

THE FLOCK'S NEWS

AUGUST 2018

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE OF THE ONE WHO BELIEVES

In the Gospel lesson from this past Sunday, Jesus poses a question to the disciple, Philip: "Where are we to buy bread for these 5000 people to eat?"

And Philip's response lifts up the impossibility of Jesus' question:

"Six months wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a tiny morsel."

Through struggling with this impossible question along with the extreme generosity of a little boy who gave the disciples probably not just his food, but the food for his entire family when he handed over his five barley loaves and two fish, Jesus did the impossible by feeding His 5000 followers so generously that after everyone had eaten their fill, there were twelve baskets of leftovers.

As lifted up in this gospel lesson, struggling with such impossible questions is not a bad thing. It is a good thing, for it is through the struggle that the impossible miracle unfolds.

Now, if you're anything like me, you avoid struggles at all cost. I like the predictability of a comfortable routine. Our faith, however, always calls us to enter into the struggle because our faith always requires a risk of letting go and letting God.

As Pastor Peter and I wrap up eighteen years of ministry here at Good Shepherd in a couple of weeks, I know this transition creates discomfort, for us, as we move into a new chapter of our lives and for you as you move forward with your ministries when we leave. But change and the struggle it creates is not a bad thing. It is a good thing. For our faith in God can only grow when we move out of our comfort zones. This is when our lives, our work and our ministries are not about us, but about God. For it is through the struggle that we are changed into the likeness of Christ.

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contribute to The Flock's
News, please call the
church office at 570-824-
2991.

And we can only take this leap of faith by entering into the struggle because Jesus embodies the impossible miracle. For by innocently dying a despicable criminal's death upon the cross for our salvation, Jesus did the impossible when He conquered sin, death and the power of the devil when He rose from the dead on Easter morning. And since Jesus has done the impossible, we are set free to enter into the struggle and do the same, with the unshakable confidence that comes from knowing that no matter how impossible the challenging problem might appear, we are always the victors. For with our Lord and Savior leading us, there is no impossible challenge beyond our reach.

For by keeping your eye upon our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, God will guide you to boldly embrace His vision for Good Shepherd. For as lifted up by Jesus in the Gospel of Mark,

"All things are possible for the one who believes."

Peace,

Pastor Janell Wigen

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

The start of August signifies the end of summer. For Good Shepherd, August also signifies the resignation of our Pastors takes effect in 12 days. Our Pastors will end their time with us by taking their August vacation before embarking on their new journey. It is with great sadness we say good-bye.

But just as our Pastors are embarking on a new journey so is the congregation. We will begin to explore our options and our next steps. While we will begin the journey with trepidation, there will also be an underlying sense of excitement. It is the underlying excitement that will drive our decisions and help us maintain (and hopefully grow) the ministries occurring on the corner of South and South Main.



While We Begin the Journey With Trepidation, There Will Also Be An Underlying Sense of Excitement.

Our new journey is just beginning, the possibilities are endless and the challenges great. As we are saying our good-byes, we need to also be watching for signs from God which will show us where he wants us to go. Are you listening?

Godspeed Pastor Peter and Pastor Janell.

INCREDIBLE CREATIONS KIDS CLUB HELPS KIDS EXPLORE TALENTS

The Incredible Creative Kids Club has returned, starting July 11th with 25 young excited young people. As is usually the case, the big hit of the night was huggy bear. If you don't know what it is, ask one of the children. They will be happy to tell you.

Led by Matt Buckman and Becky Phillips, the youth have some truly creative things so far. Among other things, they have learned to make play dough and ice cream cone cupcakes. Mr. Gary Phillips led a music night. Oh yes! We have dinner too! Anyone for tacos or rigatoni?

The club will continue to meet every Wednesday night from 5pm to 7:30 pm through August 22nd. Children from 1st through 6th grade are welcome to join in at any time. Find more information and get registration forms at <http://goodshepherdwb.org/2018/06/23/incredible-creations-kids-club-is-coming>.



PEW ENVELOPES: WHITE OR GREEN??

The pew envelope racks now contain both white and green offering envelopes for your convenience in making both designated and non-designated offerings to the church. Please use the white envelope if you are a contributing member and have forgotten your regular offering envelope or would like to make an additional offering or are a non-member/visitor and would like to make an offering to any of the funds listed on the white envelope. Please use a green envelope if you are a member or a non-member/visitor and you would like to make a contribution to any of the funds listed on the green envelope or want to designate to a different fund or ministry not listed. Contributing members, please include your name and/or envelope number on either type of envelope for proper crediting. Also, please note that, going forward, any non-designated monies listed on the white envelope will be credited toward "Weekly" and any non-designated monies listed on the green envelope will be credited toward "Communion." Therefore, if you are only making an offering toward "Weekly", please use the white envelope. Thank you in advance for your support of the ministries of Good Shepherd. Jim Parks, Financial Secretary



JOIN THE FUN AT OUR
**FAMILY FAITH
CARNIVAL**

SEPTEMBER
9TH
9:45AM

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

August 5

Communion Assistants: Kay Korb, Wilma Gardner

Lector: Fran Yekel

Greeter: Bea Bryan

Ushers: Cliff Jones, Guy French, Karen Figel, Jane Newman

Counters: Liz Keator, Gary Smith, Chris Casazza

August 12

Communion Assistants: Kay Korb

Lector: Wilma Gardner

Greeter: Karen Figel

Ushers: Samantha & Preston Perkins, Gary & Wilma Gardner

Counters: Sally Ritchie, Gary Phillips, Daren Bernecker

August 19

Communion Assistants: Kay Korb

Lector: Lisa Martin

Greeter: Charlene Moules

Ushers: Debbie Dervinis, Charlene Moules, Elizabeth & Harry Heck

Counters: Jane Hensley, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Carol Phillips

August 26

Communion Assistants: Kay Korb

Lector: Susan Patsko

Greeters: Fran & Brian Yekel

Ushers: John Douglas, Dionne, Jimmy and Brooke Fisher

Counters: Guy French, Kay Korb, Viktoria Yeager

Altar Guild: Kay Korb, Charlene Moules, Carol Phillips, Brooke Fisher

