

The Parish Door

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

October 2020

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

11836 Hwy 42, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210

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What's INSIDE

pg. 2 & 3- Pastor's Post

pg. 3 & 4- From the Music
Corner

pg 5 & 6 - Youth & Family

pg. 7 - Klaud's Pantry
Stephen Ministry

pg. 8 - Building and Grounds

pg. 9 - Puzzle Page

pg. 10 - Lessons for October
WELCA Prayer Chain
Amazon Smile Donations

pg. 11 - Calendar

Back Cover - Online and
Drive-in Service Times

All Saints' Day

*This year, All Saints' Day
will be Sunday, November 1st.
We will again remembering
those church members who
have died since last November
2019.*

*If you would like to
remember friends or family
members by having their name read in the service,
please call the church office at 920-854-2988 and leave
a message or by email at sotboffice@yahoo.com by*



All Saints' Day



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOV. 1
DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR.

Faith Community Nurse

Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church is searching for a part-time, 10 hours per week, Faith Community Nurse (FCN). The FCN is responsible for supporting the church ministry and helping individuals understand and implement best practices that connect faith and health. The FCN will have his/her pulse on the health and wellness needs of congregation members and, where needed, provided assistance in navigating the healthcare system. Areas of responsibility include: integrator of faith and health, health educator, health counselor, referral advisor, and health advocate.

Position requirements include: current license as an RN, full-time resident of Door County, technology proficient in phone/email communications and job-specific software, and the ability to build rapport and relationships. A more complete position description can be found on the church website, www.shepherdofthebay.org. To apply, send a cover letter which includes the particular abilities an applicant would bring to the position, and a resume. Applications maybe emailed to Pr. Jim Honig at sotbpastor@gmail.com.

On the day that I sat down to write this newsletter article, it just so happened that it was the day the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America chose to remember and commemorate one of the first African-American pastors in the Lutheran tradition. He was a revolutionary figure in the life of Lutheranism, Jehu Jones, Pastor, Reformer, and Trailblazer.

Pastor Jones was born in 1786 in South Carolina. His father was the proprietor of a hotel, and had purchased the freedom of a number of slaves. They attended St. John's Church in Charleston, where Jones owned a pew.

Jehu felt a call to ministry and desired to be a missionary in Liberia, but knew that the Lutheran church in the South would not ordain him. In this way he mirrored many contemporary call stories of people on the margins of society who feel a call to serve, but know that the larger church rarely accepts that call as legitimate.

Jones traveled north to New York City bearing a letter from the pastor of St. John's testifying to his character and acumen. He was ordained the first official African American Lutheran pastor into the Ministerium of New York on October 24th, 1832, and headed back to South Carolina to prepare for ministry across the seas. On that trip, he was jailed under the Negro Seaman's Act. This barbarous act prohibited free black persons from re-entering South Carolina and directed that they be put on the auction block.

He was freed on the condition that he'd never set foot in South Carolina again. It is unknown if the church took any formal steps to protect him, but it is unlikely.

He left his whole family behind and returned to New York City, and then landed in Philadelphia with his wife and nine children where he organized St. Paul's Church.

When the Ministerium of Pennsylvania came on hard times, they took the title of the building away from St. Jehu, and refused to offer him payment. St. Jehu turned to the Ministerium of New York, his ordaining body, for financial help, and they refused him, too. Though the Ministerium of Pennsylvania promised him support, in the 32 years that he served as a pastor to the African-American population, he was never paid the salary that he was promised. Never. Despite his success as a pastor and evangelist, St. Jehu was met with roadblock after roadblock in his struggle to minister in the church. He died on this day in 1852.

Though there are incidents of advocacy and solidarity, and individuals throughout Lutheran history who have stood on the side of the oppressed, especially in the abolitionist movement (Henry Melchior Muhlenberg comes to mind), the church as a whole has historically had a difficult time speaking with one voice against systemic oppression, especially when reputation and finances were on the line.

Why tell this story now? St. Jehu Jones, Jr. is a reminder to the church, that it was not so long ago that American Lutheranism formally rejected the gifts of our black sisters and brothers, and indeed continues to wrestle with full-throated endorsements even today. Black and brown seminarians wait considerably longer for calls in the church, especially female people of color. Systems of oppression still operate in the cathedral halls of America, across all denominations. Anti-racist author, Ibram Kendi, reminds us, "The heartbeat of racism is denial; the heartbeat of anti-racism is confession. Though strides have been made and continue to be made, equity lags in the church across race, gender, and orientation lines. Jehu Jones, Jr. calls to us from the past and encourages us to continue the struggle.

On the last Sunday in September, against all expectations, we had our largest attendance yet at Drive-in Church. The parking lot was full, and attendance was 142 persons and 5 dogs. I'm grateful to all for how you have made this unusual way of gathering for worship such a joy-filled and vibrant way to gather as the body of Christ. We plan to continue the Drive-in Church as long as you all continue to come. When it looks like attendance is dropping off significantly (fewer than 15 cars in the parking lot) we will suspend and re-evaluate in the spring.

The Re-Opening Task Force and the Church Council have also made some decisions about the benchmark for moving services back into the church. The hope is that we can be back to in-person worship in November. We have decided to use the same formula that is being used by the Gibraltar school district as they make weekly decisions about in-person school versus virtual learning. The burden is based on the number of new cases in Door County over a 2-week period. The council has decided that a moderate burden rate must be reached two weeks before the planned in-person worship. A moderate burden is defined as a case rate greater than 10 and less than or equal to 50, between 2.8 and 14 new cases. As you are aware, I'm sure, Door County and the entire state of Wisconsin are experiencing an alarming spike in the number of cases. It will be very unlikely that we are able to return to in-person worship until that trend is reversed. We'll do our best to keep you informed about our plans. At any rate, you can expect that we will continue to offer our on-line service regardless of how plans develop for Drive-in Church and in-person worship.

I want also to take this chance to remind you of why we are proceeding with caution when it comes to resuming in-person worship. We do this out of love for our neighbor and our call to be a servant church. When our gathering together in person puts our neighbor at risk of serious illness or death, we choose to love that neighbor by refraining from those gatherings for a time. As time has gone on, we have learned much about the spread of the virus and about the Covid-19 illness. All of our decisions are a balance of relative risk and relative safety. Probably there will never be a time when it will be fully safe to gather again. But there will be time when we decide that the relative risk and relative safety allow us to gather while we continue our precautions. The benchmark that I described above is that threshold that we believe will be acceptable. Some suggest that we should be exercising our freedom to gather for worship. There is a difference between religious freedom and Christian freedom. Certainly in this country we have the freedom to be gathering for worship. In our Lutheran tradition, the more important freedom is Christian freedom, and Luther reminded us that the primary exercise of our Christian freedom is in loving and caring for our neighbor.

I'm grateful for all our partnership in the gospel during these strange and challenging times. God is good, and God is leading and guiding us, equipping us to be the body of Christ. And for each of you, I give thanks.

Pr. Jim Honig

FROM THE MUSIC



CORNER

Patty Mills, a singing member of The Yankee Maid Chorus, wrote an interesting article for the Fairfield/New Haven Counties edition of "Music Notes". The title of the article was *The Health Benefits of Singing*. I would like to draw attention to some of her observations, which I found rather interesting:

If you have ever wondered why choral singers look to be on a high, here are some of the reasons. **The health benefits of singing are well documented:**

- Singing improves your mood. It releases the same feel-good brain chemicals as sex and chocolate!
- It is very effective as a stress reliever and improves sleep
- Singing releases pain-relieving endorphins, helping you to forget that painful tooth/knee/whatever
- Your posture improves
- Lung capacity increases
- Singing clears sinuses and respiratory tubes
- Your mental alertness improves
- Singing tones your facial and stomach muscles
- It boosts your immune system, helping to fight disease and prolonging life expectancy
- Your confidence increases

And of course the social benefits are important too:

Singing widens your circle of friends (and some of us go on to the pub afterwards!) Give it a try and see what it can do for you!

Continued on page 4

Clearly some of these singing observations were written before this age of coronavirus visited our world. I'm not certain when or where we'll be going to the pub after singing together. We are currently reminded that singing in a group is not advisable these days, even though the activity could release some feel-good brain chemicals (you can fill in the blanks as to what constitutes "feel-good" to you!).

So what's the point in talking about the act of singing when our lives have been so dramatically curtailed for the past six months? We have so many "don'ts" on our "to-do" lists these days: rules about physical distancing, maintaining good hygiene habits, wearing masks when we venture outside our homes. Perhaps it's time to create a new list of "do's"!

DO sing in the shower, sing in the car, sing while gardening, sing on a walk, sing to your dog, cat or pet chicken, sing to your child, grandchild or spouse, SING! I can assure you that the act of singing will make you feel better about life today and more optimistic about facing the challenges of tomorrow.

Do you have a special song that speaks to you, that lifts your spirits, that sits in your ear like a worm and replays itself over and over in your head? Let it go! Sing it out! See how the act of singing elevates your mood, benefits your day and contributes joy to you and to those around you.

If you are looking for something to sing, try this enthusiastic song on for size:

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine
Words: Elisha Hoffman Music: Anthony J. Showalter

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

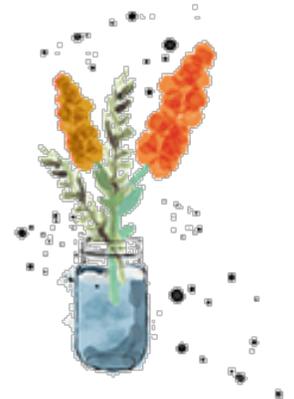
What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus, safe and secure from all alarms;

Lean - ing, lean - ing, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus, leaning on the everlasting arms.

This final chorus has extra singers in mind, singing in four-part harmony. I am still dreaming of the day when we will gather together again, join our voices in song and celebrate being in the company of our wonderful church family. Until that day, let the song in your heart be a good reminder of the goodness all around you and the promises that God faithfully keeps ... and continue to lean on the everlasting arms of our Savior. SING!!!

Judith Jackson
Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist
Drive-in Church Pianist (now THIS brings me JOY!!!)



Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka
920-854-2988 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com



Thank you to all our Youth who delivered "Back to School Blessing Bags" to over 40 families! If you did not receive a Blessing bag filled with the items you'll need to participate in our children, youth, and family programs through November, please contact Lynda Pietruszka at sotb.lynda@gmail.com. Faith Formation for October:

School Sunday

Please join us on Face Book Shepherd of the Bay Family and Friends at 11:00 a.m. Sundays! (Recorded, so you can participate any time!)

- 10-4 The Parable of the Vineyard Matthew 21:33-46
- 10-1 The Wedding Banquet Matthew 22:1-14
- 10-18 Paying Taxes Matthew 22:1-14
- 10-25 The Greatest Commandment Matthew 22:34-46

Little Lambs

Little Lambs will gather every Wednesday morning on Face Book Shepherd of the Bay Friends and Family at 10:00 a.m. except the first Wednesday of the month when we meet on a special zoom designed just for care providers and parents.

- October 7th Parent and Care Provider Zoom at 10:00 a.m.. If you would like to participate, be sure that Lynda has your email address to send you the link!
- October 14th Baby Moses
- October 21st The 10 Commandments for Littles
- October 28th A Harvest Festival

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesdays will take place every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. If Zoom doesn't work into your family's time, on the same day, or anytime after, you can watch a prerecorded version on Face Book Shepherd of the Bay, Family and Friends. This year, we are traveling through the 10 Commandments (Exodus 19-20) AND "The 13 most important Bible Lessons for Kids about Loving each other".

October 7th and 21st

Moses receives the Ten Commandments (Exodus 19-20), and "We love each other as God loves us". AND! We are bringing back "The Pumpkin Prayer"!!

Confirmation

Kick Off for Confirmation this year begins!!

- Wed., October 14th, All incoming 7th graders are invited to the SOTB outdoor Fire side for food, fun, and getting to know Confirmation. Time: 5:00-6:30
- Wed., October 21st, All incoming 8th graders are invited to the SOTB outdoor Fire side for food, fun, and fellowship! Time: 5:00-6:30

Always check your email for further information and Confirmation updates from Lynda or Jeremy and Cindi Schwab!

High School Youth Group

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday on Zoom at 4:00 p.m. (also recorded on the FB SOTB Youth page if you can't make the live sessions on Zoom), we will participate in a God/Jesus/Holy Spirit check in. Other dates will indicate small group gatherings ranging from service projects, to some fun outings for us!

"Six Feet Can Be Saaaaweeet!" had been postponed from Wed. September 30th to Wed., October 21st. Watch your email and U.S. mail for updates!

October 14th and 28th Just who is Jesus? Just who is God?

"Spooktacular" in the church van! Leaf Raking for our neighbors in need. Dates posted. Watch email and FB youth page for updates.



Congratulations to Makenize Koehler, recipient of the SOTB "It Only Takes A Spark" youth scholarship for designing and describing our outdoor worship space!



Faith Filled Friends around the Fire from this past month! (left)

A Big Shout Out and thank you to our youth group; Vanessa, Cooper, Harrison, and Abby, Jamie, Anna, Ellie, and Makenize for delivering over 40 back to school blessing bags to our families this past month in the SOTB van! We travelled all over the county preparing our children and youth for our fall programs! (below)



Klaud's Food Pantry has a new sign!

Have you seen the new sign outside the Food Pantry entrance? This will help direct people to the correct building entrance.

Thank you to all who have so generously contributed to the Pantry since it's beginning. The need is very great at this time, and Klaud would be so happy to know people are being fed in her memory.

Food, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, pet food, as well as monetary donations, continue to help keep the Pantry well-stocked.

As a safety precaution, if you are donating items, please place them inside the second set of double doors across from the fridge with the date of the drop-off marked. The donations need to be quarantined for 72 hours.

Again, many thanks for all you do to help those in need in our community. You are good and faithful servants!



STEPHEN MINISTRY ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PANDEMIC FATIGUE?

Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic?

Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- **ISOLATION AND LONELINESS**
- **ANXIETY OVER HEALTH**
- **GRIEF DUE TO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOSSES**
- **TENSION FROM JUGGLING WORK, CHILDCARE, AND SCHOOLING**
- **FINANCIAL STRAIN OR JOB LOSS**
- **UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE**
- **OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE CHALLENGES?**



If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support.

It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office (Pastor Jim or Carol), or Stan Whiteman 920-839-5481.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28



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 Theis 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). Thank you for using the message holder and helping to identify things that need to be done.

Projects

- **Interior LED Lights** – Installation work to install the new fixtures will begin the 1st week of October in the Fellowship Hall. Work will continue 1-day a week until all the fixtures are installed.
- **Exterior LED Lights** – Viking Electric has submitted their component costs to Action Electric who is preparing the component and installation quote.
- **Sanctuary Dimmers** – This project has been put on hold due to the financial uncertainty of the COVID19 outbreak and will be revisited later in the year.
- **Exterior Painting** – All the exterior doors, railings and columns around the main (and back) entrances, and the ceilings in the Portico and breezeway have been painted. The roof gutters over the Bell Tower walkway, the rear entrance and a couple of fire doors have been rehung after being taken down for the siding and roofing. This completes all the exterior work.
- **High-speed Internet** – Spectrum has completed their wiring over the highway and should be running the cable to the building soon. The installation is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- **Audio Visual System** – The Council approved a request to have Camera Corner add a connection to the system for the operator to plug in headphones. This work was done September 21st and used for the 1st time while recording the September 27th service. It allows the operator to balance the singer's microphones better.

Building Maintenance

- **Front Entrance Vestibule Window** – The left-hand window next to the bench which was broken earlier this year when the crew was installing the new siding has been replaced.
- **COVID19 Response** – The Council earlier this summer authorized the purchase of an electrostatic disinfectant sprayer to be used inside the church. The advantage of the electrostatic sprayer is that the spray is much finer and wraps around an object due to the electrical charge. Delivery is scheduled by October 1st.
- **Robotic Vacuum** - The Council also earlier this summer authorized the purchase of a robotic vacuum to be used around the church. Use of the robot will allow the custodian to do 2 things at the same time. While doing other cleaning, the robot can be vacuuming. The robot was initially received under a "trial basis" while it was evaluated. During this trial period, it was used for 2 weeks in all the rooms of the church. There was hope that it would work well in the sanctuary, but between the size of the room and the angled, offset pews it was clear that room was not going to be a practical application. The robot performed well in the Fellowship Hall, when it is clear of tables and chairs. It also performed well in the offices, conference room and hallways. The Sunday School rooms with all their tables, chairs, rugs and other obstacles are not practical. That said, the areas where the robot does work well, will allow the limited custodial time to be better used for other duties.
- **Zion Church Stained-Glass** – The inside of the circular window frame and the "light box" behind the window have been painted. The stained glass needs some special attention and repair. Gary Chandoir picked up the window on Wednesday, September 16th. There are areas (bands) around the lead joints where the glass seems to have a mat finish and where the center of the glass is polished. Gary indicated that this may be a result of not cleaning the soldier flux off the glass thoroughly when it was initially constructed. The flux residue reacts with the sun and glass over time etching the surface. It does not affect the appearance or color of the glass. He also noticed 4 pieces of glass that were cracked. Knowing how the glass is fitted into the Portico window the cracks will not affect the structural integrity of the piece. Gary is repairing and cleaning the window so it should be back home atop the west end of the Portico soon.

Poison Ivy Alert – The walking path along the southeast corner of the property is not being mowed due to the poison ivy. That corner of the property from Humbug Road west along the property line up to the parking lot is loaded with poison ivy. The Garden Club has been spraying to eradicate the problem all summer and will continue into this Fall.

Please contact me or any of the other members, if you have questions or would like to serve on the Committee.

Thomas Tuttle - Chair Buildings and Grounds

Puzzle Page

Answers on page 10. No peeking!

Puzzle!

Using the code, fill in the blanks to discover what we should do each day.

CODE

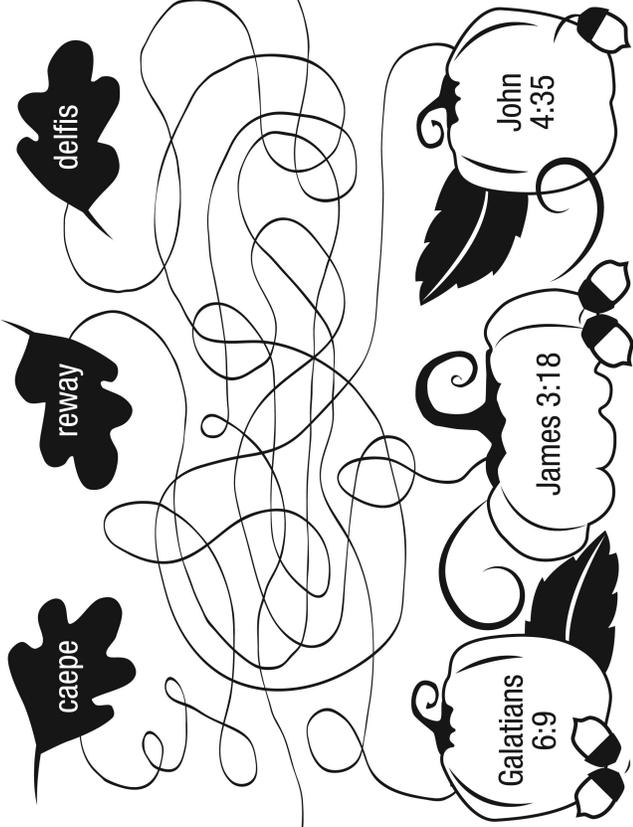
A 1	F 2	K 3	0 4	U 5
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T
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 1 3 1 3 2 4 4 1 3
 2 4 4 2 4 1
 " 1 1 4 4 2 3 3 1 3 1
 3 3 4 5 4 2 1 4
 2 1 3 2 4 1

Puzzle!

Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.



Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____! They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Lessons for October

October 4 : Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Introduction to the readings: In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

October 11: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:1-9

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Introduction to the readings: In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

October 18 : Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 45:1-7

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

Introduction to the readings: In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

October 25 : Reformation Sunday

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Lesson: Romans 3:19-28

Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36

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

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 wildflowerway50@charter.net
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.



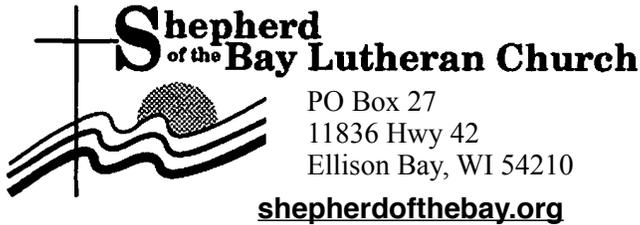
Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that Amazon has a donation program? Enter through Amazon Smile and choose Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, Ellison Bay, WI as your charity, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to us. Easy with no additional cost to you! Just make sure to go to smile.amazon.com each time you shop through Amazon!

If you prefer using the Amazon App, update to the newest version and you can shop Amazon Smile through the app without having to go on the website.

Answer: peace, weary, fields

Answer: Talk to God and listen for God. "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Drive-in Church will continue.

Knowing that outdoor worship is safer than indoor, in person worship, we are continuing outdoor, drive-in worship service.

It will be a brief service with prayers, readings, and a sermon. We have also recently added hymns and communion to the service. The service will be broadcast to your FM radio at the 89.1 frequency. **We ask that you follow the guidelines listed on our website.**

Also Join us for:

[Shepherd of the Bay Church FaceBook Page Live](#)

- Join Pastor Jim for a time of prayer and worship.
- Tuesdays and Thursday at Noon for Prayer
 - Wednesdays at 7:00 PM for a Night Prayer

ShepherdoftheBay.org

- Sundays for Traditional Worship Service
(The bulletin & Service video will be posted on shepherdofthebay.org Sunday morning.)

Zoom Meetings

- Sundays at 11:00am - Sunday Conversation
- Tuesdays at 9:00am - Pastor's Bible Study

Links to the above online events along with other updates and news will be sent out weekly in Pastor Jim's ***News and Notes emails*** on Saturday. If you are not getting these emails and would like to receive them, send Jim an email at sotbpastor@gmail.com.

Check church calendar for specific dates and/or changes.

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.