



APRIL 2020 Newsletter

From the Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Trained Intentional Interim pastors are sometimes also called “Transition Specialists.” Every time we are called to a new congregation to help them through their transition from a previous pastor to a new one, we go through a transition as well: to a new part of the country, to a new place to live, and to a new group of people. But Covid-19 is giving us all the “Mother of All Transitions.” Nothing is “normal.” Nothing is the same as it was yesterday. We are all “old dogs trying to learn new tricks”, new ways to do the things we are called to do.

So far Brenda has helped me learn how to use the OneCall phone message system. I hope the messages have been helpful. John and Phil have helped us to sign up for a YouTube channel and upload our first online worship service. Next Sunday (Palm Sunday) we hope to have the full audio and video included. No, it’s not the same as being here in person, singing the hymns, receiving the sacrament, and enjoying the fellowship of fellow believers; but it’s the best we can do as we all do our part to restrict the spread of this deadly virus.

Let me close with a Lenten devotion from CPH for the 5th Sunday of Lent, entitled “See you Later,” based on John 14:19, where Jesus says to His disciples, “Yet a little while and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live.”

See you later! For most of us, this phrase is a common, informal expression. Likely, this good-bye is not a particularly significant one. Essentially, Jesus is saying this to His disciples in this passage, but it is by no means insignificant. Jesus is saying several important things here.

He is going to die.

He is going to rise.

We will also die.

We will see Him again.

This was one of the last times He would see His followers before He died for them. It was an incredibly important good-bye. “See you later” was a promise. As believers, we are comforted knowing that we will see Jesus and all loved ones who rest in Him. On the day of resurrection, we will see Jesus with our very own physical eyes. In Jesus, we can always say, “See you later,” no matter what.

We pray: Jesus, we look forward to the day we see You face-to-face. Amen.

And I, your new interim pastor look forward to the day when I can see all of you face-to-face here at church or in your homes.

God bless you and keep you safe,

Pastor Fred

P.S. I've included a few links to several devotional resources from CPH that may be very helpful for times like these. Just click on the links and they will download to your computer for free.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

One of the questions that has come up from many of you is, "How can we continue to give our tithes and offerings while we're not worshipping together at church?" This is a great question, as I know many of us regularly give during our worship services. It is critical that we continue to provide for the ministries that are ongoing even throughout this period of time that we are not gathering together in our sanctuary. So, let me offer 3 ways that you can make sure your giving can continue without interruption:

ONLINE GIVING (This is still in progress)

This will be a safe and convenient way for you to give your tithes and offerings to Shepherd of the Coast. Through a one-time offering or by setting up a recurring tithe, you can give using your checking or savings account, debit or credit card. This allows you to faithfully give on a consistent basis. Visit our website to give online at <https://shepherdofthecoast.org/donate/>

AUTOMATIC BANK BILL PAY

This is an easy and effective way to systematically give through your checking or savings account. Simply log onto your individual bank account and follow your bank's instructions to set up Shepherd of the Coast as a new payee. Your contribution will then be mailed to the church just like any of your other payees.

US MAIL

Mail your contribution to: Shepherd of the Coast Lutheran Church, 1901 E. Commercial Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308. Write "Tithe" or "Offering" on the memo line of your check. PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH!

God has certainly been gracious to us over the last few years regarding our church's finances. While we may be facing some uncertainties in our world, remember that our God is sovereign, He is still in control, and we are still trusting and hoping in Him. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Early Childhood News & Notes



Early Childhood News

Right now, at this time I'm not sure what I should be writing. This pandemic that we are all experiencing has put us in a vulnerable state. We are praying for our families, friends, students, neighbors, and the world. If you need help with shopping or someone to talk to please reach out to us by calling the office 954-772-8010, leave a message and we will call you back. You are all precious to us and we want you to know that. You are all loved!

That being said let's proceed to my normal article: Looking ahead to the new

school year 2020-2021, we are accepting applications for registration. We have available spots in our Infant Program through our VPK 4's. If you are interested in our VPK Four Year Old Program check out elcbroward.org, click on parents and scroll on the left hand side for Voluntary Pre-kindergarten then select, and you will be able to read how to apply for this program. We are seeking your help to get the word out. This can be accomplished by talking to people about Shepherd of the Coast Christian School. Spread the word that we have open enrollment for Infants through 8th Grade.

God's blessing to you, Working together,
Brenda Sorren, Director



School News K-8

April Newsletter

In this time of COVID 19 we pray that all our students, faculty and their families remain healthy as we move forward to complete the remainder of the school year. Shepherd of the Coast teachers diligently implemented online instruction immediately, so students never missed a day. We have had a few obstacles that we were able to overcome, and all of the staff is working collaboratively to provide the best experiences to our students as we transition to online instruction. We have received positive feedback from our parents. Let us be thankful to the level of professionalism and excellence from our teachers during the most challenging times in American Education.

Prayer

When we aren't sure, God, help us be calm when information comes from all sides, correct or not, help us discern; when fear makes it hard to breathe and anxiety seems to be the order of the day, slow us down, God; Help us to reach out with our hearts, when we can't touch with our hands; help us to be socially connected, when we have

to be socially distant: help us to love as perfectly as we can,
knowing that your “perfect love casts out all fear”. Amen

God's blessings

Marguerite Smith, Principal

Easter Services



Due to the Corona Virus
Easter Services will be coming to you at
home via
Our YouTube Channel
Please tune in to the
SOTC YouTube Channel

Easter Lillie's will be available for pick up on Monday, April 13th
we also have Palm Sunday Crosses available for you at the office
as of Friday, April 3rd from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Shepherd of the Coast School Endowment Fund

The goal is \$25,000. It will then be matched by the Kaleidoscope Grant. As of today, we have received \$10,364.35. Let's keep it going we're off to a good start!

The endowment fund will continue to provide support for our school in the years to come. This will be a lasting benefit toward this important ministry to children.

Please mark your donation as being for the “School Endowment Fund.”

Our Shepherd's Hands

Thank You to all who participate in this ministry to feed God's people when they need it most! Donna Carlon and Paul Gajus continue to shepherd our feeding effort. For all of you that were concerned for the people served by this ministry during this season of "Stay at Home", have Faith! God found a way to feed his people. In March the process changed to better keep with the Government guidelines. Food was prepared here at the church and Hope South Florida picked up the food from our church, packaged it into individual meals and delivered it to the community in an outdoor setting. As always, your prayers, support and gifts are welcome for this ministry. Individually bottled water is in constant demand if you have any you would like to donate.
Thank You for your support!



Temporally Closed

A Ministry of Lydia's Fellowship

Happy
April
Birthda

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Dori MarshallApril 1st
Kathy Leonard.....April 5th
David Tape.....April 5th
Ben Bennett.....April 6th
Chelsea Burnett.....April 6th
Zach Rasor.....April 8th

Laura Brush.....April 11th
Brenda SorrenApril 11th
Carolyn Schuessler.....April 12
Scott Austin.....April 13th
Gloria Peters.....April 13th
Bob Sheely.....April 14th
Jay Szesnat.....April 16th
Dotti Sindicich.....April 19th
Donna Carlon.....April 20th
Thomas Lorenz.....April 20th
Barbara Criscuoli.....April 21st
Douglas Johnson.....April 21st
Allyson Sanchez.....April 21st
Daniel Tape.....April 24th
Darlene Bell.....April 28th
Karl -Johan Wentzel.....April 28th
Lily Macioce.....April 29th
Becky Sprick.....April 29th
Pauline Wright.....April 29th
Lisa Demko.....April 30th



Happy April Anniversary

Alba Pedersen & William Jellson...

April 1st

Jarrett & Christine Ferwerda...April 19

Noble & Sharon Kurth...April 21st

Milan & Eva Korcok...April 30th

Serving This Month

April 2020

Ushers

9:00 a.m. - Jo Beadle, Carolyn Atchison, Jeanne Larson &
Dawn Randazzo

10:30 a.m. - Donna Carlon & Beauti DeFreitas

Altar Guild

Roberta Murphy & Diana Nickel

Security

Reinhard Mueller

Communion Assistant

9:00 a.m. David Fischer, Willie Wright & Larry Annis

10:30 a.m. Jay Aamodt & Paul Sparks Sr.

Counters

April 5th - Joanne Fries & Barbara Oldani

April 12th - Bill & Angel Bailey

April 19th - Dawn Randazzo & Karen Schmohe

April 26 - Carolyn Atchison & Roberta Murphy

Lectors

First Sunday - April 5th - 9:00am Paul Sparks, 10:30am Gayle Hansen

Second Sunday - April 12th - Pat Battle, 10:30am Andrea Conora

Third Sunday -April 19th - Roberta Murphy , 10:30am Khylin Bellhorn

Fourth Sunday -April 26- 9:00am Carol Irving , 10:30am Paul Sparks Sr.

Extras - 9:00am Roberta Murphy & 10:30am Gayle Hansen