

September  
2022

# The Samaritan

## Worship Themes

"The table" offers prominent imagery for people of faith - we talk about Christ's table when celebrating communion, and right in the center of our chancel area in the sanctuary is the table (or altar) we view week after week. Our worship theme for September will have us taking a look at the kind of table Christ sets for us.

### September 4 -

The Table of Grace / Communion

### September 11 -

The Table of Joy / Rally Sunday

### September 18 -

The Table of Peace / Bible Sunday

### September 25 -

The Table of Love



Yard Games

Coffee Fellowship

## Rally Sunday

September 11, 2022

Worship at 10:00am

with Blessing of the Backpacks

(Bring your backpack, diaper bag, work bag, or crafting bag to be blessed during worship. Students will make backpack tags during Sunday School and adults can decorate one after worship.)

Popcorn

Homeward Bound music after worship

## Wednesday Evenings

Beginning September 14, 2022

Nursery open from 5:45 to 9:00pm

6:00-7:00pm

- \* Chancel Chimes Rehearsals (until 7:15pm)
- \* Caregivers Support Group (2nd Wednesdays)
- \* Children & Youth Advent Choir Rehearsals (starting October 5)

7:00-9:00pm

- \* Chancel Choir Rehearsals (starting September 7)
  - \* Wild Ones (grades 5-6), Buzz (grades 7-8), & Youth Group (grades 9-12), programming with light snack followed by open gym (pick up between 8:30 and 9:00pm)
- \* Open Conversation with Pastor Carol (formal classes yet to come)

## OUR STAFF

### Rev. Carol Zaagsma

Lead Pastor  
carol@good.org  
952-452-9395

### Nikki Holm

Dir. of Congregational Care  
nikki@good.org  
952-452-9396

### Jan Russell

Director of Children, Youth  
and Family Ministries  
jan@good.org  
952-452-9398

### Christian Nielsen

Coordinator of Worship Arts  
and Online Engagement  
christian@good.org

### Paolo Debuque

Chancel Choir Director &  
Music Coordinator  
paolo@good.org

### Mary Beth Berg

Organist/Accompanist  
marybeth@good.org

### Kate Graber

Chancel Chimes Director  
kate@good.org

### Brad Carlin

Homeward Bound Director  
bradleypcarlin@gmail.com

### Cindy Bergstrom

Office Manager  
cindy@good.org  
952-452-9393

### Kim Hill

Bookkeeper  
kim@good.org  
952-452-9394

### Dan Green

Building Engineer  
danrg@good.org  
612-889-4015

### Dandy Lewis

Media Specialist  
dandy@good.org

### Good Samaritan UMC

Office: 952-929-0049

# Pastor's Page

## Helping Behind the Scenes

No congregation could survive without great volunteers, and Good Samaritan UMC is no exception! This month I'd like to say a special thank you to the group of dedicated volunteers who come every month to help with the production and mailing of this monthly newsletter.

While a number of leaders and staff members work hard to provide



content for *The Samaritan*, once a draft of the newsletter is prepared by Cindy Bergstrom, a couple of volunteer editors stop by to take a careful look. Natalie Cramer does a general editing review to correct grammatical errors, while Dave Kuhn offers creative suggestions for more engaging headlines.

Once the newsletter is edited and printed, we have a group coordinated by Georgia Creglow who comes and collates them for mailing. This involves folding, putting mailing wafers on the edges, and adding the address labels.

Thank you to our collators:

Elouise Koenig, Lucille Grosch, Jane Heimerl, Joan Hursh, Martha Kouatli, and Georgia Creglow (not pictured).



Several months ago, I asked Steve Schultz if he would use his woodworking skills to make some tools that would make it easier for our collators to fold the thick newsletters in half. The collators are very happy using these handy little crease-making tools he made!

After this, Dan Green takes the tray of newsletters to the bulk mailing center, who then delivers your copy to you. As you can see, the work of many goes into sharing the good news of all that is happening here at Good Sam. We hope you enjoy reading all about it!

Look for many other opportunities to help at <https://good.org/news-events/volunteer-signup-opportunities/>

Pastor Carol



# Music



## Music Ministry Rehearsals Resume



**Paolo Debuque**  
**Chancel Choir**  
**Director &**  
**Music Coordinator**  
**paolo@good.org**  
**952-452-9397**

Dear Good Samaritans,

I hope you had a warm, restful, and satisfying summer. As lovely as my summer has been with a benefit concert, house-buying, and now all sorts of house projects, I am really excited to be returning to the musical programming at Good Sam!

This year, Chancel Choir will begin rehearsing **Wednesday, September 7**. We rehearse from **7:00-9:00pm** in the Choir Room below the sanctuary (lower level Music Wing, Room 150) on a whole range of music for a whole range of occasions! In this second year as Chancel Choir Director, I'm looking forward to building on last year's exciting programming (Lessons and Carols, Advent's *Ceremony of Carols*, Easter's *Five Mystical Songs*, AAPI Month, and more!!), and hope you'll join!

If you have any interest in singing in choir this year, please do reach out to me! The Choir Room door is always open to new faces and voices, and we would love to have you.

All the best! Paolo

## Considering Joining the Chancel Chimes at Good Sam!

Those who enjoy music and fellowship come together to play in our handbell ensemble. Music reading skills are helpful, but only a desire to learn and create music together for worship is required.

Rehearsals begin **August 31 from 6:00 - 7:15pm** in the Bell Room (lower level Music Wing, Room 153). Participation in worship is approximately once a month. For more information about joining, contact [kate@good.org](mailto:kate@good.org). ~Kate Graber



## Children and Youth Advent Choir



Dear Good Sam families,

It is a pleasure to virtually meet you! My name is Jack Soden. You may recognize me as the Chancel Choir's Tenor Section Leader, a role I've enjoyed this last year as I completed my degree in Music Education at the U of M.

I'm excited to share an exciting musical opportunity for the younger members of our congregation: this fall, we will be preparing a Children and Youth Advent Choir! I've been working closely with Paolo and Jan on bringing this kind of offering back to our community, and am so looking forward to putting it together!

If your child is interested in singing, please don't hesitate to reach out to me ([soden006@umn.edu](mailto:soden006@umn.edu)), Paolo, or Jan. Rehearsals will be **Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00pm, starting October 5**, with performances at Hanging of the Greens on November 27 and the 4pm Christmas Eve service. We hope to see you there, and I can't wait to meet you all in person!



# Music

## Homeward Bound to Perform

Homeward Bound, our church band, has a unique performance that you're invited to attend. We will be playing a dinner/concert at First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee on Thursday, September 22.

The pastor there, Scott Larson, is a former Good Sam member who (like Pastor Carol) decided to go to seminary and become a pastor as a second career. So he knew about the group, and invited us to participate. We are actually the "kickoff" event in a series of biweekly Thursday night dinner-concerts that the church is running this fall. It is expected that this gig will be outdoors (weather permitting), and the public is invited!

Here are the details:

**Abundance Festival  
Featuring Homeward Bound  
Thursday, September 22, 2022  
6:00-8:00 PM**

First Set: 6:00-6:45

Picnic from 6:45-7:15

Second Set: 7:15-8:00

First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee  
909 Marschall Road, Shakopee, MN



A free-will offering will be accepted for the church to defray the cost of the picnic.

~ Brad Carlin

# Congregational Care

## Welcome, Cass!

Nikki Holm, our Director of Congregational Care, and husband Pete Hilton are pleased to announce the arrival of Cassian "Cass" Laine Hilton, born August 16, at 12:42am. For those who like to know, he was 7 pounds and 1 ounce, and 20 inches long. Welcome to the world, Cass, and congratulations, Nikki and family!



Please note the following updates to Nikki's typical responsibilities:

- Please send all prayer requests for the prayer chain to Pastor Carol ([carol@good.org](mailto:carol@good.org)) by the end of the day Tuesday each week
- Contact Pastor Carol ([carol@good.org](mailto:carol@good.org) or 952-452-9395) for pastoral care emergencies. No concern is too small or too overwhelming to be in touch about.

# Congregational Care

## Prayer Chain Overview

Over time, most people who are affiliated with Good Sam become aware that we have a weekly, electronic prayer chain.

Unfortunately, many of us already receive more emails than we know what to do with and hence, we may be reticent to "sign-up" for one more electronic communication,

especially without really knowing what it entails. As such, we thought it might be helpful to review what you can expect to receive should you choose to join the prayer chain, either for a trial or permanently.

This simple document is generally grounded in a brief prayer or poem as an invitation to become spirit-aligned prior to reading the rest of the chain. Following this introduction, you'll find a list of recent prayer requests as submitted by members of this community. As a general guideline, specific prayer requests are outlined in detail for two weeks and then removed while more general intercessions may remain for a series of months or more. Additionally, when members or friends of the community have died, we try to announce both their passing and any relevant memorial or funeral service information in this section so that we can lift them and their loved ones up in prayer in the days and weeks following their death.

Following our prayer concerns, we name those who have specifically requested prayers for on-going and/or recent medical issues. Those identified here stay on the prayer chain until they or a loved one requests that they be removed. Finally, we close with an opportunity to hold up recent joys and gratitudes from within the life of the community, either personally or collectively.

All in all, the prayer chain is a collective offering in which we are invited to hold one another in light, peace, and love from near and far. If you are interested in receiving the prayer chain email, please email Cindy at [cindy@good.org](mailto:cindy@good.org). Thank you to all who continue to support us and one another through the loving intention of prayer!

**Nikki Holm (she/her)**

**Board Certified Chaplain  
Director of Congregational Care**

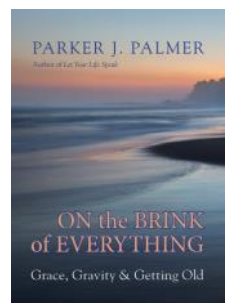
**[nikki@good.org](mailto:nikki@good.org)  
952-452-9396**

**On maternity leave through  
mid-November**



## Tuesday Bible Study Resumes

Tuesday Bible Study will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 13, at 9:30am in the Fireside Room with a social time to catch up after our summer break. Coffee and snacks will be served. Just bring yourself and any news you might want to share! Starting September 20 we will begin reading and discussing Parker Palmer's book, *On the Brink of Everything*. Let us know if you would like us to order the book for you.



Beginning on October 18 and continuing the following two Tuesdays, we will temporarily pause our book study for a three-week special study, "Hagar, Sarah and their Children" led by Mary Ellen and Larry Nielsen.

Tuesday Bible study is open to all and we welcome new members. Please direct questions to Carol Smith ([carolsden@gmail.com](mailto:carolsden@gmail.com)), Christina Leenders ([christinaleenders@gmail.com](mailto:christinaleenders@gmail.com)), or Mary Stanton ([rstanton5@comcast.net](mailto:rstanton5@comcast.net)).

# Children, Youth & Family Ministries

**Keeping Families  
Connected**



**Jan M. Russell (she/her)**  
**Director of Children, Youth  
& Family Ministries**  
**jan@good.org**  
**952-452-9398**



Hello Families!

As we get ready for fall, and all the busyness that brings to our lives I wanted to touch base and give you a few ideas on how to include sacred moments in your every day life:

- Give you kiddos a little blessing as you are waiting in the car line to drop them off at school.
- Create a gratitude jar, where you write on a little slip of paper something you're grateful for, and have everyone contribute once a week (or once a day, when you have the hang of it).
- When you see an emergency vehicle go by, pray for everyone's safety and health in the situation.
- Create a family night. Games, movies, a walk, just something you all do together. If a whole evening is too much, start with an hour and slowly increase the time.
- With weeknight practice, and afterschool activities, sometimes meal time isn't the easiest time to pray as a family. Find a time to pray together that works for you. Breakfast, before bed, getting into the car after school. Whatever works!
- For children and youth with texting abilities, send words of encouragement and grace when they cross your mind.
- For those with young adults who have launched into their own lives, consider having a specific time, with an alarm on your phone, reminding you to stop and say a quick prayer for them or send a quick text. Who knows, they may just text back.

Grace and Peace, Jan

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## Valleyfair Recap

August 17 was the perfect day to be at Valley Fair! Good Sam youth and friends had a great time! Dean Kraus and Paolo Debuque served as chaperones with me. The youth even convinced Paolo to ride a few rides with them. Thanks youth,

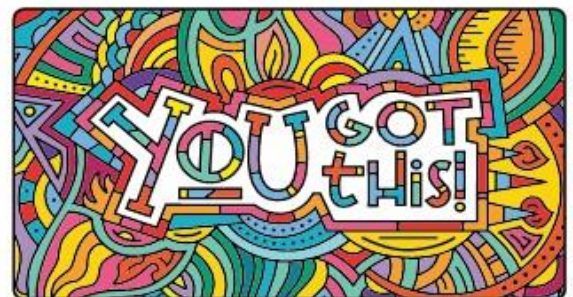
Paulo and Dean for a great day! I had a blast getting to know you all better! ~ Jan



*PS - look carefully, these are our youth (and Paolo) enjoying the rides.*

## Blessing of the Backpacks

Bring your backpack, diaper bag, craft bag, lunch bag, briefcase, or work bag to be blessed during worship September 11. Children and youth will make a luggage tag during Sunday School and adults can make one after worship. The 2022-2023 school year is going to be great! You Got This!



illustratedministry.com



# Children, Youth & Family Ministries

## "A Benediction for Back to School"

by Sarah Bessey, from the August 8, 2022 edition of Sarah Bessey's *Field Notes*, [sarahbessey.com](http://sarahbessey.com)

As we head back into our classrooms, may you go forth fully convinced of our love and your capacity. May you be the head and not the tail, leading others - and yourself - on a path of flourishing.

May your roots go down deep into God's soil so you will bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. May you remember your people, where you come from, and find your place of belonging. May you become even more fully who you were always meant to be this year. We delight in you, darling.

We pray that you would sow seeds of life and hope wherever you find yourself, cultivating a harvest of shalom. May you be prepared for every good work that lies ahead of you. May your mind be clear and engaged, your memory sharp, your wisdom beyond your years. May you ask for what you need without fear or shame.

May you be safe, beloved child, protected from anything that seeks to steal, kill, or destroy in any measure. When you are afraid, may you feel our love wrapped around you and take heart. When disappointments or disasters come - and they will - may you find the depths of the resilience we already see in you and rise, rise, rise again.

May you do what is right and good and kind and just, no matter what everyone else might do. Don't submerge your true self into the dreams, plans, behaviors, or agendas of others. Bring your full beloved self to these days, knowing you are created in the image of God.

We pray that you would be a blessing to your teachers and the school staff and we pray that they, in turn, would see and affirm you in the fullness God has created.

We pray for good friendships that will sharpen and delight you. We pray you would have eyes to see the lonely ones. May you have many opportunities to practice being both brave and kind.

Beloved child of God, we send you out in the power and peace of Love itself, prepared and anointed, knowing you walk upon steady ground. In the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, one God and Mother of us all. Amen.

## Sunday School Curriculums



For Pre-K to 5th grade we will use *Passport to Peace*. Children will discover that there are many ways to live as peacemakers in our world. Kids are invited to see every person as part of God's family, and every interaction as an opportunity to make peace.



The lectionary-based *TEENTEXT: Go Deep. Be Real. Let Go.* helps youth connect the text on the page with events in their daily lives. Through a series of open-ended, text-related questions (grades 6-8 and grades 9-12), they begin to see the Bible as a vital, dynamic relevant resource for spiritual growth.



## Bible Sunday

**September 18, 2022**

**10:00am**

We give age-appropriate Bibles to our 3-year-olds, 3rd graders, and 9th graders. Jan will be reaching out to parents in the next few weeks to coordinate details.

# Missions

## Our Hearts Ache for Kentucky



For over 40 years, Good Samaritan has sent work teams of youth and adults to the Appalachian Mountains

to help make homes warmer, safer and dryer. Many of those years of service with ASP have been in the area of eastern Kentucky hit hard by recent flooding, and our hearts and prayers go out to the families and the communities whom we have served.

This year, 40% of the Minnesota Annual Conference Love Offering is going to the Central Appalachian Missionary Conference (CAMC) for their Project Flood Relief ministry with the goal of building 100 flood clean up buckets and 40 hygiene kits in response to several years of flooding. Now their need will be even greater.

Good Samaritan donated \$1,000 to the Love Offering in June. If you would like to contribute additional funds to support their efforts, donate through [good.org/give](http://good.org/give): click the Fund "GS Missions", Sub Fund "UMCOR". Funds received for UMCOR this month will be directed toward UMCOR CAMC Project Flood Relief.

~Janet VanBenthuyssen

## Support the Baiwalla Ministry



OC MINISTRIES

Many of you heard Rev. Judith Banya's fascinating personal story of how she was inspired to start the first secondary school in her hometown of Baiwalla, in Sierra Leone. She was lucky to go to a boarding school in Africa at age 14 where she got her first pair of shoes! It was also the first time she slept in a bed by herself! She also was surprised to learn that people ate three meals a day! You can access her 8/7/22 sermon where she described all this and her new secondary school - [good.org/watch/sermons/](http://good.org/watch/sermons/) (She begins speaking at 18:13).

She is now looking for people to give scholarships of \$310 to support a girl for one year. The lunches cost \$150 for the whole year. If you'd like to support her work, you may send a check in any amount whatsoever to Good Sam with the designation in the memo line: Missions – Baiwalla Ministry. Donate online to this ministry at [www.ocministriesmn.org/donate](http://www.ocministriesmn.org/donate)

If you donate online please notify the Missions Team at [pdeckas@comcast.net](mailto:pdeckas@comcast.net).

~Pat Deckas Becerra

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## VEAP Back-to-School Drive a Great Success!



*VEAP shares their gratitude with us:* The start of a new school year can be a difficult time for many of the families with whom VEAP works, and our annual school supply drive plays a critical role in meeting local students' needs.

This summer, VEAP encouraged supporters to come together to make sure children heading back to class for the year had all the supplies they needed. And you delivered! VEAP is incredibly grateful for all the wonderful school supplies and backpacks we received to help support local students during this year's school supply drive. Thanks to you, we received and delivered 2,168 backpacks to students!

- 1,223 backpacks and 8 pallets of school supplies for Bloomington students
- 745 backpacks and 8 pallets of supplies for Richfield youth
- 200 backpacks and 2 pallets for supplies for the Edina district

Thank you to Sue Ohman for coordinating the collection at Good Sam!



# Missions



## Feed My Starving Children

Volunteer at the Chanhassen site (18932 Lake Dr E)

**Wednesday, September 14  
from 9:00-10:45am**

Sign up with Jane Heimerl at [jane.heimerl@yahoo.com](mailto:jane.heimerl@yahoo.com) by September 12.



## Minnesota Medication Repository

RoundtableRx accepts donations of unused, unexpired medications, and medical supplies to be redistributed to Minnesota patients in need. See the list of accepted donations and complete a donor form at [roundtablerrx.com](http://roundtablerrx.com).



## A Vision for Home: A Conversation on Housing with MN Gubernatorial Candidates

Minnesota is in a housing crisis that needs immediate and impactful action. Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is co-sponsoring a conversation on housing with Minnesota gubernatorial candidates and we need you there to demonstrate your support for bold solutions! Register at [beaconinterfaith.org](http://beaconinterfaith.org) and invite others to attend with you.

September 13, 2022 from 7:00-8:30pm  
Wayzata Community Church  
125 Wayzata Blvd E, Wayzata, MN

# Finance Team

## Financial Update

The table shows Good Samaritan's finances for the month of July and July year-to-date.

- July 2022 current month income of \$40,387 was below plan by \$9,484. Expenses were lower than plan, but still resulted in a net income of (\$12,001).
- As you know, the vast amount of Good Samaritan's expenses are fixed (personnel and building/property) – so there is still a need for income to support the church.

***Given our current shortfall of (\$22,399) we are appealing to the congregation for any gift you can make. Paying towards your pledge this month, or making an additional gift if your pledge is satisfied would be very welcome!***

**To give securely online, go to [good.org/give](http://good.org/give).**

~ Byron Olson

Favorable (Unfavorable)	Current Month of July		July YTD	
	Actual	Plan (Budget)	Actual	Plan (Budget)
Income	\$40,387	\$62,540	\$400,039	\$459,313
Expenses	\$52,388	\$69,556	\$422,438	\$447,426
Net Income	(\$12,001)	(\$7,015)	(\$22,399)	\$11,887

# Trustees

## Sanctuary Roof Replacement

We are planning to have the sanctuary roof replaced this fall. During a routine roof inspection, Dan Green, our building engineer, observed that the HVAC units had extensive hail damage. Upon further inspection, he noticed that the roof had hail damage as well. Dan notified the Trustees and contacted the insurance company. The insurance adjuster inspected the roof and HVAC units and confirmed that we had a claim.

Over the past year the Trustees, with the help of Dan and Pastor Carol, have solicited bids from a number of roofing companies and have been in negotiations with the insurance company. The claim was finally approved on August 9, 2022 and a roofing company has been selected to do the work.

The work will include replacement of the sanctuary roof, replacement of one HVAC unit, and repairs to an additional seven HVAC units. The small garage roof had extensive hail damage and will also be replaced. To tidy up the exterior of the church, we will also have the flashing around the bell tower roof replaced. The bell tower flashing is not covered under the claim so the church will pay approximately \$3,000 to have this part of the job done.

Due to the supply chain issues that the building trades have experienced over the past couple of years, the material orders need to be placed so the delivery dates can be confirmed and a start date set.

The roofing company is aware of the functions of the church and will work around any services that occur during the workweek.

The Trustees will provide an update once we have confirmation of the start date.

~ Stan Glad, Trustee

# Marketing

## November 8 Election

Good Sam is one of Edina's voting venues. To make this event the success it was before the onslaught of COVID, we need your help. We will return to greeting the voters, as well as providing coffee, lemonade, and freshly baked cookies throughout the day. We will also provide lunch and dinner for the election judges and our staff.



There will be opportunities for a lot of us to participate and demonstrate our radical hospitality. The precinct boundaries have changed so some new folks will come through the Church. The polls are open from 7:00am-8:00pm, so set some hours of the day aside and more information will come at a later date.

Please call Dave Knutson at 612-859-2940 with any questions.

# Trustees

## Maintenance Minute: Ready for Back to School

The summer months at Good Sam are always very busy behind the scenes - for example, deep cleaning the school wing and nursery. This includes top to bottom dusting, light fixture and wall cleaning, window washing, bathroom floors scrubbing and grout cleaning, carpet scrubbing and tile/terrazzo floor stripping and recoating. This is done every summer in preparation for a new school year. It is rewarding to make a tile or terrazzo floor that is scratched and dull in places look brand new all over again! It also prolongs the life of these floors.

**Dan Green**  
(he/him)

**Building Engineer**  
**danrg@good.org**  
**612-889-4015**



All of the tiled classrooms and school hallway floors are original to Good Sam from back in 1960. You may never guess that when looking at them after I refinish them. The school hall is a floor called terrazzo. It is a poured-in floor and if it is properly and regularly maintained, it is more durable and can last hundreds of years, even longer than a polished concrete floor (which is what we have in the sanctuary).

Some interesting notes on it - it is said that archeologists have found terrazzo-type floors in ruins in Turkey dating back 8,000-9,000 years. However, they were "officially" invented in Venice, Italy around 500 years ago. The first terrazzo floor in the US was poured in by Italian craftsmen in 1890. Many of those floors still are used to this day. You will find a lot of terrazzo flooring in high traffic places like schools and retail stores, due to their durability, fairly easy maintenance and longevity.

With proper care, the floors here at Good Sam will continue to shine on and welcome all!



Stripping



After  
Stripping



During  
Recoating



Final  
Finish





Good Samaritan United Methodist Church  
5730 Grove Street  
Edina, MN 55436

Nonprofit Organization

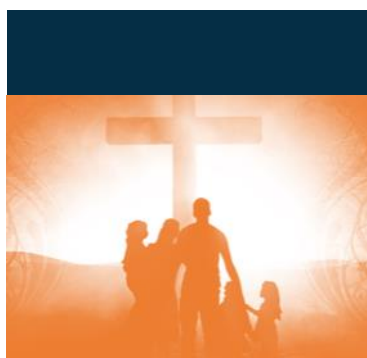
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## OUR VISION

INSPIRING  
Joyful Faith

BUILDING  
a Loving  
Community

SERVING  
Neighbors Near  
and Far

## WORSHIP AT GOOD SAMARITAN

**Sunday Worship** 10:00 am (In-Person and Online)

**Sunday Nursery** Infants - Age 3, 9:45-11:30am

**Sunday School** Separate Children's and Youth Sunday School are held during worship following Children's Time. All are welcome!

## GOOD SAMARITAN OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Friday** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
**Phone** (952) 929-0049