



SERVING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

LITURGIST
ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
PIANIST & ORGANIST

Larry Luytjes
Cheryl Todd
Jonathan Tatar
Jon Conover and ReBorn
Sue Gilla

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING: Online giving is available and is appreciated as we will still have our regular operating costs and bills. Please mail in your giving to P.O. Box 695 5 W. Washington St. Oswego IL 60543 or use our E giving for online giving <https://giving.ncsservices.org/app/giving/goodshepherdoswego> which can also be found on our website under the giving tab. ~ Thank you!

NEW WORSHIP TIMES: **Beginning September 1st we will have new worship times on Sunday morning. Our traditional service will begin at 8:30 and our contemporary service will begin at 10am.**

PRAYERS FOR THE HOLY LAND: The Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: MLO - Jerusalem's Update and Prayers Every Wednesday at 1:00 PM US Midwest. Join our Zoom Meeting on Wednesdays. See the Eblast or email the office for the link.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday school begins September 8th at 10am with Rally Day! Blessing of the Backpacks will be Sunday, September 15th.

BOOK CLUB: The August book selection is Nettles and Roses by Judith Hankes. We will meet at Nancy Patush's house on Tuesday September 3 at 1:00 p.m. If you enjoy reading, please join us! See Judy McGregor with any questions.

JOYFUL NOISE HANDBELLS: The Joyful Noise Handbell Choir rehearsals resume on Monday, Aug. 26, at 6:30 PM. New members are always welcome! Please see Cheryl Todd or any choir member if you have questions.

ONE A 'CHORD CHOIR resumed practices on Tuesday, August 20th. Please contact Jonathan Tatar with any questions or if you are interested in joining! jonathan.w.tatar@gmail.com

MENS' SPIRITUAL CONFERENCE: Methodist men of all ages are urged to join us at our annual gathering on beautiful Lake Geneva. Come for one day or stay the entire weekend! Prepare to be invigorated and inspired as we focus on *A Thousand Roads- Every Man's Journey of Faith*. **Friday, September 13- Sunday, September 15.** Conference Point Center Williams Bay, WI. Space is limited so register today! To Register - Visit website www.nicummm.org



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Online Worship Service
September 1, 2024**

Office: (630) 554-3269 Email: office@goodshepherdoswego.org

Pastor: Steve Good (630) 608-7843
pastor@goodshepherdoswego.org

Publication email: publications@goodshepherdoswego.org
www.goodshepherdoswego.org

“OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.”

September 1, 2024
15th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME! We are happy you came to worship with us today. If you would like to join our mailing list please subscribe on our website. www.goodshepherdoswego.org

PRELUDE *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* Cheryl Todd

WORSHIP IS CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE AND POWER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

People: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: Let us worship God. +

SONG OF PRAISE *Like a Summer Day* Reborn

WORSHIP IS SHARING AND PRAYING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: "Lord, in your mercy"

People: "Hear our prayer"

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORDS PRAYER #895

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of strength and might, we confess our neglect of salvation's armor. We have not girded our loins with truth. The breastplate of righteousness is tarnished by our lax behavior. Our feet are caked with mud from battles fought unshod by the gospel of peace. We have laid aside the shield of faith, and weakened our defense in a hostile world. Help us once again to don the helmet of salvation and to raise the sword of the word against the powers that oppose you, so that in all our struggles we may rely solely on your strength. Amen. +

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear for your comfort the words of Paul: "If God is for us, who is against us? . . . For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Accept your forgiveness and rejoice in a love stronger than our sin. +

WORSHIP IS HEARING GOD'S WORD

SONG OF PRAISE *Oceans* Reborn

SCRIPTURE: James 2:1-10, 14-17, * Mark 7:1-8 Larry Luytjes

SERMON: *The Power of Friendship* Rev. Steve Good

HOLY COMMUNION

WORSHIP IS WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

SONG OF PRAISE *Room for You at the Table* Reborn

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Praise Ye the Father* Cheryl Todd

+ Kirk When We Gather

What a Friend We Have in Jesus by Charles Converse and arranged by Robert Hughes

Praise Ye the Father by Charles Gounod and arranged by Dorothy Wells

Like a Summer Day by Jon Conover

Oceans by Joel Houston, Matt Crocker, Salomon Ligthelm

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Room for You at the Table by Jon Conover

in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Mark 7:1-8

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."