

## The SHEPHERD'S VOICE January 2017

### Light Dawns on a Weary World

*[And] they brought to [Jesus] all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them.*

*(Matthew 4:24)*

It seems that every time I move, I go further north. As a native of southern Japan, I am not good at cold weather. Winter finally came to Lena, and I notice that the days are very short, and darkness surrounds us as early as 4 o'clock. The cold and darkness make me gloomy. In addition, when I hear news about violent attacks and hate crimes, I feel depressed. People ask me where God is when innocent people are suffering. I hear their pains and struggles, but I do not know the answer. Sometimes I also struggle. Recently I was at a loss for words when I learned more about the Stubbs family who are missionaries in Tanzania. Their adopted daughter Juliana was robbed, raped and murdered two weeks before her twentieth birthday, and Carol's health condition has declined. Randy is asking for prayer, and of course I pray for them. Yet, news of these and other tragedies really hurt me. I wonder what God is doing in the midst of pains and suffering. Darkness seems prevalent and evil seems to have power over our lives. Our world is broken. We witness the suffering of God's beloved people and creatures.

This is the world Jesus came into, the world which is so broken. Jesus came to heal the sick and to touch our wounds. We are in the season of Epiphany, the season of light. It is the season when we remember that Christ is the light shining in the darkness. As scripture says Jesus came and healed people with various illnesses. People brought their loved ones and Jesus touched their wounds with love. In the darkness, the hymn, "Light Dawns on a Weary World" (ELW 726) came to me.

Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.

Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs; the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!

We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

May the light of Christ shine in you. Pr. Miho

If you would like to learn more about the Stubbs family, please check their website <http://s421181158.onlinehome.us/Site/Welcome.html> and the Northern Illinois Synod website <http://nisynod.org/prayers/>

## **Worship News**

Christmas ends on Epiphany, January 6<sup>th</sup> when we observe the visitation of the magi. We are entering the season of Epiphany, the season of light. During Epiphany season we hear about the early part of Jesus' ministries. We hope to see you at worship.

January 1 Name of Jesus

## December Meetings at Good Shepherd

**PIECE CORPS QUILTERS** will meet Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18, and 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 11:30 am.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** will meet Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18, and 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-8:pm.

**HANNAH CIRCLE** will not meet in January.

**SAFE CHILD** A mandatory ***SAFE CHILD*** refresher course and training for youth and adults who work with children at Good Shepherd will be held on ***Monday, January 9, 2017*** from **6 PM to 7PM in the Fellowship Hall**. Everyone who was trained last year must attend. Please call Marybeth Brinker (815-369-2501) with any questions.

**THE LEARNING COMMITTEE** will meet immediately after the refresher/training course.

**HYMN SING** at the Lena Living Center will be Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets on Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB** will meet Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> for a Potluck Dinner & Bingo.

**WELCA BOARD MEETING** will be Wednesday January 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

**ANNUAL MEETING** January 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** for February 2017 Newsletter is January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Thank You!



## **January Birthdays**

- 1-01 Tim Gordon
- 1-02 Elizabeth Kurth
- 1-03 Brady Meier
- 1-03 Shayleigh Albright
- 1-08 Tena Rackow
- 1-10 Noah Schoaf
- 1-11 Tamara Albrecht
- 1-13 Heather Fye
- 1-14 Courtney Lawson
- 1-15 Isabelle Schoaf
- 1-16 JD Fye
- 1-16 Sarah Baker
- 1-17 Gary Meyers
- 1-17 Mike Koppean
- 1-18 Tim Aurand
- 1-21 Tyler Raders
- 1-22 Ethel Lobdell
- 1-23 Janis Kurth
- 1-27 Becky Huttenlocher
- 1-28 Jan Wybourn
- 1-28 Denise Flack
- 1-28 Heather Block
- 1-29 David Graff
- 1-30 Marilyn Fulfs
- 1-31 Gladys Staderman

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

# Good Shepherd is up-dating the Church' contact file.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the church by placing in the wicker baskets that are at the exit doors or mail it to:

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,  
118 E. Mason St., Lena, IL 61048**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Names of Children**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone: Home** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

(If you wish to provide it to the Church)

\*\*The information provided will be used only for Good Shepherd's means of up-dating the Church's contact information should there be a need to contact you. It will not be published in any bulletin or newsletter without your consent/ permission

## Offering Envelopes

If you have not yet picked up your 2017 offering envelopes and/or 2016 statement-of-giving, please do so at your earliest convenience. You may contact the church office to have them mailed to you. Call Sheila Keene at (815)369-5101, if you did not receive envelopes and would like a box. Also contact her if you would prefer to not receive envelopes next year or if you have any other questions or concern



## Lena Area Church Cooperative

We cannot thank everyone enough for your support with the LACC projects! The great success of the Thanksgiving baskets, cookies for Operation Good Fellow and Angel tree, are because of all of you. We are humbled by your generosity and thoughtfulness. Our family here at Good Shepherd truly cares for one another and helping the needs of the community.

We are reminded of Matthew 25: 40 “And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Thank you and may God Bless you all,  
Shirley Fox and Mary Lloyd

\*\*\*\*\*

## Lena Food Pantry Do You Know?

Do you know that Good Shepherd volunteers at the Lena Food Pantry the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday morning of every month? Do you know that Donna Gullickson, Karen Niemeier, Ellen Kyles, Dale Gullickson, just to name a few, donate their time at the Food Pantry?

Do you know that the schedule for 2017 is being created now and we have openings?

Do you know that signing up is as easy as being 18 years of age and giving your phone number?



Please contact the church office (815-369-5552) or Mary Lloyd (815-369-4049 evenings) if you are interested in being a volunteer or substitute.

Thank you!



## Sunday School Activities

### First Communion Class



First Communion preparation for Third Graders and older will be offered on February 5, 12, and 19, with celebration on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Classes will be held during the Sunday School hour led by

#### **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, Lois Paulsen, Laura Derr, Ray Stamm, Carol Wybourn, Fern Harnish. 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.

#### **Winter Time Pastoral Visits**

The winter season makes it difficult for some of us to come to Sunday worship service. It is my joy to visit you and to share communion. Just contact the church office (815-369-5552) and/or me at (815-821-9570) or email [gslpastor@aeroinc.net](mailto:gslpastor@aeroinc.net) to arrange a time for my visit. When two or three gather, Christ is with us. I am looking forward to seeing you at your place. Pr. Miho

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

##### **Call:**

Troy Doubler 369-5117

Donna Gullickson 369-4708



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 @ 369-5552

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 10:45am**

*annual report will be available to pick up at the church January 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> if not able to pick up call the church office at (815-369-5552) and one can be mailed to you*

**Annual Reports Are Due  
January 9, 2017**

Annual reports are required for each committee and organization of the congregation. These reports are assembled and made available to the congregation members prior to the meeting. The reports are the responsibility of the chairperson or offices. We will be sending out the reports from last year for you to update your reports and turn them into the office by Monday, January 9, 2017. If possible, please type up the report and email it to [gslchurch@aeroinc.net](mailto:gslchurch@aeroinc.net) or [GoodSheperdLena@outlook.com](mailto:GoodSheperdLena@outlook.com) in Word format.

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

Incoming November 2016	\$9,466.14
Expenses November 2016	\$10,836.55
Net Income (Loss)	\$(1,370.41)
Income, Year to Date 2016	\$122,246.02
Expenses, Year to Date 2016	\$131,056.03
Net Income (Loss)	\$(8,810.01)

## **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 Miho

### **Highlights from December Council Meeting:**

- A motion to accept the agenda was made by Troy Doubler and seconded by Tim Gordon. Motion passed by voice vote.
- A motion was made to accept the Secretary's report by Coralyn Hudik and seconded by Troy Doubler. Motion passed by voice vote.
- Jay Andrews presented his treasures report. Electric bill for November 2016 was \$161.17. Heating bill for November 2016 was \$9.16 (With Credit)
- A motion was made to accept the treasures report by Troy Doubler and was seconded by Gene Hesselbacher. The motion was passed by voice vote.
- Pastor Miho presented her pastors report. She talked about days she would be gone, and events for the upcoming months.
- A motion was made to accept the pastors report by Coralyn Hudik and was seconded by Shirley Fox. Motion was passed by voice vote.
- Committee reports were presented.  
Stewardship Committee is trying to update phone numbers and address for the members list. Please contact the church office with corrections
- First on the agenda is the budget for 2017. Jay Andrews went over the budget and changes in the budget.
- A motion was made by Coralyn Hudik to accept the 2017 Good Shepherd Budget and Tim Gordon seconded. Motion was passed by voice vote.
- The annual meeting was set for January 29th 2017. A motion was made by Gene Hesselbacher and second by Troy Doubler. Motion was passed by voice vote.
- A motion was made that we put in the newsletter a notice that the annual report is available to pick up at the church January 22nd to the 29th and if not able to pick up call the church office. Coralyn Hudik seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- A motion was made to get the covers for the annual report by Shirley Fox and Tim Gordon seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Hannah Circle** will not meet in January or February, 2017. We will resume our Bible Study and meetings on Thursday March 2, 2017 at 9:00am at church in Fellowship Hall.



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Thank you to everyone who made cookies and helped with the Lena Living Center December Birthday Party. We especially thank Sheila and Troy Keene for their help, we couldn't have done it without you.

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WELCA Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 10:30am at church in Fellowship Hall. We will be planning the Lenten Lunch.



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



***A special "Thank You" to all who are so helpful and kind on Sunday morning serving coffee, juice, treats, helping with the elevator or whatever special help maybe needed.***

***God Bless***

***You***

***Joyce Tessendorf***

# January 2017 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 am Worship Service <b>Name of Jesus</b> 10:30am Fellowship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 6:30pm-8:00pm Confirmation Class	<b>5</b>	<b>6 Epiphany</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 am Worship Service <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	<b>9</b> Annual Reports due 6:00pm-7:00pm Safe Child Training Learning Committee meeting following training	<b>10</b> 9:45am Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center 6:00pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 9:30am-12:00pm Pastor Miho at NW Conference at Chadwick, 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout	<b>12</b> 12:00 pm Friendship Club Potluck/Bingo	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30 am Worship Service <b>Jesus calls the fist disciples (from John)</b> 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00am Pastor Miho at Mentor Meeting for Pastor at Rochelle, IL	<b>18</b> 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 6:30pm-8:00pm Confirmation Class	<b>19</b> 10:30am Pastor Miho Devotions at Friendship Center	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 am Worship Service <b>Jesus calls fishermen to be disciples (from Mathew)</b> 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00am-2:00pm Pastor Miho at First Call Theological Education at Synod Office	<b>25</b> 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 10:30am WELCA Board Meeting in Fellowship Hall 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 6:30pm-8:00pm Confirmation Class	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 4:30pm Men's Group
<b>29</b> 9:30 am Worship Service <b>The Beatitudes</b> 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Annual Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">           January Communion Set-up/Clean up            Sheridan and Marybeth Brinker         </div>						

## January Worship Volunteers

### January 1

Lector	Taylor Bastian
Assisting Minister	Taylor Bastian
Communion Ushers	Dennis Luke, Cora Hudik
Greeters	Jay and Michelle Andrews
Ushers	Dennis Luke, Cora Hudik

### January 8

Lector	Marybeth Brinker
Acolyte	Hanna Brinker
Assisting Minister	Austin Andrews
Worship Assistant	Marybeth Brinker
Communion Ushers	Troy Keene, Krista Keene
Communion Assistant	Taylor Bastian, Colton Brinker
Sound System	Troy Doubler, Ashtyn Brinker
Greeters	Darlene Aurand, Chris and Angie Brinker
Ushers	Jerry and Beth Martin, Troy Keene, Krista Keene
Elevator Operator	Taylor Bastian

### January 15

Lector	Krista Keene
Acolyte	Ashtyn Brinker
Assisting Minister	Dennis Luke
Worship Assistant	Sue Diddens
Communion Ushers	Paul and Shirley Fox
Communion Assistant	Troy and Cindy Doubler
Sound System	Wayne Kurth, Hanna Brinker
Greeters	Dana Diddens, Braden Diddens, Troy and Cindy Doubler
Ushers	Paul and Shirley Fox, Virgil and Joanne Martin
Elevator Operator	Chris Brinker

### January 22

Lector	Janis Kurth
Acolyte	Madilyn Diddens
Assisting Minister	Sheila Keene
Worship Assistant	Shirley Fox
Communion Assistant	Eugene Hesselbacher, Cora Hudik
Communion Ushers	Chris and Angie Brinker
Sound System	Austin Andrews, Braden Diddens
Greeters	Bill and Jean Engel, Paul and Shirley Fox
Ushers	Chris and Angie Brinker, Jay and Michelle Andrews
Elevator Operator	Braden Diddens

### January 29

Lector	Marybeth Brinker
Acolyte	Ethan Fye
Assisting Minister	Wayne Kurth
Worship Assistant	Vivian Hesselbacher
Communion Assistant	Shirley Fox, Sue Diddens
Communion Ushers	Dennis Luke, Larry Fulfs
Sound System	Jay Andrews, Taylor Bastian
Greeters	Curt and Sue Diddens, Eugene and Vivian Hesselbacher
Ushers	Mike Geiseman, Dennis Luke, Andrew Martin, Larry Fulfs
Elevator Operator	Jean Engel

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**

Pastor Pastor Miho Yasukawa

Church Secretary Darlene Barr

## **Month's Highlights!**

January 6

Epiphany

January 10

Hymn Sing at Lena Living Center 9:45am

January 12

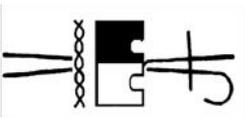
Friendship Club 12:00pm

January 25

WELCA Board Meeting 10:30apm

January 29

Annual Meeting 10:45am



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
118 East Mason St.  
Lena, IL 61048  
GoodShepherdLena@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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