

# ***THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD***

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## **~.CONNECTIONS.~**

**May 2026**



**Sunday Service at 9:30am**

From the Pastor

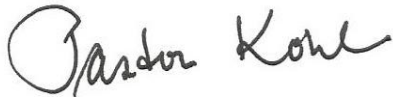
Dear friends and members of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd,

Someone once told me that the reason so many pastors take Mondays off is due to the buildup of adrenalin that comes on a Sunday morning. As our bodies purge adrenalin, we are impacted with tiredness and sleepiness. Leading worship, or leading anything for that matter, takes focus and attention and concern about details. You probably know what I mean when I write these words. Life has a way of becoming exhausting, especially in the current situation of our country, economic hardship, war over seas, bickering and blaming in our political situation. We need to find a place of peace and hope; we need to find a place of rest. I hope you find some of these our worship.

But because a congregation is made up of individuals, what is meaningful for one person might be confusing to another. Our tradition as Lutheran Christians, has tried to blend both familiar and new into our worship. That is why the basic shape of our worship is the traditional western form for Christian worship: *Gathering* of the community in which confession and forgiveness “levels the playing field” (we are all in the same situation: lives broken by sin and at the same time loved by God). We then focus on the *Word* of God in Scripture. (We use the lectionary; Bible readings shared by various communities of Christians.) This focus on the Word includes a preacher proclaiming the Bible readings historically and how they apply to our lives today. In the *Meal* which Jesus gives to the church all this becomes very personal. The body of Christ and the blood of Christ are given **for you**. Lutheran Christians believe that Jesus’ body and blood come to us with the bread and wine, not because pastors can make this happen, but because Jesus promised us that he would be in these elements of the meal. And then in the *Sending* we leave to share the gifts of worship with our families, friends, and communities.

These four elements of worship (Gathering, Word, Meal, Sending) are ancient. We keep them to remind ourselves that we are a part of an ancient stream of God's presence in the world. On Sundays we do what Jesus' people have been doing for centuries. There is hope and blessing in knowing we are part of something greater than ourselves, something we have not earned but by the grace, kindness, of God we receive and become for the life of the world.

In hope,



## Outreach

**Jonnycake Market** Bring donations to: Jonnycake Center for Hope

22 Kersy Rd. Peacedale, RI 02879

### Donation Food List

**Stock the Market** If you would like to help us settle into our new home, please stop by and drop off a desired food item for the Jonnycake Market. Donation bins will be on our porch, making it easy to pull up and drop off. There are a number of healthy items that we would especially like to have on our shelves. Please feel free to share this list with your family, neighbors, and friends and visit [www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/](http://www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/) for more information. **Keep the food coming!** Healthy nonperishable foods, whole grain pasta, organic beans, peanut butter, and some holiday staples are especially welcome.

### List of top healthy donation items wanted for the Jonnycake Market

- Canned fruit in 100% juice
- Natural peanut butter (regular & unsalted)
- Whole grain crackers & pastas
  - "Whole wheat" or other "whole grain" listed as 1st ingredient
- Whole grain cereal
  - "Whole wheat", "whole grain oats" or other "whole grain" listed as 1st ingredient
  - No more than 6 grams sugar per 1 ounce OR 8 grams sugar per 1 cup serving
- Low sugar jelly (strawberry)
  - Labeled as "low sugar" OR fruit is first ingredient
- Granola Bars
- Black beans
- Kidney beans
- Baked beans
- "Low sodium" canned vegetables and other canned items
- Pasta sauce in a jar

### BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS April 26. and May 3.

Bread for the World advocates for legislation to fund programs fighting hunger and malnutrition both domestically and globally. Our letters ask our senators and representatives in Congress to vote for these programs. Letters will be provided for you to sign while having your coffee after the service. It will only take a few minutes of your time. Advocacy works! Please remember to bring a donation to our Jonnycake basket to help our local neighbors as well.

## ***Announcements***

### **MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Bill Gorry**

Bill was born and raised on Long Island, moved to Rhode Island almost 30 years ago, and lives in North Providence. He is semi-retired. He worked as a teacher, route sales driver, district sales manager, Captain of Brookside Engine # 2, Colonel of the Kentish Guards and presently works for a roofing company as a sales manager. He has a master's in history with a minor in Education from C.W. Post College.

Bill lives with his wife, Jazmine, and his parrots Picasso, Kiwi and Ollie. Bill loves reading and writing. He likes antiquing and bible study. He's a lifelong N.Y. Yankee fan because his mom was Mickey Mantle's nurse at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Bill is a lifelong Lutheran, baptized and confirmed at Lutheran Epiphany (LCS) in Hempstead, New York. His confirmation classmate was Anton Armstrong (St. Olaf's Choir fame!) Bill was first married at Trinity Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod), The golden doors of the Trinity Lutheran Church are a replica produced from molds of Lorenzo Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise. The doors are made entirely of bronze. Each door is about 16 feet high, 4 inches thick and 5 feet wide and weighs about 2,550 pounds, a great deal of weight to move! Bill served there as an usher and had his three children baptized there. When he first moved to Rhode Island many years ago, he

joined Emanuel Lutheran in West Warwick. His children were confirmed there, he served as a Liturgical and visiting Deacon, Church Council President and member of the men's group. He later joined Pilgrim Lutheran in Warwick where Pastor Kohl officiated at Bill and Jazmine's wedding. Now he joins us at Good Shepherd. Bill says, "This is most certainly true." WELCOME BILL!



#### **Daniel and Wendy Leonhardt**

Wendy was born and raised in New York, Daniel was born in the Philippines and raised in Oklahoma. Wendy and Daniel met while living in Bremerton Washington and now live in Wakefield, RI. Wendy is an Engineer working with autonomous underwater vehicles at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Newport division. Daniel is medically retired from the US Navy. Wendy has been working in the field of Ocean Engineering for the past 7 years, starting with the NUWC in Keyport Washington in 2019 and transferring to the Newport location in November of 2025. Daniel served 11.5 years as a nuclear electronics technician in the US Navy, and has since had jobs as an RV technician and marine electrician in addition to doing lots of handyman work around the house. Wendy and Daniel both love playing violin and singing, they actually met in their orchestra in Washington. Wendy also plays viola and a little bit of keyboard, and Daniel plays guitar and a little dobro. Wendy also loves swimming both in the pool and the open water. Both Wendy and Daniel also



enjoy kayaking, hiking, camping and exploring the outdoors. They have two dogs, Sasha (Lab/Sharpei mix) and Chewie (chiweenie).

The Leonhardts discovered Good Shepherd when searching online for Lutheran and other Christian churches in the North and South Kingstown area. Wendy was raised attending a mix of Catholic and Lutheran churches but was confirmed in the Lutheran church as a teenager. She attended Silverdale Lutheran Church in Washington where she and Daniel were married and both became members in 2022. Daniel began attending Church of Christ as a teenager in Oklahoma and was baptized at the age of 18. He served as a worship (song) leader for the Central Kitsap Church of Christ in Washington while living there but also began attending Silverdale Lutheran Church after marrying Wendy. WE ARE HAPPY WENDY AND DANIEL FOUND US!

### **Jeff and Brenda Enos**

Jeff and Brenda live in North Kingstown. They have two adult children who were baptized by Pastor Kohl at Pilgrim Lutheran. They have one grandchild who lives too far away! Jeff is retired. Brenda works as a court reporter with retirement not yet on the horizon. They both enjoy kayaking. Like true Rhode Islanders they like taking their dog for walks on the beach. They each volunteer in different capacities. Jeff enjoys doing a plethora of odds and ends to help people in need. Brenda volunteers at an animal shelter. The Enos had driven by Good Shepherd many times over the years, but were members at First Lutheran in East Greenwich. Recently, Pastor Kohl officiated at a memorial service for a family member of theirs. After chatting with PK and learning about LCGS, they decided to visit us. They feel welcome here. WE'RE SO GLAD YOU DO

## **Raise Right Information**

### **Have you wondered...**

How can I help feed and clothe my neighbors from my armchair?

How can I provide a toy for a child from my couch?

How can I help buy health supplies for someone?

One answer might be to simply participate in our Raise Right program at Good Shepherd. A percentage of the price of each gift card purchased is donated to the church by hundreds of participating merchants. Just buy, for example, a card from a participating grocery store. Use the card to purchase your own groceries and that business will send LCGS an amount equal to the percentage listed. Good Shepherd

will then make donations from our earnings to local charities. **NEW:** Select cards will be available for purchase most Sundays after worship. In person sales at this time are by check or with cash. However, in the comfort of your home, you can choose from hundreds of brands and you can even use your credit card. (As with numerous local businesses, when using your credit card, you are responsible for the credit card company's small convenience fee.)

To check out all the brands that participate, take a minute and go to [Raiserright.com](https://raiserright.com). There you can find an extensive list of participating businesses. You can easily set up an account using the church's enrollment code: 558D3D3734155.

The need in our community is great. Please give this a try. It is a simple way we can help others

**Flowers for Pentecost-** Geraniums will be sold for \$7. each. Envelopes and order forms are in the Narthex.

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Dave Nunez	9
Bobbi Teller	10
Luca DiBiasio	13
Matthew Stokes	16
Jeff Crary	19
Dan Shea	23
Barbara Smith	26

***Happy birthday to all! May God bless you with a happy, healthy year!***

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD** phone-789-7776, email- lcgsmail2@gmail.com

**Pastor-** The Reverend Dennis Kohl

**Minister of Music-**Heather Skidds

**Office Administrator-** Karen Amitrano

***Please contact the church office for any pastoral needs or emergencies***

**2026 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:**

Eric Taylor 783-3969

Norman Hendricksen (508) 735-5651

David Nunez 234 3283

Deb Crary 932-8543

David Lindstrom 626-8083

Jeff Crary 932-8542

Annie Senerchia 207-2033

Arlene Phillips (616) 813-1277

**\*COUNCIL OFFICERS: President-**Deb Crary, **Vice President-**Arlene Phillips, **Secretary –** David Lindstrom**Treasurer-**Eric Taylor

## Ongoing Prayers for:

*For additions or deletions please e-mail or call the church office. 789-7776, or [lcgsmail2@gmail.com](mailto:lcgsmail2@gmail.com)*

Arlene DeGregorio  
Robert Moran  
Linda Sami  
Cathie Kammerer  
Sean Holzinger  
Rob Legg  
Signe Teitelbaum  
Joyce Shallcross  
Carolyn Plante  
Tim Harrington  
Gerri August  
Kris Palmer  
Kaitie Connors De  
Linda Barany  
Ellen Bennett  
Jocelyn Theroux  
Karin Kohl  
Jessica Maynard  
Bobbie Peterson  
C. Duncan  
Margaret Franks  
Billy Wernquest  
Ruth Wernquest  
Holly Deutsch  
Mary Jane Briggs  
Bill Deutsch  
Gary Durett  
Natalie Schanck  
Mike Carty  
Barbara Smith  
Phyllis Farley  
Brian Mitchell  
Joyce Pearson  
James Meyers  
Naomi Sawyer

James Baillarger  
Brian Burns  
Carole Hagner  
Stefanie Sweet  
Dave Clark  
Aila Vakeva  
Megan Oldham  
Christina Mills Gifford  
George Lorah  
Pat Sweeney  
Liam Varnelis  
Josh Peterson  
Kathy Lee  
Chris Rose  
Lisa Ferry  
Ellora Hendrickson  
KC Christensen  
Jan Briggs  
Ruth McGuy  
Bud Godwin  
Lisa Lessman  
Taylor Lessman  
Joan & Sheldon Pratt  
Jerry Paquin  
Stanley Larson  
Ellen Hedlund  
Donald & Bernadine Cunnigen  
Maggie Reichgott  
Karen Perry  
Mark Quinn  
Paul Bongfeldt

**+LOVED ONES IN THE ARMED FORCES+** Michael Bock, Matthew Kankash, Heath O'Neill,  
Andrew Anderson, Noah Cooper, Dan Berkowitz

**Worship Assistant Schedule**  
**May 2026**

Can't serve on your assigned date? **PLEASE:** ask someone to swap dates & notify the office

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May24	May 31	June 7
<b>Pastor</b>	D. Kohl					
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	R. Stokes	A. Senerchia		F. Baillarger	M. Bender Lee	K. Amitrano
<b>Lector</b>	J. Zoulios	F. Baillarger	M. Bender Lee	S. Teller	B. Gorry	J. Zoulios
<b>Greeter Usher(s)</b>	R' Passananti/M. Palmer	K. Amitrano	B & B Smith	B & S Teller	R' Passananti/M. Palmer	K. Bacon
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	A. Anderson	D. Crary	A. Senerchia	A. Anderson	K. Bacon	M. Bender Lee
<b>Altar Care</b>	M & G Morrison	J. Crary	K. Amitrano	K. Amitrano	B. Gorry	M & G Morrison
<b>Acolyte</b>						
<b>Raise Right</b>	M. Morrison	J. Crary	K. Bacon	D. Sennett		

# May 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 Worship 9:30	4 Social Group 1pm	5 Peace Group 7:30am Quilters 9:30	6	7 Choir 7:15pm	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 Happy Mother's Day	11	12 Peace Group 7:30am Quilters 9:30 Zoom council 7 pm	13	14 Choir 7:15pm	15	16
17 Worship 9:30	18 Social Group 1pm	19 Peace Group 7:30am Quilters 9:30	20	21 Choir 7:15pm	22	23
24 Worship 9:30 Pentecost	25 Memorial Day	26 Peace Group 7:30am Quilters 9:30	27	28 Choir 7:15pm	29	30
31 Worship 9:30	1	Notes				