

The SHEPHERD'S VOICE

August 2017

“A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path...[other] seeds fell on rocky ground...[other] seeds fell among thorns...[other] seeds fell on good soil.” (Matthew 13:1-8)

I think that our 160th Anniversary Sunday went well. Many former members came for the special Sunday and the worship service was beautiful. Each minister offered wonderful leadership for the service, and Bishop Jeff delivered an inspiring sermon to us. Our choirs made joyful music, and I loved the prelude Tena and Karen played. It was absolutely holy, and it was such a blessing for me to sit with our members and worship together. I felt the God's active Spirit blowing through us when we were singing hymns filling the room with our praise to God.

The afternoon program was joyous. Good food, laughter, and good memories were abundant in the Fellowship Hall. I thank the Anniversary Committee for all their work for this special Sunday. I also thank those who were present to share our joys together. I especially thank Bishop Jeff and Paulette, Pr. Miranda and Micah, Pr. Frank and Donna, Pr. Paul and Sandy, Pr. Dennis, Pr. Roger and Carole, and Pr. Denver and Pam for their coming and spending time with us. It was a busy full day, and it was a good day.

While I was listening to the memories from our former ministers, it occurred to me that as in a relay race where a baton is passed from one runner to another, I have received a baton to continue the ministries of Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd has contributed various services and opportunities to our community, to the synod, to the ELCA, and to many other organizations such as the Pine Ridge Retreat Center and LWR. Some ministries have dissipated over the years but we continue to serve God's people and to share God's gifts with others.

In the gospel text on the Anniversary Sunday, we heard the story of a sower. The sower was not the best farmer because s/he did not check the soil before planting the seeds. The sower just sowed regardless of the condition of the soil. As the scripture says, some seed fell on the path, some fell on the rocky road or among thorns. Not all seeds sprouted and blossomed. Nonetheless, the sower sowed. S/he did not worry about the immediate outcome but trusted that God would take care of the seeds—when the right time comes, the seeds would grow.

Our Anniversary Sunday is over but our celebration continues. We continue to celebrate God's abundant blessings among us. God has bestowed us compassionate hearts, and God has given us hands and feet to proclaim God's grace to all creation. Our ministry continues because God keeps sowing the seeds of love to us and to the world. We are God's messengers to share the good news to others. Friends, our work continues, and I am blessed to journey with you. May God fill us with joy today.

Pr. Miho

This summer we are experiencing the severe weather. We had tornado in June and storms and flooding in July. I am learning that many people are impacted by water damages. I lift up prayers for all who are impacted by the weather, especially people in Pearl City, Freeport, Monroe, and Lena. May God protect us and watch over us. Pr. Miho

August Meetings at Good Shepherd

PIECE CORPS QUILTERS will meet Wednesday August 2nd, 9th, 16th 23rd, and 30th.

HANNAH CIRCLE will meet Thursday August 3rd at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND PICNIC in the Park August 6th at 10:00pm

LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING Monday August 7th at 6:30pm

HYMN SING at the Lena Living Center will be Tuesday, August 8th at 9:45am

CHURCH COUNCIL meets on Tuesday August 8th at 6:30pm.

OPEN CHURCH Wednesday August 9th 6:00pm to 8:00pm

FRIENDSHIP CLUB will meet Thursday August 10th at noon for a Potluck Dinner & entertainment with *“Dave Ruter”*

PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP will meet Monday August 14th at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with guess speaker Jill Hilliger, from Senior Resource Center of Stephenson & JoDavie counties topic will be “Money Management Program

MEN’S GROUP MEETING Saturday August 26th at 4:30pm.

GOOD SHEPHERD at Lena Food Pantry Saturday August 26th.

“Save the Dates”
September 24th
“God’s Work Our Hands” Sunday

*Happy
Birthday!*

August Birthdays

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

If we miss
your birthday
(or someone
in your fami-
ly) please call
the office so
that we may
update our
records!

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: Verl Price, Steve Fahr, Lois Paulsen, Laura Derr, 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.

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



Worship Service and Picnic In The Park August 6th at 10am

Good Shepherd's annual outdoor service
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.



Reformation 500



If someone asks you, “What is a Lutheran?” how would you answer? Some Lutherans in the North America like to drink coffee on Sunday mornings, and some Lutheran churches are known for their caserole dishes and Jello salads. But these characteristics are from a North American cultural heritage, and not really Lutheran. So what makes us Lutheran?

Luther enacted many reforms within the church and brought new insights to understanding the relationship between humanity and God. He reformed worship and translated the Bible into German (the people’s language). He also revitalized scriptural authority, and claimed that all baptized Christians were priests who could pray to God without religious authorities. The core of Lutheranism is JUSTIFICATION, we are justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Luther as a young monk had trouble with being assured of his salvation. He took the teachings of the church seriously and was tormented by his failures to obey God fully. He prayed and studied hard, but he could not see anything good he could do to be righteous with God. He was scared. While he was reading Romans, he suddenly discovered that it is God’s grace which saves us. Our deeds, which are never perfect, do not contribute to our salvation. This became the center of his understanding about God. God mercifully gives us salvation through Jesus Christ, so we do not need to worry about our salvation but can trust in the promise that God has already justified us through our profession of faith in Christ. It liberated Luther, and from that point, Lutheranism started. Luther’s re-discovery of God’s grace has reached out across the continent. According to the Lutheran World Federation, a global Lutheran organization, there are over 74 million Lutherans in 98 countries. We are liberated by God’s grace.

Celebration of Good Shepherd's 160th Anniversary







THANK YOU VBS 2017

The Good Shepherd Congregation thanks God for the energetic, talented, generous members who led and helped with VBS 2017



“Treasure Seekers Wanted”!!!

Good Shepherd coordinate with the Methodist and Beloved Churches of Lena. We can't thank them enough for giving their time to share God's Word and Love with our children.

THANK YOU Kelsey Albrecht, Chris Brinker, Sue Diddens, Jean Engel, Troy Doubler, Heather Fye, Lucas Fye, Gage Dunker, Mike Geiseman, Sarah Geiseman, Donna Gullickson, Dale Gullickson, Cora Hudik, Rene Johnson, Sheila Keene, Krista Keene, Karen Niemeier, Kristy Patterson, Taylor Patterson, Anna Patterson.

“



Children had a great week at VBS

**OPEN
CHURCH**

Good Shepherd will be having Open Church this summer. The next Open Church will be Wednesday evening August 9th from 6pm-8pm, weather permitting downtown Lena. In case of bad weather Open Church will be held in the Fellowship Hall We have games for all ages.



Children and adults all enjoyed Jenga

Please come to downtown Lena on Wednesday to be a part of Open Church



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“God’s Work. Our Hands.”

Sunday: Day of Service Project Application

FIRST and LAST NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER: _____

When is the best time to contact you? _____

Number of occupants in the home:

Are you the owner of the home? Yes _____ or No _____

Are you the owner of the land? Yes _____ or No _____

If you are not the owner, please provide the address and phone number for the owner(s):

Owner name and address:

Owner phone number:

Describe work needed in detail:

**Please return this form to the church office by
September 10, 2017**



Get ready to serve! “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday Sunday, Sept. 24th, 2017

This fall, the nearly 10,000 congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are invited to put their faith into action by serving their communities in ways that

share the love of God with all of God’s people. **Save the date to join brothers and sisters in Christ in serving our neighbor on September 24th. We will seek to have service opportunities for all ages and abilities. Make sure to sign up!**

Whether it’s volunteering at a homeless shelter, cleaning up a public park, writing letters to military personnel serving overseas or supporting those congregations who fight for peace and justice in their communities every day, we are a church that boldly does God’s work of restoring and reconciling communities.

“God’s work. Our hands.’ Sunday reminds us that we are church together for the sake of the world. Our lives have been changed by our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and it’s that encounter with Jesus that frees us to make a difference.” — ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

To help increase the visual impact of the day of service, ELCA members will be wearing bright-yellow “**God’s work. Our hands.**” T-shirts with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on the back!

- 9:30 am** **Worship Service**
- 10:30 am** **Divide into Serving Teams**
- 11:00 am** **Arrive at Service Sites**
- 12:30 pm** **Lunch at Service Sites**
- 3:00 pm** **Dessert, Prayer, and Sharing**

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions on “God’s work. Our hands” Sunday contact Troy Doubler or Wayne Kurth



Highlights from July Council Meetings

- The Treasurer's Report was presented with utilities of gas at \$161.53 and electricity at \$201.56 for June. Tim Gordon moved to accept the report and Krista Keene seconded. Motion approved.
- Pastor Miho presented her monthly report which included highlights of the Synod Assembly and upcoming July activities. Good Shepherd is now included in church listings in *The Orangeville Alert*. Karen Niemeier motioned to accept the report and Coralyn Hudik seconded. All agreed.
- Committee reports were given. For the Learning Committee, Kristy Patterson reported on upcoming Vacation Bible School plans and Good Shepherd's participation at the Lena Gathering with games for children in the downtown area.
- Denny Luke, Property Committee, said the roofing project will begin after VBS has ended so it will not interfere with the extra traffic and activity.
- Treasurer Jay Andrews said donations for the second portion of the roof project have reached the needed goal, but further contributions could be used to cover unexpected or additional costs. Incoming funds could also be used to reimburse the Building and Maintenance Fund for the initial 50% payment.
- A complete copy of minutes will be posted on bulletin board.

Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jay Andrews

Incoming June 2017	\$19,743.26
Expenses June 2017	\$10,194.82
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 9,548.44
Income, Year to Date 2017	\$87,310.83
Expenses, Year to Date 2017	\$78,452.86
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 8,857.97



Hannah Circle will meet on Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 9:00am at church in the Fellowship Hall. This is “Potluck” we will not have a hostess. Rene; Johnson (815) 369-2818 is the Bible Study leader.

We conclude our summer Bible Study: “All Anew, Ready or Not” by Kelly Fryer in the July/August 2017 issue of “Gather Magazine”. In Session Three – “Upend The Tables” the biblical story is filled with characters who challenged unjust systems, took action that turned societal norms upside down and spoke truth to power. What systems are you a part of that need to be challenged? What counter-cultural justice-making action are you being called to take? Are you ready? Our Bible test comes from Romans 12, 13, 14 and Matthew 12:1-14.

Northwest Conference Summer Retreat for Women of the ELCA

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2700 W. Stephenson St., Freeport, IL

Date: Thursday, August 17, 2017 --- Time 8:30am to 2:00pm

Registration & Coffee Time – 8:30 am, Bible Study 9:00am

Luncheon served at 12 noon—Program” “All Anew, Ready or Not”

Bible Study Leader: Pastor Mark Luepke

(Bible Study from the June, July/August 2017 “Gather” magazine

Please bring your magazines, if you subscribe to it and a Bible)

Cost: a Freewill Offering will be collected and given to NISWO.

Please make your reservation with Judy Castle by calling 815-233-2425 or i15-201-1928. Reservations needed by August 10, 2017. See Flyer on WELCA Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.

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



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

August 2017 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	3 9:00am Hannah Circle	4	5
6 10:00 am Worship Service and Picnic in the Park	7 6:30pm Learning Committee Meeting	8 9:45 am Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center 6:30pm Council Meeting	9 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 6:00pm-8:00pm Open Church	10 12:00pm Friendship Club Potluck/ Dave Ruter	11	12
13 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship <i>"Special Music" Open</i>	14 1:30pm Parkinson Support Group	15	16 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	17 12:30pm Good Shepherd at Friendship Center Devotions & Dessert	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship <i>"Special Music"</i> <i>Richard Duncan</i>	21	22	23 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	24	25	26 Good Shepherd at Lena food Pantry 4:30pm Men's Group
27 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship <i>"Special Music" Open</i>	28	29 10:00am-12:00pm Pr. Miho at PLC meeting LOMC	30 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	31	August Communion Set-up/Clean up Mary Lloyd	

August Worship Volunteers

August 6

Lector Taylor Bastian
Assisting Minister Sheila Keene
Worship Assistant Sheila Keene
Ushers Paul and Shirley Fox, Gary and Cynthia Boekle

August 13

Lector Shirley Fox
Acolyte Ashtyn Brinker
Assisting Minister Wayne Kurth
Worship Assistant Janis Kurth
Communion Ushers Jerry and Beth Martin
Communion Assistant Jay and Michelle Andrews
Sound System Troy Doubler, Austin Andrews
Greeters Eugene and Vivian Hesselbacher, Willie Kayser
Ushers Jerry and Beth Martin, Bob and Sharon Schlachter
Elevator Operator Krista Keene, Troy Keene

August 20

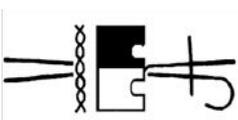
Lector Beth Martin
Acolyte Hanna Brinker
Assisting Minister Jay Andrews
Worship Assistant Sondra Winters
Communion Ushers Larry Fulfs, Jim Swain
Communion Assistant Troy and Cindy Doubler
Sound System Wayne Kurth, Ashtyn Brinker
Greeters Troy, Sheila and Krista Keene, Wayne and Janis Kurth
Ushers Larry Fulfs, Jim Swain, Virgil and Joanne Martin
Elevator Operator Anna Patterson, Kristy Patterson

August 27

Lector Sue Diddens
Acolyte Braden Diddens
Assisting Minister Austin Andrews
Worship Assistant Krista Keene
Communion Ushers Bill and Jean Engel
Communion Assistant Shirley Fox, Sheila Keene
Sound System Jay Andrews, Hanna Brinker
Greeters Paul and Shirley Fox, Jerry and Beth Martin
Ushers Bill and Jean Engel, Gary and Cynthia Boeke
Elevator Operator Taylor Patterson, Kristy Patterson

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 /or call the church office by Tuesday of the week that you are to volunteer so that arrangements can be made. 815-369-5552

NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE for September 2017
Newsletter is August 15th, 2017 .
Thank You!



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
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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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 am
Pre-K & K Sunday School after Children's Message
Fellowship Hour 10:30 am

CHURCH OFFICE 815-369-5552

Pastor Pastor Miho Yasukawa
Church Secretary Darlene Barr

Month's Highlights!

August 3 **Hannah Circle 9:00am**

August 8 **Hymn Sing at Lena Living Center 9:45am**

August 9 **Open Church 6:00pm to 8:00pm**

August 10 **Friendship Club Potluck/Entertainment 12:00pm**

August 14 **Parkinson Support Group 1:30pm**

August 26 **Men's Group Meeting 4:30pm**