

# The SHEPHERD'S VOICE

June 2016

## The World is Full of Mysteries

When I was a young whipper-snapper, just out of seminary, I was equipped with all the answers ready to charge out into the world with my new found knowledge . “Pastor, why do you think God did this (or that) I’d be asked.” If I didn’t have the answer on the tip of my tongue I had this huge theological library which I could consult. I was Mr. Answer Man!

As years passed however, I ran into situations in my life and the lives of parishioners for which I couldn’t find easy answers. I was finding out as well that you couldn’t say “it was God’s will” to every tragic situation encountered in my ministry.

Why does misfortune befall one person and not the other? Do twenty people praying make the prayer more effective with God than the prayer of a single person? Why do we still think if you live a good life you’ll get to heaven when we also know you can’t earn your salvation? And why do we say that people “passed” instead of saying they died?

Questions! Questions! Someone was asked (was it Martin Luther?) that if God is All Powerful can he make a stone so big he can lift it? To which he replied with a question: Do you know what God was doing before he created the world? “No. “He was out in the woods cutting switches to use on people like you that ask such questions!”

As I have journeyed into eight decades I still like to wrestle with questions. But more and more I am willing to say “I don’t know.” More and more I depend on a faithful relationship to a loving God. I am much more comfortable living with the mysteries of God. There is an anagram made out of the word FAITH. Forsaking All Others I Trust Him.

“...lost in wonder, love and praise.”

Pastor Stees

*Welcome!*

### Welcome New Members

We are excited to welcome

Don and Lisa Wienand, 649 N. Fairway Dr., Lena IL. Telephone 815-275-4974, and Bari and Gerene Raymer 8260 N. 5 Corners Rd., Lena, IL Telephone 815-369-2905 as members of Good Shepherd. We welcome them into the mission that we share as a congregation!

### Prayer Chain:

#### **If you have a request for the Prayer Chain:**

Please call the Church Office at 815-369-5552. We lift up the following loved ones in assisted-living facilities/ nursing homes, homebound, etc. in prayer: Dorothy Weimer, Gladys Staderman, Verl Price, Steve Fahr, Dorothy Wagner, Lois Paulsen, Laura Derr, and Ray Stamm. They would love to hear from you, consider visiting, calling, or sending them a note Please call the church office if you are in need of an address.



### **Calling for Favorite Hymns!**

Submit the names of your favorite hymns during fellowship time the next few weeks, and we will sing some of the top favorite of the congregation during worship this summer. Slips will be available May 29<sup>th</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

## June Meetings at Good Shepherd

**PIECE CORPS QUILTERS** will meet Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 11:30 am.

**HANNAH CIRCLE** will meet on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 9:00 am at Church in Fellowship Hall. Rene's Johnson is hostess and Bible Study leader.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB** will meet Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> for a Potluck & Entertainment from "Mississippi Man" at 12:00pm.

**CHURCH GRILL OUT/POTLUCK** June 12<sup>th</sup> .after Fellowship time.

**PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP** will meet June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with guess speaker Jennifer Reusch, Pharmacist from FHN topic "How to Manage Them".

**HYMN SING** at the Lena Living Center will be Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets on Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**GOOD SHEPHERD** at Lena Living Center June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** for the July 2016 Newsletter is June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Thank You!



06/02 Aaron Smith  
06/03 Jay Andrews  
06/05 Marion Fahr  
06/06 Jerry Cross  
06/06 Kevin Huttenlocher  
06/06 Madilyn Diddens  
06/09 Sarah Andrews  
06/10 Sue Holtz  
06/10 Tammy Baldauf  
06/10 Jase Baldauf  
06/12 Robin Cross  
06/14 Seth Cory  
06/14 Autumn Ockerman  
06/19 Corey Wybourn  
06/20 Darlene Aurand  
06/20 Karen Niemeier  
06/20 Gary Boeke  
06/21 Sue Kraft  
06/25 Deb Mammoser  
06/25 Kelsey Albrecht  
06/25 Jessica Koning  
06/29 Kelly Derr  
06/29 Jacob Runkle  
06/29 Jared Runkle  
06/29 Darci Meier  
06/29 Katie Jo Huber  
06/30 Lee Wenzel

If we miss your birthday (or someone in your family) please call the office to update our records!

## **CHURCH COOKOUT**



**Grill out/Potluck**  
**Sundays: June 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Grill Out Picnic

(Please bring a picnic dish to share. Meat will be grilled by the Men's Group)



## **Worship Service and Picnic In The Park** **August 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am**

Good Shepherd's annual outdo or service and potluck will be August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

at Dodd's Park in Lena.

Games for all ages following the potluck! Invite friends and neighbors to join you! Please bring a dish to share as you are able. Rain location will be at Good Shepherd.



THANK YOU TO OUR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS  
and  
VOLUNTEERS!



Who have graciously given their time to  
this very important ministry.

*Pre School/Kindergarten*

Sheila Keene  
Kelly Geiseman  
Angie Brinker

*Grades 1 - 6*

Kristy Patterson  
Cara Schriener  
Billie Jo Runkle

*Confirmation*

Pastor Art Stees  
Taylor Bastian

*Afterschool Program*

Troy Doubler  
Karen Niemeier

*Music*

Tena Rackow,  
Sue Diddens

*Substitutes*

Michelle Andrews  
Marybeth Brinker



## Volunteer for the Hymn Sing

Kids, looking for something fun, relaxing and rewarding to do this summer? Why not join your friends from Good Shepherd on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 9:45am at the Lena Living Center for a Hymn Sing. It is a great chance to serve others by helping them find their page numbers, to encourage others, and to sing praises to God! All youth, family, and friends are invited and welcome to join in this fun, relaxing, and rewarding sing along. June 14th at 9:45am at the Lena Living Center.



VBS July 18<sup>th</sup> thru July 21<sup>st</sup>

more information will be forthcoming



## LOMC Presents

Peder Eide Retreat for Junior High Youth  
November 11-13, 2016,  
Friday, 7 PM—Sunday, 1 PM  
\$145 per person

Peder is returning to LOMC for a weekend of music, worship, and fellowship. Peder uses his music, family stories and personal witness to encourage young people to live out their faith. Lodging is in our dormitory style buildings with meals in our dining hall.

All activities are included. Bring clothes, toiletries, sleeping bags and Bibles.

# Let the Children Come



He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.  
Mark 10:14b (NIV)

Write the words in the blanks in A B C order.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

TRUTH	CHILDREN	TOUCH	KINGDOM
ARMS	BELONGS	LITTLE	BLESSED

# Jesus and the Children





**Northern Illinois Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

April 13, 2016

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
118 E. Mason Street  
Lena, IL 61048-9709

Dear Friends and Partners in Ministry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

I am writing to express my joy and thanksgiving for your faithfulness and generosity in sharing gifts for Mission Support in 2015. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is one of 99 congregations of our Northern Illinois Synod that met or exceeded 100% of your 2015 Mission Support Statement of Intent.

I rejoice in this meaningful witness of generosity and faithfulness. In our ELCA and our Northern Illinois Synod we talk about being church together, sharing in a ministry that no congregation can do by itself. Your gift of Mission Support brings life to what being church together means. Together, we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, bringing this message of hope to a world in desperate need of hope. Together, we feed the hungry and make available the means by which people can provide sustenance for their families. Together, we provide help to local and global neighbors in their needs and hurts. Together, we are the church, responding to God's work with our hands and the gifts God had given us to do ministry.

Thank you again for your wonderful generosity and faithfulness in the ministry we share as the Northern Illinois Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Serving Christ Together,

Bishop Gary M. Wollersheim  
Northern Illinois Synod



the

Joyce Tessendorf, Ellen Kyles, Beth Martin, Donna Gullickson, Joanne Martin, Cindy Doubler, Darlene Aurand, Kelsey Albrecht and Shirley Fox for helping with the May Newsletter.

### Need of a ride to church on Sunday?

#### Call:



Troy Doubler	369-5117
Donna Gullickson	369-4708
Jean Wenzel	369-2777
Leland Wenzel	369-4337

We love worshipping with you, and we want to help make sure you can get here to join us! If you are interested in being added to this list of available drivers, please contact the church office at 369-5552



**Come and have some good food !**  
**MEN'S GROUP**  
fundraising cookout  
at AJ'S Meats.  
June 11th 11am-1pm.



# COOKOUT AT

**AJ'S LENA MAID MEATS**

Friday, May 27 11:00AM—1:00PM

Friday June 10 11:00AM—1:00PM

*Pork Chops,*

*Steak*

*Brat*

*Hamburger*

*All Beef Hotdogs*

Stop & Get A Sandwich for lunch & Help

**THE LUCKY DUCKS CANCER TEAM FOR**

**THE RELAY FOR LIFE-STEPHENSON COUNTY**

## **Monroe Clinic HOSPICE HEAL GRIEF AND EDUCATION GROUP 6 WEEK SESSIONS**

HEAL grief and education group offers session open to anyone 18 yrs and older who has experienced the death of someone special. Learn about the grieving process and ideas for coping and healing in a safe and a supportive setting.

Our six week series will begin on Wednesday and continues to meet every Wednesday evening (6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6) . We will meet from 6:00-7:30pm at the St. Camillus Center 2101 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Monroe WI 53566.

To register or obtain more information please call Monroe Clinic Hospice at (608) 324-1230. Registration can also be done on line at [www/monroeclinik.org](http://www/monroeclinik.org). There is no charge for these sessions.

### **Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jay Andrews**

Incoming April 2016	\$10,689.48
Expenses April 2016	\$15,412.71
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4,723.23)
Income, Year to Date 2016	\$43,446.70
Expenses, Year to Date 2016	\$50,740.10
Net Income (Loss)	\$(7,293.40)

### **Council Members for 2016**

Wayne Kurth—President Coralyn Hudik—Vice President  
Secretary/Youth Representative—Colton Brinker

Council Members: Shirley Fox, Karen Niemeier, Tim Gordon,  
Jon Hudik, Troy Keene, Troy Doubler, Eugene Hesselbacher,  
Pastor Art Stees

### **Highlights from May Council Meeting:**

- Service Committee- Food pantry is looking for two volunteers. Karen discussed what work the food pantry entails.
- Call Committee- Committee got another candidate who they are in the process of considering.
- Executive Committee- Discussed the cleaning situation and options.
- Memorial Committee- Janice was working on railings.
- Council approved new members, Don and Lisa Wienand, and Bari and Gerene Raymer. Troy Doubler moved to approve the new members and Tim Gordon seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.
- Wayne Kurth and Denny Luke will be presenting the sermon on two Sundays Pastor Stees is gone.
- Colton Brinker brought up donations from the mission fund. It was discussed and Troy Keene moved to give \$1500 to Fruit For the Spirit Community Garden led by Colton. Coralyn Hudik seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.
- Wayne Kurth read a letter from the synod and the ELCA about our mission giving.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the Women's Mother/ Daughter Sister/Friend Potluck Supper on May 3, 2016.

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**HANNAH CIRCLE** will meet on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 9:00 am at Church in Fellowship Hall. Rene's Johnson is hostess and Bible Study leader.

We will use the Bible Study in the June 2016 issue of Gather Magazine. "The Heart of the Matter-Conflict, Forgiveness and Reconciliation" by Angela Shannon, Session One **"Treasure in clay jars"**

Theme verse 2 Corinthians 4:7 *"But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."* (Earthenware was fragile and cheap; hence the paradox of precious treasure in clay jars.)

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Please Save the Date:

July 14, 2016 – Saturday, all day (9:00am to 3:00pm)  
WELCA NW Conference Summer Retreat & Bible Study at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Schapville, IL  
Breakfast Coffee and Rolls and Lunch included; details to come next month

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All women of the church and their guest are welcome to attend all circle functions

**June 2016**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena, IL**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	2 9:00 Hannah Circle Meeting at Good Shepherd	3	4
5 9:30 am <b>Worship Service</b> <i>Special Music Glenda Linneman</i> 10:30 am Fellowship	6	7	8 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	9 12:00 pm Friendship Club Potluck/ Entertainment "Mississippi Man"	10	11 Men's Group fund raiser at AJ'S Meats
12 9:30 am <b>Worship Service</b> <i>Special Music Krista Keene</i> 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Church Cookout/Potluck after Fellow- ship	13 1:30pm Parkinson Support Group	14 9:45am Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center  6:00pm Council Meeting	15 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	<b>29th Annual Northern Illinois Synod Assembly</b>		18
19 9:30 am <b>Worship Service</b> <i>Special Music Good Shepherd Men's Group</i> 10:30 am Fellowship 2:30 pm Good Shepherd at Lena Living Center	20	21	22 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	23	24	25
26 9:30 am <b>Worship Service</b> <i>Special Music Ruter Ministries</i> 10:30 am Fellowship	27	28	29 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	30	Communion Set-up/Clean up Wayne and Janis Kurth	

## June Worship Volunteers

### June 5

Lector	Tena Rackow
Acolyte	Taylor Patterson
Assisting Minister	Denny Luke
Worship Assistant	Marybeth Brinker
Communion Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel
Communion Assistant	Shirley Fox, Beth Martin
Welcome Visitor	Sharon Schlachter
Sound System	Wayne Kurth, Taylor Bastian
Greeters	Donna Gullickson, Paul and Shirley Fox
Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel, Eugene and Vivian Hesselbacher
Elevator Operator	Anna Patterson, Kristy Patterson

### June 12

Lector	Tena Rackow
Acolyte	Krista Keene
Assisting Minister	Sheila Keene
Worship Assistant	Sondra Winters
Communion Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel
Communion Assistant	Troy and Cindy Doubler
Welcome Visitor	Jean Wenzel
Sound System	Wayne Kurth, Taylor Bastian
Greeters	Tony and Jackie Jordan, Willie Kayser
Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel, Virgil and Joanne Martin
Elevator Operator	Lee Wenzel

### June 19

Lector	Larry Fulfs
Acolyte	Ashtyn Brinker
Assisting Minister	Wayne Kurth
Worship Assistant	Janis Kurth
Communion Ushers	Mike and Kelly Geiseman
Communion Assistant	Colton Brinker, Eugene Hesselbacher
Welcome Visitor	Sue Diddens
Sound System	Troy Doubler Ashtyn Brinker
Greeters	Troy, Sheila, Krista Keene, Virgil and Joanne Martin
Ushers	Claire and Helen Cross, Virgil and Joanne Martin
Elevator Operator	Donna Gullickson

### June 26

Lector	Wayne Kurth
Acolyte	Braden Diddens
Assisting Minister	Colton Brinker
Worship Assistant	Taylor Bastian
Welcome Visitor	Jean Engel
Sound System	Troy Doubler, Hanna Brinker
Greeters	Jerry and Beth Martin, Wayne and Janis Kurth
Ushers	Gary and Cynthia Boeke, Jerry and Beth Martin
Elevator Operator	Jackie Jordan

Please mark your calendars for the dates that you have been assigned, if you cannot serve on the day that you have been assigned please switch with someone and call the church office with the change by Wednesday AM of the week that you have been assigned. If you cannot switch with anyone please call the church office by Tuesday of the week that you are to volunteer so that arrangements can be made. Office Hours-Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00am-2:00pm  
Telephone: 815-369-5552

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 am

*Pre-K & K Sunday School after Children's Message*

Fellowship Hour 10:30 am

Sunday School 10:45 am

**CHURCH OFFICE** 815-369-5552

Interim Pastor Pastor Art Stees

Church Secretary Darlene Barr

### **Month's Highlights!**

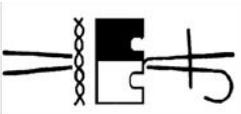
June 2 Hannah Circle at Good Shepherd 9:00am

June 9 Friendship Club 12:00pm

June 12 Church Grill Out/Potluck after Fellowship

June 13 Parkinson Support Group 1:30pm

June 14 Hymn Sing at LLC 9:45am



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**118 East Mason St.**  
**Lena, IL 61048**  
**GoodSheperdLena@outlook.com**

*The Good Shepherd cares for us.  
He gives His Life for us and to us.  
We give and use our lives in love,  
care and service of one another.*

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