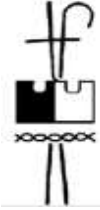


May 2021 Newsletter



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 E. Mason, Lena, IL 61048 Phone # (815) 369-5552

Shepherd's Voice

When [the shepherd] has brought his own [sheep], he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:4

When I first read the Jesus the Good Shepherd passage in the Bible, I read the passage in a metaphorical sense: we, God's children, were sheep, and we knew the voice of Jesus. Growing up in an urban area, I had no encounter with sheep (or any of God's beautiful creatures except dogs, cats, goldfish, and roosters at school). I did not know that sheep knew the voice of shepherds until I visited Beth and Jerry's farm this spring. Those who know them, they are shepherds. They raise sheep. I do not know much about sheep but I enjoy watching them. So when I heard Beth talking about lambs being born, I begged if I could stop by and watch the lambs.

One beautiful chilly Sunday afternoon my husband and I drove to their farm. Jerry, the shepherd, took us to the barn where newly born lambs and the mamma sheep were hanging out (also with cats and calves). It was absolutely fun watching them. In a pen, lambs were bumping into each other, sucking mamma sheep's milk, and making a chorus of baa-ing. Jerry's presence made a huge difference. They were calm and peaceful. (In the past I sneaked in to their farm to take pictures of sheep. Oh my, the sheep were startled and they went in another direction.) They knew their shepherd was there. While I was thrilled watching sheep and lambs and cats and calves, Jerry picked up a lamb for us to pet. The lamb made a baa-ing voice, and all the sudden sheep on the right and left cried "Baaaaaa." I was surprised wondering, what's going on? Jerry said that the mamma sheep knew the voice of her lambs. And the grandma sheep also recognized the voices of their family lambs. Sheep know voices. Sheep hear the voices of their family and the shepherd.

Jesus tells us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He calls his sheep by name, and his sheep know his voice. During the season of Easter (remember, Easter is 50 days of the celebration of new life in Christ.), we are exploring God's call in worship. We read hymn verses which contain "call or calling" each Sunday. I thank Janis for gathering calling hymns for us. When I was reading the lyrics of these hymns, I was struck by how diligently God calls us to remember that God loves us, and call us to love our neighbors as Jesus has loved us. God does not give up on us. God never stops calling us to live in God's big love. Our God is relentless. Don't you see that God pours love into our hearts every day? There are too many tragedies in our society. Many people are hurting right now. Remember my friends, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, knows us and calls us by name to love. And Jesus is going ahead of us and reaching out those who are struggling this day. May the love of Good Shepherd transform us to become God's loving presence to every soul we meet today. The peace of Christ be with us always,

Pr. Miho

Treasurer's Report

Jay Andrews

Incoming March 2021	\$15,739.09
Expenses March 2021	\$13,968.73
Net Income (Loss)	\$1,770.36
Income, Year to Date 2021	\$31,369.65
Expenses, Year to Date 2021	\$35,407.60
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4,037.95)



Mark your Calendar
Special Congregational Meeting
On May 2nd (Sunday), 10:30am.

We will discuss Payroll Protection Program. You may attend the meeting in sanctuary, fellowship hall or via zoom.

Know Our Roots—History of Good Shepherd

We received this e-mail from Mr. Richard Stratton;

Friends, It was interesting to read that Rev. Eli(as) Fair was your first pastor, I know the name because he was in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, Prior to moving to Illinois. He had associations with a handful of congregations there. He is credited with organizing the first Lutherans in my hometown of Meyersdale. The union church shared by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations was given the name Amity. Alas, he ruffled some feather and did not leave under positive circumstances. Do you know any more about him?

We replied with the first 3 pages of Good Shepherd's history, which confirmed that Rev. Fair did not leave under positive circumstances.

The History of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

When Northern Illinois became safe for settlement after the Blackhawk wars, many immigrants came west. Many of these people were of German decent from New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. Between 1840 and 1850 the population of Northern Illinois increased by 100%.

These immigrants came to Stephenson County seeking a home, new life, and a better day. There were two kinds of German immigrants, those that were second, third, or fourth generation Americans and those that had just arrived from the Old World with all the old German language, customs, and religious beliefs intact. The number of generations removed from Europe and its language and customs would be a great influence on the Lutheran Church in Lena.

In 1848 the Rev. Mr. Scherer, Itinerant State Missionary for the Illinois Synod, visited Stephenson County. He received \$4.00 in collection for the cause of Home Missions. He reported 100 Lutheran names in the county in 1849. In 1850 the Rev. George J. Donmeyer came to Stephenson County. He resided in Buena Vista and reached out to the Lutheran families in the county. When the Rev. Donmeyer arrived he found there were seven preaching stations in the county. By the Synod meeting in 1851, Rev. Donmeyer had five organized congregations including Salem Church, Waddams Grove; and Unity in Waddams Grove Township. He also had three preaching stations, but as the pastors only had to report the figures as to the number of the faithful reached and not the locations, it is impossible to know there these places were.

In 1856 Rev. Donmeyer was able to organize two churches, one in Buena Vista and one in Lena. The church in Buena Vista was organized with 18 members and the Lena Church has 31 members. The Rev. Eli Fair would supply the church as pastor when Rev. Donmeyer was away to other preaching stations. The Lena church met in the homes of the church families or the Old Stone School House located at the corner of Lena and Franklin Streets. The School House was torn down in 1902.

Rev. Eli Fair came to Stephenson County and the Northern Illinois Synod in late November of 1856. He resigned the Berlin Parish of the Alleghany Synod in Pennsylvania on November 6, 1856. His decision to come to Northern Illinois was not a surprising one. As information is exchanged between the different Synods today, so it was also exchanged in 1856. The Synod reported that the "fields were ripe for harvest" and that the "laborers were few." The interesting part is why Rev. Fair left Pennsylvania. He had been serving a union congregation of Lutheran and Reformed. Rev. Fair was very zealous for Missions and revivals. After a tactless affair in 1854 over Sabbath-breaking, he was asked to leave the congregation at pistol point. The Alleghany Synod refused to allow the congregation to withdraw from the Synod. Instead they sent a new pastor to replace Rev. Fair. These facts are important to note as they play a greater roll in the organization of the Lutheran congregation in Lena.

We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B., Gene Hesselbacher, Larry Huneke, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Deb Lindeman Harder, Paul Heller, Dave Heinkel, Cindy Tessendorf, Janet, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr, Nicole, Meghan, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Jerred, Bronwein, Matt and Julie, Susan Andersen, Chuck, Joyce, Marcia, Deb, Mary Gerbode, Terri, Tina, Julie, J.T., Jamie, Penny Day, Crystal, Jesse Becke, Sue, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, the Anthony Nelson family, Jim DeMontigny, Richard Gordon, Norma, Kirk, Bonnie W., David Gray, and Kyle. Pray for love, peace, comfort, and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Delbert Scheider, Alvin and Lois Niesman, and Brad, .



Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call the Church Office to submit your request at 815-369-5552. We are also looking for anyone who would like to join the prayer chain. We send prayer through phone chain and e-mail. You pray individually and pass it on to the next person in the prayer chain. God hears our prayers. If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office. If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

Did you know?

While an owl's vision is 2 to 3 times better than a human's, a cat can see twice as well as an owl at night!

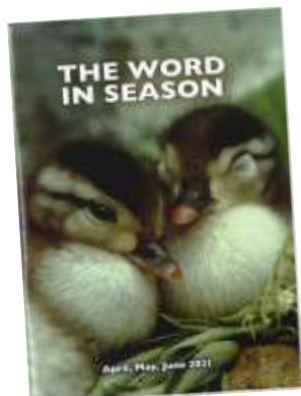
Source: 2021 Farmers Almanac



Quirky Fact:

Did you know an owl has 3 eyelids, one for blinking, one for sleeping and one for keeping the eyelids clean and healthy

Source: treetop displays



Devotion Books

April-June issues of Christ in Our Homes and The Word in Season are available now. These devotion books are helpful ways to keep growing our faith. Take one home today and start your day with the Word of God.



Open Registration - Dive In at Any Time!

The diakonia™ Program is a two-year process of lay spiritual formation consisting of 12 courses, 6 per academic year. Each course is 5 sessions in length and meets weekly on Zoom for a 3 hour class. Assignments and reading relate directly to your life and ministry (within family, parish, neighborhood, and vocation), giving you a solid background of the topic. You work at your own level, and assignments reflect the understanding that students are already busy in their families, jobs, and parish. Typically, students average approximately 2 to 5 hours of studies per week in addition to class time. The goal of the diakonia program is to help you discover your God-given gifts, strengthen your faith and discern your purpose within your congregations, synods, and the church-wide body of Christ. Through the diakonia experience, you'll gain a better understanding of theology and your relationship to God, helping you bear fruit as a light of Christ in your community and beyond. New courses begin every 5 weeks, and you can jump in at any time. Not sure, come to a few classes and see if diakonia is for you. For more information on the diakonia program, visit www.nisynod.org/diakonia or discuss it with your pastor.



Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center

*Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center. This is a new ministry to share the love of Christ to the residents in the nursing home. **We are responsible for 10 cards each month.** If you would like to help with this ministry, just bring cards to church **by the 10th of each month.** Please sign and include short encouraging words. Our hope is to make them smile!*

Questions? Contact the church office or Pr. Miho.

*We are looking for volunteers at the Le-Win Food Pantry
from 8:20am-11:30am*

Our next volunteer date : June 26th.

We are looking for 2 youth volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteer at Food Pantry, here are upcoming dates for 2021: August 28th, October 23rd, and December 25th.e usually have 2 adults and 2 youth volunteers. If you can help, please let the church office know. Your help will be appreciated.





Passage for the Day: Matthew 28:16-20

The Commissioning of the Disciples

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

"Dandelions"

By Janice Kempe

Dandelions! No matter how carefully I try to pull one up I never get the whole thing. The root system stays deep in the ground, threatening to grow up and blossom again.

But despite their bad reputation, dandelions are pretty little flowers with their yellow strands all tucked neatly into the center. And truly they are the most beautiful of all flowers when presented clutched in a child's dirty little hand. No one gets yelled at for picking them. Perhaps they grow only to be used and enjoyed by children.

Dandelions are ignored or attacked, never nurtured or cared for, and yet they always bloom profusely. They demand no pampering or special attention to yield their bright blossoms; they pop up in fields, in lawns, and between cracks in the sidewalk, even in the best neighborhoods. Can you imagine trying to grow them in a garden? They'd sneak through the boundaries and pop their sunny yellow faces up in the surrounding lawn. They would never stay put!

Christians should be more like dandelions. Our sunny yellow faces should be a reminder that simple faith has deep roots that are impossible to dislodge. Our vast number would show the world that even though we are not fancy or pampered we are evident everywhere, even in the best neighborhoods.

We should be as easily accessible as a dandelion. Jesus was. We need to get out of our gardens and jump across the boundaries that keep us where people expect to find us. We need to show our yellow faces in all the spots that need a little brightening up--the crack in the sidewalk or the lawn of a country club.

Submitted by Rene' Johnson

May Birthdays

5/1 Shannon Albright
 5/1 Coralyn Hudik
 5/1 Dennis Luke
 5/1 Chloe Kurth
 5/2 Lynn Meyers
 5/2 Laurie Meyers
 5/3 Angie Jones
 5/5 Dawn Diffenderfer
 5/7 Krystal Schlichting
 5/8 Degan Euler
 5/10 Marcia Meyers
 5/14 Nicole Sullivan
 5/17 Mark Raders
 5/19 Sarah Geiseman
 5/20 Nathan Lones
 5/21 Faye Fulfs
 5/23 Susan Koppean
 5/23 Sheila Keene
 5/24 Deb Hesselbacher
 5/24 Quinten Green
 5/24 Nathaniel Baker
 5/25 Elizabeth Martin
 5/26 Drew Solace
 5/27 Chris Brinker
 5/28 Brad Boeke
 5/29 Eugene Hesselbacher
 5/30 Nick Baker
 5/30 Alexander Stabenow
 5/31 Scott Luke

If we missed your birthday (or someone in your family) please call the office so that we may update our records!

Fun Fact About May

It is said that those born in May have a greater chance of being more successful in life and experience more love. While this may not be scientifically factual, it has been noticed that people born in May understand the importance of love and success more than others.

Source: The Fun Fact Site.com



May the month of May be filled with blissful blessings, and splendid surprises.

2021 Stephenson County National Day of Prayer

Lord, Pour Out Your LOVE, LIFE & LIBERTY

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty." (2 Corinthians 3:17)

STOP BY AND PRAY

ANYTIME BETWEEN 7am – 7pm

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

Stephenson County Farm Bureau

Masks will be required according to Stephenson County Farm Bureau's Covid-19 policy. Attendees will receive prayer guides, patriotic cross pins, special books, and treats to go. 50-person capacity per room.

Pr. Miho and Church Members,

Thank you so much for your continues support of our family and prayers. Tom has had some health issues but has been improving and wants to attend service soon.

Connor, 9, was back in Madison for his 6 month check up. He has grown a little taller and quite the active boy. He is in school in Lena (3rd grade) and loves learning.

We wish and pray that you continue to remain safe and healthy.

Take care and hope to see you soon.
 The Stadermann Family
 Tom and Donna



Bible Quiz

Which Gospel is written by a doctor?

- A, Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John
- E. none of the above?



Answer on page 11

An-

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center

Schedule

**Day Camp 2021 will run:
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**

June 7 through August 6

-8 Weeks-

No Camp July 5-9

7:30am-3:30pm

Sign up for one week, several or all!



We Need Your Camper

Sign up for one week, several or all. You may register multiple kids in your household!

Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

\$85 per week

\$40 Non-refundable weekly deposit*

***If LOMC needs to cancel Day-Camp,** your deposit and any money paid will be refunded to you.

As we move closer to summer, more details will be sent regarding what-to-bring, COVID precautions and other day camp details.

To register go to; registrations@lomc.org

COVID Safety

Mask wearing, hand washing and distancing will apply each day of camp.

Frequent disinfection of any indoor commons areas will take place at various times throughout the day.

A quick **pre-screening** each day at drop-off will take place to further reduce spread of COVID-19.

With **activities kept outside** as much as possible, we will work hard to keep risks low.



*Camp Experience
Drive-Thru Drop-Off*

7:30am-8:30am

Morning Activities

Devotions, Hiking, Games, Fishing, Outdoor Education,
Morning Snack

Lunch/Rest

Campers bring their own snacks and lunch.

Afternoon Activities

Arts/Crafts, Hiking, Water Games, Afternoon Snack-

Drive-Thru Pick-Up 3:00pm-3:30pm



Questions, contact Michelle,

815-732-2220

Monday-Friday (9am-4pm)

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 239

OREGON IL 61061-0239

Physical Address:

1834 S IL ROUTE 2

OREGON IL 61061-9501

registrations@lomc.org

Youth corner

Save the Date

We will plant flowers
on June 5th (Saturday) 10am.

Details will come. Questions? Talk to Kristy.

Thanks to generous donation of potting soil
from Lena Milling for this project.

Send Graduate Information to the church office

We would love to celebrate your milestone. Please complete the form and return to the church office by Monday, May 17th. You may e-mail to the office at goodshepherdlena@outlook.com. We will include in June newsletter.

Congratulations to all graduates!

Graduate Information Form

Name: _____

What high school, college, or tech school are you graduating from:

Are you planning to continue your education? If so, where? What are you planning to study?

Will you share with us one of your bucket lists?

Thank you so much!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Graduation is an exciting time of change for all of those involved but especially for the graduates themselves. Whether it's off to college or accepting a job offer, what lies on the road ahead will be both exciting and new.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7

Confirmation Class Continues...

Confirmation youth are learning about the Ten Commandments. Did you know that there are 2 categories in the Ten Commandments? First part (1, 2, 3) is about our relationship to God, and the second part (4-10) is about our relationships to other people. Thank you for your prayers! Our youth are learning to "fear and love God" every other week.



Thank you Anna, Brianna, Lucas, Nakoah, Kenlee, Penelope, Lukas, Sue, Kristy, and Terry for sharing Easter joy on church's side walk! You guys did a wonderful job!

Our youth are doing awesome!
Check church's Facebook page to find them out!





Forty days after Jesus rose from the dead he went up a hill with His followers and disappeared through the clouds and went up into Heaven.

Jesus had promised to send a Comforter to them after He left them.

Can you find your way through the cloud maze?

First Reading Word Find

Today's first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. See if you can find all the words from the reading that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle. Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end!

PHILIPETER
RHSAMARIAE
ENAMEOCWHJ
ALYMSOAO
CHRISTMRNI
HOPRAYEDDC
ELTAGODPSI
DYHCEIJOHN
OWELCOMING
WRRECEIVED
NIESPIRITT

PHILIP went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the CHRIST to them. The people united in WELCOMING the MESSAGE Philip PREACHED, either because they had heard of the MIRACLES he worked or because they saw them for themselves. THERE was great REJOICING in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that SAMARIA had accepted the WORD of GOD, they sent PETER and JOHN to them, and they went DOWN there, and PRAYED for the Samaritans to receive the HOLY SPIRIT, for as yet he had not COME down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the NAME of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid HANDS on them, and they RECEIVED the



Puzzles found at;
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Ascension



$4+4=$ $6-2=$ $5+4=$
 $6+4=$ $9-2=$ $1+4=$
 $3+3=$ $7-3=$ $2+8=$ $6-1=$

4=A 5=E 6=G 7=H 8=I 9=M 10=T

What did Jesus say about the sheepfold?
Figure out the math questions and then fill in the blanks with the letters the numbers represent.



We are still actively seeking help at the Friendship Center. We are looking for help in the following positions: Bus Drivers, Van Drivers, Cooks, Cook Aides and Cooks Helpers. . If you or someone you know would be interested in joining our team or have questions, please reach out to us at (815) 369- 2690 and ask for Randy or Denise.

New Council Officers and Members

On March 21, 2021 Good Shepherd held their Annual Congregational Meeting. Election was held for two officers and four new council members

We are excited to welcome our new officers and council members to our team.

Coralyn Hudik, Vice President

Janis Kurth, Secretary

Anna Patterson, Council Member 3 year term

Jonathon Kurth, Council Member 3 year term.

Kristy Patterson, Council Member 2 year term.

Billie Jo Runkle, Council Member, 2 year term.

The wind told the grass
And the grass told the trees
The trees told the bushes
And the bushes told the bees

The bees told the robin
And the robin sang out clear
"Wake up!
Wake up!
Spring is here!"

Source:
heartoftheclass.com



What is the oldest known piece of music?

If you answered the "Hurrian Hymn No. 6," an ode to the goddess Nikkal you are correct.

The history of music is as old as humanity itself. Archaeologists have found primitive flutes made of bone and ivory dating back as far as 43,000 years, and it's likely that many ancient musical styles have been preserved in oral traditions. When it comes to specific songs, however, the oldest known examples are relatively more recent. The earliest fragment of musical notation is found on a 4,000-year-old Sumerian clay tablet, which includes instructions and tunings for a hymn honoring the ruler Lipit-Ishtar. But for the title of oldest extant song, most historians point to "Hurrian Hymn No. 6," an ode to the goddess Nikkal that was composed in cuneiform by the ancient Hurrians sometime around the 14th century B.C. The clay tablets containing the tune were excavated in the 1950s from the ruins of the city of Ugarit in Syria. Along with a near-complete set of musical notations, they also include specific instructions for how to play the song on a type of nine-stringed lyre.

Here is a link to listen to Malek Jandali as he performs his adaptation of "Hurrian Hymn no. 6;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Tn9x-IDYcY>

Source: History Channel

Answer to Bible Quiz

A) Luke

While he was presumably educated as a physician (Colossians 4:14), today Luke is celebrated as one of the church's earliest historians. His methodical, detailed writings give us the only thorough record of what happened after Jesus ascended to heaven. Without his account in Acts, it would be hard to imagine how Christianity grew from a small, fragile movement within Judaism to what would eventually become the largest religion in the world.

We are looking for your favorite hymns for worship in summer.

Please submit your favorite hymns to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Name (optional): _____

Favorite Hymn: _____

Tell us why it is your favorite _____

Worship Volunteers needed!

We are looking for those who can help with Sunday worship.

- Temperature check person
- Elevator operator
- Sound system
- Ushers
- Lector (who will read scripture and prayer)

If you can help, please let the church office know. We appreciate your help!

Join a Book Group

With other Good Shepherd members

Do you like to read? Do you like to meet new people? Do you like to learn about history of Christianity? You may join a book group!

We meet on Wednesday 3pm-4pm via zoom.

We read one or two chapters from *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* by Justo L. Gonzalez.

We are very casual. We talk anything from weather, church, cats to church history. All are welcome to join. If you are interested, contact the church office for the zoom link.

*This is a part of John 10: 16 ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Pearl River, NY.



ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Harmony United Methodist Church
2600 W. Pearl City Road
Freeport, Illinois 61032
815- 233- 0057

Dates: May 5- 8

Hours: Wed- Fri. 5am- 5pm
Saturday, 8am- Noon

If you would like to help before, during or after the sale please contact the Harmony office at 815- 233- 0057 for details

Due to Covid-19 guidelines

- Mask will be required as you shop
- The sale will be held outside the church
- Social distancing will be required
- Food will be served



MAY 2021 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lena, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Special Congregational Meeting	3	4	5 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	6 On this day in 1833 John Deere produces the first steel plow.	7 	8
9 Mother's Day  9:30am Worship Service 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation class	10	11	12 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 9:00am-10:00am Pr. Miho at NW conference zoom meeting <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	13 6:30pm Council Meeting <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	14	15
16 9:30am Worship Service	17	18	19 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	20	21 The America Red Cross was formed on this date in 1881	22
23 Day of Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation class	24	25	26 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	27	28	29
30 Holy Trinity Sunday 9:30am Worship Service	31 Memorial Day					



*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
118 E. Mason Street
Lena, Illinois 61048*

*Email: goodshepherdlena@outlook.com
Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"
Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org*

*Martin Luther's Small Catechism
The Lord's Prayer*

The Sixth Petition Save us from the time of trial.

What does this mean?

It is true that God tempts no one, but we ask in this prayer that God would preserve and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins, and that, although we may be attacked by them, we may finally prevail and gain the victory.