

# Shepherd of the Mountains

May 2021

## *The Call from Tomorrow*



### *ways to worship*

in-person options (with Covid precautions)

Sundays at 8 am and 10 am

tiny desk worship will be available Sunday evening

Send us an email if you'd like to receive a link to our Tiny Desk Worship on Sundays,  
or to learn more about what to expect at in-person options.

[sotmlcjackson@gmail.com](mailto:sotmlcjackson@gmail.com)



*The Call from Tomorrow*

Dear Shepherd of the Mountains,

I have a healthy respect for the Holy Spirit. As a child, I always envisioned a wind at my back, assisting my efforts. In seminary, I had a rude awakening.

I had plans for my internship, you see. Plans to round out my east coast seminary formation with a dose of the west, plans to live in New Mexico with my brother and sister-in-law. My candidacy committee had other ideas. They asked me to apply for an international internship. I was so caught off guard I didn't even ask why. I remember protesting – "I have a dog!" They were unmoved. "And?"

When I was first accepted into the Horizon Internship Program, I matched with a site in Belgium where the intern was going to work with both a congregation and a NATO military base. I began making plans to learn French. I had ideas about tall men and beer. Then the call came that the housing had fallen through. Horizon offered a site in Malaysia as an alternative. Was this the Holy Spirit or church bureaucracy? The Alaskan in me whimpered as I looked at the 90 degree temps and averages of 74-86% humidity.

Heat and humidity aside, my year in Kuala Lumpur was deeply formative, stretching and strengthening me. In the words of Pentecost favorite "Spirit of Gentleness," I began to recognize the Spirit that stings and goads, that in her wisdom led to places I hadn't imagined.

So I braced myself as I neared graduation for the first call process. What would this look like? My prayers still sometimes devolved into *Please not the Great Plains. Please not the Great Plains.* This time, however, the Spirit was attentive to my hopes. I remember "Knocking on Heaven's Door" came on as I drove into Jackson Hole for my in-person interview. Here, I have known the Spirit as calling and free.

Malaysia and Jackson Hole don't have much in common. Yet in spite of vast cultural differences, "church is church," and the Holy Spirit is present in both - gathering Luther House Chapel and Shepherd of the Mountains around the font and table, opening ears to God's word, and sending us out to serve the neighbor.

The final verse of the hymn talks about the Holy Spirit's activity in our times, in our lives:

*You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise.*

The pandemic wilderness has forced us to hold plans loosely, trusting on God for daily provision rather than some sort of strategic plan. Shepherd of the Mountains is too young to be ancient, but perhaps we've still held old patterns and ideas for what is to be done and how to do things... patterns that have been broken up this year. I think of Bishop Kirsten's Synod Assembly sermon, wondering if hands need to be empty so that they are ready to receive God's new thing. We have known sorrow this year – the sorrow of lost time and grave illness, of loneliness, of disagreement. But even here, the Holy Spirit calls from tomorrow, into new life. What dreams are you being given for Shepherd of the Mountains?

May you honor the fire in your belly, the wind stinging your eyes, and the wind at your back. In my experience, these are all signs the Holy Spirit is on the move.

In Christ,  
Pastor Inger

**Contact Information**

Pastor Inger Hanson

**Email:**

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non-critical  
communication)*

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(307) 248-0438

**Office Hours**

by appointment  
Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays  
or Thursdays

Call or Message  
during

**Online Office Hours**

**Wednesday  
8–10 am**

**Days Off**

Mondays &  
Saturdays

## EVERY WEEK

## SUNDAY



**In-person Worship at SMLC** We are offering in-person worship options each week. Join us on Sunday mornings at **8 am (spoken service)** or **10 am (some music and softly singing under our masks)**! *Remember things feel a little different - we wear masks and sit a bit farther apart. We won't pass the peace or do offering the way we have in the past. For communion, we will offer bread, or you may simply receive a blessing.*



**9am Education Hour** Currently, we are exploring the promises of God in scripture.



"Tiny Desk Worship" will be available on YouTube and Facebook on Sunday evenings.

**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.



**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)

## TUESDAY



**Bible & Breakfast**, our weekly coed group that looks at the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday, meets via ZOOM **from 8 - 9 am (Jackson time)**. Grab a cup of coffee and join us! If you would like to attend, please email Pastor Inger at [pastor.inger@sotmlc.org](mailto:pastor.inger@sotmlc.org) for the link.

## WEDNESDAY



**Online "Office" Hours** On Wednesday mornings, Pastor Inger will be more intentionally online and lifting up prayer requests. Give a phone call or check in through Facebook messenger, email, or text.

## EVENTS IN MAY

MAY  
1-8



**Church Clean Up** - Come and help clean the church property any time the first week of May, beginning May 1st. Choose a spot and do what you can! Please contact Dale & Rose Jeske at 307-690-0494 with any questions.

MAY  
4



**Holy Horizons** - Please join us on Zoom to discuss chapter 3 of *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Fellowship at 6 pm; discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

MAY  
18



**Church Council** will meet at **3:30 pm**. If you have something you would like to be on the agenda, please email a council member.

MAY  
18



**Holy Horizons** - Please join us on Zoom to discuss chapter 4 of *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Fellowship at 6 pm; discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

MAY  
20



**Virginian Breakfast Fellowship!** While our lectionary Bible study is enjoying being able to use zoom and gather across time zones, we miss the endless coffee and delicious breakfasts at the Virginian. Join us on Thursday, May 20th, at 9 am for fellowship and food!

MAY  
23



**Pentecost Sunday!** Wear red to celebrate the birth of the church and the activity of the Holy Spirit.

## LOOKING AHEAD

June  
16 & 17



**Blood Drive** Volunteer with Jolene to welcome and check in donors, or sign up to give blood at [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org), or call 1-877-827-4376



Now that anyone who wants one can get the vaccine, there have been many updates to Covid risk management. The CDC issued “Choosing Safer Activities” on April 27th. The Worship Board met April 29th and made the following recommendations:

- 1) We are delighted to be offering in-person worship every week. Even if there is a return to moderate risk (orange), we are comfortable enough with our protocols and vaccine availability that we will continue offering weekly in-person worship. In the event of the community being at high risk (red), we will tighten protocols but continue to offer weekly in-person options.
- 2) We ask parishioners to continue to wear masks in the building. In an abundance of caution, we will continue to use full bulletins rather than our hymnals and modify how we collect the offering. We are going to try communion with one kind (bread) so that we can share one loaf.
- 3) The worship leaders may choose to remove their masks for preaching, reading, or leading prayers. The worship leaders will wear masks at other times.
- 4) Now that the vaccine is available to everyone and vaccination rates are rising, we can begin to sing softly with our masks!



*SMLC's  
in-person  
worship  
services  
fall here*



### Choosing Safer Activities

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		<b>Outdoor</b>	
Safest		Walk, run, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		<b>Indoor</b>	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Ride public transport with limited occupancy	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor choir	

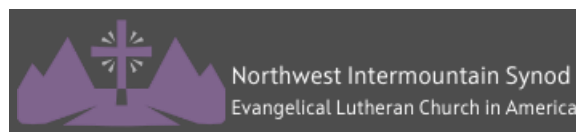


Much thanks to **Scott Daily** and **Nikki Thompson**, pioneers of the first ever Remote Synod Assembly!

As our congregational representatives, they attended an orientation session in advance of the actual assembly (troubleshooting any bugs in the voting platform, etc), and then gave a long Saturday to do the business of the church over zoom. We voted on budgets and representatives for various committees, and had a long discussion before the assembly passed the memorial for Care of Creation, Environmental Justice, and Carbon Pricing (to encourage congregations to utilize a new resource on Carbon Pricing Basics in adult education offerings).

Did you catch **Synod Assembly Worship on April 25th**? Pastor Inger was on the Worship Team and did the video editing, so the Tetons anchored the Thanksgiving for Water that began the service!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJL\\_Jl0vSbg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJL_Jl0vSbg)



**CHURCH**

**It's Time to Clean Up at Church!**

Please join us the first week of May to come and clean up the grounds at the church.

**Just show up anytime beginning May 1st**



Choose a spot and do what you can!  
Please call Rose or Dale Jeske with any questions at 307-690-0494



**Virginian Breakfast Fellowship!** While our lectionary Bible study is enjoying being able to use zoom and gather across time zones, we miss the endless coffee and delicious breakfasts at The Virginian. Join us on **Thursday, May 20th, at 9 am for a fellowship breakfast.**



Supporting the family when a loved one is sick is important! **Inger Kirkegaard** organized a lovely evening with **Vivian Moulder**.



**Chris Moulder** turned a corner and has been released to continue his recovery at home! Thanks be to God!

**Elaine Skatrud** celebrated her 90th birthday with visits from family, flowers, cake and communion! St. John's Living Center has precautions in place and you can now make appointments for indoor visits!



**Keep praying, especially for those on our prayer list:**

- Pastor Beake*, recovering from a kidney "boulder" and navigating health issues.
- Chris Moulder*, who is home! Prayers of thanksgiving, and for continued healing and strength for Chris and all the family.
- Robyn Lunsford*, still in discernment on next steps to resolve pleural effusions.
- Scott Daily*, who had a successful surgery and is recovering quickly!
- Lorrie Lee*, visiting with her mother (Irene) and family. Irene is preparing for end of life.
- Nancy Barge*, as she prepares for heart valve surgery this month.
- Malissa Mejia* (friend of Karen Schroeder), diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. Prayers for Malissa, her husband and 3 children as she begins extensive treatment in SLC soon.
- Alisha* (friend of Nikki Thompson), and baby Abigail (diagnosed with Spina Bifida), for more time for the baby to develop *in-utero*.
- Kara Skatrud Baylor*, in plan C of treating MBC. Prayers for strength, for time (one child graduates from 8<sup>th</sup> grade June 2021 and other spring 2022), and for healing.
- Dick Gensmer* (Nancy Ninnemann's brother-in-law), who has been given more time! Thanksgiving for this reversal and each moment with his family.
- Dorothy Remington*, continuing life at St. John's Living Center.
- Deb Johnson* as her cancer journeys continue.



**Psalm 143**

*When our spirits faint, where our spirit fails,  
God's good Spirit leads us to level ground.*

- <sup>1</sup>Lord, hear my prayer,  
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;  
answer me in your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup>Enter not into judgement with your servant,  
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- <sup>3</sup>For my enemy has sought my life and has crushed me to the ground,  
making me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
- <sup>4</sup>My spirit faints within me; my heart within me is desolate.
- <sup>5</sup>I remember the time past; I ponder all your deeds;  
I consider the works of your hands.
- <sup>6</sup>I spread out my hands to you;  
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- <sup>7</sup>O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;  
do not hide your face from me,  
or I shall be like those who go down to the pit.
- <sup>8</sup>Let me hear of your lovingkindness in the morning,  
for I put my trust in you;  
show me the road that I must walk,  
for I lift up my soul to you.
- <sup>9</sup>Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for I flee to you for refuge.
- <sup>10</sup>Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;  
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- <sup>11</sup>Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake;  
for your righteousness' sake,  
bring me out of trouble.
- <sup>12</sup>In your steadfast love,  
destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught,  
for truly I am your servant.

**A Prayer**

Holy Spirit,  
you flow through the lives of believers  
every day.

You fill us with your fire,  
strengthen us during times of adversity,  
and gather us in community.

For all this and more, we thank you.

Holy Spirit, we are imperfect vessels  
in imperfect circumstances.

Enter into our lives in this place.

Empower us to carry the gospel message  
in our walk, our talk,  
and in all of our moments.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

- modified from ELW's *Hear My Voice*



**A Passage**

On the great day of Pentecost, a mighty wind surged forth from heaven, pushing the followers of Jesus out of the house where they had been hiding, and into the streets. Flames danced above their heads, their tongues began to wag, and people from all over the world heard what they said—no matter what their native language.

Peter gave a sermon which would cause Billy Graham to turn green with envy—and three thousand people were baptized. The Church of Jesus Christ was born!

On the day *after* Pentecost:

Peter's wife had to yell at him three times to get out of bed, so that he would get his sermon on the website before 9:00 am.

The deacons grumbled about cleaning out the baptismal pool.

And the apostles argued about who got to preach on Trinity Sunday, who would choose the hymns, and who would be stuck chairing the Nominating Committee.

Come, Holy Spirit, with your gracious language.

Come, Holy Spirit, with your passion for all people.

Come, Holy Spirit, with your uniting peace.

- Thom M. Shuman in *Fire & Bread* (Wild Goose Publications, 2006)

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>

*Thank you to those of you who have already donated; your gifts to the church are a blessing!*

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

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.



APRIL 2021		
Good Friday	13	\$ 11.00
Easter Sunday	22	\$ 1,256.00
Week of 11th	NA	\$ 1,200.00
Week of 18th	NA	\$ 860.00
Week of 25th	12	\$ 2,639.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>\$ 5,966.00</b>
Note: Weekly budget needs: <b>\$2,976.00</b>		
* Recently updated to reflect 2021 budget		

	May 2 Easter 5	May 9 Easter 6	May 16 Easter 7	May 23 Day of Pentecost	May 30 Holy Trinity
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev. Inger Hanson	Rev. Inger Hanson	Rev. Inger Hanson	Rev. Inger Hanson	Rev. Inger Hanson
<b>Online Assistant Minister</b>	Mary Lou Klene	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Online Reader</b>	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Reader</b>	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Rose Jeske	HELP NEEDED
<b>Ushers</b>	Rose Jeske	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Rose Jeske	HELP NEEDED
<b>Counters</b>	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Rose Jeske	HELP NEEDED
<b>Piano</b>	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark