

Shepherd of the Mountains

August 2020



Kyrie eleison

on our world and on our way

Tiny Desk Worship

No in-person indoor worship at SMLC
as we take COVID-19 precautions.

Email us to receive weekly worship resources at home and
instructions for our “Tiny Desk Worship” series!

750 Seneca Lane
P.O. Box 3257
Jackson, WY 83001-3257
307-733-4382

sotmlcjackson@gmail.com
www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org



Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day

Contact Information

Pastor Inger Hanson

Email:

pastor.inger@
sotmlc.org

*(preferred for non-critical
communication)*

Office:

(307) 733-4382

Cell Phone:

(307) 248-0438

Office Hours

by appointment
Tuesdays,
Wednesdays
or Thursdays

Call or Message
during

Open Heart

Online Office Hours

Wednesday

8—10 am

Days Off

Mondays &
Saturdays

Dear Shepherd of the Mountains,

In farming communities across the northern hemisphere, August is the month just before and at the beginning of the harvest – when crops are almost ready; almost ripe. As it becomes more and more clear that responding to and living amid a pandemic is a sustained project, longer than a season, I am trying to be attuned to the growing that continues, and the harvests we still see here and now.

Thank you for your generous response to the treasurer’s appeal. I believe we are on much more solid financial footing as we continue to live into the challenges of online worship and being church even when we are apart.

It has been a year since the church began a bold experiment of having a part-time director of music. I am treasuring Ron’s insights into worship planning, the new music we have learned, the robust Christmas choir, and having the melodies to carry us in the move to an online service. I am so proud of our little congregation’s support of a true church musician.

We helped make it possible for this faithful and talented musician to stay in Jackson this last year. Even as we have been blessed, I am reminded of one of our offering prayers: “Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love.” Now the larger faith community needs Ron’s skills, and he will begin a call with St. John’s Episcopal in October. Even with this sense of completion, however, this is not really goodbye! While he will not be available on Sundays, as we continue to pre-record services for COVID-19, Ron will remain our pianist.

I never thought of the lack of music at our 8 am service in years past as a strength. Little did I know! Perhaps it was preparing us for such as time as this. Singing is considered a high-risk activity for the spread of COVID-19, and it’s so hard to just listen! As we continue to prepare for when we can return to in-person worship opportunities, we will balance stewardship with our music needs.

Dear ones, as the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill are gathered into one to become bread, even at a distance, we are gathered into one in Christ. God bless the harvests.

In Christ,
Pastor Inger



EVERY WEEK *staying connected even as we physically stay apart*

SUNDAY



On Sunday mornings, check for an email from Pastor Inger with an At-Home Worship Service, including the readings for the day, a sermon, songs for reflection, and prayers. A **“Tiny Desk Worship”** will also be available on the church’s Facebook page.

Sign up to assist or read via our “Sign Up Genius” volunteer system (email Tanya Shedd (thobbs6@hotmail.com) for more details). The many voices of Christ’s body make each service special.



Join us for communion on Sundays at 10:00 am, at Legacy Lodge. Visit with our Legacy Lodge congregants, A.J., Elaine & others, via headset, while socially distancing. Please bring your own bread and wine for communion. You can also schedule our own outdoor communion with Pastor Inger; please email her at pastor.inger@sotmlc.org.



We have resumed our Picnic & Persephone Pick Up shift for **Hole Food Rescue!** Would you like to help? Talk to Robyn Lunsford (rlunsford@jorgeng.com)

TUESDAY



Bible & Breakfast, our weekly coed group that looks at the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday, meets via ZOOM. We meet **from 8 - 9 am (Jackson time)**. Grab a cup of coffee and your most Virginian-worthy breakfast, and join us! If you would like to attend, please email Scott Daily (scott@hoback.org).

WEDNESDAY



Hybrid “Office” Hours on the Parsonage Porch! On Wednesday mornings, Pastor Inger will be more intentionally online and lifting up prayer requests, weather permitting. You can check in electronically (through Facebook, email, text or message) OR, if you are comfortable being socially distant outdoors, grab a mask and stop by the parsonage between 8 am - 10 am.

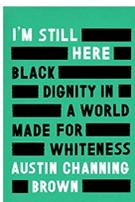
EVENTS IN AUGUST

AUGUST 9



Church Council will meet at **11 am**. If you have something you would like on the agenda, please email a council member.

AUGUST 11, 18 & 25



Join the Synod Discussion of Austin Channing Brown’s “I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness” Rev. Phil Misner is asking participants to prepare by reading different chapters each week, please check the weekly emails for updates on the chapters. The meetings will take place from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Email phil.misner@nwimsynod.org or Pastor to get the zoom invite.

AUGUST 26 & 27



Blood Drive Volunteer with Jolene to welcome and check in donors, or sign up to give blood at www.vitalant.org, or call 1-877-827-4376

LOOKING AHEAD

TBA



We don’t have a clear timeline for when a morning prayer service (no communion, no singing) might be offered in-person. Per synod guidelines, we are waiting for there to be two weeks of declining active cases of COVID-19 in Teton County.

your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor

Our thanks to new volunteers **Jolene Moulder** and **the Mizelle family**, as well as our steadfast volunteers who have been with us since the beginning, **Dale and Rose Jeske**, **Lorrie Lee** and **Jim Wells**, and **Marilyn Maier** and **Brent Schaffer**. Because of their time and talents, our work with Hole Food Rescue has resumed. These volunteers have really expanded our efforts! Beyond the regular pickups at Persephone’s Bakery, we are now also picking up shifts with other locations throughout Jackson.



HOLE FOOD RESCUE

• *Turning excess into access since 2013* •

The rescue team is always looking for more volunteers to help; if you are interested please email Robyn Lunsford at rlunsford@jorgeng.com

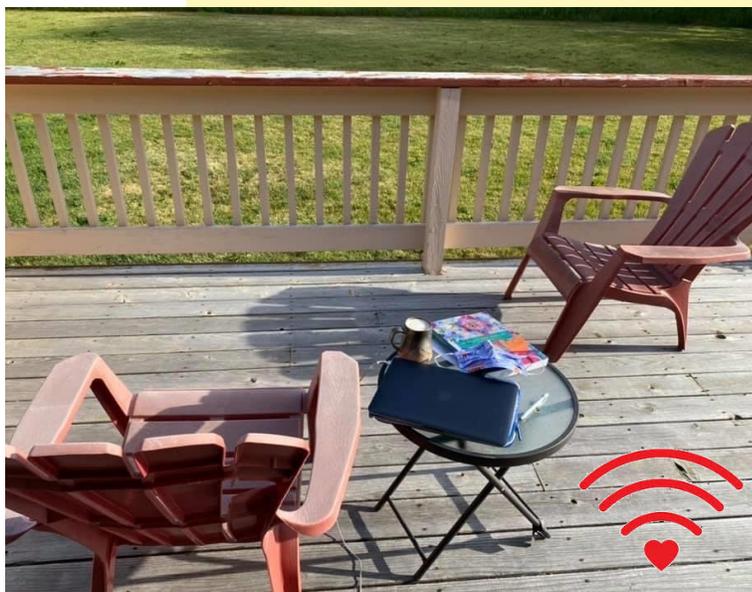
responding to the hunger for community and communion



A new communion option is to join Pastor Inger outside of Legacy Lodge for an outdoor, socially-distanced communion on Sundays at 10 am (please bring your own bread and wine). We use technology to include and catch up with AJ, Elaine and other residents. Alternatively, you can still schedule your own outdoor or ZOOM communion at another time.

◀ **Pastor Inger** channels the priest from the television show *Grantchester* on her way to preside over communion outside of Legacy Lodge

▼ The parsonage porch is ready for hybrid office hours!



Hybrid Office Hours are another way to connect. Wednesdays from 8—10 am Pastor Inger is intentionally online for pastoral care and prayer requests. Weather permitting, the coffee pot is also on and she welcomes company on the porch!

truth and justice and grace



“I’m Still Here” Book Study Ground Rules

We are grateful you have chosen to engage in a conversation about race using Austin Channing Brown’s, *I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*, as our guide. A few ground rules as we begin:

- Be respectful – race is a hard subject to have conversation about so please treat yourself and others with compassion, humility, and respect
- Be honest – and ask questions if you are not understanding something
- Be prepared – It will be helpful if you have read the corresponding chapters ahead of time. We know, however, that life happens so if for some reason you didn’t get the reading done, come anyway. You’ll still learn and help others learn. Here’s the updated reading schedule:
 - August 11 – chapters 5-7 & Interlude (pp. 67-111)
 - August 18 – chapters 8-9 & Interlude (pp. 112-130)
 - August 25 – chapters 10-12 & Interlude (pp. 131-164)
 - September 1 – chapters 13-14 (pp. 165-182)

We’ll be having these conversations over Zoom. Information for joining the Zoom meeting is below and will be the same each week. Zoom works best if you are muted when not talking. If you see that you have been muted by the host, do not be offended and know that when the time comes for more sharing, you will be unmuted. If you have questions about how to join a Zoom Meeting, please contact Pastor Phil Misner at phil.misner@nwimsynod.org

Thanks again for being a part of the conversation and thanks for walking together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88407697544?pwd=ZWtmYmpSV05iRnRodnJiNnF4bWYxQT09>

Meeting ID: 884 0769 7544

Passcode: 346370

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88407697544#,,,,,0#,,346370# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,88407697544#,,,,,0#,,346370# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

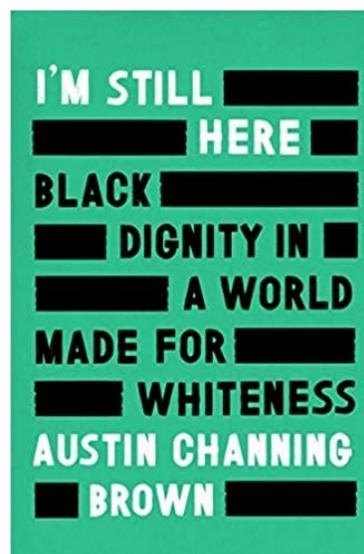
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 884 0769 7544

Passcode: 346370

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kpucYUGU>

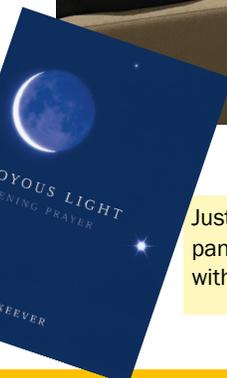


For peace in our hearts
For peace in our homes
For friends and family



In September of 2019, Shepherd of the Mountains stretched to hire a part-time director of music. Ron Fabry immediately had an impact on our worship, teaching and leading our song.
A lot has happened since then!

In addition to strengthening our congregational singing, Ron inspired a robust seasonal choir. We sang on Sundays throughout Advent, as well as for Christmas Eve services.



tiny desk worship

Just as we were beginning Lent (and learning "Joyous Light" evening prayer), pandemic precautions took us online. Can you imagine tiny desk worship without music?!

CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Thankfully, Ron will continue to accompany our prerecorded worship. Celebrating his ministry with us this past year, recognizing the need for his gifts in the wider faith community, we pray for peace in our hearts, and peace for Ron and St. John's as our friends and family, as we all navigate this change.

Solo Deo Gloria!

Thank You



go in peace,
good and faithful servant!

That you center our lives in the water and the Word

Psalm 126

- ¹ When the Lord restored
the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those whose dream.
- ² Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations,
‘The Lord has done great things
for them.’
- ³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
- ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
- ⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
- ⁶ Those who go out weeping,
carrying the seed,
will come again with joy,
shouldering their sheaves.

Passage

Psalm 126 is another of the “Songs of Ascent.” After the pilgrim has seen Jerusalem (Psalm 121) and entered it (Psalm 122), he or she ascends the Temple Mount (Zion: Psalm 125) and, in this psalm, recalls what God has done for Zion. This is a bittersweet psalm. Verses 1-3 recall how the LORD had “restored the fortunes of Zion.” Every once in a while, Emily, Mom and I will reminisce about some of the wonderful things we have experienced: camping out by Gooseberry Falls in Minnesota for our honeymoon; our stay in Germany with a little girl with curly hair, or even smaller things. Those were moments of joy, when “our mouth was filled with laughter” (what a beautiful metaphor!). In those days, everyone could see that we were blessed by God.

Verses 4-6 focus on present problems. Perhaps it was triggered in the psalmist by the contrast between the risk of planting and joy of harvest. That certainly is the analogy he uses. But to “sow in tears” seems to go far beyond a normal cycle in farming. No, I think the psalmist is using this as a metaphor for life and for the misfortunes of Zion, now in ruins after the Babylonian captivity. So he prays that God will once again restore Zion’s fortunes: “like the watercourses in the Negeb,” which could be better understood: “like a dried up river bed in the desert.” It is amazing how a rainstorm miles away can suddenly make a wadi turn into a raging stream and cause the area to become green and bloom.

And *that* is the restoration we also long for. These psalms seem to “burst their own boundaries,” so to speak. The psalmist may be thinking of one example remembered joy and present trial, but it so easily becomes my prayer in my situation. There is a universality about the cry of faith that spans the centuries. That is why these psalms are truly “inspired”—breathed in by God’s own Breath and Holy Spirit.

- Dr. Tim Wengert, retired professor of church history
at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia
(now United Lutheran Seminary)

Sharing joy...



Prayer

Dear God, send down your transformative rains. Turn our tears into a harvest of joy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Meghan Thompson (now Bostick) and her husband Mike just had a beautiful baby girl. Her name is Rose Marie Bostick and she was born on June 27, 2020. She was 5 lbs 15 oz and 19 inches long. Meghan was a former member of SOTMLC and she moved to Lander a few years ago. She worked in the Special Ed Department at T.C.S.D. Meghan shared these wonderful pictures of Rose Marie and her Mommy & Daddy.

- submitted by Colleen Thompson

July 2020		
1st Simply Giving		\$ 1,675.00
Week of 6th	NA	\$ 1,080.00
Week of 13th	NA	\$ 1,705.00
15th Simply Giving		\$ 1,330.00
Week of 20th	NA	\$ 20,965.00
Week of 27nd	NA	\$ 456.05
Total	NA	\$ 27,211.05
Note: Weekly budget needs: \$2,375.00		

**Many the gifts, many the works!
Your voices make tiny desk worship special.**

With Tiny Desk Worship, volunteering for our services is easier than ever! Have you always wanted to read or lead the prayers, but suffer from stage fright? Now is your chance! No video, just voice—send recordings to Pastor Inger and she edits the service together.

If you would like to help, please ask Tanya Shedd (thobbs6@hotmail.com) about using Sign Up Genius!

Church Office Hours
Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30 am - 3 :30 pm



Spread the word, ask neighbors, friends, and businesses to give to Shepherd of the Mountains Church through Old Bill’s Fun Run. These funds are used exclusively for our outreach ministry. Last year Shepherd of the Mountains was able to help out 156 families with food and utility gift cards. Please donate again this year so we can continue to help our neighbors.



Giving While You Shop at Smith’s
Help the church while you buy your groceries

Please consider enrolling in Smith’s Grocery’s *Inspiring Donations Program.*

Link your Smith’s card to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church. The church will receive a check for .5% of your purchases!

It’s easy:

1. Sign in to your account and choose “My Account” in the top right corner.
2. This brings up a list on the left. Choose “Inspiring Donations.”
3. Look for our organization number—YJ339
4. Finish the process.



AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as amazon.com.



The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the church! Please switch over to AmazonSmile and pick Shepherd of the Mountains (make sure it says Jackson, WY) as the charitable organization you support.

Don’t forget your offering! Use online giving, or mail your offering directly to the church:

Shepherd of the Mountains
PO Box 3257
Jackson, WY 83001