

WEEKLY CONNECTIONS

April 1, 2022

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

www.shephills.org

Weekend Worship + Learning

DIVINE DIRECTION + SPIRITUAL EXERCISE

Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21 Gospel: John 12:1-8

We have so much to be thankful for! This weekend Bohdan Hroboň, President of the Center for Christian Education, joins us from Martin, Slovakia; we give thanks for Butterfly Christian Preschool at Butterfly Saturday Worship; and Sunday Worship is Celebration Sunday for our Beyond Capital Fund Appeal. Please join us for one or all of these great events!

Meet & Greet

Bohdan Hroboň

TONIGHT! FRIDAY, APRIL 1

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. | Gathering Space + Sanctuary

Kick off a fabulous weekend with a taco bar, updates from Bohdan on the status of Ukrainian refugees and the progress of the Christian Education Center in Slovakia, and Bohdan on violin! Read more about Bohdan below.

Special Study of Isaiah 53

Bohdan Hroboň on the Book of Isaiah

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 2

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Gathering Space + Sanctuary

Never study on an empty stomach. Gather for breakfast tacos and pastries, followed by a unique study of Isaiah 53, led by Bohdan. Bohdan holds a Masters in Biblical Studies (with a focus on Isaiah) and PHD in Oriental Studies. Should be fascinating!

Butterfly Saturday

Celebration Worship and Fellowship

THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 2

5:30 pm | Courtyard

Bring everyone (and a picnic !) as we celebrate our ministry of Butterfly Christian Preschool with the Butterfly families. Worship will be followed by fellowship, live music, and Hoady's Ice Cream Truck*.

***Buy an ice cream and fund a Ukrainian child's education! Butterfly will match all ice cream sales and donate to the Center for Christian Education for the creation of scholarships for Ukrainian refugees.**

Beyond Celebration Worship

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 3

8:15 and 10:45 a.m. Worship | Sanctuary

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Breakfast | Gathering Space

10:45 a.m. Worship | Sanctuary + [Livestream](#)

A celebration worship honoring your support (89 households participating with \$2,000,914 given and pledged to date!) of the Beyond Capital Fund Appeal! Bohdan Hroboň gives the message, and special guest [Steve Olson](#), campaign consultant for Beyond , joins us too!

Who is Bohdan Hroboň?

Bohdan Hroboň joins us from Martin, Slovakia where he founded a small Bible school in 1998. 23 years later, it includes pre, elementary, middle, and high schools and several forms of continuing education. With over 750 students, the Center for Christian Education is the largest Lutheran educational institution in Slovakia.

Bohdan lived the first two decades of his life in communist Czechoslovakia. As the son of a fifth generation Lutheran pastor, options for a confessing Christian in a communist country were limited. He pursued studies in computer science (MS in cybernetics), and when Communism fell and new possibilities opened up, Bohdan became a math and English teacher in a just-established Lutheran high-school, later returning to school and attending a bible school in Minneapolis through Wheaton College in Chicago (MA in Biblical Studies), Luther Seminary in St. Paul (pre-doctoral studies), to Oxford

University (PhD in Oriental Studies), he gained a solid training to be an Old Testament teacher.

Adult Bible Study

EVERY SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. | Library + Zoom

An in depth study of the week's scripture.

Contact [Ruby Cadenhead](#).

Zoom - Meeting ID: 882 7978 6819 Passcode: 267585

[Click here to join the Zoom](#)

High Five for Children + Families

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45 a.m. | Courtyard

Faith formation and worship all wrapped up in one! Make sure and join us next week for pony rides, petting zoo and pastries as we celebrate Palm Sunday. Contact

[Pr. Lauren](#).

The PrayGround is Back!

Bring your kids, the PrayGround is back! As COVID restrictions continue to lift, we are slowly beginning to phase in the PrayGround. We have books, tables, chairs, and coloring in addition to the Worship Boxes to keep younger ones entertained and participating in worship at an age appropriate level.

Easter Lilies

It's a yearly tradition at ShepHills to fill the Sanctuary with Easter Lilies. Help us offset the cost by purchasing one in honor or memory of a loved one. Find giving envelopes outside the sanctuary, or [purchase online](#). Thank you!

Joel Timmons

We have truly been blessed to have Joel Timmons, Youth Director, as a part of our community for so many years. It is a bittersweet goodbye as we wish him well in the next leg of his journey as he begins a Hospital Chaplain Residency in September. Please take a moment and [read his letter](#) to the congregation and families he has so faithfully served.

Holy Week and Easter

Jesus Lives!

We hope you'll come back and be part of our great community as we walk together through Holy Week towards the ultimate reward and the greatest comeback story of all-the resurrection of Jesus!

Palm Sunday

APRIL 9/10

Saturday Courtyard Worship at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. (Live Stream option at 10:45 a.m.)

Palm Sunday Family Activity at 9:45 a.m.: Pony rides, petting zoo, food and fellowship

Maundy Thursday

APRIL 14

Worship at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Special Communion experience for our children

Veiling of the cross moving us to Good Friday

Good Friday

APRIL 15

Good Friday 'Children's Journey' at 10:30 a.m. A very important time for children to hear the story of Jesus' love for them and the world

Good Friday "Passion" Worship at 7:00 p.m. The most powerful worship experience of the year, providing the Passion Story that communicates the depth of God's love

Holy Saturday

APRIL 16

Guided Prayer Walk on the church campus anytime between 9:00- Noon

Saturday Easter Worship in the Courtyard at 5:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday

APRIL 17

Sunrise Worship in Outdoor Worship Center at 7:00 a.m.

Traditional Sanctuary Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Easter Worship in the Courtyard at 9:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast served in the Activity Center anytime between 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Easter Offering

Our Easter offering has been designated to support ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

New Care Groups

Cancer Support Group

FOURTH TUESDAYS, NEXT MEETING APRIL 26

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | Library + Zoom

Email [Sandy Smith](#) or call 512-569-6453. Sandy is also available between groups to serve as a resource to individuals and their families. More details under Events in Realm.

PALS (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones)

EVERY MONDAY

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. | Library

Parents and family members (over the age of 18) of loved ones who struggle with addiction are invited to participate in the PAL support group to receive hope, through education and an opportunity to share and learn from others facing the same challenges.

The free weekly meetings are held on Monday evenings from 7 to 8:30 PM in the library at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran.

For more information about this group and others in the surrounding Austin area and other cities, visit the website, www.palgroup.org You are not alone!

Upcoming Memorial Services

Memorial Service for Don Knight

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

4:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

On Friday, March 25, 2022, Don knight passed from this life into life eternal. We grieve his wife Anita and family, and all those who loved him, and we place our trust in the power and the promise of the resurrection life in Jesus Christ. A reception in the Activity Center will follow.

Memorial Service for Jack Knox

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

1:30 p.m. | All Saints Presbyterian Church

A service remembering Jack Knox, friend of ShepHills, will be held at All Saints Presbyterian Church, 7808 Rialto Blvd., Austin, TX 78735

This Week's Events

Go to [Realm Events](#) or the [website](#) for details and more events!

Family Advent Retreat 2022

REGISTRATION BEGAN APRIL 1

Save the Date! December 2-4, 2022

We'll be registering for the weekend of December 2-4, 2022. **Registration begins April 1**, so mark your calendars! Registration can be found here on April 1:

www.crosstrails.org/retreats

Questions? Contact our resident Camp Chrysalis retreat guru, Melissa Robertson (melissa.k.rob@gmail.com) for more information!

Forgiveness led by Dr. Steve Larson

EVERY WEDNESDAY (LAST CLASS)

10:30 a.m. | Library + Zoom

An in-depth study of forgiveness during Lent.

Zoom ID 870 4638 4698 Passcode 469481

Wednesday Evening Worship

EVERY WEDNESDAY (LAST GATHERING)

7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Reflection and discussion on weekly topic.

Readers' Heaven

START READING!

Save the Date! Thursday, April 28 @ 7:00 p.m.

Our next book is for all grandparents and anyone who hopes to be a grandparent one day! Norma Smith has recommended and will lead the discussion on [Nannaville: Adventures in Grandparenting](#) by Anna Quindlen. It's a lively, beautiful, and moving book about being a grandmother. Quindlen offers thoughtful and telling observations about her new role, no longer mother and decision-maker but secondary character and support to the parents of her grandson. Candid, funny, frank, and illuminating, Quindlen's singular voice has never been sharper or warmer.

Giving

Mid-Week Lent and Easter Offering

Our Mid-Week Worship in Lent and our Easter Sunday offering has been designated to support ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

ELCA World Hunger For nearly two years the world has reeled from the effects of a deadly pandemic. While Shepherd of the Hills has responded with extraordinary generosity in supporting our food pantry, Bread for All, this special offering will allow us to go national and .global in responding to hunger needs.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has been a critical arm of the Lutheran Church providing humanitarian aid, assimilation, and advocacy for refugees all over the world. They are a "boots-on-the-ground" ministry going to places and helping people. Financial support allows them to do this ministry and offer humanitarian aid. The war in Ukraine, declared by President Putin, is causing loss of life as well as a major Refugee crisis. Our Lent and special Easter offerings will provide assistance in LIRS responding to this crisis.

Giving can be done on the website, or under Giving on onrealm.org, or by check or cash. Please indicate Lent /Easter Offering.

Beyond Capital Fund Appeal

We broke \$2 million! Thank you for being a part of our future! We currently have 89 households participating, and have raised \$2,000,914 in gifts and pledges. [Click here](#) to learn more and make your pledge. Thank you for being a part of our future!

Regular Giving

[Click here](#) to stay current with your giving or make a one-time gift. Thank you for giving freely and joyfully!

2022 Stewardship

It's never too late to make a pledge of support for our ministry and missions! Please consider making your 2022 pledge using this [online pledge card](#), or mail in a paper pledge card to 3525 Bee Caves Rd., 78746. Thank you!

Thrivent Members

THRIVENT HAS CHARITABLE FUNDS FOR YOU TO USE!

[Thrivent Choice](#)

[Thrivent Action Teams](#)

Click on the links above to see how Thrivent will GIVE you money for your favorite non-profits. You can use these dollars to buy diapers for Bread for All, Bibles for Haiti, or Baby Care Kits for LWR - just to name a few!

Bread for All (BFA) Food Pantry Collection

EVERY SATURDAY + SUNDAY

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Courtyard on Saturdays

8:00 a.m. - Noon | Gathering Space on Sundays

has been a large uptick in new clients at BFA due to the rising cost of rent, food and gas. Please make it part of your weekly routine and drop off **diapers and non-perishable food** donations for Bread for All Food Pantry, a ministry of Austin City Lutherans. Drop donations in the bin on Saturday mornings, or bring them with you to worship. Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need!

BSA Troop 31

REID KISER EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT / MARIPOSA

Hi, my name is Reid Kizer. I am a current Life Scout in Troop 31, and I am currently fundraising for my eagle project. My Eagle project is taking place at the Mariposa Family Learning Center. The Mariposa Family Learning Center is a daycare center in East Austin. It helps educate children starting from 18 months to 4 years old. It also helps support these families. These families are commonly underprivileged. The Mariposa Family Learning Center helps aid these families by providing daycare and education. The goal of this project is to build a crushed granite track. The kids at Mariposa will be able to ride tricycles around this track. This trike track will institute a new form of learning and experiences for the many children attending this facility. The trike track will be utilized frequently. It will be a new, fun, interactive playground to help the kids connect with each other along with the teachers. **I would love your support in this project. To donate to this project, please follow this link: <https://gofund.me/e92a2b52> Thank you for your generosity.**

Reid Kizer

Please pray for Don Gaskin, Marie Fortune, Sandy Nielsen, and Stacia and Walter DeBill.

Please pray for family and friends of Shepherd members: Kenna Joy Kramer, grandniece of Weldon and Mary Allison.

We pray for those who mourn the death of Don Knight, husband of Anita Knight. We give thanks for Don's life and entrust him into God's mercy as we await the hope of resurrection.

We pray for family and friends who mourn the death of Jack Knox.

We pray for the people of Ukraine and all who find themselves in the midst of war, gripped by fear and uncertainty. Send your peace.

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

Please pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All and Upbring Ministries.

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