

Shepherd of the Mountains



December 2021

A little child
a shining star
a stable rude,
the door ajar.
Yet in that place
so crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all
the world was born.



Worship with us!

Sundays at 9 am

sotmlcjackson@gmail.com
www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org



**Shepherd
of the Mountains
Lutheran Church
ELCA**

750 Seneca Lane
PO Box 3257
Jackson, WY
83001

Office:
(307) 733-4382

Email:
sotmlcjackson@
gmail.org

**Office Hours
Tuesdays &
Thursdays
8:30 -3:30**

Interim Pastor
Rev. Ben Nardi
307-413-9224
nardib@yahoo.com

Church Administrator
Nancy Parisee
307-733-4382

Dear Shepherd of the Mountains,

Well here we are, once again in the midst of the Advent season. Or if you wish.... 'The Holiday season'.... "The Season of Light".... "Hanukkah".... "Kwanzaa"..... "New Years".... "Festivus"..... "Christmas" or what ever your family traditionally celebrates this time of the year. The one thing all these holidays have in common is "Family". Starting with the Holy family and their appearance on Christmas eve...or the celebration of African heritage, or the remembering of our Cultural roots . Theses celebrations have a central family focus. The family gathers in celebration and sharing a meal and/or sharing precious family memories of past celebrations. It can be a time of intense food, preparation and house cleaning. Making sure the is enough of what ever is needed. Stressing over what is not ready or what packages or travel plans have been delayed. In the end, despite the worries and stress, everything comes together and a new fresh batch of memories are added to the list. The Holidays are all about Family (In-laws, and outlaws), and that is both a blessing and a curse....

The down side of the holidays, being family centric, is that there are those who gather this season with an "empty chair" at the table. Circumstances have dictated that a loved one is not with the gathering this season. Someone has passed away, or moved away for the first time and celebrating with a new family. Some are serving with the military and are on active duty and cannot make it home this year. Some may be quarantining or unable/unwilling to travel, and are missing.

What ever the reason we must be cognizant that some folks, this holiday season, are grieving over the presence of that "empty chair", that missing stocking, or that smile, or that laugh. There are some who are extremely lonely because they have no family to share in the holiday celebration. They are reminded of this fact with every Christmas carol, or commercial that emphasizes family gatherings. It is really a tough time for a lot of folks. We need to recognize this fact and be attuned to those who might be struggling this holiday season.

We need to reach out to them and let them know we are there for them. For we are celebrating the birth of the Child who came for the lost, the grieving, and the poor in spirit. We too, are call to extend the hand of love...as that Child has shown us. Blessings to you all this Holiday Season

Grace and Peace

Pastor Ben



Every Week

SUNDAY In-person Worship at 9 am.

Adult Education- Stay after church with Pastor Ben for a discussion about passages in the bible.

Hole Food Rescue - On Sunday mornings, volunteers pick up bread and baked goods from Persephone & Picnic to be distributed to those in need. Would you like to help? Talk to Robyn Lunsford (rlunsford@jorgeng.com). Please check our weekly email for new opportunities at Hole Food Rescue.

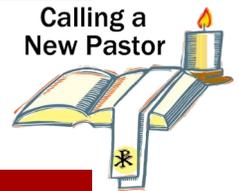
TUESDAY Bible & Breakfast, our coed group that looks at the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday, meets via ZOOM from 8 - 9 am (Jackson time). Email Scott Daily at scott@hoback.org for the link.

Events in December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	3	4
5 Advent 2 Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Education after church 	6	7 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	8	9 JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	10	11
12 Advent 3 Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Education after church  Council meets after church 	13	14 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	15 Blood Drive @ Community Bible Church 	16 Blood Drive @ Community Bible Church  JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	17	18
19 Advent 4 Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Education after church 	20	21 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	22	23 JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	24 Christmas Eve Worship at 5pm 	25 Christmas Day 
26 Christmas 1 Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Education after church 	27	28 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	29 Wedding Rental 3:30pm	30 JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	31 New Years' Eve Wedding Rental 1:00pm 	

Call Process Update

The Church Council continues to work with Pastor Phil Misner, Assistant to the Bishop, on identifying and interviewing potential candidates for pastor of Shepherd of the Mountains. We're also asking members to help with updating our Ministry Site Profile, a document that describes our congregation. This document helps pastors looking for a new call to learn more about us.



Christmas Eve Service

Join us for our
Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 24th at 5:00 pm
With Rev. Ben Nardi



Blood Drive for December



This month the blood drive, sponsored by SMLC, will take place at The Community Bible Church located at 1450 S. Park Loop Rd.

Blood donors are still needed for December. If you don't have an appointment and want to donate please go the the Vitalant website at https://www.vitalant.org to make an appointment.

Last Call to Get Your Pledged In!

Your donations through this pledge drive, big or small, are an important investment to our church. You are a steward of the property and the building that we use for our worship services, and soon you will soon be the steward of the new pastor that will walk through our church doors come the new year.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help your church family during these unsettling times. Your financial help, your time and your talents are needed now, not only through our Stewardship/Pledge Drive but also through the many volunteer opportunities that we have at Shepherd of the Mountains, such as our church committees.

For more information please talk to any of the Council members or call the church office at 307-733-4382.

Please feel free to cut out the pledge card below and mail it in to the address listed on the card.

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

2022 Pledge Campaign

In gratitude for all of God's Blessings in our lives we respond by helping our church family by giving.

Our/my total annual pledge for 2022 is

\$ _____

This estimate of giving may be revised by calling the church.

Please mail this pledge card to SMLC PO Box 3257 Jackson, WY 83001



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your commitment to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church!

Ministry Site Profile


Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

sample
 MINISTRY SITE PROFILE

DAY PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____ CELL _____ FAX _____

PART III: LEADERSHIP NEEDS

The Leader we Seek

Roster Type:

Minister of Word and Sacrament
 Minister of Word and Service
 In Candidacy/First Call

POSITION TYPE: _____ MINIMUM DEGREE REQUIRED: _____ FULL TIME/PART TIME: _____

Language Proficiencies

PRIMARY LANGUAGE (PROFICIENCY) _____ SECOND LANGUAGE (PROFICIENCY) _____ THIRD LANGUAGE (PROFICIENCY) _____

Experience:

0-3 years
 4-9 years
 10 -15 years
 16- 20 years
 21 + years

Top Five Ministry Tasks

The five most critical tasks required in this position.

<input type="checkbox"/> Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Building a Sense of Community	<input type="checkbox"/> Campus / Young Adult Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/> Chaplaincy	<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Christian Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications/ Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Organizing	<input type="checkbox"/> Conflict Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Counseling/ Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Ecumenical Work
<input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism/ Mission	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management	<input type="checkbox"/> Global Service
<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation / Creativity	<input type="checkbox"/> Interim Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Interpret Theology
<input type="checkbox"/> Inter-personal Climate	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry in Crisis	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry in Daily Life
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry with Seniors	<input type="checkbox"/> Multicultural Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Music / Worship / Arts
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor/ Camping Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Parish Nurse / Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Participant in the Larger Church
<input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care and Visitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Preaching / Worship	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Policy / Advocacy
<input type="checkbox"/> Recruit and Equip Leaders	<input type="checkbox"/> Self Care / Family Life	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Group Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Formation / Direction	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Mission Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Coordination
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth and Family Ministry		

Gifts for Ministry

The five gifts essential in this position, and the five that are very helpful in this position.

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As part of the process of looking for a new pastor for our congregation we are asking members of the congregation to fill out a 3 page Ministry Site profile. These profiles are located in the church at the back of the sanctuary. Copies will also be emailed out next week.



Please take the time to fill out these profiles and get them back to the church as soon as possible. There is a box that you can place your completed profile in located at the back of the sanctuary.

Your input is very important to us!

Advent Food Donations

This year we will began the new church year on November 28th, with the celebration of the beginning of Advent.

Advent is the first season in the church year, comprising the four weeks before Christmas. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin, "to come," and the church has observed Advent as weeks of preparation since the fifth century with themes of watchfulness, preparation, and hope infusing this season. Together we both anticipate the celebration of God's coming in the form of the Christ child and the final coming of Christ in the time to come. Blue or purple is the appointed color for the season.

To celebrate Advent this year, SMLC will be collecting food for our community. Each day in Advent simply put away the designated food item for that day and on Christmas Eve bring the box of food to church and leave it in the church foyer.

There are copies of the Reverse Advent Calendar located in the church foyer and a copy on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please talk to Jolene Moulder.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

Prayers

Jim Wells, healing after hand surgery.
 David Svendsen, strength as he heals from back surgery.
 Lucas Moulder, as he continues to heal from surgery and faces ongoing health issues.
 Lars Schou, who continues to heal after an accident.
 Patrick Corun (son of Dan & Kay Corun) healing prayers while his body adjusts to his new heart.
 Robyn Lunsford, who is still navigating health issues.
 Becky Sprunger (friend of Jolene Moulder), stage IV cancer.
 Cecelia Bellinghiere (friend of Mary Lou Klene), health issues.
 Betsy (friend of Di Mattios), diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease.

For prayers or prayer updates please email or call the church office.

Serenity Prayer

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
 the courage to change the things I can;
 and the wisdom to know the difference.
 Living one day at a time;
 Enjoying one moment at a time;
 Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
 Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
 Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;
 That I may be reasonably happy in this life
 and supremely happy with Him Forever in the next.
 Amen*

Church Council

While we are in transition please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Church Council or chat with them after church on Sundays.



President

William Shedd
 wshedd00@hotmail.com

Vice President

Terry DiMattio
 tnjintv@gmail.com

Secretary

Scott Daily
 scott@hoback.org

Council Members

Carolyn Daily
 carolyn@jhscientific.com

Sherry Kinsella
 kinsellas8@msn.com

Lorrie Lee Wells
 alliswellnow@bresnan.net

Pam Zernis
 zcircus3@yahoo.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December Birthdays

December 7th - Carolyn Svendsen
 December 14th - Nancy Ninnemann
 December 28th - Robyn Lunsford

Please call or email the church office and tell us when your special day is. Your church family would like to wish you birthday or anniversary greetings.





Quilt Group Update

The Quilt Group will be taking a break for the holiday season. They will resume their meetings beginning on Tuesday, January 11th and continue meeting each Tuesday throughout the month.

A Gift of Love

Left: The front doors have been adorned with beautiful Christmas swags, donated by the Mizelle family.



Upcoming Synod Event

SEISMIC SHIFTS: Where do we go from here?
February 8-10, 2022

Ignite The Church CONFERENCE

SEISMIC SHIFTS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

We are all experiencing some seismic shifts.

February 8-10, 2022

HYBRID FORMAT
 📍 **IN-PERSON (ORLANDO!)**
 + **ONLINE (LARGE GROUP SESSIONS)**

💰 **In-Person - As low as \$99, register early for best rates!**
Online - \$30 Suggested donation to the Fund for Leaders

Visit our website for workshop topics, presenters, and conference details.

Register now at: www.ignitethechurch.net

All proceeds benefit the ELCA Fund for Leaders

Since February 2020, the Church has been enduring unprecedented seismic shifts. In response, a new Hybrid version of the grassroots Ignite the Church Conference will gather next February...IN-PERSON in sunny Orlando and online...to reflect on the theme: SEISMIC SHIFTS: Where Do We Go From Here? The theme is grounded in the witness of Psalm 46: 1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and the mountains shake." Four large group sessions will focus on the following shifts: Public Church (Robin Steinke and Winston Persaud), Hybrid Church (Joe and Jess Liles), Adaptive Church (Tod Bolsinger), Thriving Church (Stephanie Spellers). Ten 90-minute workshops will dig deeper into these shifts to offer encouragement, inspiration, and challenge for church leaders.

To register and learn more about the presenters, workshop options, and other details go to IgniteTheChurch.net. Register by November 30 to access the lowest \$99 In-Person rate. The online option will provide live and recorded access to each large group session and the post-conference Resource Page. The online option is FREE...with a suggested donation \$30 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders invited. All proceeds continue to benefit the ELCA Fund for Leaders which has received \$13,000 from the Conference in just the past two years.



Online Giving



Have you ever thought about giving your offering online but don't know how?

You may sign up to give one time, weekly, monthly, or yearly .

You can give by text (307-207-3866), by credit or debit, or by online checking. Go to this link and you're on your way!

<https://sotmlcjackson.breezechms.com/give/online>

Giving While You Shop at Smith's

Help the church while you buy your groceries

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



Sign up to assist or read via our "Sign Up Genius" volunteer system (email Tanya Shedd (thobbs6@hotmail.com) for more details).

Signing up is easy - visit **Sign Up Genius** at [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer.

You may also mail in your donations to
Shepherd of the Mountains
P.O. Box 3257
Jackson, WY 83001

Your financial support is important to us!

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

November 2021

Week of 7th	16	\$1,020.00
Week of 14th	18	\$1,030.00
Week of 21st	21	\$1,030.00
Week of 28th	17	\$12,657.00

HELP NEEDED!

	December 5t Advent 2	December 12 Advent 3	December 19 Advent 4	December 24 Christmas Eve	December 26 Christmas 1
Preacher	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi
Assistant Minister	HELP NEEDED	William Shedd	Christina Mizelle	Scott Daily	Scott Daily
Reader	Terry Di Mattio	Tanya Shedd	Christina Mizelle	Robyn Lunsford	Sherry Kinsella
Ushers	Rose & Dale Jeske	Sherry Kinsella	Christina Mizelle	Brent Schaffer Marilyn Maier	HELP NEEDED
Counters	Rose & Dale Jeske	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella
Altar Minister	Pam Zernis	Sherry Kinsella	Pam Zernis	Pam Zernis	HELP NEEDED
Council Greeter	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED
Piano	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark