

The Parish Door

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
11836 Hwy 42, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church
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Evan Henry Awarded Eagle Scout Rank

You are cordially invited to Evan Henry's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. To earn Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank in Scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill the requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. But he cannot do this alone.

It takes a village to raise a child, and SOTB has been very supportive as Evan's "village". We would like to thank everyone who graciously gave of their time and provided guidance to Evan on this journey. Please join us at his ceremony on Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 2:00pm at Shepherd of the Bay Church. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

Scott & Cathy Henry



Voices in Praise, Hands in Service

— Stewardship Appeal 2020 —

What a gift the Voices in Praise, Hands in Service has been. The stories of your generosity, faithfulness, and joy have touched my heart. On Appeal Sunday, we had a group of 10 women who were here in Door County as a reunion of high school best friends. They were so taken by the spirit of joy and celebration that they took up an offering which totaled over \$500 and gave it to support our new health and wellness ministry initiative. Each day, more of you are returning your statement of intention, and we have now surpassed the 100 mark towards our goal of 150. Our weekly increase is now at about \$1300, about two-thirds of the way towards our goal. We'll provide you with regular updates, so watch your weekly e-newsletter. The first week in October, we will begin phoning those who haven't yet returned their statements with an encouragement to join those of you who have participated and shared with us your own generosity. The church is at its best when everyone does their part.

GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP MARCH 25 - APRIL 2, 2020

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."

For as long as I can remember, I have loved being in the outdoors. We'd go on multiple short camping trips when I was a kid, often to the Rockies, and as soon as the tent was set up, I'd be off exploring the trails around the campground and especially the ones that led down to the fast-moving mountain streams. We had a recreation area outside town that had been gravel pits, and were now a series of lakes. I loved riding my bike out there and seeing the changes in the landscape from week to week, month to month. For several years as my sons were growing up, we'd take a father/son backpacking trip each summer, times not only to be in the outdoors, but to nurture relationships and forge lifetime memories.

In some ways, it only makes sense that Sheryl and I would end up making a place like Door County our home. We are much more comfortable in a place where the sounds you hear are the wind rushing through the treetops than the whoosh of the cars rushing along the rush hour freeways. As a pastor, I've come to a growing realization that my love of the outdoors is matter deeply connected to my faith. As I experience the beauty, majesty, and mind-boggling complexity and interconnectedness of creation, I experience the presence of God, and am drawn to look beyond what I see to the God who has created it all.

In the early 1980's, Patriarch Bartholomew, leader of the worldwide Eastern Orthodox Church began to articulate the connection between our Christian faith and the stewardship of creation. He was drawing on a long tradition in the Christian Church, particularly the early Church in the Greek tradition, of experiencing God in creation, and also caring for creation as the good work of God that it is. Bartholomew saw especially the way the human family had abused degraded so much of creation as if it belonged to us to do with what we want. He called the church back to a central notion that became lost during the Enlightenment and the subsequent centuries of the Industrial Revolution and the Modern era, namely that the human family is deeply connected to the rest of creation and we are called to be stewards of that creation. In the deep connectedness of creation, our lives are dependent upon the rest of the created order, and in turn, we are called on to care for it with an eye towards the Creator who put us here in this reciprocal relationship in the first place. Bartholomew encouraged Orthodox Churches to adopt the first Sunday in September as Creation Sunday. He issued an annual pastoral letter encouraging the Orthodox communion and all Christianity to care for the environment. He called an annual symposium to which he would invite clergy, theologians, scientists, non-profit leaders, and governmental policy makers to gather for conversation about how best to answer our call to be stewards of creation.

In the 1990's, the Lutheran Church of Australia began encouraging congregations to adopt a short Season of Creation sometime during the long green Season of Pentecost. It became an opportunity for congregations to reflect more intentionally on this particular call. Since that time, momentum has grown within the Lutheran tradition, and ELCA congregations are now encouraged to observe this season of special attention to God the Creator, Christ as the One who has reconciled all things to God — including the created order, and the Holy Spirit who, as Genesis reminds us, blows through all of creation, bringing the breath of life.

Perhaps the most well-known pronouncement on the stewardship of creation was the papal encyclical, *Laudato Si* issued by Pope Francis in 2015. It speaks very pointedly about our call to be good stewards of creation. It's available on-line, and if you haven't read it, I'd encourage you to do so.

Why a Season of Creation?

- Because God is first and foremost the Creator of all things, including the marvel of life itself.
- Because we humans were created along with the rest of creation in a relationship of marvelous interdependence.
- Because God has given us a good creation to celebrate and to praise and thank God for.
- Because, through worship, we have a chance to both celebrate creation and to acknowledge and come to terms with the present ecological challenges in a spiritual way.
- Because a fresh focus on the wonders and wounds of creation will help us in positive ways to live and so to care for creation as our personal vocation and as a congregational ministry.
- Because the season allows us to celebrate all the ways Christ is connected to creation.
- Because it brings us to a deeper understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit in relationship with creation.

Here at Shepherd of the Bay, our Season of Creation will be four Sundays, beginning on September 29 and wrapping up on October 20. I hope you will prayerfully, joyfully, and fully enter into this celebration with us.

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka



Sunday School

In October we will be learning all about Baptism and Communion! All children ages 3 through 6th grade, please meet for Sunday School with your families in worship at 9:30. We'll head upstairs for Sunday School after receiving Communion. Parents please meet your children upstairs at 11:30 and remember to sign them out on the attendance roster. If you haven't registered your child for Sunday School, it is never too late! See you Sunday!!

Confirmation

Our confirmation students (7th and 8th graders) will meet at the home of Cindi and Jeremy Schwab for their first gathering, Wednesday October 2nd. Jeremy will be picking confirmation students up with the SOTB bus after school. Be on the look out! Our church bus will take students to SOTB the remaining Wednesdays. A big shout out and thank you to Jeremy and Cindi on another fantastic year in ministry! Congratulations to our 7th graders on receiving their Bibles September 29th!

High School Youth

By October 1st, all youth and their families should have received a small packet of information in the mail. This is to let you know how to register for the upcoming Synod Youth Gathering in Manitowoc, November 8-10th!! Also included, you'll find our annual youth events calendar. If you did not receive a packet in the mail, please contact me as soon as possible! We had a great time getting to know each other at the September 18th Tacos and Talk! See you October 2nd and the 16th for Dinner and Devotion, 6:15 at SOTB and on Sunday after church on the 27th for a fun activity!

Wonderful Wednesdays

Beginning October 2nd, children in 1st through 6th grade! Catch the school bus to SOTB on the first and third Wednesdays and join us for an amazing adventure, "Friendship Around the World"! We'll enjoy a snack, some time for sharing, Bible time, stories that help us be the best that we can be, games, arts and crafts, mission to our community, and more! Please call the church to register your child so that we have an accurate count for the school bus! Pick up time is at 5:30 at SOTB.

Little Lambs Story Hour

Our precious Little Lambs Story Hour begins Wednesday, Oct. 2nd from 10:00-11:00 a.m. here at SOTB, meeting each Wednesday morning through May 6th. Parents and care providers and their little ones (infants, toddlers, preschoolers) will gather for a Bible story, stories that help us grow, arts and crafts, music, and play! Please contact Lynda so that we can prepare for your arrival!

"NOURISH"

The name of our new Family Ministry Program!!

A time to slow down and just enjoy each other as a family, and connect with other families at Shepherd of the Bay...

What will "NOURISH" look like?

I have some ideas, and I would like yours as well!

Please join me in Fellowship Hall, Sunday, October 6th at 11:45 for a Chili/Mac n' Cheese lunch, followed by a sharing of thoughts, ideas, and resources. We'll have a quiet activity for our kiddos while we chat! Please rsvp to Lynda (church phone 920-854-2988) or lyndapie@yahoo.com if you would like to join us! Short and sweet, we will wrap up around 1:00 ish!

Can you Help with the Fall Fest Walking Taco Booth fundraiser for Guatemala on Oct. 18, 19, 20 in Sister Bay? Call John Zacek at (920) 421-3345 for more info.

Theology on Tap

Join us at Mink River Basin on Wednesday, October 16, at 7:00 for the October installment of Theology on Tap. This month, we're going to play the Shepherd of the Bay version of "Stump the Chump." Anyone remember the old NPR Saturday morning radio show, "Car Talk." Tom and Ray Magliozzi hosted a hilarious show in which callers would describe problems they were having with their cars and car repairs. A regular feature of the hour-long show was when Tom and Ray would weigh in on a particularly gnarly repair challenge. They called it "Stump the Chumps."

For our SOTB version of "Stump the Chump," you're invited to bring your questions about the church, theology, our faith, our congregation, the ELCA — anything that's on your mind. I'll give you a chance to write your questions down, and then as we have time, I'll put the questions out of a hat and see what I can do! I think it might be fun, and even more fun with an adult beverage on the table! See you on the 16th.

Help us fill our box for the Senior High Youth Gathering mission project!

Our Senior High students will be heading to Manitowoc the weekend of November 8-10th to attend the SYG "Come As You Are" event! This year, our mission project will help the "Incorporate Center" in Manitowoc. Please help our cause, by donating any of the following items to the box in Fellowship Hall, beginning Sunday, October 6th. Thank you!!

The Green Bay Conference: Health and Beauty items

Toilet paper, deodorant, shaving cream, hair ties, brushes, combs, hair spray, body wash, shampoo, cream rinse, bar soap.

Did you know? Our church Nursery is open every Sunday during our Worship time for children ages 3 and under.

Disaster Relief

Shepherd of the Bay's World Marketplace joins with the ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response to bring hope to those whose lives have been recently disrupted by disasters in the U.S. and around the world. Lutheran Disaster Response was established to help in situations as they occur. Currently, a primary focus is to help with hurricane relief for the people in the Bahamas. Information on the Fellowship Hall display highlights other areas of response.



Because giving to the Lutheran Disaster Response insures that 100% of your donation goes directly to the people affected, World Marketplace want to encourage your participation. To that end, **now thru the month of October**, Shepherd of the Bay World Marketplace **will match your gift with a gift of equal value from the Marketplace** located down the hall from the pastor's office.

For example, with a \$100.00 donation to the Lutheran Disaster Response, you are able to choose \$100.00 of gift items from our World Marketplace featuring items from Artists around the world. Many of these artists have been affected by recent disasters.

Please check out the materials in the fellowship Hall after the Sunday Service to see the methods of giving to Lutheran Disaster Response and then meet with Cindy Schaulis in the World Marketplace room to select your items. To schedule an appointment for another day, call the church office, 920-854-2988.

Thank You!

Thank You!

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Thank You!

Thank You!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Roger Kuhns' new solo show explores climate change

Geologist Roger Kuhns will bring his new solo show, "The Continuing Adventures of Carbon Man," to Door County Oct. 19 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County, 10341 Water St. (Highway 42), Ephraim. The program begins at 7:30 pm.

The show explores the personal paths we can take to address climate change. The monologue delves into the perspective from an oil supertanker captain, a father reflecting on conversations with his daughter about hamburgers and our carbon footprint, what the janitor in Congress hears as he listens in on side conversations, experiences on Capitol Hill with a carbon pricing bill and in Puerto Rico as it heals from Hurricane Maria, a discussion with a climate denier, and more. Original music accompanies the narrative. The show emphasizes all that's being done and all that each of us can do.

Kuhns has a Ph.D. in economic geology from the University of Minnesota. He is a writer, filmmaker, performer and founder of SustainAudit, a sustainable practices application company based in Mystic, Connecticut.

Cost is \$15 per person, with reception following. The show is hosted by the Unitarian Universalists' Environmental Justice Action Team and supported by the Climate Change Coalition of Door County.

FALL FILM FEST **A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE** *finger foods, films and friendship amongst* **THREE CONGREGATIONS FOCUSING ON FAIRNESS**

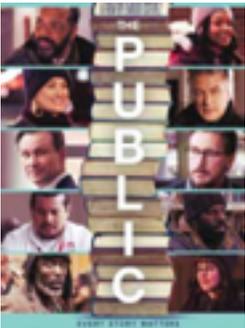
Please join us as we watch and then discuss the following films. We will begin each evening with food and fellowship. After the film we will share dessert and discussion. All are welcome! Invite your friends!

5:00 share finger food and friendship

5:30-7:30 view film

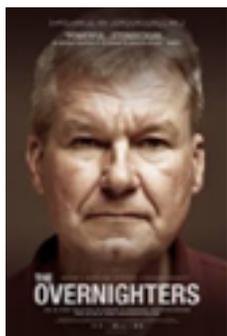
7:30-8:30 share dessert and discussion

October 13 Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship of Door County, Ephraim ***The Public***



A bitter Arctic blast has made its way to downtown Cincinnati and the front doors of the public library. The patrons, many of whom are homeless, mentally ill and marginalized, as well as an exhausted and overwhelmed staff of librarians who have emotional connections and a sense of obligation to care for these regular patrons. are at odds with library officials over how to handle the extreme weather event. The Patrons turn the building into a homeless shelter for the night by staging an "Occupy" sit in. What begins as an act of civil disobedience becomes a stand off with police and a rush-to-judgment media constantly speculating about what's really happening. Starring Emilio Estevez and Jeffrey Wright.

November 17 Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church



The Overnighters

Pastor Jay Reinke sparks a controversy in his North Dakota town by opening his church doors to homeless workers who are seeking jobs in nearby oil fields. A modern-day Grapes of Wrath, it tells an unforgettable story about the promise of redemption and the limits of compassion. "The themes of re-invention and self-invention in American life have long interested me and inspired my film work," says filmmaker Jesse Moss of his award-winning documentary.

The Knitting/Crochet group finished up for the year on September 19. They created 206 items including 115 hats, 22 sweaters, 55 scarves and 14 pairs of mittens! Many of our knitters continue at home so if you have unused yarn they can use it. You can drop it off at the office or on the bookcase at the far end of the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all who participated. There will be many children who are warmer this winter due to your love and dedication.

The Quilting group will begin October 17 in the Fellowship Hall (9:15-2:15). New members are always welcome. Call Barb Tuttle with questions 920-883-7011.

I hope everyone got to see the 150 quilts displayed in church on September 29. The quilts and school kits will now be sent around the world through Lutheran World Relief.



The WELCA Board will meet on October 8 @ 1:00pm in the parlor.

If you would like to know more about what WELCA does, you are welcome to join us.

OCT. EVENTS

Oct. 8 - **Board Meeting**
- 1:00pm Parlor

Oct. 17, 24, 31 **Quilting Group**
- 9:15-11:15 - Parlor

Oct. 17 - **Book Group**
- 9:30am Call Gretchen Farwell (920) 854-6203 for more information and location.

Oct. 27 - **Harvest Table Ends**

BOOK GROUP SELECTIONS

October 17 – Kristin Hannah’s *The Great Alone*, 2018. Novel of Erndt Allbright, a former POW from Vietnam, who moves his family to the Alaskan frontier because he is having trouble adjusting to life; his wife and daughter find their new conditions fraught with danger.

Mark your calendars now for the WELCA Women’s Retreat, Wednesday November 13, 9:00am-3:00pm. We again will meet at Bjorklund. This year’s leader will be Pastor Carol Hackbardt. She will lead us on a journey that will take us on a path toward greater communion with our own soul, nature and one another by reflecting on translations of the Lord’s Prayer spoken in Jesus native language of Aramaic. I’m sure we will be blessed by this program. I hope to see you there.

PRAYER SQUARES are FREE and available in the Narthex. Take one for yourself and for friends to remind you to pray when you touch it in your purse or pocket.

PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request that you would like added to the prayer chain, email Bonnie Hanson at jnbhanson@gmail.com or the church office at sotboffice@yahoo.com. When email is not possible, call **Bonnie H. at 854-5569 or (763)567-9559; or Cheri Boock at 854-5493.**

Don’t forget to use the **CHANGE BUCKET**- you can make a change in someone’s life by putting a donation in the CHANGE BUCKET on Sunday during the Fellowship Hour. Your donation goes to purchase gift cards for the Piggly Wiggly that are given to help those in need to purchase needs not covered by SNAP cards.

Social 6 has ended for the summer. Check this space next spring when new groups start.

MEAL MINISTRY
contact for
October is
Pat Skogsbakken
(920-854-1133).



If you know of a family or individual who could use our attention for providing a meal when in need or would like your name added to the list of women willing to prepare and deliver meals, please call: PAT SKOGSBAKKEN at 854-1133.

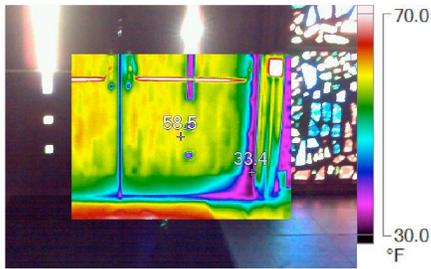
Building and Grounds Committee

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Eloise Lindem, Karl Omernick, Joel Thomas, Scott Thies or me. If none of us are around, drop a note in the message holder on the custodian's closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms). Thanks for using the message holder and helping to identify things that need to be done.

Projects

• **Roof and Siding** – The B&Gs Committee has met with a representative from the Boldt Company who will be the General Contractor for the replacement of the roof and siding. They presented 3 different siding materials; seamless steel, LP Smartside siding (engineered wood) and a thick PVC Composite siding. Boldt crews would install either the engineered wood or PVC Composite siding. They would only supervise the installation of the seamless steel. Updated siding quotes with various options for siding material, amount of insulation and a new treatment for the walls of the portico that would be less prone to car door dents are being received. Before making a final decision regarding the amount of insulation, a thermal imaging study of the entire building will be done as soon as we have colder weather. A 20-degree difference between inside and outside temperatures is required before that study can begin.

North exterior door at stained glass Narthex area



IR000222.IS2

Significant cold transfer found around door perimeter but especially at lower outside jamb where the temp reached a low of 33.4°F. Suggest adding weather stripping around entire perimeter of door.

The sample picture to the left is an infrared photo showing the temperature differences around a stained-glass window in another church. The green, blue and violet colors indicate the temperatures of the air coming inside the building. In this case the violet color indicates 33F air coming in around the bottom left hand corner of the window. The results of this test will help us evaluate whether adding insulation (how much and where) to the outside walls will payback in a reasonable amount of time. The depth of the insulation added will also determine whether the window and door trim will need to be built-out and how the interface of the roof and siding is handled. After discovering another roof leak Sunday, September 22 I am hopeful that we will still be able to get the work done late this year.

Building Maintenance

- **Lighting** – The outside ground lights and parking lot lights have been turned on for Thursday night choir practices. The Steeple and road sign light times will remain the same from dusk until midnight.
- **Kitchen Dishwasher** – The leak was found to be around the drain valve handle shaft that goes through the water tank wall. The shaft and its flange were removed and 2 new O-rings were installed. No leak since that was done in early September.
- **Carpet Cleaned** – The carpet in the center of the Fellowship Hall, front entrance and a couple of spots in the narthex have been cleaned to remove stains.
- **Women's narthex Restroom** – A new liquid hand soap dispenser has been installed in the women's restroom. I had received some complaints about the use of foam and that dispenser was not working properly.
- **Holding Tank Cover** – The original cover on the holding tank was disintegrating and needed to be replaced before falling into the tank. A new cover was installed with Glen Rossman's help and his engine hoist.

Thank you, Jon Hanson for serving on the Committee for the last 2 years. Jon retired from the Committee at the end of August. Please contact me or any of the other members, if you would like to serve on the Committee.

GARDEN CLUB

A wonderful team of Garden Club volunteers beautifully maintained the extensive church grounds over the past growing season! Their efforts add up to a 30 – 40 hour per week contribution! Join us in thanking these church members for their dedication and good work:

Dave Boock, Mark Glasser, Jim Marsho, Jim McDowell, Cal Pierson, Don Provo, Glen Rossman, Tom Tuttle, Tim West, Bill Mirgain, Pete Clikeman, Rob and Becky Lonergan

In addition, we are grateful to Dennis Voigt and Glen Rossman for servicing our lawn tractor and mowers, and to Glen for also providing an abundance of mulch for the planting beds.

Scott Thies Linda Davis Dwight Davis



WHERE HAVE ALL OUR SINGERS GONE?

(sung to the tune of : Where Have All the Flowers Gone?)

*Where have all our singers gone?
From the Choir Lite season.
Where have all our basses gone?
They've left for home.*

Florida : Vero Beach, Naples, Port St. Joe, Jacksonville & Crystal Beach
Missouri : Kirkwood
Illinois : Normal, Hinsdale, Chicago, Batavia, Willowbrook, Huntley & Kankakee

*When will they e'er return?
When will they e'er return?*



*Where have all our tenors gone?
From the Choir Lite season.
Where have all our altos gone?
They've left for home.*

Texas : Dallas
Tennessee : Johnson City, East Tenn State
Wisconsin : Madison, UWMadison, Plymouth, Janesville & Neenah
New York : New York City

*When will they e'er return?
When will they e'er return?*



*Where have all our sopranos gone?
From the Choir Lite season.
Where have all our dear friends gone?
They've left for home.*

Alabama : Montgomery
S. Carolina : Summerville
Arizona : Scottsdale & Tucson

*We'll look for their return!
We'll look for their return!*



In the meantime, there are great seats waiting for the rest of you in the choir loft!

Please come and claim your chairs for the Fall, Winter and Spring Sanctuary Choir! Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings, from 7:00 until 8:00 in the choir loft. Sunday mornings we meet in the choir rehearsal room (down the hall) at 8:45 until the time of worship.

Come, all you who love to sing! You will be welcome here!!!

Judith Jackson, Principal Pianist and Sanctuary Choir Director



Thanks to everyone who supported the Shepherd of the Bay Concert Series this summer! Stay tuned for the 2020 concert series announcements in early spring!

ELDERHOOD - Book Review

Watch your weekly email for opportunities to discuss the book, *Elderhood*. (Check with the office to see if any of our copies are available) I think it's a significant book for all of us who live in an area with an aging population. It also informs and challenges us as a congregation to a ministry that takes into account the unique joys and challenges of growing old. I'm looking forward to conversation with you. Here's a review I wrote for *The Christian Century* magazine.

Louise Aronson, M. D. *Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Reimagining Life*. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2019.

On a Friday evening in June, driving home from a week at church camp, I tuned into a random radio program where the interviewee grabbed my attention with compelling stories of her geriatric practice and her care for old people. She both critiqued how we care for old people, and offered a hopeful vision for what needs to change. At the conclusion of the interview, I pulled off the road and wrote down the name of the author and her book. The physician was Dr. Louise Aronson, and the book was *Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Reimagining Life*. Reading this book as a guide for reflection on how we grow old and how we care for the aging has been for me like a still picture in grayscale develop color and spring to life. It has fundamentally changed the way I understand that last third of life that we call growing old.

As life expectancies extend, generally speaking we're spending more time in that part of life we call old age. What used to be a few years can now easily be thirty, fully a third of our lifespan. While we treat childhood, not as a single span of time, but as a complex multiplicity of developmental stages, as a society, as a medical care community, and I would add as a church, we tend to treat old age monolithically as if it's one uniform span of time. As a leader in the church, I have attended to the pastoral care needs of individual persons, but haven't thought very carefully about the different needs of the specific stages of old age. This book has pushed me.

Aronson dives deep into a reflection on old age. As a practicing geriatrician, it's not surprising that she critiques the way the medical community treats (or doesn't treat) old people. At the heart of her assessment is that middle age adulthood is seen as the norm for what a healthy human looks like. Fair enough. Something has to be the baseline. Yet, when our bodies begin to age and we change physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially, the changes are seen as pathological rather than as part of normal development. What often makes things worse is that medicine tends to treat the maladies of old age the same way it treats a healthy 40 year old, even though administering the same treatments in old age often have much different outcomes, are more dangerous, and routinely lead to a decline in health rather than an improvement. As I think back to my accompaniment of scores of people interacting with the medical community in their old age, other than the effects of chemotherapy, it simply never occurred to me that a treatment that is routine in middle age could be harmful in old age. In addition, the medical community tends to neglect the social setting of the aging person, a factor that becomes more and more important as we age, and a factor for which there is great potential for meaningful, purposeful congregational ministry.

Aronson doesn't confine her critique to the medical community, even though much of the book is about just that. She draws on philosophy, sociology, history, and personal experience to give a comprehensive picture of how our society regards old age. The richness of her experience makes the book read almost like a memoir, offering vulnerable glimpses of her own mistakes and learnings and of the complexities and oft-time failings of the medical system. Yet she also offers both hope and guidance for how we as a society and as individual persons can reimagine this significant span of life. We can do better.

As a pastor, I have been thinking about the content of this book a lot. We lament that the church is aging, and we wonder what that means for the future viability of the church. Youth remains a dominant metaphor for American culture, and for the church as well. We collectively look to family programming, energetic youth ministry, and comprehensive children's ministries as the salvation of congregations. Yet for many of us, that's not our reality. We look out on our congregations on Sunday morning to a sea of gray hair. By and large, I serve an aging congregation in an aging denomination. Honestly, I have not seen the aging congregants as the focus of my ministry, even though they are the people I spend most of my time with. What if I (and we) spent as much time and effort thinking creatively about how we might use the gifts of our elders and how to serve with and to the aging population of our communities? After all, as Dr. Aronson points out, the aging years are not just a time of maladies and diminishing capacities. They are also a time of joy, meaning, and fulfillment.

I found this book provocative in the best sense of the word. It has stayed with me and pulled me back into multiple readings. It is prompting a creative reassessment of my own rapidly approaching elderhood, and my ministry to and with the elders of my community and my congregation. There's not much more I could ask of a book.

Shepherd of the Bay Council Meeting September 16, 2019

Scott Eckdahl called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Present: Pastor Honig, Les Keepper, George Cobb, John Skogsbakken, Cheryl Becht, Edee Madsen, Lori Pothast, Ron Hupe, Scott Eckdahl & Alicia Kropuenske. Absent: Scott Henry

Edee Madsen opened our meeting with a devotion on Gifts & Giving.

The council had a quick discussion on the Chapter 8 reading of Save/Sign. We started some discussion as to what our code is for Shepherd of the Bay. We discussed being present to those in need in our community.

The minutes from the August 19th meeting were reviewed with a motion made by George Cobb, second by Ron Hupe to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Ron Hupe presented the treasurer's report. Income was up YTD from our budgeted amount and expenses were down YTD. The regular offering for the month of August was -\$651.00 from the budgeted amount, but the offering is \$18,544 higher than August 2018. There were no significant variances in expenses. John Skogsbakken made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given, second by Pastor Honig. Motion carried.

Pastor Honig's report included the following:

- an update on the Appeal Sunday and reminded us all that we are striving to get to the \$2000/week increase in giving along with 150 pledges.
- 20 plus participants in God's Work, Our Hands. Thank you to everyone who helped out.
- Pastor had a discussion with Pr. Delaney Schlake-Kruse from St. Paul's in Milwaukee. We would like to explore getting together in late winter/early spring for a swap weekend.

Pastor gave us information about the South African Companion Synod Congregation. Through the ELCA, we are assigned a companion synod from one of our partner churches around the world. Our partner church is Ga-Rankwa East Lutheran Church. We are encouraged to form relationships with a congregation that has been assigned to us. Last summer, a contingent from our synod went to South Africa to visit partner churches. In the summer of 2020, members of the South African congregations will be invited to visit East Central Wisconsin. The council discussed agreeing to this relationship to invite 6 people to stay with hosts from our congregation from June 17, 2020 to June 30, 2020. A motion was made by Les Keepper to approve the visitation of a contingency from our partner church in South Africa for the upcoming year 2020, second by Alicia Kropuenske. Motion carried.

We had an informal update on the capital repairs. They are looking at possibly replacing the roof this fall along with the siding. The construction company will be performing a thermal image to make sure the insulation is still good. The outcome of the imaging will determine the time line for proceeding on siding replacement.

We adjourned the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be Monday, October 21st at 5:00pm.

Sincerely,
Alicia Kropuenske, Council Secretary

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers are Christian men and women trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation separation due to military deployment. Stephen Ministers come alongside a hurting person and meet with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support. For more info on how Stephen Ministry can help you or a loved one, call Stan Whiteman (920)868-2997 or Pastor Jim Honig (920)854-2988.

Jesus said to His followers: "Remember, God is your Father, and you are very valuable in His sight." Matthew 6:26



Lessons for October



October 6 : Second Sunday in Creation : Land

First Lesson: Genesis 3:14-19, 4:8-16
 Psalm: Psalm 139:13-16
 Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-17
 Holy Gospel: John 3:1-16

October 13 : Third Sunday in Creation: Wilderness

First Lesson: Joel 1:8-10, 17-20
 Psalm: Psalm 18:6-19
 Second Lesson: Romans 8:18-27
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:13 — 4:2

October 20 : Fourth Sunday in Creation: River

First Lesson: Genesis 8:20-22, 9:12-17
 Psalm: Psalm 104:27-33
 Second Lesson: Revelation 22:1-5
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

October 27 : Reformation Sunday

First Lesson: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
 Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
 Holy Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Introduction to the readings: Genuine repentance and pretentious piety stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us. All creation stands in need of God's forgiveness. Keep the faith. God's people—"all who have longed for his appearing"—shall be accounted righteous for Jesus' sake. Our God is merciful to sinners. For all this the assembly glorifies God forever.

October Coffee Hour Group

Co-chair: *Need Co-Chairs*

George & Sharon Cobb	839-2651
David & Cheri Boock	854-5493
Jon & Bonnie Hanson	854-5569
Charles & Judi Hass	854-2843
Ruth Ann Hjelle	920-559-9670
Ron & Donna Hupe	854-6601
Adam & Liza Johnson	421-0164
Peter & Kristine Kordon	839-2564
Bill & Sheila Lundquist	(810) 845-5065
Bill & Barb Meyer	388-9010
Robert & Gail Onan.	(612) 655-8524
Ronnie Robinson	421-0950
Julie Schell	
Ken & Luanne Western	854-7347
Karen Wilkinson	839-2012



Altar Guild :

October - Ronnie Robinson
 November - Carol Williams

Readers :

Oct. 6	Rob Lonergan
Oct. 13	Carolyn Hitzeman
Oct 20	Jan Stromen
Oct. 27	Ken Bergner

Ushers :

Oct. 6	Gary Dooly	Nov. 3	OPEN
Oct. 13	OPEN	Nov. 10	OPEN
Oct. 20	OPEN	Nov. 17	OPEN
Oct. 27	OPEN	Nov. 24	OPEN

Food Pantry Collection for October Breakfast Items

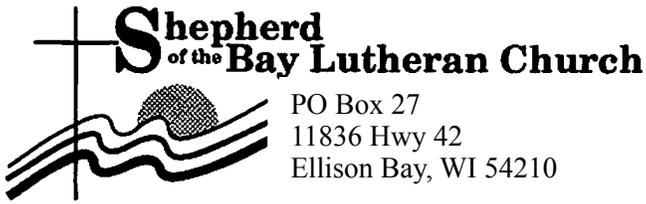
This month we are asking for items Breakfast Foods. Let's start people off with a good meal in the morning. For ex. Healthy Cereal, Pancake Mix. Syrup, Oatmeal or other Hot Cereal, Canned Fruit, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Juice.

We always welcome food donations of every kind no matter what the theme is for the month. We also take cash donations for Piggly Wiggly Cards to buy fresh fruit, meat, milk, etc.

The pantry is located in the north entrance to the church. Everyone is encouraged to tell their friends and neighbors about the pantry. It is open to all and the doors are open everyday from 6am to 9pm. No questions asked. Please take what you need.

Pray for families who struggle to make ends meet.





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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Can you Help with the Fall Fest Walking Taco Booth fundraiser for Guatemala on Oct. 18, 19, 20 in Sister Bay? Call John Zacek at (920) 421-3345 for more info.

Guatemala Mission Trip

March 25 - April 2, 2020

Please consider joining us in sharing the gospel, building homes, installing water filters, setting up energy efficient cook stoves and establishing relationships with the Guatemalan widows and children we work with during the week.

No special skills are necessary, just a willing heart. Ages 10-80 are welcome to join us for a "life changing" event.



For more info or to sign up contact John & Nora Zacek at (920) 421-3345 or (920) 421-3346 or Carol Omernick at the Shepherd of the Bay church office (920)854-2988.

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.