

# Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church



Worship With Us  
Sundays at 10 am

Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 - 3:30

Pastor Tim Stadem

May 2023



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The name given for our 2 years together is: TRANSITIONAL CALL. This means we are in a 'transitional relationship' (arranged by both our synod and congregation) that provides a framework and timeframe for Shepherd of the Mountains **'to identify our next steps as a church in this time and place.'** I began this Call on August 15, 2022. I would like to share with you this brief overview.

At the conclusion of this 2 year call—between pastor and congregation—are these options:

- 1) to restart with me in a 'normal call' between pastor and congregation—with no concluding time or
- 2) each party has the option of parting ways. So in the meantime, with the help of congregational leadership, we will conduct open conversations for everyone to weigh in, dream, and talk about our relationship and direction along the way. I look forward to this discernment in God's hands.

## **STEPS WE HAVE TAKEN:**

Our focus is **RENEWING OUR CONGREGATION** together—where each person is invited to explore and discern God's leading. At the same time, each person is invited and guided *to more deeply listen:*

- to God in the scriptures and our dialogues,
- to God's Spirit in one another, and
- to God's presence in our neighbors/God's world.

Thus far, our conversations in worship (one Sunday per month) have included:

- Part 1) **OUR WHY** – because our world has been radically changing—"a profound disorientation"—and we seek to respond faithfully. God summons our congregation into a hopeful future where we follow the Spirit, yet not knowing exactly where. This is a relationship of trust.
- Part 2) **OUR CALL** – we *'find our voice'* by listening: to God, to one another, and to our neighbor. All are invited to 'dwell in the word'—to deeply rely on God. And with a faithful curiosity, we are exploring what God wants us to become.
- Part 3) **GOD'S DREAM** – God is committed to giving life and love 'to all nations'. And about this living Christ, we hear: *"full of grace and truth"...in this present world.* To see what God is up to, we look at much more than inside the church—which means we are refocusing our sense of mission.
- Part 4) **THE HOW** – Let's say it with one word: **RELATIONSHIP**. God's activity is to bless and save—which also denotes HEALING. With all power to 'do it alone', God's choice is to include you—to work with us. Our role is *'taking part in God's Dream'*.

## **FUTURE STEPS:**

Part 5 in our 'Renewing our Congregation' is *Looking For A Vision*—we embrace a process of letting God transform our ways of seeing; we let God help us with our vision for ministry. Also in May/June is a gathering of for storytelling—where we follow a biblical model for 'seeing our own personal call' and 'finding our voice.'

Then, in June through August 2023, are efforts to accomplish a more broad view: *Identifying Our Purpose*. Finally, our congregation will make decisions on: *Guiding Principles & Next Steps*. (And each of these events are interspersed with Church Growth Skills and Good Communication)

## **FINAL STEPS:**

Overall, in August 2023 our congregation will begin to explore the outcomes of the Transitional Call. Both congregation and pastor begin reviewing and responding to questions from the synod and help from our own Mutual Ministry Committee—who work closely with pastor's call and expectations.

In the concluding months—around January and February, 2024—we need to know what the final decisions are unfolding for the future of Shepherd of the Mountains, including: 1) Future pastoral leadership directions, and 2) Future ministry directions.

I hope this overview helps us see the much larger picture and our steps along the way. And as I mentioned earlier, we will have ample opportunities for honest conversation and feedback along the way.

Grace to you and peace as we continue to Renew Our Congregation,  
Pastor Tim





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Pastor Tim Stadem

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May 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Women's Group 10:30 am AA 6:30pm	3	4	5	6 Spring Yard Cleanup 9:30 am - noon (rain date is May 13th)
7 Easter 5 Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem Cross Pounding Party 	8	9 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Women's Group 10:30 am AA 6:30pm	10	11	12 Meal, Play & Pray Potato & Game Night Potluck at 5:30 pm 	13
14 Mother's Day Easter 6 Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem	15	16 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Women's Group 10:30 am Potluck Lunch 12:30 pm  AA 6:30pm	17	18	19 Church Rental 5pm - 9 pm	20
21 Easter 7 Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem Council Meets	22	23 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Women's Group 10:30 am AA 6:30 pm	24	25	26	27
28 Day of Pentecost Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem	29 Memorial Day 	30 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Women's Group 10:30 am AA 6:30pm	31			

**Yard Clean Up**



Rain date is Saturday,  
May 13th

**Church Cleanup Day**

Saturday, May 6th

From 9:30 am until noon

Help us clean up the grounds. Bring your rakes and gloves!

A light lunch will be provided

**Meal, Play & Pray Potato Bake**

Our next monthly evening gathering with food, prayer, and play is:

A Potato Bar on

Friday, May 12th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm

Potatoes are provided; you are asked to bring a topping  
(sign up at church)



Also, please bring a game to share. We are going to have some more fun together.

PS: we are also making some intentional effort to include our neighbors. PSS: Please bring a friend!

**We Have a New Bishop!**

Meggan Manlove, the current pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Nampa, Idaho was elected the new Bishop of our Synod at the Synod Assembly meeting on the weekend of April 28-30.

Besides being the pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Meggan comes to the position with an impressive background including, Pastor of Soldier Lutheran Church in Soldier, IA from 2004-2010, Intern at Emmanuel, Cheney & Eastern WA Univ., and working with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, in Syracuse, NY where she worked in Refugee Youth Outreach. Meggan has a Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary in St. Paul MN, A Master in Divinity from the Univ. of Chicago Divinity School, and a BA in History and English from Concordia College in Morrhead, MN.



When asked what gifts she would like to bring to the office of bishop of the synod she answered, I cannot shake the lens of the gospel whether I am preparing a sermon, planning worship, speaking at a city council meeting, leading a meeting, discussing a budget, or providing pastoral care. I deeply love being a public theologian and the complexity of our work. I prioritize building relationship and community, whether in a congregation or at camp, within my cluster, among ecumenical peers, or with the wider church. I am a strong writer and communicator. I am a lifelong learner and intentional in building capacities to meet ministry needs. I am skilled at facilitating groups of many sizes both in-person and online.

In the next six years Meggan says the principal challenge will be to continue boldly proclaiming a gospel of love and grace in a culture with so many other competing claims, such as church as country club, the purity culture, or Christian nationalism. We would build new partnerships with other synods and denominations, pooling our resources. I would bring my current congregation's extensive work around faith stories to the entire synod. I would keep us connected online and through in-person gatherings throughout our beautiful synod. I would use a combination of communication, videoconferencing, and in-person gatherings to continue equipping both pastors and lay people to share our faith in new and old ways.

Welcome Meggan!

**Cross Pounding Party**



The church has another order for crosses!

This Sunday, May 7th we will have a cross pounding party at the church after the worship service. Your help is needed to fill an order of 100 crosses.

Please come and join the fun.

**Women's Group**

**Women's Bible Study**

Every Tuesday at 10:30 am

A new chapter of bible study with Pastor Tim

The Ten Commandments: Reviving the Soul

Come when you can. Bring your bible, knitting, stitching, etc.

Coffee and snacks are provided

Whoo-Hoo!



**Lawn Thatcher Needed**

The church is in need a lawn thatcher that fits on the back of a lawn tractor. If you have a thatcher that we can borrow for a day or two please contact the church office or call Dale Jeske at 307-690-0494.



**Piano Player Needed**



We are currently searching for a pianist for our worship services.

While we are searching Pastor Tim will continue to accompany our singing on the guitar.

Please let pastor know if you know someone who plays the piano that can help us each Sunday.

**Non Cash Gifts to SMLC**

Did you know that gifts of appreciated property (stocks, mutual funds or real estate, can be transferred to Shepherd of the Mountains by your broker or investment advisor?

Make a bigger impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stock, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to our church. Compared with donating cash, or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift and your tax deduction.

It's simple and easy. When you donate stock to church, you'll generally take a tax deduction for the full fair market value. And because you are donating stock, your contribution and tax deduction may instantly increase over 20%. Would you prefer to donate bonds or mutual funds? The same benefits apply.

For more information on donating to SMLC please call the office or talk to your financial advisor.



## Thank You

This month we will recognize a few of our church heroes for their steadfast fellowship and love to our church family.



- Terry Di Mattio and Brent Schaffer for their work on our building & grounds upkeep.
- Jolene Moulder for all she does for our church.
- To our Council Members for their devotion and hard work.
- To Pastor Tim for working so hard at growing our church and our knowledge of Christ.

## Prayers

Rick Thompson, recovering from colon surgery  
 Janell Weber, recovering from heart surgery  
 Sherry Kinsella health.  
 Robyn Lunsford, health.  
 The family of Tordie Combs  
 Chuck & Carolyn Hast, (friends of Mary Lou Klene), health & caregiver

*Lifting others in our prayers.*

Individuals will remain on our Prayer List for a period of 3 weeks.  
 Please continue to hold them in your prayers after that.  
 You are welcome to let us know if you would like people to return to the list for another 3 weeks.



*For prayers or prayer updates please email*

## Church Council

Please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

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

Shepherd of the Mountains

## Church Council

God's Vision for Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church: A family of faith, living our beliefs by Welcoming, Worshipping, Teaching, and Serving (WWTS).

### President:

Terry DiMattio  
 tnjintv@gmail.com

### Vice President:

Lorrie Lee  
 alliswellnow@bresnan.net

### Secretary

Rusty Mizelle  
 wyomingmizelles@gmail.com

### Council Members

Brent Schaffer  
 schafferbg@gmail.com

Pam Zernis  
 zcircus3@yahoo.com

Chris Moulder  
 chris@dubbe-moulder.com

Nikki Thompson  
 nltpurple1984@gmail.com

Sascha Mizelle  
 wyomingmizelles@gmail.com

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



### May Birthdays

Steve Nelson on May 14th  
 Dave Svendsen on May 19th  
 Chris Moulder on May 21st  
 Rose Jeske on May 25th

Please call or email the church office and tell us when your special day is.

# Quilts Made With Love



Often, when natural disasters strike or war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion but we don't know how to help. If you've wondered how to volunteer to quilt for charity, look no further. Making Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering.

LWR distributed its first quilts in 1945 to families in war-torn Europe following the Second World War. Within a decade, the ministry was reaching around the globe to villages far removed from the world's attention. Today, an average of 300,000 quilts are lovingly given worldwide each year.

Above: Margie Aeckerle, Carolyn Daily & Pam Zernis pack up the quilts so they can be shipped out.

Right: Pastor Tim, along with others from the congregation, bless the quilts during a service on April 2nd.



LWR Mission Quilts create a tangible, lasting bond between the people who lovingly assemble them, and our neighbors around the world, who receive quilts in their greatest times of need.

We give thanks to the countless men, women, and youth who assemble LWR Mission Quilts every year. If you'd like to learn more and become a part of this ministry of love, visit [lwr.org/quilts](http://lwr.org/quilts).



## Women's Group

Left: Pastor Tim along with Karen Schroeder, Margie Aeckerle and Pam Zernis discuss the bible reading for that week. Our weekly Women's Group has successfully taken off with a good outcome. Some women come every week and some come when they can. Some women bring knitting or other stitchery and some bring none. There are no rules to participate, just come and join the fun!



April Church Council Meeting

Highlight of discussions and planning - keeping our congregation informed.

Highlights of the Council Meeting on April 16, 2023:

- 1) Biblical & Spiritual discussion into chapter 5 of Renew Our Congregation "Looking for a Vision"
- 2) Decisions were made about specific 'line items' for our newly approved 'Designated Account' in our financial record keeping.
- 3) Updates on Constitutional and Bylaw changes
- 4) Property maintenance decisions included: painting the outside church and filling the cracks in the parking lot this summer.
- 5) Networking in our community has begun – interviewing community people – by Lori Lee Wells, Robyn Lunsford, and Pastor Tim

Welcome Baby Schmillen!

Congratulations to the Schmillen family with the birth of a new baby girl!

Eleanor Josephine Schmillen (she will go by Elli Jo)

was born on April 15th to

Heidi Schmillen and her partner Josh.

Elli Jo weighed in at 5 lbs 8 oz.

Sweet blessings to the new parents and grandparents!



Supporting Our Neighbor Drive

Our Outreach Ministry is asking for everyone to help serve our neighbor through these specific needs - a list of items from One22 Resource Center. Please bring an item or more to the baskets at the church entry when you arrive at worship. We will deliver these items to the resource center.

“Thanks be to God for these ways of making a difference.”



Unopened, full-size items are needed

- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Hand & Body Soap

- Body Lotion
- Deodorant
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Tissues

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Q-Tips
- Pads & Tampons

- Chapstick
- Diapers (size 4, 5, 6)
- All purpose cleaner
- Toothbrushes (individual or small quantities)
- Toothpaste

Giving



Welcome to our new online Giving platform.

Through online giving you can pay by credit, debit, or by online checking. You can also give by texting SMLCJH to the number 73256

To give or set up payments online, simply click on the link below and you're on your way!

<https://onrealm.org/ShepherdMountainJH/Give>

Giving While You Shop at Smith's

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."



You may mail 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

April 2023 attendance & offering		
April 2 - Palm Sunday	18	\$ 2530.00
April 7—Good Friday	28	\$ 125.00
April 9 - Easter Sunday	29	\$ 1,110.00
April 16	24	\$ 1,800.00
April 23	17	\$ 1,155.00
April 30	15	\$ 738.17

Volunteering Each Week

Sunday Servants

Sign up to assist or read

There is now a physical sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

You can also call the church office if you wish to sign up.

	May 7 Easter 5	May 14 Easter 6	May 21 Easter 7	May 28 Day of Pentecost
Preacher	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem
Assistant Minister	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Reader	Dale Jeske	HELP NEEDED	Terry Di Mattio	HELP NEEDED
Greeter/Ushers	Rose & Dale Jeske	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Counters	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Altar Minister	Rose Jeske	Pam Zernis	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Coffee Hour	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED