



The Messenger

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
July 2025

The Subject of the Sentences

In June I was blessed with the opportunity to attend a conference in Connecticut honoring the ministry of the Rev. Fleming Rutledge. Fleming—who just celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of her ordination—was one of the first women ordained in the Episcopal Church, and she has come to be recognized as one of America’s great preachers and theologians. Her magnum opus, *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*—a massive survey of the various motifs employed by the New Testament to illuminate the meaning of Jesus’ death—was named *Christianity Today*’s 2017 Book of the Year and won plaudits from across the theological spectrum, from Catholic Bishop Robert Barron to the Reformed-leaning Gospel Coalition to the more liberal *Christian Century*. Writing in the *Century*, Anthony Robinson observes, “Rutledge’s book is a protest ... against what might be termed Christianity lite: against the many contemporary iterations of the Christian faith, both conservative and liberal, that don’t have much in the way of theological depth and seriousness—iterations that trade a rich, world-shaking, challenging faith for what seems only a mess of trivia.”

The Rev. Mrs. Rutledge is indeed an avowed enemy of “Christianity lite,” especially in the pulpit. This dedication to the seriousness of preaching can make her seem intimidating, especially to new preachers. Conference attendees from Toronto’s Wycliffe Theological College, where Fleming once guest taught a preaching class, shared a bit of local lore: The story goes that an enthusiastic student delivered a very earnest sermon in Fleming’s class, only to hear her respond, in that unmistakable old Virginia accent, “Darling, I don’t know what that was, but it certainly was not a Christian sermon.” (Asked about the veracity of this story, Fleming responded, “I would never address a student as *darling*.”) But despite her sometimes-fearsome reputation, Fleming has developed a personal ministry of befriending and encouraging younger clergy, many of whom I got to meet at the conference.

One of Fleming’s repeated admonitions to preachers (and to all Christians) is the reminder that, “in the Christian story, God is the subject of the sentences.” In other words, the Gospel is not about what *we* have done or what *we* must do; rather, the Gospel is the proclamation about what God has done decisively for us in Jesus. The Christian life is summed up not in the sentence “I found God,” but in the sentence, “God found me.” As Fleming’s beloved St. Paul puts it: “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). Through Jesus’ death on a Roman cross, God has undertaken to “rectify the ungodly”—to make sinners right with himself. And through his own initiative, says Fleming, Jesus makes himself known to us “as the single, unique, divine source of life and light, promise and fulfillment, strength and power.”

In this conditional, performance-based, quid-pro-quo world, in which we are always being measured and too often feel that we don’t measure up, it is truly good news to know that our true value and ultimate hope are not based on what we can accomplish or on the quality of our own spirituality, but entirely on what God has accomplished for us. I pray that God would be the subject of the sentences in your life’s story and that you would rejoice in the story of what God has done for you. May you daily know Jesus as your source of life and light, promise and fulfillment, strength and power—now and to life everlasting.

—Pastor Tim



Help Prepare a Meal for the Olney Cropdusters!

Good Shepherd will be providing a meal to the Cropduster's on **Thursday, July 17th.**

Those helping to prepare the meal should be at the Church at 12 noon. The food needs to be delivered by 4:30 pm.

Thursday, 7/17: Olney Cropdusters vs. Alexandria Aces at 6:30p. ***Purchase your tickets for the July 17th game at a discount!***

Use promo code GSCOCD25 for 25% off tickets for the July 17th game: <https://happsnow.com/event/cropdusters/cropdusters-vs-aces-UVWLVI>

Cropdusters Baseball is a 501c3 summer collegiate baseball organization formed in 2021 to create lifetime bonds & memories for our families, players and community!

We have few vacancies on the Board of Trustees (BoT). Specifically, the BoT is looking for a President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, and Financial Secretary-Elect. The BoT has great teams of volunteers who are charged with managing day-to-day operations, evaluating and setting priorities, and taking care of business. Efforts include developing annual budgets, paying bills and payroll, taking care of our facility, managing and accounting for financial donations and expenditures, keeping our church running in good condition, and tending to



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

the spiritual needs of our congregation, Pastor and family, music ministry, and Office staff. The activities are not too demanding, and the personal benefits of helping with these tasks as a team are rewarding.

We have a wonderful congregation, fulfilling worship services, and community ministry programs. We truly are bringing Christ to the community and the community to Christ. There are more concerts and community outreach activities in the planning stages. If you are not already serving, please consider your time and talents again and how you may be able to help. We do need your help. You will not be disappointed.

Card Ministry

Here's how you can participate and help Good Shepherd reach out to others by sending a greeting card:

1. Chose a card from the “★ SHINE ON ★” greeting card box. Pick out a card that you like, add your heartfelt message.
2. Use the LCGS Directory to locate an address, when needed.
3. Place a stamp on the envelope and leave the addressed card at front of box for the Church secretary to collect and put with outgoing mail on Monday.

Our hope for this 'Card Ministry' is to share our care, God's care and His promises with someone who might need and appreciate that 'light' and love as they experience the trials and triumphs of this life



The Good Shepherd Book Club will meet on
Sunday, July 13, 2025
 Hybrid Meeting at 6:00 pm.
 (LCGS and Zoom)



Vacation Bible School
 July 28 - August 1, 2025
 9:00 am-12 noon

\$30 per child | \$60 max per family
 Ages 3 years old to children completing 5th grade.

Our VBS Leaders and Helpers are well underway for an' ***Epic Australian Adventure***'! We have 45 children registered to sing action songs, hear Bible stories, make crafts, play games and eat snacks focusing on Bible stories that tell them in fun and experiential ways how Jesus calls, leads, teaches, saves, and sends them to share the Good News with others.

Our members and friends can help us now by watching for announcements and responding to the needed Craft, Snack and 'Aussie themed' Decoration donations. Also, your prayers are needed in these final weeks of preparation for this blessed week of energetic participation and learning about Jesus.

Please contact Gina Quinn (301-633-1662) or Jackie Schulten (301-452-4983) for info or questions.

Altar Flower Donation

The altar flowers that beautify our worship on Sunday are given to the glory of God by members of The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. You may give flowers in memory or honor of loved ones on a Sunday of your choice, with an acknowledgment in the weekly announcements.



07/28/25 -08/01/23	VBS
08/30/25 (Sat) 7:00pm	Cherry Blossom Special
09/14/25 (Sun)	Voters' Meeting
09/27/25 (Sat) 5:00pm	Octoberfest
10/19/25 (Sun) 5:00pm	Mike Kamuf Little Big Band
12/07/25 (Sun)	Voters' Meeting
12/14/25 (Sun) 10:30am	Lessons & Carols
12/06/25 (Sat) 4:00pm	Olney Community Choir
12/14/25 (Sun) 7:00pm	Olney Community Singers

Graduates

Class of 2025



Matthew Gordon earned his Master's degree in English as a Second Language from McDaniel College on May 17, 2025. He currently teaches third grade at Cool Spring Elementary School, where he is passionate about creating an inclusive and engaging learning environment for all students. Matthew lives in Arnold, Maryland, with his wife Kim and their two beloved dogs, Petey and Ghost. Outside the classroom, he enjoys spending time playing video games and continuing to grow as an educator dedicated to student success.



Elizabeth Rajnik graduated from Elizabethtown College (PA) with honors (Magna cum laude) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Sciences. While at Elizabethtown, she was also a member of the Women's Soccer Team.

She will be staying at Elizabethtown College to pursue her Doctorate in Occupational Therapy.



The Lord your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

Zephaniah 3:17

Worship Service

Join us in Person or via Livestream
Sundays at 10:30 am

<http://olneygoodshepherd.org/worship/>

Worship Services are available on demand. <https://boxcast.tv/channel/ufjib3bkeixbm7yfyr8>



The Mullen Family

Greg Mullen was born in Washington DC and raised in Damascus, MD. His wife, Nina was born and raised in New York City, NY. Greg earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and his degree from the University of Baltimore. Nina earned her undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago.

Greg and Nina have one daughter together, Alexandra Mullen, who goes by "Lexi" and is currently 11 months old. Alexandra and Nina were both baptized at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Olney, MD on



March 23, 2025. Greg also has a daughter, Margaret Mullen, who is currently 6½ years old. Margaret was also baptized at the LCGS in Olney, on June 30, 2019. Greg was baptized at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Germantown and received his 1st communion and confirmation at the LCGS in Olney.

Greg is currently an attorney for the BWW Law Group in Rockville, MD. Nina currently works in the Investments department of T. Rowe Price in Baltimore, MD.

As a family, we enjoy traveling, exploring restaurants, and staying active. This spring, Greg, Nina and Lexi traveled to Japan to visit friends and explore Tokyo, Hakone, and Kyoto. We enjoy all types of cuisines, although Margaret is partial to salmon sushi, fried rice, and noodles. Greg and Nina practice yoga and go for runs with Lexi in her jogging stroller when the weather cooperates.

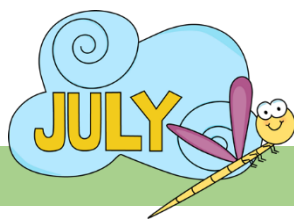


Stephen Ministry at Good Shepherd

God has called the Stephen Ministers to help those in need.
“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me.” John 14:1

Good Shepherd is equipped with 7 Stephen Ministers who can provide effective care alongside those who are experiencing life challenges. Some examples include job loss, hospitalization, terminal illness, confinement to the home, life transitions, separation or divorce, birth or adoption, loneliness and depression, grief, struggles with God, and many other of life's difficulties. As a reminder the Stephen Minister provides one-to-one, Christ-centered care. This care is entirely confidential—no one knows the identity of a care receiver except for their Stephen Minister and the pastor or Stephen Leader who paired them together.

If you or someone you know may be in need of a Stephen Minister, or if you have questions about Stephen Ministry please reach out to Pr Tim, or one of the Stephen Leaders Tim Leydig (301-452-9238) or Gina Quinn (301-633-1662).



Birthdays

3rd – Rosemary B. . 19th – Jennifer K.
5th – Matt Q. 19th – Lexi M.
8th – Janet S. 20th – Lena W.
9th – Carl S. 20th – Dorothy H.
10th – Colette C. 21st – LeeAnn F.
13th – Addison L. 21st – CJ E..
13th – Lucas W. 21st – Joyce K.
18th – Rhea W. 22nd – Iris B.
18th – Don P. 25th – Lu O.
19th – Sasha F. 29th – Joan G.

Anniversaries

3rd – Robert & Linda B.
6th – Cory & Maggie B.
7th – Philip & Kathy N.
21st – Jim & Connie Strachan
25th – Donald & Nancy N.

Rejoice in hope,
be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Food & Fellowship

Food & Fellowship will follow
Worship Service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Please bring something to share.



School Supplies – Will you Help?

We are once again sponsoring nearby Rosa Parks Middle School.
The Board of Social Ministry asks for your support – new, unused items only, please.

Rosa Parks Middle School Supply List

Two-inch three-ring binder*
Pencil pouch for binder*
Dividers for binder
Large backpack
Notebook paper
Spiral notebooks
Pocket folders
Pens

Pencils
Colored pencils
Rulers
Compass
Basic calculator
Index cards

*Most requested items

Please note that summertime provides many opportunities to get school supplies on sale!
Ask Bob Wolters at 301-774 6169 if you have any questions. Thank you!



Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:15 am

Hybrid: Zoom and in person in room 104.

Children's Sunday School

On Summer Break!

Thursday Bible Study

On Summer Break

Small Groups

Men's Group

First Saturday of the month

8:00 am

Book Club

2nd Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Confirmation Class

On Summer Break

LifeLight Bible Class

On Summer Break

Music Ministry

On Summer Break



Please continue to send your requests to
prayers@olneygoodshepherd.org.

With assistance from the Worship Assistants, Pastor Tim will compile your requests to share in Worship during the "Prayers of the Church" and with the Board of Elders.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

4200 Olney-Laytonsville Rd

Olney, MD 20832

Phone: 301-774-9125

lcgs.church

www.OlneyGoodShepherd.org

Board of Trustees

July 1, 2025—June 30, 2026

President/Trustee	Matt Quinn
President-Elect/Trustee	VACANT
Treasurer/Trustee	Jim Strachan
Treasurer-Elect/Trustee	VACANT
Financial Sec./Trustee	Cory Baumhardt
Financial Sec -Elect/Trustee	VACANT
Recording Secretary/Trustee	Cindy Miezis
Elder/Trustee	Marc Gregory

Board of Elders

Marc Gregory (Head Elder)

Steve Gordon

Tim Leydig

Gina Quinn

Jackie Schulten

Pastor

Rev. Timothy Boerger

pastor@olneygoodshepherd.org

Organist & Minister of Music

Maria Sampogna

maria@olneygoodshepherd.org

Administrative Assistant

Cate McDonald

office@olneygoodshepherd.org

Gifts / Offerings


**You can contribute your support of
Good Shepherd by.....**

1. On-line (via the website) Click [Donate](#)
2. Drop in the collection plate during worship.
3. Mail to:

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.
P.O. Box 280 Olney, MD 20830-0280

July 2025

June '25							August '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Service 11:45a Reception 1:00p ICIF Worship	30 8:00p AA	1	2	3 7:00p Narc-Alon	4 8:00p AA 	5 3:00p ICFC Practice 6:00p AA
6 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Service 11:45a Food & Fellowship 1:00p ICIF Worship	7 8:00p AA	8 7:00p Stephen Ministry Mtg	9 7:00p Board of Elders	10 7:00p Narc-Alon	11 8:00p AA	12 3:00p ICFC Practice 6:00p AA
13 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Service 1:00p ICIF Worship 6:00p Book Club	14 8:00p AA	15	16 7:00p Board of Trustees	17 12n CropDuster Dinner prep 7:00p Narc-Alon	18 8:00p AA	19 3:00p ICFC Practice 6:00p AA
20 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Service 11:45a Food & Fellowship 1:00p ICIF Worship	21 8:00p AA	22 7:00p SCCC Board Mtg. 7:00p Stephen Ministry Mtg	23	24 7:00p Narc-Alon	25 8:00p AA	26 9:00a VBS Decorating 3:00p ICFC Practice 6:00p AA
27 10:30a Worship Service 1:00p ICIF Worship	28 9:00a VBS 8:00p AA	29 9:00a VBS	30 9:00a VBS	31 9:00a VBS 7:00p VBS Family Night 7:00p Narc-Alon	1 9:00a VBS 8:00p AA	2 8:00a Men's Group 3:00p ICFC Practice 6:00p AA
3 9:15a Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Service 11:45a Food & Fellowship 1:00p ICIF Worship	4 8:00p AA	Food & Fellowship will follow the Worship Service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Please bring a dish to share. *ICFC = Indonesian Christian Fellowship Church				



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD

4200 Olney Laytonsville Road, Olney MD 20832 | 301-774-9125