

Shepherd's Staff

Call Committee 2022 Pastor of Congregational Care

The Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

February 2022



Josh Brecht
Lead Pastor

Greetings Good Shepherd!

I am excited to work with your Call Committee as we seek our Pastor of Congregational Care. I am grateful for the support and guidance of Bishop Susan Candea, Reverend Dave Whetter and the Central States Synod. We have had our initial orientation with the Synod and are ready to begin our work. We believe the Holy Spirit is at work in this process, and we cannot wait to see what the future holds! Please continue to keep the Call Committee members and the call process in your prayers as we begin this holy work.

The Synod asked us to prepare a brief bio sheet that can be shared with candidates, and we would like to share this with you, as well. You may not know each of the people on the committee personally, so this is a chance to get to know a bit more about your Call Committee. This is fantastic group of people who bring a wide range of experience, perspective, and involvement to the process. We will be commissioning the Call Committee in worship this Sunday as we begin this journey!

Peace,
Pastor Josh

Bret Spoerle (Call Committee Chair)

I am a 51 year old widow with 2 children (college sophomore daughter and HS senior son) who recently retired from the St. Louis Boeing military plant as environmental manager. I have been a member of Good Shepherd for 20 years and currently serve on the small group council as the chair person for the annual golf tournament. I have served as a reader and assistant minister. I was on the Feed My Starving Children committee and supported children/youth programs, amongst other things.

Erik Oswald

My name is Erik Oswald and I am the youth on this team. I am 15 years old and a sophomore in high school. I have been with this church my whole life. I love to be active with the church, whether going to church, working with the A/V team for recording services, or participating in the church high school group. I hope to continue being a part of Good Shepherd and to remain an active part of our community.

Robin Spence

I am Robin Spence, a semi-retired caregiver. Good Shepherd has been my church community for 7 years, although I have been a member of ELCA churches my entire life. I am currently a facilitator for 2 bible study groups: the Sunday morning adult ed group and one of the women's groups. Other small groups in which I participate are the Cards-for-Veterans group, our No-Mask-Left-Behind group, the current Everyday Discipleship class and the Chimes/Bells players musical groups. I have been an active Stephen Minister since 2017, and am currently the coordinator for the monthly continuing education sessions.

Carol Hollenbeck

I am Carol Hollenbeck, married for 55 years to Rod, mother of two, proud grandmother of six ranging in age from 8 to 22. Our family became members of St. Luke's in 1973 and I have served in numerous capacities over the years: Sunday school, VBS and confirmation teacher, council member during the merger of St. Luke's-Mt. Tabor which became Good Shepherd, various committees, money counter, church office volunteer, altar guild, bible studies, etc. We have been members of a small group for 40+ years. I retired in 2007 after 25 years as an Administrative Assistant in Rockwood School District's Early Childhood Program. We enjoy traveling especially to Europe.

Delaney Rhea

I am the assistant director of a small equity education non-profit organization, an End-of-Life Doula, and an active Stephen Minister. I have been a member of Good Shepherd since 2006. My church involvement includes youth programs, women's ministry, work with the racial justice team, and I am devoted to LGBTQIA+ inclusion and acceptance.

Paul Dreher

Greetings. I grew up in the St. Louis area and have been a lifelong church member. I am married and have two elementary aged boys. My family and I have been members of Good Shepherd for 5 years, and are active in various Sunday school groups, men's group, the praise team, and youth activities. I have served on church council and observed the call process on two separate occasions at previous churches. I am currently serving as part of the A/V team on Sunday mornings.

Pastor Josh Brecht (non-voting member of call committee)

I was called to Good Shepherd in December of 2016, after serving a congregation in Lexington, SC. Prior to Wartburg Seminary, I worked in youth and music ministry in Minneapolis for 6 years. My wife, Gail, is a deacon and serves at Good Shepherd as Director of Contemporary Worship. We have three boys, and I love hiking, biking, and kayaking. I am passionate about mission and service ministries, and faithfully innovating so the church remains relevant for today while remaining connected to

A "Wink" from the Welcome Ministry Team

By Elliott Haugen



How is it going with your new year's resolutions? I guess you're doing quite well if you sought to spend more time at home, or reading, or using technology to stay in touch with others. In today's world, we tend to dismiss making resolutions because they seem so temporary or trivial. Nonetheless, we can still benefit from having personal and faith goals and objectives.

In case you need some help, the Gospel is full of ideas and purposes for your life or faith. The writers command us to love one another (John 13:34) and our enemies (Luke 6:35), to help the needy (Luke 12:33), and to feed others (Matthew 14:16). Since this is a Good Shepherd Welcome Ministry article, I must emphasize a "spreading the Word" challenge:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," Matthew 28:9.

We may wish to shift this Christian responsibility to the apostles and pastors, but there are ways for you to do this without traveling the world. First, continue to invite your family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and classmates to attend in-person or watch online worship services and to experience our many educational, music, and service activities.

Second, share the news that we will be holding another set of informational sessions for those interested in learning about or joining Good Shepherd.

- Sunday, February 20 Part 1: Meet pastors and staff, discuss Lutheranism & ELCA, Q&A
- Sunday, February 27 Part 2: Discuss faith journey and religious expectations
- Sunday, March 13: Welcome those who choose to join

Since visitors may not see this newsletter, please share these dates and tell anyone interested in learning about Good Shepherd to share their contact information with the church office. We will keep you and them updated via Sunday announcements and emails about when and how we will meet (e.g., Zoom or in-person).



Feed the Need STL

by: Dianne Unverfehrt

We are looking forward to the return of Feed My Starving Children's MobilePack, and we hope you are too! Preparations have already begun for our Feed the Need STL MobilePack event in August at Queeny Park.

It will take lots of volunteers and generous donations. Feed the Need STL team members are already fund raising by going to businesses, schools, and other places, and your help is needed. More meals provided means more lives saved.

Please give to the FTN STL MobilePack. There will be many opportunities throughout the next few months at Good Shepherd. And you could do a little fund raising too! On the FMSC website, there are lots of ideas of how raise money for FMSC, how to include the whole family, and how to share the mission of FMSC. See [HOPE Champions for FMSC](#)



Another way to help: If you are having a milestone birthday or anniversary, instead of gifts, you could ask for donations for our FMSC pack. We will work with you to provide personalized letters or cards celebrating your milestone, explaining the need, with instructions on how to donate directly to our FTN STL packing event. FTN STL could be designated as a memorial in memory of a loved one. We could help with that also.

For more information about Feed the Need STL and how to donate: [Feed The Need STL](#).