

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

Blessings to all of you from the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. In this season of harvest and Thanksgiving, let's review our current and future ministries, and how your gifts are making a difference in what we are able to do now, and what will be possible whenever we move beyond this unusual time and enter whatever 'new normal' will follow.

Beginning in March, our individual lives and our congregational life changed dramatically due to the COVID-19 virus. Our worship moved online. Not only have we been able to continue to worship, but this has also allowed new people to join us for worship. In fact, we have more people worshipping with us each week now than we did when we were meeting in person. Worship services in our parking lot have enabled us to receive the Eucharist in the safest way possible during this time. Other ministries also moved from in person to online. We even put on a virtual Block Party! It has been quite a challenge.

One of the reasons we have been able to navigate this challenge and continue to move our ministry forward is that our congregation has remained faithful in its financial support of the church. Thank you for your faithful support. It is making all the difference as we continue to move forward in faith.

Now, we look forward to what we must do for our ministry to be effective in a 'New Normal.' As we make commitments to support Good Shepherd in 2021, it is important to realize that our financial gifts not only impact how we get beyond this time; they will also determine what kind of resources we will have to work with to meet any new challenges and take advantage of any opportunities the 'New Normal' may offer.

Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering your commitment to the life we will share and the ministry we will offer in 2021. It takes all of us, responding in faith as God enables us, to further the ministry to which God has called us.

Grace and peace.

Pastor Russell Dennis Zimmerman, Stewardship Chairperson

