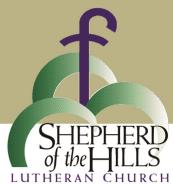


# Shepherd's Voice

June 2022



#### "GOD IS GENEROUS"

By Pastor Sherri Otto

This past weekend, my husband Troy and I went to Bachman's Nursery in Farmington, MN to pick out some bushes, plants and a small tree for our front yard. We didn't know what to expect as we drove there but were excited to finally have the weather nice enough for us to begin this project.

A man by the name of Foy, told us to follow him in his truck and he would take us out to the area where we could pick out our plants. As we drove, we were in awe and amazement of the vastness of this property. Over three hundred acres filled with trees and bushes and plants of all kinds! And the beauty of the colors was incredible!!

Foy was so kind, and you could tell that he loved what he did. He even took us back to see if the robots were working the fields, but sadly, we did not get the opportunity to see them. After we had picked out everything we needed and placed them in our trailer, we followed Foy back to the main building. But at various times along the way, he would stop, come back to our truck and point out a beautiful tree or plant and tell us about them. It was a magical morning, filled with the beauty of nature and the unexpected hospitality of Foy.

We brought our plants and bushes home and planted them the following day. While we were planting, we saw a huge turkey in our neighbor's yard, puffing itself up and fanning its tail. We put down our tools and just stood and watched. It was a wonderous site. Later robins grazed our yard looking for worms and ducks and geese flew over the house to land in a nearby pond. God's nature on display, at its finest, ending with a beautiful sunset.

This morning I woke up with this older hymn in my head, "This is My Father's World." I started humming the tune then singing the words. I don't even remember when I learned this song or how I know the words so well, but I give credit to my mom for we often sang hymns together while we played our piano.

This song is one that describes the beauty of God's creation, of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, the singing of the birds and the rustling of the grass. It's a magnificent imagery of what we have right in front of our eyes if we allow ourselves to take the time to gaze and wonder, to give praise and thanks for all that God has given us.

Pastor's Message continued on page 2

#### Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 500 Blake Road South Edina, MN 55343 (952) 935-3457

Staff:

Pastors Sherri Otto
Music Director Emily Koski
Intern Pastor Anne Schaefer
Faith Community Nurse Kaye Wothe
Administrative Assistant Shawn Wacholz
Building Manager Blair Prax

#### Church Council Members / Officers:

President Adam Driscoll Vice President Don Wothe Treasurer Open **Financial Secretary** Fred Jensen Christa Meland Secretary Serve Nate Lichty Worship & Music Karen Hofstad-Parkhill **Building & Facilities** Peter Barott Learn Stephanie Nordin Communications Joe Palmersheim Care Johanna Olson **LMCC** Open Open Evaluation

#### **Telephone & Voice Mail Extensions:**

Shawn Wacholz	11
Pastor Sherri Otto	13
Intern Pastor Anne Schaefer	14
Blair Prax	15
Emergency Message Mailbox	24
Kaye Wothe	25

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Blair Prax blair.prax@sothchurch.com
Church web site www.sothchurch.com

#### Pastor's Message continued from page 1

But sometimes we forget. We forget that we have a generous God, a God that created us and sustains us. A God that renews us and refreshes us. A God that is humorous and serious. A God that will always be there for us and will never, ever leave us.

So, today, take time to remember. Especially during this time of transition, when there will be times of worry and fear, of anxiousness and regret, of grief and sadness, of holding on and letting go. When you feel these things, take a moment to lay your worries down, to stand or sit and to watch God's glorious creation in action. Take a moment to be still and know that our God is a God that is plentiful and massive, kind and generous and remains with Shepherd of the Hills and its community.

This is my Father's world. Oh, let me not forget.
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring
God reigns, let the earth be glad.

Peace, Pastor Sherri





### Church Council



# PRESIDENT'S POST: Transition Update

By Adam Driscoll, Council President

Thank you to all who were able to help give Pastor Scott a proper sendoff and thank you for his many years of service to Shepherd. Both his Farewell Reception and final

worship service were special events to mark a milestone in our community and thank him for walking with us for these many years.

Looking forward, our Pastoral Call Committee has begun its work towards finding and calling a new senior pastor, and I am grateful to have a strong team at work for our committee. Meanwhile, as of the writing of this column, our council officers, along with Pastor Sherri have been interviewing candidates for an Interim Pastor, which we hope to bring to Shepherd in the coming weeks. Bringing in an interim pastor allows for us to continue to do all the things we are called to do as a community of God while allowing the Call Committee the time needed in their discernment for a new called Senior Pastor. We've seen some very good candidates for the interim role, which is great news for our community as we work through the transition.



# GOD'S BLESSINGS ON OUR 2022 CONFIRMANDS

On May 15th we celebrated with ten students as they confirmed their faith in the Affirmation of Baptism service! God's blessing to:

Annie Chi, Grace French-Miller, Osa Hanneman, Kate Hanson, Joseph Hemberger, Iris Nordin, Kieran Roedel, Isabel Schmidt, Bug Teppen and Nolan Wall

These Confirmation students stood in front of the congregation and affirmed their beliefs in God through the Apostle's Creed. We have been in awe of their energy and curiosity as we have attacked difficult concepts and conversations over the past few years. These young adults are incredible, and the Church has been strengthened through their faith. Thanks be to God!



# SUMMER FOOD AND FUN! Sunday, June 12 at 10:30 am and Wed., June 29 starting at 5:30 pm

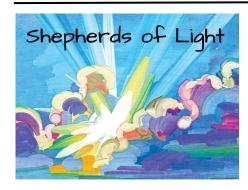
Friends of all ages! Join us for SUMMER FOOD AND FUN. These events will be scattered throughout the summer months with the first two being held on Sunday, June 12th after church and Wednesday, June 29th starting at 5:30 pm

Come for FOOD, FUN (games, including Cornhole) and FELLOWSHIP! All are welcome!

## CURIOUS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP?

Want to know more about Shepherd of the Hills? We are offering informational times for questions you may have as you form or grow in your faith life. "What is a Lutheran? What can I expect at Shepherd of the Hills? How can I engage here? and any other questions you may have. Join Pastor Sherri after worship on the last Sunday of each month for conversation and questions. Dates: June 26, July 31, and August 28 following worship.

### Education



#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Food Truck Party, On A Roll with God!

June 13th to June 16th, 9:00am to Noon

Any questions, contact Pastor Sherri or Pastor Anne.

#### SUMMER FESTIVAL CAMP

We are SO EXCITED for Summer Festival Camp! Registration is up - Pastor Anne will email a link in the Tuesday email. Current 8-12th grade camp is July 10-13 and current 5-6th grade camp is July 17-20. Cost is \$270 per person, but we want EVERYONE to experience camp! Please let us know if we can help with a scholarship. Payment is due one week prior to camp! Friends are welcome!



#### FAREWELL FOR PASTOR SCOTT

A send off for Pastor Scott was held on Friday, May 20. The evening included refreshments and a program where various members of the congregation shared their appreciation for Pastor Scott and his many gifts. A heartfelt thank you to the Farewell Celebration team led by Scott & Lana Edmundson for a wonderful evening!!

Included below is a clever bit written and presented by Nancy Shaeffer which we thought would be fun to share ...

## The Turkey Clans of Turkey Bingo and Bowling wish Pastor Scott a Fond Farewell.

Now, the rumor in the turkey pen was that Pastor Scott was soon going "free range" and the turkeys of Shepherd of the Hills, being well bred, really wanted to wish Scott a fond farewell. In fact, several of the chicks seem to have a little crush on him as they talked about him... "religiously."

After being henpecked by the turkeys' requests, Scott and Lana Edmundson, who organized Scott's farewell event, graciously agreed to let them be responsible for one piece of the puzzle that is Pastor Scott.

"We'll take any piece that jiggles a wee bit like a wattle" they said. After a moment of reflection, the Edmundsons offered, "Well... No one has taken his belly yet." "Done!" exclaimed the turkeys gleefully.

Now even turkeys know that within every belly, there is a belly button, ....and belly buttons make you think of the day you were born. This is so fitting because Pastor Scott was born on November 10th and over many years, Turkey Bingo actually fell on Scott's birthday.

In the mind of a turkey, this made Scott somewhat of an "eggspert" on poultry. Several turkeys attested that they had seen him order both a chicken and an egg off Amazon.... just to see which came first.

Continued on page 5

#### **Farewell for Pastor Scott continued**

They admired the way Pastor Scott cared for his parishioners, confidently gave his sermons and boldly sang in church....His flock considered him "poultry in motion." Others called him "impeccable."

Anyway, the turkeys gathered together to brainstorm an appropriate card and gift for their dear Pastor Scott. They agreed on the card immediately The card read "Happy Thanksgiving, and, yes, it is almost your birthday" on the front. A heartfelt message followed inside, "Wishing you a future of free range fun." Your friends in the pen, The Bingo Turkeys."

Then, the turkeys thought a little more about their gift for Scott. Pastor Scott preached about love and grace. But on Turkey Bingo day, he gave away turkeys as mere prizes. Not only that, but he... chortled ... as selected turkeys, were hurtled against ten heavy wooden bowling pins again and again.

Then, it occurred to the turkeys that a new senior pastor would know nothing about the previous Turkey Bingo event.

An opportunity was indeed materializing, waiting to be seized.

With a little paint, glue and feathers, the turkeys created a paperweight masterpiece to leave on Pastor Scott's office desk for the next, unsuspecting, incoming pastor. It read, "Don't forget.... Chicken Bingo and Bowling 2022....Have fun!"

(presentation of chicken paperweight)

So with the paperweight presented, we have a couple of final farewells.

Pastor Scott is off on an "eggciting" new journey and the old Bingo turkeys are walking towards the sunset, having been apparently replaced by Chicken Bingo.

So to Scott, we hope and pray that you find happiness, joy, fulfillment and success in your new journey.

And to the Bingo Turkeys, we can only hope and pray that one day all poultry will be free to cross the road without having their motives continually questioned.



#### **SOTH BOOK CLUB**

Book club at SOTH is open to all. Please feel free to join us. We have 2 -3 copies of each book. All books will be available all year if you want to read ahead. Please read the book and return ASAP so another person can borrow the book for reading also. We try to get 2-3 readers to be able to read one copy. Meetings will be on Zoom. For questions please contact Kaye Wothe, Faith Community Nurse at kwothe@comcast.net

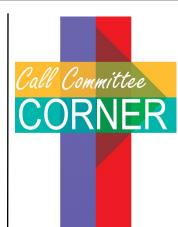
#### **Book Club Schedules**

Sun., June 12 at 7:00 pm "The House in the Cerulean Sea" by TJ Klune

Sun., July 17 at 7:00 pm TBD by readers

# WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Come for Bible study, coffee, and fellowship! The Wednesday morning group meets at 9:30 am for coffee, treats and fellowship before they begin a Bible study. The Bible study begins at 10:00 am and is based on the following Sunday's sermon text. All are welcome.



## SOTH's SENIOR PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE CORNER

We have a wide representation of members on the Senior Pastor Call Committee. As we begin our initial work, we want to take a moment to share with you a little about ourselves and update you on our first steps finding SOTH's next Senior Pastor.

Many of us had the opportunity to join a portion of a recent SOTH Council meeting to visit with John Hulden from the synod office to learn more about the call process. We've met several times since that

introduction to work on Shepherd's Ministry Site Profile (some have likened this to SOTH's dating profile to woo our next pastor) and chose several members to take on administrative roles within the committee. There are formal titles for these roles. You are welcome to look them up in the SOTH Constitution and Bylaws, but in short, they are leader (keeps us moving forward and coordinating with the synod), recorder (meeting minutes keeper) and reporter (shares committee progress with the congregation).

#### Who we are:

#### Kathy Wiemer (our leader):

Dave and I have been members of SOTH for 43 years. We visited many churches in the western suburbs and fell in love with SOTH because of the welcoming, friendly members and the smaller congregation size compared to many in the area. We have many good friends that we have made during our time at Shepherd and both of our daughters were baptized and confirmed here and married by Pr. Scott.

Before we had children, we were involved with the youth program and eventually each of us got involved with singing and serving on Church Council and ministry teams. I am currently co-chair of the Altar Guild. I served as Council Vice President and President (for several years) and have previously chaired a Call Committee for an associate pastor, all of which have been enriching and wonderful experiences. I am very excited and humbled to serve on the current Senior Pastor Call Committee. I get renewed and refreshed by spending time in nature and especially enjoy daily walks in our neighborhood. Music, traveling, and spending time with our daughters, spouses and friends are treasured activities for me.

#### **Brittany Roeser (our recorder):**

I have been a member of SOTH since 2012. I was searching for the right church for us when Amy Chi recommended SOTH to us. We came to visit the church and found the kindness of the congregation and pastors so welcoming. We liked the smaller size and yet it provided many programs/activities. I have helped with Hospitality, putting together care kits, and fundraising activities.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family. I love being outdoors.

#### Call Committee Corner continued

#### Alyssa Barott (our reporter):

Peter and I joined SOTH shortly after getting married in 2004. We were looking for a smaller church (similar to the one I grew up going to in ND and smaller than Normandale, where Pete grew up going). We were immediately taken with SOTH and how friendly and welcoming it was (and still is). We have two great kids, Elizabeth (16) and Laken (12). Both were baptized and received first communion here. Elizabeth was also confirmed outside on the SOTH steps during the pandemic. Through the years, I've helped with many kids' activities: the Christmas program, WAM, confirmation banquets, Kids Time and even making sure the nativity banner was completely colored before going to print. I've also ushered and currently serve on the Foundation Board. Away from church, I love spending time with my family and friends, often outside enjoying God's creation walking, at the lake, or on the ski hill.

#### Louis Nelson:

Hi, my name is Louis Nelson and I am the youngest member of the call committee. I am 16 years old and I am a sophomore at Jefferson High School in Bloomington. I have just recently begun volunteering at church doing work on the sound board. Shepherd of the Hills is the only church I've ever known as I was baptized here and have grown up here. This is my first time serving on a call committee, and I am super excited to be working to find a new senior pastor.

#### Johanna Olson:

I live in Hopkins and have been a member of Shepherd since 2018. I am retired after 20 years as a church business administrator and 17 more years in city government. I have two grown children who are now well into their own careers. I joined Shepherd because of the mission statement which said the church was welcome to all. That was important to me because I am transgender. Since joining I've joined, I baked bars for funerals, have just been elected to the care committee and to the church council. In my spare time, I like to bake and write stories. When I joined, everyone was friendly and welcoming and I hope that continues in the future.

#### **Rosalynd Toohey:**

Hi all! My name is Rosalynd (Roz) Toohey. My two girls and I have been members since 2014. Shepherd of the Hills became our faith home base after good friends suggested this friendly and fabulous Lutheran congregation. We joined for the community and family connection in faith, and stayed because of its positive and inclusive attitude towards faithfulness. My girls Lyla (13) and Hayden (6) are involved in WAM and confirmation. Both were baptized and as of last month, both have received their first communion here at Shepherd.



#### **Call Committee Corner continued**

#### **Kevin Wicks:**

My wife Jean and I have been members of Shepherd of the Hills since about 1981! We had moved to the Hopkins area and were looking for a church. After visiting several, we found SOTH and thought it was a very friendly fit. Over the years, we had two sons, Joel and Karl, who attended Sunday school and confirmation at SOTH. Jean and I were on several committees and for about 10-11 years I was on the church staff as custodian, retiring early in 2020. I am happy to serve as a member of this call committee to find a new senior pastor!

We look forward to serving SOTH and will be reaching out for input and feedback as we go through the Call process. Our team will work closely with the ELCA Synod as we discern God's call and direction for our work. We look forward to providing updates on our progress in the monthly newsletter and periodically in person as we reach various milestones.

## Staff Reflection

#### At Every Turn continued

This work with couples has taught me that we often miss a lot of what our conversation partners actually say. We may be focusing on our own responses, our own opinions or any number of distractions that come our way. This is a bummer because I believe that God often speaks to us through other people. If we aren't good at listening to others, it may be difficult for us to hear God through them. I'm learning that we all need practice in listening. It is a skill that could always get better.

Lesson #3: I recently submitted my final final. That is to say I turned in the last paper that I need to write for my Master's of Divinity degree. Since I have no intention, at this point, to pursue any further degree, this will be the last time I will have "finals" in school, ever. Surreal, exciting, relieved, exhausted... all things that I am feeling. Endings feel stressful sometimes knowing that change is coming, but it is also invigorating knowing that I am about to embark on a new path in a career for which I have been anticipating for 4 years! I'm thankful for all your partnerships, support and encouragement so far! I could not have done this amazing work without a multitude of witnesses to carry me through.

Grace and peace!
Intern Pastor Anne



# AT EVERY TURN: Insights from the Intern

By Intern Pastor Anne Schaefer

Welcome to my little corner of the world. As an intern pastor, I am learning a great deal about what it means to be called to ministry. Each month, I will use this newsletter space to reflect on the wisdom that has come my way. I will likely learn

a great deal about God, the Church, this congregation, faith, myself and grace.

Thanks for being part of my journey!

Lesson #1: The Church is not a social club. In a recent class that I am taking, many of my classmates who are church employees were talking about how "God Language" is absent from a lot of people's daily lives. They were saying that most parishioners love their church but do not talk about faith in their day-to-day lives. It made me start to wonder why don't we talk about faith, our Christian beliefs or even God. I think that there are a lot of reasons we don't do this. For one, it's sometimes hard to even know what we believe ourselves. We've heard many people say many different things about any doctrine or belief... how can we possibly know what we believe vs what someone else told us? I also think we don't use "God language" because even if we know what we believe, we may be afraid of being wrong, offending someone, or needing to defend our beliefs. Ignorance and fear...two good reasons we keep our mouths shut. Yet I wonder how might we learn ways to conquer our fears and learn more about our own faith so that we can talk about God easier or more frequently. The Church is no more than a social club if we do not keep God at the center of our lives, our days and certainly our language. We can get community and belonging from many groups, teams or regular weekly beer tastings, but what sets the Church apart is the fact that we have Jesus! If we really cling to this identity that we are Jesus' Church, then "God" should come up often in our language. But... as my learning this month has suggested... this is apparently easier said than done.

Lesson #2: Listening to God is difficult; listening to each other can be even more difficult. In premarital counseling, one of the things I work the most on is having one partner listen to the other partner and repeat back what they heard them say without adding their own thoughts, feelings, or inferences. I assure you, this is not an easy task.

## Staff Reflection



#### **TRANSITIONS**

By Kaye Wothe, Faith Community Nurse

What do death, resignation of a beloved work partner, and spring turning to summer all have in common? They are all TRANSITIONS.

Transitions have some complexity to them. Within any transition there is often loss to grieve, accomplishments and completion to celebrate, goodbyes to be said, new beginnings to imagine and all the actual physical and mental work of moving forward. There are the mixed emotions of sadness, joy, fear, excitement, anticipation, desire to remember the past and the need to move into the future. It's a time our hearts are touched by the things we loved, laughed and marvel about, and consider the many ways we grew and changed together. Inevitably, we analyze what we might have done differently and, ideally, find grace with ourselves and others. All while wondering/believing that the next phase of life will bring more growth and a new normal.

I confess I am getting exhausted with this term, "new normal." I must admit the depth of my grief recently has surprised me. When talking to a dear, insightful friend about it, she pointed out all the compounding grief we/I have now. There is the ambiguous grief of the pandemic, which hit me hard again after Easter when my spouse had COVID and everything at our house was topsy-turvy for two weeks, and additionally, all responsibility fell to me. I found myself both irrationally angry about that, overwhelmed with things to do, and completely out of routine. Another phase of pandemic new normal.

Then my brother had a medical emergency, as his medical advocate, this made for a week of time in the hospital trying to navigate, understand, educate, calm fears and continue to advocate through a personal lens of care, another week of another temporary new normal. His then sudden death and all that brought means a crazy, shocking, devastating new normal.

All the while at SOTH, the end of Pastor Scott's days working here were winding down. I have worked with him for nearly 12 years through thick and thin. He has been a trusted, wise, caring, thoughtful work partner and friend who cares for people and community deeply like I do. The things he accomplished here at SOTH over those years are stunning to me. Big things that frankly others did not accomplish (i.e., creating relationships in the community so that we are recognized without question as a trusted community partner, relocating the sheep to the side wall and adjusting worship schedules and music to prevent a split congregation experience, creating a new platform for operating with volunteer leadership and working hand in hand with staff, finding and hiring other great staff that we have all loved, creating different ways for SOTH to be involved with and help immigrants and others struggling to survive over the course of years, several building updates with capital appeal funds raised, etc.). Many of the things he accomplished I have never seen happen in other churches. It is amazing to me. So, his leaving is a big loss for me. Another new normal.

#### **Transitions continued**

The transition of the season from winter to spring/summer is a new normal I love. I have no grief for the loss of winter, but the transition does require a lot of new energy. For those with kids suddenly home from school this is a big new normal transition time! I recall it feeling glorious to have a more casual schedule and new things to do. And yet, it took a ton of energy and patience. I remember thinking it required a new perspective on how I loved them!

Whatever your big transitions are, or your new normals, I am reminded that God is with us in them. Bringing our concerns and stresses to God in prayer, finding a practice that brings God's presence to mind and helps us refocus on the moment while moving ever forward with forgiveness, grace and a servant heart is the thing that gets us through these transitions and to a new day, a new normal that we can embrace and live into. One of the sympathy cards that comforted me greatly after my brother's death said, "Life gives you memories, Faith gives you strength." The old normal, whatever that was for each of us, gave us memories. Faith gives us strength through the hope and promise it provides us to never be separated from the love of God.

I would love to hear about your new normal experiences, the struggles and successes. Talk to me or email me (address below).

Living into New Normal together, Kaye Wothe Faith Community Nurse kwothe@comcast.net

## Faith Community Nurse



## MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT EDUCATION

#### Self-Care for the Caregiver Monthly sessions: offered the last Thursday of each month

A virtual monthly drop in group, Care/Support for the Caregiver. Each of these groups would provide community, support and an education topic. There will be a MHC Navigator, a therapist and our educator (Drew Brooks) at the meeting each month. Many of you are searching for help for a loved one, but you also need support too. MHC has resources, tools and a virtual time to share. This is another source of support for a growing population of caregivers. To register, go to https:// www.mhconnect.org/events

MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT Mental Health Resources and Education can be found on their webpage: http://www.mhconnect.org/ events



#### THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all who sent us cards, and expressed words of care as we grieve the death of my brother. I was blessed to be with my brother for many vulnerable moments in his life. Being a male of his era, he let few people into that space. Parkinson's disease (PD) is a family disease, it

impacts all who love the person with PD. Sadly, the person with PD is definitely most impacted by far though. It is a disease for heroes for what they endure. While I hated PD for it's impact on his life, I am now grateful for it for the tender moments it put us in the same waiting rooms, clinic rooms, recovery rooms, etc. It allowed me to know him better, to know the vulnerable him. In turn I shared more of myself with him, had hard conversations with him and found it easier to forgive him and be forgiven by him for mistakes we both made as we traveled our roads of life together and apart. It also put me into deeper relationship with his kids and grandkids, who are some of the deeper loves of my life. Right or wrong, as the many years younger, only girl growing up on a farm I have often struggled to feel I belonged in my family. Over these years of partnering with him I found a connection to my family of origin I had not found before. For all these reasons, as well as the shock of his death, my grief feels a bit overwhelming still at times. With faith I know each day will be a bit clearer, a bit lighter and hopefully tears with turn to celebration of all the good he was and left on earth. My family takes comfort in picturing him "at the card table in the sky" playing 500 with my parents, our nephew and other saints we love who have gone before us. A deck of cards in the casket goes a long way. Thanks be to God for this eternal hope and for a faithful community that holds us up in our time of grief.

Forever Grateful, Kaye Wothe, Faith Community Nurse



**MINISTRY** 

#### **UPDATE**

By Paul Bohnsack

May was a big milestone month for the Magomedov family! They qualified for medical insurance and the parents received their employment authorizations.

While the Magomedovs are well on their way in working toward a new life, there are others who are continuing or just beginning their journey to a better life. Around the

globe there are millions of people who are fleeing or enduring devastating conditions in their home countries. The humanitarian needs and immigration assistance needs are staggering. Listed below are just some of the resources you can access if you wish to help.

#### **DONATIONS** (there may also be opportunities for advocacy):

- LIRS (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service)
   https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Immigration-and-Refugee-Services
- Lutheran World Relief <a href="https://lwr.org/">https://lwr.org/</a>
- ELCA World Hunger
   https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger
- Lutheran Disaster Response
   https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response
- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) <a href="https://www.lutheranworld.org/">https://www.lutheranworld.org/</a>
- World Central Kitchen <a href="https://wck.org/">https://wck.org/</a>

<u>ADVOCACY</u> (such as contacting lawmakers, volunteering, attending vigils; donations also likely accepted):

ELCA Advocacy Network <u>www.elca.org/advocacy</u>

**AMMPARO** <a href="https://www.elca.org/AMMPARO">https://www.elca.org/AMMPARO</a> (SOTH is a Welcoming Congregation of AMMPARO)

#### https://www.interfaithimmigration.org/

The <u>Interfaith Immigration Coalition</u> is made up of over 55 national, faith-based organizations brought together across many theological traditions with a common call to seek just policies that lift up the God-given dignity of every individual. In partnership, we work to protect the rights, dignity, and safety of all refugees and migrants.

Paul Bohnsack 952-891-5677 bohnsackps@frontiernet.net Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 500 Blake Road South Edina, MN 55343

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