta sides

Deepest thanks to all the produce given this summer, especially from the SOTB gardeners!

# Women ELCA

### **WELCA Book Selections**

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

#### October 17

Grisham, John. **Rooster Bar.** 2017. A tale of three young law students who have been duped into attending a for-profit law school, definitely third tier, and scheme to escape their debt and expose the bank. National Book

Award winner.

#### November 21

McBride, James. **Heaven and Earth Grocery Store.** 2023.

Novel about a community of immigrant Jews and African-Americans who lived in a dilapidated neighborhood in Pottstown, Pennsylvania and the bonds they established to survive. National Book Award winner.

No Meeting in December

### **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:

Ensure

## 1. Send an email to Cheri Boock at <a href="mailto:cheriboock@gmail.com">cheriboock@gmail.com</a>

- 2. State the request with wording that you want for the request. Make sure you have received permission from he 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.

## **Photo Gallery**

Here are a few photos of various activities happening at Shepherd of the Bay and with our members.

Photos from our Monday Bible Study hikes this summer. We have been practicing listening. Listening to ourselves, to others, and to God. Nature is the perfect place to listen.









One of the Social Six/Seven groups played a game of croquet for their get-together.







Habitat for Humanity Home Build on Ava Hope Trail in Sister Bay
By the time you read this, all the exterior walls will be up. We will then move on to framing the interior
walls and tying all the walls together with the top plates. Next it be ready for roof trusses. If you would like to
help with this build, contact Tom Tuttle.









## **Youth and Family Ministry News**

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

October is a big month for our faith formation! We kick off all our programs in full swing from Sunday School to Little Lambs, Wonderful Wednesdays, Confirmation, and High School Youth group! Join us anytime to share your faith walk with our youth!

#### Sunday Celebration/Sunday School

Come to Worship at 9:30 a.m. Following the Children's message, Sunday School will take place in the lower level classroom. Parents please pick up/sign out your children after worship. Enjoy visiting with your church family in the fellowship hall after. Please have a registration form on file (see Lynda). Sunday School is a one-room schoolhouse for children ages 4 thru 6th grade.

Sun, Oct. 6th Adam and Eve - Genesis 2:4-25

Sun, Oct. 13th Pancakes and Praise will meet on the second Sunday this month! Today is a special Children's Message for our students receiving their First Communion!

Sunday, Oct. 20th James and John - Mark 10:35-45 Sunday, Oct. 27th Bartimaeus Sees - Mark 10:46-52

#### Little Lambs

Infants, Toddlers, PreK, and their care providers! All are Welcome!

Little Lambs will gather every THURSDAY from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in our church nursery and then head upstairs for a Bible story, music, games, a sensory experience, and art to take home! To register, please contact Lynda at 720-227-4079 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com.

October 3rd- God Made Me!

October 10th- Jesus Loves Me!

October 17th God's Creation and the Fall Colors!

October 24th- God Gives us Parent, My Family!

October 31st- Little Lambs Harvest/Costume Party!

#### First Communion Class

Wednesday, October 9th, the Shepherd of the Bay van will pick students up at Gibraltar for a special class to learn about the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion, in preparation for First Communion Sunday, October 13th. For grades 4-6th who feel that they are ready to understand and receive the Sacrament. Please contact Lynda for details.

#### Wonderful Wednesdays

Welcoming Kindergarten through grade 5 to Wonderful Wednesdays! The SOTB van will be available for pick up at Gibraltar, after school, the first and third Wednesday of every month. Parent pick up/sign out is at 5:30 p.m. Music, Stories, Games, Snacks, and Service. An after school faith formation experience! To register, please contact Lynda at 720-227-4079, or sotb.lynda@gmail.com.

Wed., October 2nd and 16th, Bouncing Feet!

Also, on October 9th, for those in 4th grade on up, whose families feel they are ready, a special First Communion class will be held after school, with van pick up from school, ending at 5:30 p.m.

#### Confirmation

Confirmation is a critical time of faith formation, where we plant foundational roots that help us to flourish along our journey. Class will meet the **first three Wednesdays of the month**. The SOTB van will be at Gibraltar, after school beginning Wednesday, October 2nd. Pick up time is at 5:30 p.m. See Lynda for a complete schedule, and service sign up.

Oct. 2 - Adam and Eve (Brief parent meeting at pick up time!)

Oct 9 - The Sacraments - assisting with first communion class!

Oct. 16 - Noah

#### High School Youth Group "Created to Be" 9-12th grade!

Our High School student will meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 6-7:30 p.m. for a time of exploring what it means to be brave, authentic, disruptive, free, disciples! We will hold our monthly cooking school, plan outings, participate in service, and worship together! Please register with Lynda.

October 9th Roaring campfire supper/chase the sunset, and regroup! 6:00 p.m.

October 23rd Be Brave! Cooking School! 6:00 p.m.

## **Partners in Ministry**

Are you seeking meaningful ways to contribute at Shepherd of the Bay or in our community? Discover the diverse opportunities to volunteer and engage in programs that resonate with your passions, abilities and needs.

## FAMILY GAME NIGHT! October 26, 2024 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

The Town of Liberty Grove would love you to come to our family game night at the Liberty Grove Town Hall, 11161 Old Stage Rd, Sister Bay. There will be games for all ages, some new and some oldies but goodies. Board games, card games, puzzles and some dice games. You are also welcome to bring in your own. Popcorn will be provided, please bring your own beverage. (no alcohol please)

Sorry, we will not have the ability to have hook-ups for electronic games.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN FORUM October 29, 2024 at 7:00pm

There will be an open forum to discuss possible solutions for the affordable housing situation that we are having in Door County at the Liberty Grove Town Hall, 11161 Old Stage Rd, Sister Bay. We will have information from the County on what can be done in different zoning districts. We can talk about possible solutions for existing homes as well as existing homes sitting on larger parcels.

This will be an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and ideas on creating attainable housing, both ownership and rentals, in our area that we all know is desperately needed. Let's all sit down and share ideas that just may lead to solutions.



#### Faith Formation Team

As we revitalize and reformat our team, we are looking for people who are passionate about the faith formation of our children and youth here at Shepherd of the Bay! We need you on our team! Lynda and the team, need people! Do any of these resonate with you?

- Prayer warriors
- Communication (personal and media!)
- Intergenerational connections
- Service and Outreach
- •Camp ministry
- Volunteer recruiting and training

Please see the information table in the Narthex, and sign up to attend our first quarterly Supper meeting, Sunday evening October 27, here at SOTB, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For those in need, a children's table and activities will be available.

Please contact Lynda at 720-227-4079, or sotb.lynda@gmail.com for more information.

## Shepherd of the Bay Cut Up Club

Begins, Monday, October 28th!

Cut Up Club will meet the 4th Monday of every month at 10:15 a.m. for a time of breakfast, fellowship, and devotion. Cut Up club is an opportunity to pray for our kids, as well as assist in the preparation of items for the monthly programs and Sunday School. Come help us "Cut Up" items, pack faith formation kits, gather supplies, etc. Contact Lynda at 720-227-4079, or sotb.lynda@gmail.com if you would like to join in!

#### **Blood Drive Volunteers**

Blood Drive volunteers are part of our work to help save millions of lives each year. Blood donor ambassadors welcome donors to blood drives and provide friendly support before and after they donate. This can include helping donors to register, answering their questions, and assisting them at the refreshments table.

For more information contact Lee at <a href="mailto:lee.borofka@redcross.org">lee.borofka@redcross.org</a>, scan the QR code to the right, or by visiting <a href="mailto:redcross.org/volunteer">redcross.org/volunteer</a>



# Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes September 16, 2024

**Present**: Vicki Amundson, Jane Burress, Pastor Jim Honig, Adam Johnson, Julia Keepper, Trish Pierson, Lynda Pietruszka, Micky Swanson **Absent**: Cheryl Becht, Scott Henry, Tara Torkelson

No Guests

Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Grace Rossman @7:00pm

Opening Devotion: Adam Johnson

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 16, 2024

Approval of Agenda

Addition of item to Outreach Report requested by Jane Burress

#### **Treasurer's Report - Grace Rossman**

"Our report shows that we're roughly at budget for income and for expenses. There are some line items that will probably be expensed against some of the restricted funds we hold for those purposes. I will consult with the finance committee and the staff to clarify this before the end of the year. This month, Judy Jackson gave the congregation a bequest from her husband Carl in the amount of \$25,000. The note that came with the check reads "To the Shepherd of the Bay Church Community- A final bequest from a grateful man who believed in the goodness and promises of this church. With Love, Judy". I spoke with her and she approved my sharing of these details. Also, we received a \$3,000 donation in September 1st from an anonymous source given for Klaud's Pantry."

Summary submitted by Grace Rossman

#### **Committee Reports**

Pastor's Report - Jim Honig

Youth and Family Ministry - Lynda Petruszka

Lynda has been cleaning up from summer activities and pivoting to school year programs.

Outreach - Jane Burress

#### Thriving Congregations Team – Vicki Amundson

The Senior Care Team has been finishing up with surveys and interviews, visited the ADRC, and held a group meeting. The Community Action initiative has stalled pending assignment of a leader.

#### **Organist Search Team** – Grace Rossman

Grace stated that the committee is vetting candidates.

**Building and Grounds**- No report

#### **Old Business**

1. Council Duties and Assignments; Follow Up.

Pastor Jim reviewed Council committee assignments as decided at last meeting. Each assignee will be responsible for a summary of activity at a Council meeting.

Nominating and Auditing Committees will be formed soon.

2. Fall Giving Campaign Update

Pastor Jim reported that the committee has finalized plans for the Fall Giving campaign. Celebration Sunday will be October 20<sup>th</sup>.

- 3. Retirement Celebration for Greg at October 6 potluck
- 4. Staffing of A/V desk

The search continues for AV desk operators. Pastor Jim stressed the need for a larger pool of operators.

#### **New Business**

- 1. Request from Jane Burress to use facilities for her business approved.
- 2. Supplemental pay for Musician Staff Council agreed on a plan to provide music leadership for the last quarter of the year on Sunday mornings.
- 3. Bequest from Carl Jackson Estate approved.

#### Lord's Prayer

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm

Next Council Meeting - October 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M

Respectfully submitted by Micky Swanson

#### **Lessons for October**

#### **October 6: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

First Lesson: Genesis 2:18-24

Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

**Introduction:** Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the

kingdom of God as a child does?

#### October 13: Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Second Lesson: Hebrews 4:12-16 Holy Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

**Introduction:** The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

#### October 20: Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 53:4-12 Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:1-10 Holy Gospel: Mark 10:34-45

**Introduction:** Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

#### October 27: Reformation Sunday

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-9 Second Lesson: Hebrews 7:23-28 Holy Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

**Introduction to the readings:** Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as "Son of David" he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

#### Readers:

Oct. 6 Judi Nelson
Oct. 13 Sandy Reisenauer
Oct. 20 Dick Burress
Oct. 27 Nancy Barnowsky

### **Communion Helpers**

For October Joel & Gidget Schauske

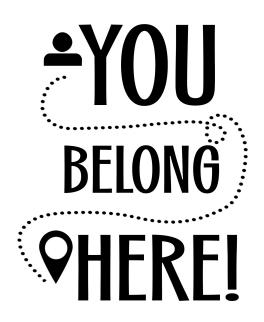
#### **Ushers:**

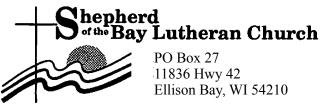
Oct. 6	OPEN
Oct. 13	OPEN
Oct. 20	OPEN
Oct. 27	OPEN

#### Altar Guild:

October - Ronnie Robinson







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