

WEEKLY CONNECTIONS

January 8, 2021

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church www.shephills.org

Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

NRSV

Connect! Discovering our Connections

Our True Self

*Please bring symbols of light and water, as well as Communion elements, to live stream Worship as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus. If you are interested in learning about baptism for yourself or a child, Pr. Tom or Pr. Lauren would love to speak with you!
tom@shephills.org; lauren@shephills.org*

Worship

5:30 p.m. Saturday **Courtyard Worship***
8:15 a.m. Sunday **Courtyard Worship***
10:45 a.m. Sunday **Live-stream**

*In the case of inclement weather, please join us at 10:45 am Live-stream Worship. Notification of cancellation will be sent via Realm.

Learning Hour on Zoom

New Next Week!

9:30 a.m. MANNA ON SUNDAYS starts January 17

Join us online for "Soul Work," a weekly series during Epiphany. Come get into shape with spiritual exercises! Tune in through the website link "Church Online" at www.shephills.org, and Facebook or YouTube. Also available online Wednesdays at 7pm.

9:30 a.m. ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us for the Epiphany study *Made in the Image of God*, as we ask "Who are we that God would send His one and only Son to die for us?" Go to onrealm.org/Events, Adult Bible Study on January 10, for a full listing of classes and scriptures.

Zoom ID: 882 7978 6819 | Passcode: 267585

10:00 a.m. CAMP HOPE (PREK-GRADE 4)

Welcome back! We look forward to meeting and seeing everyone. Contact Joel Timmons for Zoom info!
joel@shephills.org

Let Your Light Shine Webinar

3:00 PM SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Celebrating Ordained Women of Ministry!

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA & Southwestern Texas Synod gives thanks to God for the ordained ministry of women. Find the link to register by under the event at onrealm.org/Community/Events

New Website Worship Links

All Your Worship Links are There!

Try something new in 2021! This Sunday, go to www.shephills.org to get your bulletin, watch live-stream, find Learning Hour links, and give! Here's how!

- **Get the Worship Bulletin.** Place your cursor over "Connect" located on the right side of the blue bar at the top of your screen. Select Publications from the pull down menu. Scroll down to 2021 and find your January bulletins!
- **Watch Worship.** Click on "Church Online" in the upper right corner of your screen. You can also watch on Facebook by clicking on the 'f' right above "Church Online"
- **Learning Hour Links.** Log on to Realm using the star icon above "Church Online." Once in Realm, go to the current Sunday (Community/Events) and click on your class. Scroll down and find the Zoom information with a clickable link under "Details"
- **Don't forget to Give!** Log on to Realm using the star icon above "Church Online." Once in Realm, select Community/Giving.

Can You Help?

The Art of Neighboring-CAN YOU HELP?

According to the recently conducted ShepHills survey, individuals are feeling disconnected. At various points, people in our congregation need help as a result of an illness, a family death or job loss. Being a good neighbor, a Good Samaritan, is a concrete way to say "I care about you and want you to feel connected".

This can be accomplished by providing a meal, transportation or assistance with simple household or computer tasks. Please contact Rebecca Guengerich (rguengerich@gmail.com) and become a part of this team if you would like to help when the need arises. You may not be called on a regular basis, but it is nice to know people are available to say "I care."

Financial Controller

Meet Kevin Marlow!

Born in Iowa, I have lived and worked as a corporate financial leader in Southwest Florida for the past 27 years. I have three grown sons and a daughter, and five young grandchildren. Our daughter and son-in-law and their children, Josiah and Aubrey, live in Cedar Park and work for Mission of Hope, a ministry serving the people of Haiti, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic with the Gospel, medical care and education. In my free time I love exploring new places and traveling with my wife, Clare. I also enjoy swimming, biking and running and look forward to competing in a few Sprint and Olympic distance triathlons here in Austin.

Calendar Events

Men's Breakfast

8:00 A.M. SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Special guest Congregational Nurse Sandy Gaskin joins us to answer questions about the COVID vaccine.
Zoom ID 813 7623 7221 | Passcode 402578

Courtyard Collections

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. SATURDAYS

Bring non-perishable food items to the Church Courtyard every Saturday. Collection bins will also be available during Outdoor Worship services.

Life and Living Gathering

1:00 P.M. MONDAY, JANUARY 11

A time of support for those dealing with degenerative issues, Parkinson's, aphasia, and other health issues.
Zoom ID 835 4452 6213 | Passcode 492770

Mid-Week Manna Returns

12:00 PM WEDNESDAYS, LIVE-STREAM

"Soul Work... Getting into Shape!"

Join us for "Soul Work," a weekly series during Epiphany. Come get into shape with spiritual exercises! Also available online Wednesdays at 7pm.

Habits of the Heart

7:00 P.M. (PRERECORDED) WEDNESDAYS ONLINE

Come discover a "Faith Habit" in each of our Scripture readings that follow the lectionary and build on connecting faith and life.

Ignite! Groups Resume

FIND A GROUP TODAY ON WWW.SHEPHILLS.ORG

Tending to our Spiritual Shape in the New Year, ACT LIKE JESUS is our theme and looks at what it means to be holy—not in religious intent or feeling—but in the details of everyday life. Go to www.shephills.org, Connect, Small Groups to learn more about these groups and what times they meet. Sign up while you're there, or contact Pr. Tom, tom@shephills.org

Youth Group

7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAYS

Grades 9-12 meet in person or on Zoom. Contact Joel Timmons, joel@shephills.org

Communion in the Courtyard

12:15 PM THURSDAYS

NextGen

7:00 P.M. THURSDAYS

Grades 5-7 meet on Zoom. Contact Joel Timmons, joel@shephills.org

Reader's Heaven

7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

Start reading "Sacred Waiting: Waiting On God In A World That Waits For Nothing," By David Timms. Linda Roesle will be our facilitator.

Ministry Update

Bread for All in December

Bread for All is a ministry of Austin City Lutherans (ACL) offering food and rent assistance in Southeast Austin. This December:

- 303 families made up of 1390 individuals were served.
- 49 of these families were new
- ACL Churches donated 2,684 lbs. of food. ShepHills' portion of that contribution was 1,930 lbs!

Giving

We thank God for our partnership in mission and ministry and look forward to see what God is up to in 2021! If you would like to pledge or make a financial contribution, please visit www.shephills.org/give or onrealm.org/shephills/giving

Prayers

Please pray for Bob Moore, Julie Shank, Jeri Porter and Kristen Murray

Please pray for Kristina Bishop and family on the death of her father, Jerry Rhodes

Please pray for Cyndi Christenson and family on the death of her mother, Carolyn Burch

Please pray for Fred Bangasser and family on the death of his sister, Yvonne Bangasser

Please pray for friends of Shepherd members: Ellsworth and Mildred Tonn, Jean Bessent, Larry Hall, Janettee Henderson and family

We pray for all those affected by COVID-19, and for all those in the medical field caring for the sick. We give God thanks for vaccine development, which brings us all hope for our future health and well-being. We continue to pray for a cure and for an end to the spread of this disease.

Please pray for our global ministries: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala; Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti

Please pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All, Upbring, BeReal and New Life Center

Please pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

A Prayer for our Nation. Eternal God,

Amid all the turmoil and changes in the world, your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. You have bound us in a common life. We pray fervently that you will be a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future. May we be your presence, carrying your peace.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Prayers for family members are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.*

Shepherd of the Hills | www.shephills.org | 3525 Bee Caves Rd, ATX 78746
email: sheep@shephills.org | t. (512) 327-3370
Contact dabney@shephills.org if you have a question about an event.