

Shepherd's Voice

AUGUST 2022



TO REACH, IGNITE AND EMPOWER PEOPLE FOR JESUS...



WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Renee Patterson
Senior Pastor

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Our newsletter theme this month is, “What it’s like working at Shepherd?” as we welcome Shaun Halland, our new worship/music director to our Shepherd family. Last month I wrote about being a pastor, and particularly one at Shepherd. But I thought I might tell you all “what I see” when I look at our community of faith, and what I hope Shaun soon comes to see.

Do you remember the first time you looked up into the night sky and really noticed the stars? I do. We were on our first camping trip to the Boundary Waters (well...my first camping trip ever) and I remember being surrounded by the enormous beauty of the area. This was a very different view from anything this city girl had ever encountered. As the campfire smoldered, we lay on our backs near the edge of the water and looked up into the brilliant clear night sky. I was overwhelmed. It seemed as if there were millions of stars above. I never realized how much the city lights had obstructed my view, but that night out in the wilderness I felt I could see forever. I remember being humbled more than anything — by the splendor of God’s creation and by the thought that the Creator of all that my eyes could see, knew me by name. I remember having this revelation that I was part of something bigger than me and more beautiful than I could fathom. It reminded me of Psalm 8: *“Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory in the heavens. When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what are humans that You are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?”*

Being part of this Shepherd community has brought me the same feeling, that while I am valued as an individual, I am also part of something bigger and more beautiful. This understanding of God being mindful of us seems to permeate our Shepherd community. This perspective that God is (and always has been) with us every step of the way has guided us through our share of trials and tribulations. Even when the path feels filled with obstacles there is this promise that God walks us through all of them. We are a community of faith that takes turns reminding each other of this fact when we cannot see the stars for ourselves. When I look at our community of faith I see a people filled with grace for one another as we *live out this faith* together and walk each other into our collective future as a people of God.

THIS is the beautiful view I see when I look at our Shepherd community. Welcome to the family Shaun!

In One Peace, Pastor Renee

Shepherd's Governing Board

... *and His Spirit will gather them together....*

~ Isaiah 34:16

Welcome Shaun

We have been thrilled to welcome Shaun Halland as Director of Music and Worship. He appreciated the opportunities to get to know staff and the congregation and the graceful launch pad to begin his work with us. He looks forward to what the future will bring as he learns the ropes at Shepherd.

Joy Team Updates

The Joy Team continues to be hard at work preparing for a Fall DAY of Service on September 11th where we will be bringing back the one worship service, community potluck, and many of our off-site projects that have been put aside during the pandemic. We hope to have many ministry moments leading up to the Day of Service to bring the excitement level up as well.

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch in July had many in attendance and went off without a hitch. Our youth shared about their mission trip in the Quad Cities. Having the youth take part in Lunch Bunch is always something to look forward to.

Vacation Bible School and Youth Camp

We were very excited to host Vacation Bible School for nearly 60 participants. VBS coincided with Youth Camp. The youth helped with VBS in the morning and had Peer Leadership Training, Multicultural Youth Accompaniment Training, and fun adventures in the afternoon. The week wrapped up with a brief program, food trucks in the parking lot, and music from the Teddy Bear Band.

Adult Ed/Intergenerational

Our two book studies are continuing with rich and wonderful discussion! Pour Theology continues August 18, September 15, and October 20. Come join us for conversation! A winter Women's Retreat has been scheduled for January and a Men's Retreat is in the works! Donut hour hosted by groups and committees continues to go wonderfully!

Constitution Committee Update

The July constitution conversations were productive with lots of feedback and questions answered. The committee took notes to bring back to their work. The final July discussion is July 26 with more to come in the fall. The draft documents are on the website and have been printed off at the welcome desk for all to see and review. There will be another round of conversations this fall after the Synod releases updates to their language.

Facilities

The preschool room remodel is about 98% complete. A door from the preschool classroom to a restroom was installed. McGough is doing this project at no cost to Shepherd. Miranda and the Property Committee are working to address ash tree damage/death and create a comprehensive plan for the grounds on diversification of tree species for the future. Starting soon the kitchen will be rented out one day a week to a caramel making business. We are excited for this new venture.

Your Shepherd Governing Board,

Dave Webb, Chair
Deb Kohen, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Kohen, Treasurer
Joshua Koepp, Secretary
Lynn Mears
Anna Grace
Sally Peters
Kristen Goligowski
Pastor Renee Patterson

Hello People of Shepherd,

As we welcome Shaun Halland, our new Director of Music and Worship, it causes me to reflect on the last nearly six years I have been with you all at Shepherd and what it is like to work here. I came to Shepherd three months after having finished my Diaconal Internship which took place in Chicago at the ELCA churchwide offices. I worked with the ELCA World Hunger program where I organized the monthly newsletter and connected with regions, synods, and congregations to support them with their hunger justice ministries and to connect them to the resources available. It was so much fun traveling and meeting people all across the ELCA, but I missed being in a congregation and building lasting relationships across the generations. I also missed leading a Confirmation program, which is one of not the most favorite thing about my job!



Sister Tashina Good
Deacon
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Building relationships across generations and Confirmation are two of many favorite things I found when I came to Shepherd. It felt like coming home. I have also enjoyed the newness around every corner. What some of you might not know is that working in a church setting means every week might have a general structure but no two look the same. Even months and seasons of the church year have some general structure but there is always something new to look forward to, and surprises ready to roll with. And with all of that it is such a joy that Shepherd folks are always up for trying the new, leaning into Holy Experiments. As a deacon, I am a called and ordained Minister of Word and Service, which is one of two kinds of ministers in the ELCA. The other is Minister of Word and Sacrament, otherwise known as a pastor. Calling me was one of the Holy Experiments I mentioned above, and I love the fact that my job is unique to me and to this place. Being the first deacon at Shepherd is kind of fun, though not without its challenges. And as it's my first call in a congregation as a deacon it truly is a Holy Experiment for us all!

About 50% of deacons serve inside congregations and the other serve outside of congregations. Where pastors are responsible for the worship and sacramental life of the congregation, deacons come alongside that and are responsible for helping folks connect that faith experience back out into their everyday lives. Some do that through social work agencies, some do that through practicing medicine, some through chaplaincy, some through music, some through faith formation. The list goes on and on. I do this work, here at Shepherd, through accompaniment and faith formation. It is such an honor to be in a congregation excited and willing to step into this Holy Experiment that has become our norm.

Holy Experiments are not the only thing that make Shepherd a great place to work. Here staff are supported and cared for in exceptional ways by our amazing members. We also have the opportunity to work with such gifted folks as are on our team. I am looking forward to getting to know Shaun better and to see how our team will grow and change with the gift of his presence. Welcome Shaun! It's a great place to be!

See you all in church,
Sister Tashina

“This is what the Lord says:

“Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. ² Blessed is the one who does this - the person who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps their hands from doing any evil.” *Isaiah 56:1-2*



Brice Bloxham
Associate Pastor
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Our newsletter theme this month is, “What’s it like working at Shepherd?” as we welcome Shaun Halland, our new worship/music director to our Shepherd family. Last month I shared what I loved about Shepherd; this month I find myself looking back to my answer from July for more.

Shepherd is a place that is unlike any other. For me, it embodies what community health can become when it puts in the work. We know that Shepherd of the Hills has gone through its fair share of turn over and struggles in the last 15 years. Discord came through and we saw an exodus from some of the membership. Now, in the middle of 2022 I sit here and think about this place and what it is. It is a place that strives to welcome all no matter what. In doing so, Shepherd of the Hills throws open its doors for everyone who might want to enter and become a part of our community. Shepherd is a community of believers who loves.

Shepherd of the Hills, I have come to realize over my just about five years on staff, does not shy away from the tough stuff. We spent a year plus working through the social statements of the ELCA. We expanded our welcome statement. Shepherd as a community became a Reconciling in Christ community because Shepherd is not afraid of engaging in conversation and hard topics (not that truly welcoming should be hard). Our building has also taken on a posture of radical welcome as it plays host to four neighbor congregations beyond Shepherd. Additionally, our Preschool continues to be a beacon in the community for reaching others inside and outside our Lutheran faith. We see in what seems like hundreds of students (this is a minor exaggeration) not only an intercultural but also an interfaith body. We lean into our Christian tradition by bringing a message of love for all. All of these things creates a building always well in use and full of vibrant activity.

What is it like working at Shepherd? It’s a bit non-stop in the best possible way. Working at Shepherd of the Hills means that you serve a community that tilts when others would withdraw. That tilting isn’t done toward windmills but rather to building the community and Kingdom of God, work with deep running roots in love toward the neighbor. Welcome to the community, Shaun! Glad to have you with us.

Greetings Shepherd Community!

I have been welcomed with open arms by both the staff and congregation as I began my work at Shepherd on July 5th. I'm grateful to be here at long last and to step into this role. It is a joy and privilege to embark upon this work and get to know the community even better. Thank you to all for your patience as you waited for my arrival, allowing me to wrap up my teaching year and have a little family time prior to beginning.



Shaun Halland
Director of Music
and Worship

651.288.2254
music@shepherdshoreview.org

A bit about where I've been...

My career has spanned the last 22 years. During that span I have worked as both a middle and high school choir director in several school districts as well as a church musician throughout the Twin Cities area. I also sing with the National Lutheran Choir (alongside Shepherd member Sarah Koepp!) So, it is fair to say I get my share of music each week!

I have learned that the staff here at Shepherd are highly dedicated professionals, passionate about living out the work of the Gospel. They have been incredibly helpful in my first few weeks as I navigate this new position. Those of you who I have met have been kind and welcoming and I look forward to getting to know all of you. I'm hoping my teacher skills help me to learn names quickly!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Shaun Halland

Operations – Really, what does that mean in church?

I thought I would give you the “meat and potatoes” about operations and the role I play here at Shepherd. Of course, there is making sure the heat/air conditioning is on and that the staff are paid but I think of it as something much more than that. Operations encompasses helping the entire staff to be able to do the ministry and programming that they manage while I do a little bit of ministry of my own.

I get to help Shepherd use the gifts we’ve been given to do our mission. I also get to help those that are planning long-term to see their gifts are being used at Shepherd for years to come.

Additionally, I seek out and apply for grants to help support and fund many kinds of projects for this Shepherd community. I also have the privilege of being able to share Shepherd’s building and property with those in the community and to form new partnerships with others.



Miranda Oliver
Director of Operations
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Operations also means that I get to interact with a diverse population of people and spread the Good News of all the wonderful things happening at Shepherd. Another opportunity is that I get to connect the people of Shepherd with others. Not just the Shepherd community but also the wonderful people that use this amazing space. Facilitating those relationships of God’s people is something uniquely wonderful to my role. So that’s a peek at what I do as we are welcoming Shaun Halland to Shepherd as our Worship and Music Director. Great to have you on the Team, Shaun!

- **We recently refinanced our mortgage.** It was set to have an adjustment to the interest rate in September of 2023. We locked in at 3.5% until September of 2025. Our new monthly payment is \$14,667. Interesting fact- In 2010 our Mortgage Monthly payment was \$28,664 at 5.58%.

- **August is “Make a Will” Month** Information from freewill.com

It’s an important legal document that everyone should have. All adults should have a will — it’s a powerful document that lets you distribute your property and protect your loved ones after you pass away. One-third of all American adults have a will, and that number is growing every day.

It provides peace of mind to you and your family. Wills aren’t just for the rich and famous. They make life (and death) easier for everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status. Consider your belongings. You may not think you own a lot, but you likely have more property than you realize: your home, vehicles, furniture, clothing, books, sentimental items, and more. If you don’t have a will, your loved ones will be tasked with finding a home for this property when you pass on. Creating a will prevents family conflict, eliminates confusion, and ensures your assets go to the people you most want to have them. It also gives your family guidance and reassurance that they can fulfill your wishes during what is likely a very difficult time for them. With a will, you can also plan ahead for those who are in your care — for example, you can name a legal guardian for your minor children and choose who should care for your pets. The logistical benefits of having a will are important. But above all else, having a will creates peace of mind for you and the people you love.



It lets you create a legacy that lasts beyond your lifetime. None of us live forever. But there are ways to continue making a positive impact on this world long after you leave it. One of these ways is by donating to a charity in your will. There are many different ways you can use your will to benefit a charity — you can give cash, stock, real estate property, and more. Leaving a gift for a nonprofit in your will costs you nothing during your lifetime, but will ensure that you can make a positive impact on causes close to your heart for years to come.

- **Also, did you know that I am a Public Notary?**

That means that you can schedule a time to have me sign legal documents and this is at no charge!!!

How can one support Shepherd financially?

- Mail in your offertory envelopes
- Give [online on our Giving Page](#)
- Text To Give - Simply send a text with the word GIVE to 651-412-7495 with the amount you would like to contribute.
- List Shepherd as your beneficiary
- Transfer Stock to Shepherd

With any questions regarding giving, please contact [Miranda](#).





Half Day and Full Day Preschool Openings

Openings are still available for
2022-2023 School Year!

We are accepting children from
18 months to 5-year-olds.

Please invite your friends and neighbors
to see our beautiful space, meet our staff and
learn more about our Christian-based
preschool program.



Jilene Ylonen
Preschool Director
651.288.2256
preschool@shepherdshoreview.org



WHO IS
my neighbor?

**A HUGE Thank you to all
volunteers and children
who joined us for a
fun-filled week of VBS!**





YOUTH CAMP 2022



MISSION TRIP 2022



B.E.A.C.H.

"Be Excited About Celebrating Him"
A Sunday morning ministry for
children ages 3 to 5th grade. 10 am

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
3920 North Victoria Street
Shoreview, MN 55126

SOHSV.ORG



Ralph Reeder
Food Shelf

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Mounds View Public Schools

Day of Service Snack Pack needs
for Ralph Reeder:

- canned easy to open pastas
- mac & cheese cups
- granola bars
- juice boxes
- small individual cereals
- single serving packs of oatmeal
- small cracker or cookie packs
- fruit snacks



Potluck



Paracords



Ralph Reeder food shelf



SAVE the DATE:

Day of Service September 11th

(photos from past Days of Service)

- 10am worship Service only
- 11am Potluck
- service projects immediately following lunch

Tie Blankets



Birthday Bags



Blessing Bags



Cookie Cart



School Supply Bags

Park Clean-up



ADULT *Faith* FORMATION



Weekly Bible Study:

Wednesdays at 1 pm IN PERSON in the Narthex and 6:30pm via Zoom only. Join us to discuss the upcoming scripture text and learn together.

***Please note** that there will not be evening Bible Study on Wednesday, August 17th due to the Blessing of the Animal Service.

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS PRESENTS

POUR THEOLOGY



SHORE96 6:30-8pm

August 18 & September 15

JOIN US FOR A TIME OF AGENDA FREE CONVERSATION
AROUND THINGS YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT
THE BIBLE, CHURCH, OR GOD.

APPETIZERS AND GOOD CONVERSATION ON US
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON YOU

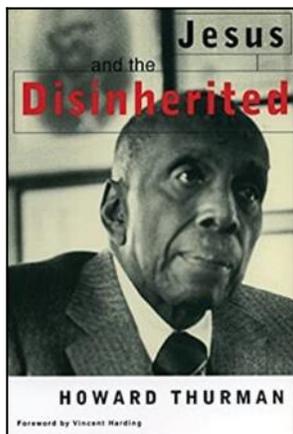
SUMMER 2022 BOOK STUDIES

Jesus and the Disinherited
by Howard Thurman,
Martin Luther King Jr's
spiritual advisor.

Shepherd's Contemplative Practice group has been learning much through the lens of Howard Thurman's teachings and this is a wonderful way to expand that learning to the whole of Shepherd.

This book study will take place once a month on Sundays from 11am-12noon onsite at Shepherd.

The final discussion will be on August 14: Chapter 5 & Epilogue

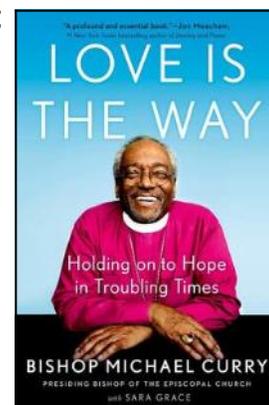


***Love is the Way*, by the Most Reverend Bishop Michael Curry.** The Rev. Michael Curry is the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA. He has preached at the weddings of British royalty around expansive love and this book is a deeper look on what that love looks like through the lens of people of God.

This book study will take place biweekly on Sundays from 9am-10am onsite at Shepherd:

August 7: Chapters 9 & 10

August 21: Chapters 11 & 12





**PARKING LOT
WORSHIP
10 AM**



**THE GATHERING DONUT TIME IS NOW
IN-PERSON OUTSIDE DOOR A
ON THE FRONT LAWN**

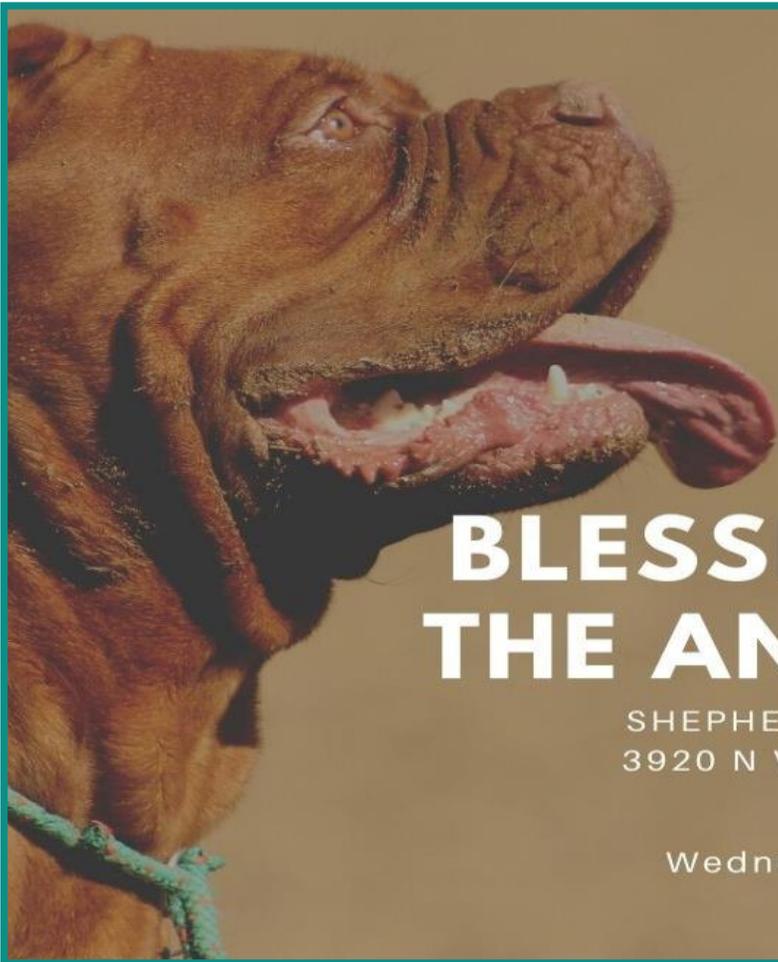
**JOIN US SUNDAYS BETWEEN SERVICES FROM
9-10AM**

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN MUG WITH YOUR BEVERAGE OF CHOICE



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**BLESSING OF
THE ANIMALS**

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
3920 N VICTORIA STREET
SHOREVIEW, MN

Wednesday, August 17
6:15 PM



**BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS**

SUNDAY
9.11.2022 10 am service

Bring your Blessing Item to worship
service for a special blessing!

Dear Church *family,*
It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!



*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



Online Scheduling Available! Photo Dates September 13 – 17

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply scan the QR code to the right. Or go to www.ucdir.com & click the "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login" button. Enter **mn248** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" field.

Note: The Church Code & Password are case sensitive. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family, please use 2 time slots. The online scheduling option is not available Saturday or Sunday because we will be doing paper sign-ups at church. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**





Email: staff@shepherdshoreview.org

651.483.5419

sohsv.org

Shepherd of the Hills
3920 N Victoria Street
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@shepshore



@Shepherd of the Hills Church
Shoreview Minnesota



Our App