



# FOOD FOR THE FLOCK



## mornings with mommy

Mornings with Mommy isn't preschool, and it isn't childcare, it's something different!

**WHAT IS IT:** Mornings with Mommy is a fun and easy way for you to enjoy activities with your children and meet other Moms. Educational play-dates with Mommy (or Dads or other caregivers!) for infants through pre-kindergarten. Each session has a different theme:

**September 18 - AT THE FARM**

**October 16 - FALL FUN**

**November 20 - MUSIC + INSTRUMENTS**

**WHERE:** *Shepherd of the Bay* @ 9463 HG Trueman Rd, Lusby, Maryland

**WHEN:** 9:30am to 10:30am

**COST:** \$5 per family

**REGISTRATION:** Advance online registration is required ([click here to register!](#))

### TABLE OF CONTENTS:

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FLOCK . . .	1
THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE . . .	2
SHEARING TIME . . .	3
FOOTPRINTS IN THE FIELD . . .	3
NEW PASTURES . . .	4
WORDS FROM THE WELL . . .	4
CALENDAR . . .	5

### You're invited!

**The LWMS Heritage Circuit Fall Rally** will be held on Saturday, October 4th at Atonement Lutheran Church in Parkville, MD. Registration and light breakfast starts at 9 am and we will be done around 3 pm. More information can be found at [LWMSHeritage.org](http://LWMSHeritage.org)

What is LWMS? The Lutheran Women's Mission Society is an organization of the WELS for all women to participate. LWMS wants to encourage women (and men) to learn about, pray for, and financially support WELS mission efforts in North America and around the world. We have sisters and brothers who share our faith in over 60 countries around the world.

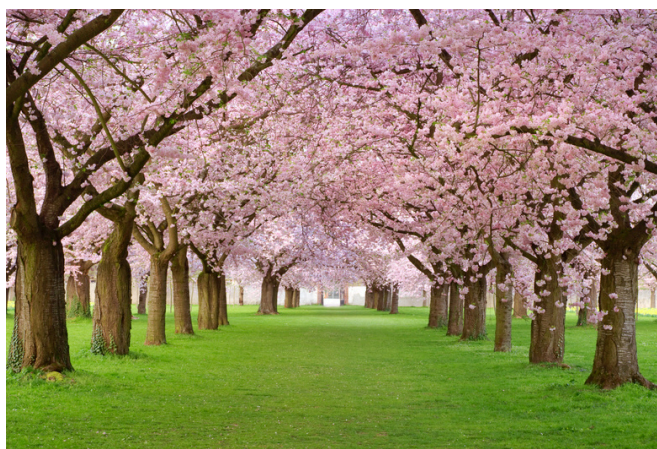
We are very excited about our Speaker, Missionary Joel Nitz as he will be presenting on Grace to All in Asia. We will learn about Vietnam, Nepal, and India. Due to security reasons, Missionary Nitz's morning presentation can only be seen in person. For those who livestream, the Rally link(s) will begin at 12:15 pm and can be accessed at [LWMSHeritage.org](http://LWMSHeritage.org). If you are interested in attending this rally, please speak with Pastor or Elaine.

# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

BY PASTOR NATHAN WONG

This past March, my family and I decided to brave the trip to D.C. to see the renowned cherry blossoms. Aside from the fact that a million people joined us that Friday, it was a quaint day. We walked along the path leading from the Mall toward the Jefferson Memorial where we got to see "Big Tom."

As you walk along the path, you're sandwiched between the Potomac River on one side, and a bunch of cherry blossom trees on the other. Delightfully, my family and I inspected the beauty of those trees on our stroll. It's amazing how healthy, vibrant, and strong those cherry blossom trees are. I got to thinking, "I wonder how long they've been here." A quick Google Search informed me that they've been there since 1912 when the Japanese gave this gift of friendship to America. How could they be in such great condition over a century later? Well, they're planted right next to the river. Their roots have immediate access to the water. The result? A lush tree with a full bloom every season.



*Blessed is the one ... whose delight is in the law of the Lord,*

*and who meditates on his law day and night.*

*That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,*

*which yields its fruit in season*

*and whose leaf does not wither—*

*whatever they do prospers. (Psalm 1:1-3)*

The psalmist declares that those who delight in God's Word and meditate on his law are blessed. When you spend time in your Bible or your daily "Meditations" book, God provides you with His life-giving water. Not only does it provide much needed refreshment, but His Word also keeps you spiritually healthy and even causes you to grow!

To the woman who feels empty, God fills her with the joy of his presence (Ps. 16:11). To the man who feels weak, God renews his strength (Is. 40:31). To the Christian who is searching for peace, God places his peace upon you to guard your heart and mind (Php. 4:7). All these blessings only come through the good news found in God's Word.

For many people, the start of the new school year means busier schedules, heavier obligations, and longer days. The temptation is going to be to search for life and strength in vacations, a tv show, maybe a glass of wine. And while those may help for a moment, my friends, remember where true life and nourishment is found - the Word of God.

As you read and listen to the Holy Scriptures, your love for God will grow even more! The result? You will be blessed. In fact, you already are blessed. God's forgiveness, salvation, and peace are already yours through faith in Jesus. Plant yourself near the life-giving water of Christ.

Our typical summer slump has hit us this past month, as our offerings were far less than expenses in August by \$2,876 and overall we are in the hole by \$18,379 for the year. The only items we paid for this month that were not on the Must Pay list were for our Mission Offering to the Synod (\$765) maintenance and cleaning supplies (\$75), Meditations (\$56) and Hymnal Accompaniment (\$57). The net result is a decrease to our operating account, now at \$9,703. This is well below the \$15,000 needed to pay our normal must fund bills. This also means we are continuing to use up the \$12,000 we borrowed from our capital improvement fund. The good news is that we still have one more week of offerings that will help eliminate our monthly shortfall.

Please continue to pray for our council to make the best decisions to the use of the funds that we do have available, and for the financial well-being of our congregation to allow us to continue to spread the Good News of Christ.

## SHEARING TIME, Financial Reports

BY SEAN CASE, TREASURER

Cumulative Activity through August	Budgeted	Actual	Delta	Actual vs Budget
Offerings	\$133,551	\$115,862	-\$17,689	-13%
Expenses	\$133,551	\$134,241	\$690	1%
Net	\$0	-\$18,379		

## FOOTPRINTS IN THE FIELD

### EVENTS HELD IN THE LAST MONTH

#### SotB Book Club - August 27 1 PM

For August we read *The Negotiator* by Dee Henderson.

The book for September is *Letters of Trust* by Wanda Brunstetter



Join us for discussion  
September 24 at 12:00 PM

## BIBLE BEACH DAY

August 30, 2025  
9:00 AM—12:00 NOON

It was a beautiful day at the beach with great friends and a great message. We shared snacks, games, and laughs and most importantly a wonderful message delivered by Pastor Wong from the book *God Loves Nobodies* by Matthew Doebler. This can be purchased on Amazon for \$15.





# Vacation Bible School

2025



When we wonder, when we feel alone, when we feel powerless, when we need hope  
—we can Trust Jesus!

Students learned about trusting Jesus at Vacation Bible School at Shepherd of the Bay. They rotated through several stations for hands on learning and exploring, and brought Bible stories to life in the Bible Adventure Room.

Thank you to all of the great volunteers who all did an awesome job. New this year were five teen volunteers, who may become the leaders of tomorrow!

Thanks also to the parents and grandparents who brought their children, and for the support of Shepherd of the Bay in helping with the awesome privilege and responsibility of helping our youth get to know Jesus!

## NEW PASTURES

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS!

Sunday school begins **September 14<sup>th</sup>** for  
Ages 4 Years to Fourth Grade in classroom #1  
Sundays from 9:30 am to 10:15 a.m.  
Visitors and friends also welcome!



#### HATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Our **Ladies Arts and Fellowship** group will be knitting and/or crocheting hats for the homeless in the Tri-County area. On **September 13, 2025 from 1:00pm—3:00pm** we will be learning to make the hats, but you don't have to wait until then. If you already know how to knit or crotch please help us reach our goal of 50 hats to donate. You can drop them off to the church any time before December 5. We appreciate any help you can give.

#### NOTE

The hats can be any pattern you are comfortable making. We have plenty of yarn that will be at the church if you need some. If you can not participate by making hats, any donations of material would be appreciated!



#### baby shower baskets

SOPHIA JOHNSON  
WELCOMED BABY MICHAEL

ANNA WILLIAMS  
KAITLYN WONG &  
JOELLE JULIAN

So many babies will be added to our flock in the next two months. To help the new mothers out, there are baskets in the lobby waiting to be filled with goodies for the baby and Mom (Dad's too)



#### Words from the Well

"WHOEVER BELIEVE IN ME, AS SCRIPTURE HAS  
SAID, RIVERS OF LIVING WATER  
WILL FLOW FROM WITHIN THEM."

~JOHN 7:38

The Fall Festival is a great way to engage with our community and invite them to church.

Mattie is gathering a committee to host this event at the end of October. The exact date and time is to be determined

If you would like to help with the planning committee or volunteer for the festival - please speak to Mattie.



#### Shepherd of the Bay Annual Church Picnic

Join us  
Sunday, September 7  
for an amazing day of  
worship,  
food, fun, and fellowship!

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please see Mattie or Anthony to let them know what you can bring. We need side dishes, desserts, paper products, and condiments

We currently have sign ups for:

GAMES  
FOOD

Salad  
Baked Beans  
Deviled Eggs  
Drinks  
"Crack" Corn Dip

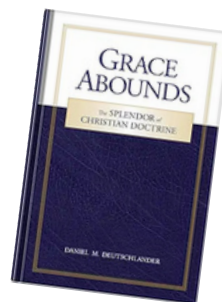
Fellowship  
Worship  
Service

## WELCOME BACK! Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast is an opportunity to enjoy the most important meal of the day with your Christian brothers AND a Biblical study to build your faith. Few things are better than that! This

**Saturday, September 6th**

we are kicking off a new study. Our focus is on defining religion which is a hot topic today. Then, we'll look at the Bible more closely; literally, at the formation of the Bible and why it is critical to recognize and trust that the Scriptures are God's very own words. For this study, we will read alongside Prof. Daniel Deutchlander's book, *Grace Abounds*. This excellent book can be purchased on Amazon or NPH.net. We hope and pray that you can join us!



## Fantasy Football Draft Recap



The draft went GREAT this year! For the first time ever, the church league didn't have a single auto-draft. A big thank-you to the Wong family for hosting and to Pastor, who cast the draft board right onto their living room TV. The small boys: David, Samuel, and Eli made sure there were plenty of distractions, while the wives enjoyed lunch together and had some laughs about the big boys glued to their phones.

Even though Sean Sabo, Travis, Jackson, and Abel couldn't attend in person, they all joined in and drafted from their phones without missing a beat. The official draft order was: Grant, Sean, Mitch, Travis, Dan, Abel, Sam, Jackson, me, and Pastor.

Highlights of the day included Travis grabbing the first quarterback off the board with Josh Allen, followed by Sam snagging Patrick Mahomes. To the disappointment of both Pastor and me, Jackson scooped up Justin Jefferson just before our turns! Later on, Pastor showed some interest in Seattle's running backs, so I made sure to secure Zach Charbonnet before the buzz spread. Mitch, true to form, drafted a stack of Lions players—his tried-and-true strategy.

The draft officially opened with Grant taking the Ravens' defense and closed with Pastor selecting Mr. Irrelevant: the Bengals' kicker. Sean loaded up on big-name running backs, Dan once again built a championship-caliber roster, and Abel put together a strong team that looks like it could go head-to-head with Dan's.

All in all, it was a successful and fun draft day—now the real competition begins!



# THE DRAFT



September 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Bible Information Class 6-7pm	2  Happy Birthday Alex Julian & Kaitlyn Wong	3	4	5	6 Men's Breakfast 8:30 - 10 am  Happy Birthday Rachel Feddersen & Adam Kassulke
7 Adult Bible Study 9:30 - 10:15am Worship 10:30 - 11:30 am Annual Picnic 11:45 am	8 Bible Information Class 6-7pm	9  Happy Birthday Kayla Holcomb	10  Happy Birthday Jason Grein Happy Anniversary Alex & Joelle Julian	11 Church Council Meeting 6 - 7 pm	12	13 Fall Outdoor Clean Up 9am LAF - 1 - 3 pm
14 Adult Bible Study 9:30 - 10:15am Back to Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am Worship 10:30 - 11:30 am	15 Bible Information Class 6-7pm	16	17	18 Mornings with Mommy 9:30 - 10:30 am	19	20 Men's Breakfast 8:30 - 10 am
21 Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am Worship with Communion 10:30 - 11:30 am Happy Anniversary Carol Ogden	22 Bible Information Class 6-7pm  Happy Birthday Lee Bassett	23	24	25	26  Happy Birthday Summer Julian Happy Anniversary Dale & Rachel Feddersen	27
28 Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am Worship 10:30 - 11:30 am	29 Bible Information Class 6-7pm	30				

## Fellowship Fundraiser

We're all aware that funds are tight right now, but we still want to continue to provide fun and engaging activities for all our wonderful members. We'd even like to do more! To help us do that we are going to be hosting several fundraisers over the course of the next few months. Our intention is to sell handmade crafts at local events. If you are crafty and would like to donate 15 or so pieces to our efforts we would greatly appreciate it. And keep watching your calendar for when and where you'll find the Fellowship Fundraisers around town.



WE'RE ON THE WEB  
WWW.SHEPHERDOFTHEBAY.COM

## Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

Pastor Nathan Wong  
office: 410-231-2075  
cell: 507-995-5978  
lusbypastor@gmail.com

**Adult Bible Study at 9:30am**

**Sunday Worship  
at 10:30am (livestream)**



## Shepherd of the Bay Annual Church Picnic

Join us

**Sunday, September 7**

for an amazing day of worship,  
food, fun, and fellowship!



9463 HG Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657

*Growing  
Together  
in  
Faith*