

August 2021 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Shepherd's Voice

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. John 14:26

Dear God's beloved,

Have you encountered the Holy Spirit lately? I bet this is a strange question, but one that I have in mind these days. God's Spirit is everywhere, making surprise appearances in my life. The most recent time God's Spirit visited me was when I was at a wedding reception. It was a very lovely reception: good food, good music, good company, and just being happy to share joy with the newlyweds and their families. I surely enjoyed it. And there was a deck of cards on each table, and for no specific reason, (or maybe I just felt brave) I asked my husband to teach me how to play euchre, a card game. Euchre is his family's tradition. Every time the family gets together, they play euchre after the feast. A long time ago, my husband showed me how to play, but I had no interest nor patience to learn a new game. It was too complicated to master. So once again, my husband showed me how to play euchre at the wedding reception. We asked Donna and Dale to play with us so that I could see how the game works with actual hands. (Thanks to Donna and Dale!) First we started with open hands while my husband gave instruction on which card to play. After several rounds, the real test came—I had to play by myself. I was not sure which card to play and was constantly asking questions, like "What is the suit?" "Which card is the highest?" "Do I need to play a spade if I have one in my hand?" All the sudden, the Holy Spirit came. This time it had the face of Kristy. The Spirit helped me each time when my turn came, giving me advice which card to play. (and I won some times!) And the Spirit appeared to Donna and Dale too. God's Spirit showed up.

When Jesus was leaving from the earth, he promised to his disciples the gift of God's Spirit. This advocate (or sometime it is translated as helper) would guide them, help them with what to say in court, and remind them of the loving God. I think that the Holy Spirit is like teachers who point us to God who cares and who is present with us in our joy and sorrow. When we have questions and feeling overwhelmed by uncertainties. God's Spirit reminds us of the presence of God whose love is unconditional. And truly it is a gift from God. Did you know that it is the Holy Spirit who makes us holy and keeps us in faith? (Read "The Creed, Third Article" in the Small Catechism!!) God's Spirit is surely among us, and it is quite active. Have you seen God's Spirit lately?

May the Holy Spirit surprise you!

Pr. Miho

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.



Revised Covid Guidelines for Good Shepherd

With Covid restrictions being lifted, the Church Council has reviewed the Covid Guidelines for Good Shepherd and have made the following recommendations:

- **Masks: Recommendation;** *that all non-vaccinated people should wear a mask inside the church.*
- **Fellowship Hour:** *We can now safely resume Fellowship Hour with moderate social distancing.*
- **Entry:** *All doors are open. No temperatures will be checked but hand sanitizer will be available for anyone wishing to use it.*
- **Offering:** *At this time, the offering plates will be left where they are.*
- **Communion:** *We continue with the same self-serve communion cups at this time, and will resume regular communion in August or September.*
- **Sharing the Peace:** *Will continue as we are now doing.*
- **Restrooms and Elevator:** *These are open to multiple person use.*
- **Choir:** *Choir and Bell Choir will start in person rehearsal August 29th, with first choir performance at Worship Service on September 26th, 2021.*

After reviewing the Guidelines, the Council has recommended that they would be publicized in the July Church Newsletter. Guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Church Council.

Worship Volunteers needed

We are updating our list of those who can help with Sunday worship.



Council has decided that instead of having separate ushers for communion, that the Worship Ushers could assist with communion as well as be greeters. Sound and Power Point will continue with two people, and the Lector and Worship Assistant could be the same person. Live Stream operation will be one person, and the Elevator Operator can be done by one person. This will require 7 volunteers weekly. We will help you learn how to do each task.

If you are available to help, contact the church office with the your name, phone number and the area you are willing to volunteer. There is also a sign up sheet on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you very much. We appreciate your all your help!



Highlights from June 17th Church Council Meeting

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May 13, 2021 Church Council Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Andrews reported that the Payroll Protection Program money had been received. The total amount received was \$10,792.89

Heating: 619.16

Electric: 163.96

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported that she had done two funerals since the last meeting and that a New Bible Study group was starting June 22. She also that the application for the Open Door Grant was completed and submitted. She is waiting for the results of the application.

Committee Reports:

- **Stewardship Committee:** Coralyn Hudik reported that the committee is looking to having activities at the Fall Festival. She also reported that the former group Young at Hearts is being renamed to Never to Young and that an event is being planned at Coralyn's farm west of Lena for July 25, 2021.
- **Learning and Youth Committee:** Kristy Patterson gave a recap of last months report.
- **Property Committee:** The Village of Lena has sent a letter about a possible water leak in the church. The committee will check this out. Tim Gordon also reported that the new laptop computer is here and working.
- **Men's Group:** Wayne Kurth reported that the Men's Group is getting together again and looking to sing at a Worship Service and plan other activities in the future.

New Business:

With Covid restrictions changing, Council reviewed our Covid Guidelines and recommended the following changes:

- **Masks:** To recommend that all non vaccinated people should wear a mask inside the Church.
- **Fellowship Hour:** We can now safely resume Fellowship Hour with moderate social distancing.
- **Entry:** All doors are open. No temperatures will be checked but hand sanitizer will be available if anyone wishes to use it.
- **Offering:** At this time, the Offering Plates will be left where they are.
- **Communion:** To continue with the self serve communion cups at this time. Resume regular communion in August or September.
- **Shearing the Peace:** Will continue as we are now doing.
- **Restrooms and Elevator:** These are open for multiple persons to use at the same time.

Choir: Choir and Bell Choir will start in person rehearsal in September with the first Choir performance in Worship Service on September 26, 2021

Worship Volunteers: It was decided that the Ushers could be Communion Ushers as well as the Greeters. Sound System and Power Point should be two people. One person for Worship Assistant and Lector as well as one person for Live Stream and one for the Elevator.

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Highlights from June 17th Church Council Meeting

Pastor Miho Yasukawa requested vacation time from July 27 to 31, 2021 and to have Sunday, August 29 off. She will find someone to fill the pulpit that Sunday.

The Ramp Wheel-A-Thon was discussed. It was decided to participate.

Fall Festival: We will again have a booth at the Fall Festival this year.

Next Meeting: July 15, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

Congratulations



A Team effort for the Le-Win Panthers. Five members of the Le-Win baseball team have been named to The North All Conference Teams (NUIC). *Ethan Fye, from Lena-Winslow, has been named First Team Outfielder.* Coach Werhane said about Ethan, "He is the guy on our team who is always keeping things loose, but when it is game time, he is all business." Great job Ethan.

Source: Shoppers Guide, June 30, 2021



We are still actively seeking help at the Friendship Center. We are looking for help in the following positions: Bus Drivers, Van Drivers, Bus Aides, Cooks and Cook 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. Be sure to check out their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/friendshipcenterlena> or their web site,

Giving is not just about making a donation, it's about making a difference. By Kathy Calvin

Thank you for your generosity, the material we have received from our Quilt Angels. This will bring much comfort to someone in need.

The Piece Corps



We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B., 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 Gobel, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, J.T., Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Jim DeMontigny, Richard Gordon, Bonnie W, David Gray, Kay, Sue, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, and Brad. Pray for love, peace, comfort, and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Linda Orr and Tom Free.

Suicide Prevention Lifeline

800-273-TALK (8255)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
LifelineSuicidePreventionLifeline.org

Join a Book Group

With other Good Shepherd members

Do you like history? Do you like to meet new people? Are you interested in how the Christianity developed? You may try this book group!

We meet on Wednesday 3pm-4pm via zoom. We read one chapter from *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* by Justo L. Gonzalez. You have not missed much. We are finally getting to the 5th century. All are welcome to join anytime. We are a very casual group. 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.



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.

We are looking for volunteers

at the Le-Win Food Pantry from 8:20am-11:30am

Our next volunteer date: Saturday, August 28th.

We need 2 adults and 2 youth volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry, here are upcoming dates for 2021: October 23rd, and December 25th. Sign-up sheet is located in hallway by Fellowship Hall or let the church office know. Thank you for supporting the feeding ministry.

Members & Friends of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Property Committee and Church Council is seeking your help. The church organ is in need of repair. The total project is to repair lift pneumatics (part of the key board), replace the blower, and the rectifier.

This will result in a total cost of \$11,500. These repairs could be done in stages, but the Property Committee and Council recognizes that this would add to the overall cost due to added service calls to accomplish these repairs.

The Council has decided to open an "Organ Repair Fund" for anyone to contribute to the cost of repairing the organ. All monies directed to this fund will go only to repairing the organ.

If you wish to make a donation please put it in the offering plate Sunday morning or to the Church office. Please write on the offering "Organ Repair Fund" so it is deposited properly.

The organ adds so much to our worship services making this an important project. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and donations to this important project.

God's Blessings,

Good Shepherd Property Committee and Church Council

Treasurer's Report Jay Andrews

Incoming June 2021	\$16,110.85
Expenses June 2021	\$10,659.40
Net Income (Loss)	\$5,451.45
Income, Year to Date 2021	\$66,312.72
Expenses, Year to Date 2021	\$69,259.62
Net Income (Loss)	\$(2,946.90)



Good Shepherd Family,
Thank you very much for the dozen roses from Lena Lions Club Rose Day. They were beautiful and smelled lovely. It was nice of you to think of us.

Karen & Jerry Cross



Save the Date- Enjoy the Fellowship,

The Men's Group will be hosting their annual Cookout/potluck on Sunday, August 15th, at 11am in Fellowship Hall. Men's Group will furnish the pulled pork, buns and drinks, please bring a dish to pass and enjoy.

Bible Study Group



Come and join our new Bible Study group! This group is for anyone who is curious about the stories in the Bible. We will meet on **Tuesdays at 10am at church**. And if you'd like, bring your Bible. We are reading from the first book of the Bible—Genesis. If you have questions, just contact the church office. Hope to see you!



Just a Little Hug

By Emily Mathews

A hug can say, "I'll miss you" or "I'll be thinking of you."
It can say, "You're someone special, or best of all, "I love you."
It can soothe a hurt, or calm a fear, or cheer us when we're blue-
It almost seems a miracle all the things a hug can do!

When the sun is refusing to shine on your day and you're finding
it hard to just cope.

When you're seeing more rain clouds than stars in the sky and
you just feel like giving up hope.

That's the time when someone comes along with a smile and warm
hug that says, "It's okay - tomorrow is coming, so don't give up
now-brighter moments are soon on their way"

Just a warm little hug and a smile to cheer you.

To let you know now that there's somebody near you who cares.

Poem submitted by Rene' Johnson and Sheila Keene.

Ellen Kyles read this poem at a Lena Living Center birthday party. Sheila read this at Ellen's memorial service.



Good Shepherd would like to thank **Lena Drug Store** for their generous donation of nail clippers for Lutheran World Relief and their campaign for Personal Care Kits for families are driven from their homes due to disaster, conflict, poverty and more.



Devotion Books for July-September

Christ in Our Home and The Word in Season are available at church. Both devotion books have a short Bible verses, devotional passages, and short prayers for every day. If you miss a day, don't worry! Each day has a different Bible verse and devotional reading. Pick up your copy at the rack today.

Earth Church

And Potluck supper

The Creation Care Team,

Pastor Carol Soderholm, and Mr. Paul Soderholm cordially invite you to an exciting worship experience "Earth Church".

Call Pastor Carol at 815-973-8011 for more information.

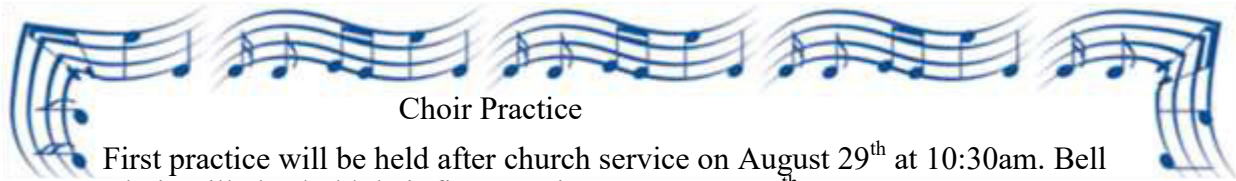
When: Sunday, August 15th, 2021

Time: 3:00pm-6:00pm

Where: Soderholm's Restored Prairie and Woodlands
7578 W. Pines Road
Mount Morris, IL

Come and celebrate the beauty of God's creation; the sacredness of the land and the people who first lived here.

Bring a dish for a potluck supper following the gathering. Children are welcome to attend! There will be a hayride!



Choir Practice

First practice will be held after church service on August 29th at 10:30am. Bell Choir will also hold their first practice on August 29th at 5:30pm.

It's almost the time for Lena Fall Festival!

Lena Fall Festival is approaching. We would like to have your input for this year's float. If you have an idea or just like to talk. Check our Facebook page or the bulletin for updates as the date gets closer

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Mark your calendar!

Good Shepherd God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday will be

September 26th.

Details will be coming.
Questions? Talk to Troy D.



JOIN US
for a
day of service



August Birthdays

- | | | | |
|------|---------------------|------|--------------------|
| 8/2 | Madison Tessendorf | 8/21 | Virgil Martin |
| 8/3 | Virgil Gordon | 8/21 | Marlene Jones |
| 8/5 | Audrey Stees | 8/21 | Lydia Smith |
| 8/5 | Karen Cross | 8/21 | Alec Aurand |
| 8/7 | Tim Huber | 8/23 | Gia Schlichting |
| 8/7 | Mark Jacobs | 8/23 | Kevin Huttenlocher |
| 8/8 | Brooke Huttenlocher | 8/24 | Donna Gullickson |
| 8/10 | Steve Carlson | 8/24 | Curt Diddens |
| 8/10 | Abbea Schlichting | 8/25 | Chad Baldauf |
| 8/11 | Danielle Jones | 8/25 | Emily Meyers |
| 8/11 | Layton Albright | 8/25 | Christian Sutter |
| 8/13 | Sheridan Brinker | 8/26 | Paul Fox |
| 8/15 | Mercedes Freitag | 8/26 | Ethan Fye |
| 8/16 | Dennis Broege | 8/27 | Lillie Wilson |
| 8/18 | Nikola Cornwell | 8/29 | Pastor Miranda |
| 8/19 | Bill Engel | 8/30 | Thomas Andrews |
| 8/19 | Brianna Kraft | | |
| 8/19 | Jacob Collier | | |

Did you know?
 In the United States, Friendship Day is celebrated on the first Sunday in August. It is a day to honor and celebrate our friends

Read more at: https://www.ducksters.com/holidays/friendship_day.php
 Ducksters. Do not use without permission.

Funny Random Thoughts

Twins are like buy one, get one free. Isn't it great

"X" and "Y" are used more in algebra than they are in English.

As a kid, most parents teach their children not to trust the things they watch on television. Now kids want their parents not to trust the things they see on Facebook and Instagram.



Friendship Club 2021 Summer Gatherings

On Thursday, August 12th, entertainment will be provided by Bobby Edler.



Thank you so very much for the beautiful roses! I absolutely loved your very kind gesture! Thank you also for all the wonderful cards you bless the residents, of Lena Living Center with!

*Love,
 Beth Schneider,
 Lena Living Center*

Answers to who praised God

- (1) Miriam
- (2) Father
- (3) King

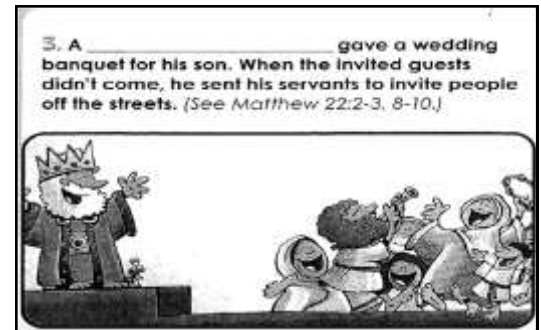
Source: Spark Magazine, Vol. II, No. 2

Do You Know?

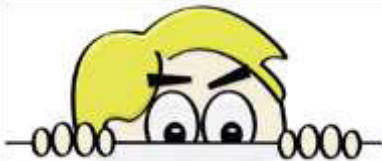
The Bible has several stories about celebrating who partied (and praised) God in these stories?



Fun Page



Answers on previous page...
no peeking!



frozen banana cereal pops recipe

- 3 bananas peeled and cut in half
 - 3/4 cup vanilla yogurt or flavor of your choice
 - sprinkles or toppings of your choice
- popsicle sticks

Instructions

Halve and peel each banana.
Insert a popsicle stick into each banana half.
Dip bananas into yogurt, using a spoon to coat each banana evenly.
Let excess yogurt drip off.

Add sprinkles or topping (cereal, granola or candies) of your choice.
Place bananas on a plate covered in wax or parchment paper.

Freeze until the yogurt has hardened, about 2 hours. (Allow for more time if you would like the banana to be frozen through).



Dear Jesus,

Bless me with your love and light, so I can shine both day and night.

Amen.

Youth Corner

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



Lunch at
Lena Drive-Inn



What kind of sheep
is a Superhero?



Answer: Baaa-tman
Source: Pockets, Aug 2015



What did the Farmer say when he
lost his tractor?



"Where's my tractor!"

Submitted by Lucas

A Brief History of Bananas



Bananas were originally found in South East Asia, mainly in India. They were brought west by Arab conquerors in 327 B.C. and moved from Asia Minor to Africa and finally carried to the New World by the first explorers and missionaries to the Caribbean. The mass production of bananas started in 1834 and really started exploding in the late 1880's.

Did you know?

Bananas are actually yellow.

Bananas reduce the risk of leg cramps. They contain potassium and are also high in carbohydrates and sugar.

Bananas contain around 70% water and can float in water.



Source: Pacific Lutheran University



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Lena, Illinois 61048

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

Martin Luther's Small Catechism

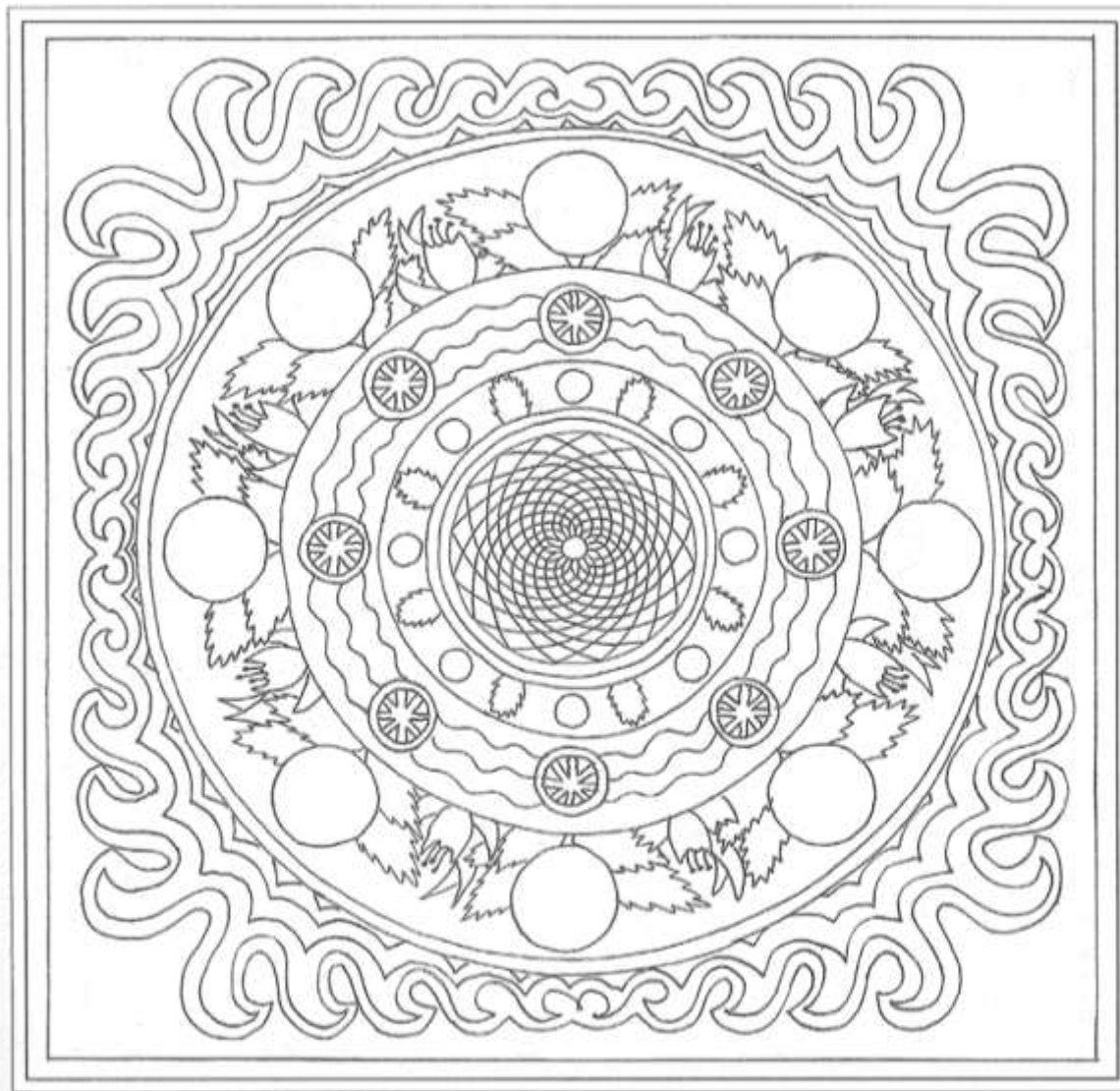
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is baptism?

Baptism is not simply plain water. Instead, it is water used according to God's command and connected with God's word.

What then is this word of God?

Where our Lord Christ says in Matthew 28, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."



*"Happiness resides not in possessions, and not in gold,
happiness dwells in the soul."*

DEMOCRITUS



Democritus is a well-known pre-Socratic Greek philosopher – who came before [Socrates](#). Democritus was born in Abdera, a local government of Thrace, Greece in 460 BC, He died at the age of 90 years in 370 BC in Greece.

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August 2021

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lena



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30 am Fellowship	2	3 10:00am Bible Study Group	4 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00am Pr. Miho at Rostered Minister's zoom meeting	5	6	7
8 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation Class	9	10 10:00am Bible Study Group	11 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	12 1:00 pm Friendship Club Entertainment by Bobby Edler	13	14 <i>National Bowling Day</i>
15 9:30 am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) Men's Choir Singing 11:00am The Men's Group Annual Cookout/Potluck Fellowship Hall.	16	17 10:00am Bible Study Group	18 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00am Pr. Miho at Rostered Minister's zoom meeting	19 6:30pm Council Meeting	20	21
22 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation Class	23	24 10:00am Bible Study Group	25 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	26	27	28 Good Shepherd at Lena Food Pantry 4:30pm Men's Group
29 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am Choir practice 5:30pm Chime Practice	30	31 10:00am Bible Study Group				