



The Parish Door

March 2025

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

Shepherdofthebay.org

(920) 854-2988

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Back Cover - Tasha Schuh
appearing at SOTB in April

Lent Begins Wednesday, March 5th

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Please join with us at 6:15pm on March 5, for an Ash Wednesday Service including music, choir anthem, the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.



Ash Wednesday Service Preceded by a Soup and Bread Buffet

Come and join us at 5:30pm in the fellowship hall and enjoy a good hot meal in the middle of winter. We will serve soup, bread, and dessert. A free will offering will be collected for the Guatemala Mission.

Midweek Wednesday Lenten Meals and Services

Wednesdays, starting March 12th, we will gather together at 5:30pm for a shared meal in the Fellowship Hall. Each week will feature a different menu, with a freewill offering benefiting various outreach programs of Shepherd of the Bay.

After clearing our tables, we will move into a time of worship around the same tables where we enjoy our dinner. Worship will include singing, reflection, prayer, and sharing our faith. The services will be informal yet impactful, and we hope you will join us for this meaningful experience of worship and community.

This year our theme for the following five midweek services in Lent is:

Worship Through the Senses

For these forty days, we journey with Jesus down the Lenten path. As we gather, we seek to experience the ways Christ's embodied life demonstrates God's love for us. We will listen to stories of Jesus's life and of God's people because they teach us how God calls us to live in the world. Weekly themes include:

Sight: God has given us eyes to see his presence and love.

Sound: God has given us ears to hear his voice.

Scent: God has given us a sense of smell to breathe in awareness of the world around us.

Touch: God has given us a sense of touch to give and receive care.

Taste: God has given us a sense of taste so that food becomes more than physical nourishment.

Come with hearts open to learn through the gifts of our senses.

Invite your friends! All are Welcome!



Pastor's
Post

Pr. Jim Honig

On the first Sunday in Lent, we'll begin a sermon and worship series, *Everything [in] Between*. This series allows the Gospel of Luke to guide us through Lent. The series flows through several familiar stories—the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more. Many of these stories are well-known in both sacred and secular imagination, carrying cultural relevance and lore. For example, have you ever identified yourself as either a “Mary” or a “Martha?” The “Good Samaritan” title alone could reference a hospital, a charitable organization, a type of law, or a good deed. Perhaps you grew up singing “Zacchaeus was a wee little man” in Sunday School. So many of these scriptures hold significance in pop culture, church history, politics, and everything in between. Our reflection on the stories will help us see how Jesus’ ministry was rooted in relationships that disrupted the established social, political, and religious divides of his time. As modern readers, we sometimes lose the “shock factor” behind Jesus’ words, as his teaching tactics likely felt extreme for those in his context. He described a stigmatized Samaritan as a good neighbor. He emphasized the value of 1 sheep in a herd of 100. He dined with a tax collector who amassed wealth through extortion. While dying on the cross, he told a convicted criminal he would soon find paradise. Jesus intentionally highlighted the cultural and political polarities of his time to emphasize the radical, inclusive, and surprising love of God. When we study these stories in their historical and cultural context, we see how they mirror the cultural and political divides many of us experience today.

This series is an invitation to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness to be transformed. Each weekly sub-theme explores two supposed binaries, like “faith & works” or “rest & growth,” or “grief & hope.” We often consider these ideas to be opposing. However, as we explore these concepts within the scriptures, we find nuance and complexity. We find that these dichotomies are false. We might begin to see a full spectrum instead of black and white. We might find that God is present in between. And so, this season, you will be invited to look beyond black and white binaries and easy answers. You will be encouraged to notice the dichotomies that define your lives, but also imagine where God might be meeting you beyond the categories you create. This theme may resonate with anyone who is in discernment or trying to find their way through an undefined space. It will speak to anyone who feels as if they are living in a divided world. It is for those who seek a spiritual life that engages with complexity instead of avoiding it. This Lent, we're trusting that God shows up in shades of gray, rainbow hues, and everywhere in between.



WELCA Book Selections

All meetings will begin at 9:30am, the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please contact Gretchen Farwell if you have any questions regarding the Book Group and its meetings.

March 20

Quinn, Kate. **The Rose Code.** “Joining the elite Bletchley Park codebreaking team during World War II, three women from very different walks of life uncover a spy's dangerous agenda years later against the backdrop of the royal wedding of Elizabeth and Philip.”

WELCA Prayer Chain

The WELCA Prayer Chain continues to serve all the members and friends of SOTB for prayer requests.

To send a Prayer Request:

1. Send an email to Cheri Boock at cheriboock@gmail.com

2. State the request with wording that you want for the request. Make sure you have received permission from the person in need of the request.

3. The request will be sent when received by Cheri.

4. The Prayer Chain members always are glad to receive a report of how the person is doing as they are sending out their prayers, so if you request a prayer for someone, please let us know how that person is doing.

If you want to be included as a recipient of the Prayer Chain, and pray for those in need, contact Cheri Boock at 920-854-5493 or cell 920-421-1210 or the above email.



Wandering through the Cranberry Hymnal on a Sunny Winter Morning

As an interested musician and choir director, I often find myself wandering through various musical works, piano scores, choral masterpieces, choir anthems and hymnals. It was during my latest wandering through our church's Cranberry Hymnal that an "AHA MOMENT" demanded my attention. Let me explain.

Every month I am asked to write a brief article for the Parish Door, from the perspective of the music staff at Shepherd. As we are about to enter the season of Lent, it makes sense for me to peruse our hymnal for a topic to engage our collective thinking. Eureka! I have found something that speaks to the season in a musical, topical manner and that speaks to the curious musician (and former music theory teacher) as well! A hymn titled "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (found in a Baptist hymnal, the music composed by John B. Dykes, set to words by Horatius Bonar in a **minor key**) and the same text attributed to Bonar found in our own Cranberry Hymnal, set to music by Thomas Tallis that was written in the **phrygian mode!** You may ask, "What's a phrygian mode? And why all the enthusiastic fuss about this term?" Okay, here goes ... (my choir knows how "geeky" I can be from time to time when I get excited about sharing "stuff" with them!)

Modes (modal music scales) represent different 8-note scales that have distinct tonalities and elicit strong moods in music. The "happiest mode" is generally the easiest mode to remember, because it is the basis of our major keys (think C major, no sharps, no flats, just white notes on the piano, from C to C). This mode is called "ionian", uncomplicated by too much dissonance, having simple harmonic partnerships, easy on the ear. The ionian mode serves the church's needs quite nicely throughout the year, presenting a rather hopeful range of emotions in predictable melodies and harmonies. But in the season of Lent, this happy major sound often turns "minor", more solemn, darker in mood and mode. This mode is often "aolian" or natural minor, from A to A, no sharps, no flats. But occasionally a composer strikes out against the normal scheme of things, breaks the predictable mold and composes the music in **phrygian mode**, bringing new complications and opportunities to the mood of the music. This mode, from E to E, no sharps, no flats, is often used to create a sense of **darkness, mystery and intensity** in music. Isn't that a perfect pairing of music and words to the Lenten Season in the church?

So this musician's (that would be me) musing was born by the discovery !EUREKA! of finding attribution of a hymn, first to the poet (Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889), the composer (Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585) and the melodic foundation (**THIRD MODE MELODY**), in the section of our hymnal dealing with LENT. Enough about the inner workings of the music. Let's read the text together. Perhaps one day we'll have the opportunity to sing this modal melody together and enjoy the deep, dark secrets of the emotional impact of the phrygian mode to all our senses in the solemnity of the Lenten Season.

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

Music: Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585

THIRD MODE MELODY (phrygian)

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.*



There is an enormous musical impact to this hymn by the use of the phrygian mode and the darkness and depth born of its sound. But make no mistake! There is also enormous hope and light in the impact of the words, which draw us to the hope and promise represented by Jesus, who is the hope and light of the world, now and forevermore. In gratitude, humility and love, we offer our "Amen" and adoration to the one who will never abandon us. Amen.

Blessings to you throughout this solemn season of Lent,
Judith Jackson, Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka
720-227-4079 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com

The Lenten season is upon us! Families, come for a Lenten meal, each Wednesday night, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5th through Wednesday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m., followed by a light worship in the Sanctuary. Come join the journey to Holy Week through the five senses!

Sunday Celebration/Sunday School

Every Sunday following Children's message, for children's ages 4- grade 6.

3/2 The Transfiguration Luke 9:28-36

Today we bury the Allelujah!

3/9 Tempted Luke 4:1-13

3/16 God's Promises to Abram Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Today is family Sunday School, following Communion, Pancakes and Praise!

3/23 Parable of the Fig Tree Luke 13:1-9

3/30 The Prodigal Son Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Little Lambs

Every Thursday from 9:30-10:45 a.m. for infants, toddlers, prek, and their parents or care providers.

3/6 Jesus is my Friend and Savior

3/13 God gives us Friends, Hal and the New Kid

3/20 Galatians 6:5, Hal and the Prickle Problem

3/27 Spring Break, Little Lambs does not meet today

Confirmation

3/5 Follow the Sheep, Led by Pastor Jim, attend the Lenten meal to follow and Ash Wednesday service.

3/12 Simon Peter, Led by Lynda

3/19 Sadducees and Pharisees/ Pastor Jim, AND it is time to register for **Confirmation Camp! Details coming around the bend!**

Wonderful Wednesdays

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, children in grades K-6 ride the SOTB van from Gibraltar School, for a time of Bible stories, snacks, games, arts and crafts, and service to our neighbor.

3/5 Tonight we will have a special visitor, and learn more about "foot washing!" It is also Ash Wednesday. Please plan to stay for dinner with your family at pick up time, followed by a time of faith formation as we begin our Lenten journey.

3/7-3/9 Our students in grades 3-6 will travel to Imago Dei, for the "BYG" retreat! See Lynda if your child if you are interested in registering your child for this amazing faith formation event!

3/19 The Trinity, The three in one!

High School Youth Group

Youth group meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

3/5 Ash Wednesday, please plan to attend the Lenten meal with your family, followed by Ash Wednesday service.

3/12 Please arrive at 5:30 p.m. for the Lenten meal. We will sit together as a youth group. Tonight you'll receive your "summer packet" for 30 hour famine, mission to North Carolina, and Imago Dei!

3/26 Spring Break! We won't meet tonight. Enjoy your time with family and friends!

Learning about the Chinese New Year from Fowzi Kelty and making wontons and tea.



Please join us and help spread the word! Pathways to Mental Wellness Event, April 23

Shepherd of the Bay is hosting a **free** community event on April 23rd from featuring speaker Tasha Schuh. We will have an information fair featuring over 20 local organizations and businesses dedicated to promoting mental wellness from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. It's a fantastic opportunity to connect, learn, and discover valuable resources! A meal will be served from 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM, and at 6:30 PM, Tasha Schuh will share her powerful story, igniting hope and resilience within us all.

We would love to have a large group of volunteers to help before, during, and after the event. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. This is a great opportunity to get to know fellow members of the congregation. "Many hands make light work." We will need help with advertising, delivering posters, making desserts, corn bread, veggie trays, cheese trays, fruit trays, set up help, kitchen help, clean up help, chili makers, donations of ingredients, donations of money, sponsorship of the speaker, etc.

Most of all we want you to join us by visiting the tables of various organizations, sharing a meal, and listening to Tasha. Invite your friends and neighbors.

From Tasha's website:

"Life is riddled with obstacles, challenges, and difficulties. As a quadriplegic, Tasha knows this firsthand. When Tasha speaks, she keeps her listeners on the edges of their seats as she shares her story of having a life-changing theater accident at the age of 16, and how she learned the importance of resilience to create a life that she loves. Your audience will have a personalized, memorable experience full of striking stories and unforgettable connections. Tasha empowers people to build resilience for mental and emotional health, which is crucial in today's world." <https://www.tashaschuh.com/>

We appreciate any support you can give. If you have questions, contact Julia Keeper, Lynda Pietruszka, or Jane Burress.

Thriving Congregations

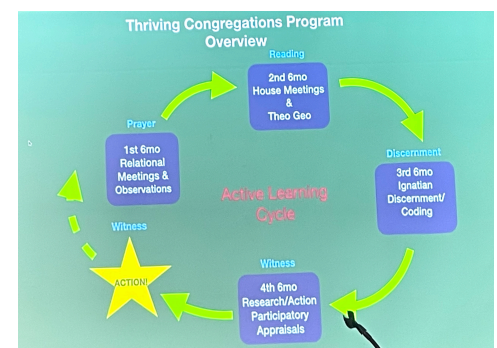
Six members of the Thriving Congregation team traveled to Montreat, NC for a fifth visit from February 17-20. We thought there would only be four visits, but a fifth visit was made possible by enough money left over in their grant (none of the participating churches, including us, paid for any travel or program expenses) and Montreat being able to open up for the first time with 100% of their services that week.

Only 6 churches were able to attend on short notice, but our time spent there was very rich. As a whole group we reviewed the 4 cycles of the program and the instructors asked about what went well and what could be improved upon, in their teaching and in our execution. Then each church group met to summarize and document 1) what we had heard 2) key theological reflections/ insights, and 3) the actions and practices that had come from our work. Then each church presented their work to the whole group. On the last morning the instructors shared what they were thinking about doing in their next grant request to Eli Lilly.

We would like to share our presentation with you, and are now talking about the best way to do that. We would like to share ideas that came up from the other churches that were light bulb moments or were truly inspirational. And finally to share some of the ways our cohort churches have been assisting the hurricane Helene aftermath. We have been blessed to work with these churches who are Faith in Action.

And lastly, recommendations of the Senior Care team are at the Church Council for implementation, the community research action team is still in the plans, and the next round of one on ones is underway.

Please continue to pray for this team as we do our work- we want to be lead by the Lord- to thicken the relationships within the church and to thin the walls with the community.



Lessons for March

March 2 : Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Lesson: Exodus 34:29-35

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 3:12- - 4:2

Holy Gospel : Luke 9:28-36

Introduction to the readings: Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

March 9 : The First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:9-13

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:35-37

Introduction to the readings: Stranger and Neighbor. Church, if God asked you , "Who is your neighbor?" what would you say?

March 16 : The Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 18:1-10a

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

Introduction to the readings: Faith and Works. The story of Mary and Martha is often painted as a story where one does right and one does wrong. We know that life is often more complicated than that. We know that faith is embodied through being present and taking action—and everything in between.

March 23 : The Third Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-9

Holy Gospel: Luke 13:6-9

Introduction to the readings: Rest and Growth. So may we plant roots, reach for the sky, grow where we can, and rest when we need, for we believe there is holiness in the pruning and in the planting. And we do not grow alone. Thanks be to God!

March 30 : The Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Exodus 32: 7-14

Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-7

Introduction to the readings: Lost and Found. We have used "lost" and "found" labels to describe people "out there" versus people "in here." But the truth is, each and every one of us is a little bit lost and a little bit found from time to time. Each and every one of us needs the love of the Good Shepherd.

Klaud's Pantry

Thanks to all who continue to support the Food Pantry. The most common question we get is "What does the pantry need?" The best way to answer that question is "Whatever you need from the store." Next time you go to the store, just buy one extra item on your list to donate to the pantry. Do you need a loaf of bread? Milk? Apples? Buy one extra for the pantry.

Our continuing requests include:

Refrigerator items - cheese, yogurt, lunchmeat, fruits, veggies, juice, milk, juice

Freezer items - pizza, small packages of ground beef and chicken, pot pies/dinners, veggies, juice

Shelf stable items - low sodium veggies (corn, green beans, carrots), low sugar fruit, pasta and rice sides, crackers, jam & jelly, ketchup, snack bars, coffee

Thank you again for your tremendous support! Blessings!

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Readers :

Mar. 2	Jeanne Aurelius
Mar. 5	Russ Zage
Mar. 9	Marcia Eischen
Mar. 16	Dale Johnson
Mar. 23	Carolyn Hitzeman
Mar. 30	Werner Krause

Ushers :

Mar. 2	Joel & Gidget Schauske
Mar. 5	OPEN
Mar. 9	Jane Mohit & OPEN
Mar. 16	OPEN
Mar. 23	OPEN
Mar. 30	OPEN

Communion Helpers :

Sue Daubner is looking for someone to help schedule communion helpers. If you can help Sue out, don't hesitate to contact her at sue@profrealtydc.com. Your help would mean a lot to her, and she would truly appreciate your kindness. Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a difference!

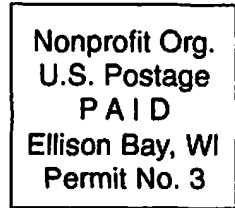
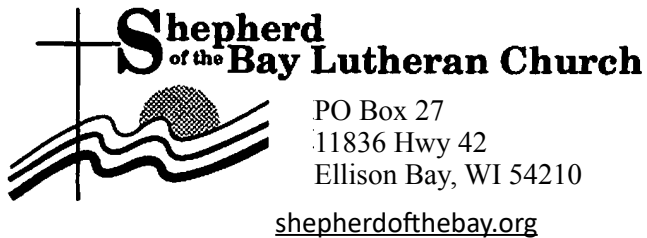
Altar Guild :

March - Sharon Pluff

Altar Flowers

The 2025 Flower chart is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The Cost is \$25.00 per arrangement. Fill in your name, if it is in memory or honor of someone and if you want one or two arrangements. You can take the flowers home after the Service. Please sign up to donate Altar Flowers.

The Parish Door monthly newsletter can be found in full color on our website, shepherdofthebay.org/newsletters. If you would like to be added to the monthly email list, contact the church office at 920-854-2988 or sotboffice@yahoo.com.



Pathways to Mental Wellness Event (FREE)

Join us April 23, for an evening of education, food, community, and inspiration.

A free community event hosted at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, 11836 Highway 42, Ellison Bay.

Schedule of Events:

4:30-6:30p.m. Pathways to Mental Wellness Fair: A variety of exhibits, information, and activities will be provided by organizations and businesses listed below.

5:00-6:15p.m. Buffet style food service

6:30p.m. Speaker: Tasha Schuh (Tasha will speak to Gibraltar middle and high school students at the D.C. Auditorium during school hours).



Thank you to the following participants: Stride, Family Partnership, Door County Mental Health Focus Group, Prevent Suicide, Northern Door Cancer Support Group, Elizabeth Patera-Butz, LPC, Mental Health Therapist, Jak's Place, Sexual Assault Center, Family Services of NEW, Wait until 8th pledge, Sacred Grounds Massage, Doorway to Nature, LLC, Forest Bathing/Nature Immersion, D.C.M.C. Dietitian/Nutritionist, Big Brother's, Big Sister's, YMCA, Senior Advocates for Independent Living, Linda Nault/Therapy Dog, Northern Door Pride, Jodi Rose Gonzales/Art Therapy, DCMC Behavioral Therapist, Stephen's Ministry, Guatemala Mission Trip, Women's quilting, Nicolet National Bank, Ridges Sanctuary, Write On Door County, Sister Bay Athletic Club, Door County Fitness,

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