#### The SHEPHERD'S VOICE March 2019



I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 121:1-2)

Since the middle of January I have been waking up every morning not knowing what the weather would be like. We've been having rollercoaster weather this winter. One day we get snow, then it warms up to the 40s melting snow on the ground, then a cold front comes creating a natural ice skate rink everywhere. Then it rains and snows again. This weather is crazy; I am not used to these kinds of weather.

One late morning I finally got to church after at least 6 inches of snow overnight. Schools were closed and village crews were busy clearing the road while many residents were shoveling their driveways just to get out. I followed our church secretary's footsteps (Bless her heart!) to get inside the church. It was a nice morning, not too cold, not windy, so I decided to shovel snow so that there would be a path to and from the door. But I am a southerner. I grew up in a place equivalent to Texas or Georgia. I am not accustomed to shoveling snow. I went to the boiler room and grabbed a snow shovel and began scooping snow starting from the door. The snow was heavy. I put a little snow on the shovel and carried it to the open yard next to the office. I went back to the door and shoveled a little more and carried that to the yard. Slowly I went back and forth making snow banks next to the church office. It was hard labor for me. I took a break, but still I felt my back getting stiff. When I got one third of the entrance cleared, I saw a man riding on John Deere snow blower coming by. Without a word he turned and blew off the snow from the entrance way in about a minute. While I was mumbling words of appreciation, he smiled at me and took off. I went back to the church and said to our secretary, "An angel came. He was riding on John Deere."

"I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?" The psalmist raises a question. When we feel overwhelmed or out of control, we may ask the same question. If the furnace stops working, or the electricity turns off, or water pipes break, what am I going to do? If my health declines, and I have to move into care facilities, what's going to happen? I can easily get caught up with "What if...?" scenarios and increase my anxiety level. Yet in the midst of my deep worries, help comes along. The help I receive is not necessarily the way I envisioned, but surely it keeps me going because it reminds me of God's tender care—God is watching over me all the time. Psalm 121 is one of psalms engraved in my heart. Whenever I am anxious, I recite this psalm to hear assurance of God's protection.

Scripture announces hope. Reading and singing God's love letters (which is also called the Bible) helps us to settle our feet in God's faithfulness. So I invite you to a Lenten journey. This year's devotion book is called <u>Lasting Hope</u>. Each day there is a reading from Psalms and questions to ponder. You may take a book home and read the devotions by yourself and/or with your family, or you may join the mid-week Lenten services (on Wednesdays with supper at 5:30pm and the service at 6:30pm) to read the devotions together as a group. I'd like to use a prayer from the devotion book as my prayer to you. "May Jesus, God's promised one, be with you on this Lenten journey and fill you with lasting hope."



Good Shepherd Thank You so much for the wonderful donation of socks, gloves and the hat. Socks are an often over looked, yet necessary item that our students need. Your donation is much appreciated. Sincerely, Ann DeZ.ell.

Elementary Principal



Hello Good Shepherd Family, We had a good trip down, Rain has stopped so enjoying the sun and all the good sea food. Hi to out Good Shepherd Family! Larry & Marilyn Fulfs

# March Meetings at Good Shepherd

**PIECE CORPS QUILTERS** will meet Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE** will meet Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

**LENTEN LUNCHEON at Lena UMC** March 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

**ASH WEDNESDAY Services** on Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:45pm at Lena UMC and 7:00pm at Good Shepherd.

**HANNAH CIRCLE** will meet March 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at the home of Rene' Johnson.

**PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP** will meet March 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

**HYMN SING** at the Lena Living Center will be Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets on Tuesday March12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. **LENTEN LUNCHEON at Good Shepherd** March 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

**MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE** March 13<sup>th</sup> supper at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB** will meet Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at noon for a Potluck Dinner & entertainment with "*Deb Leininger*".

**CONFIRMATION CLASS REUNION SUNDAY** on Sunday March 17<sup>th.</sup>

**LENTEN LUNCHEON at Evangelical Free** March 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

**MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE** March 20<sup>th</sup> supper at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm.

**GOOD SHEPHERD AT FRIENDSHIP CENTER** for Devotions & Dessert March 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm.

**LENTEN LUNCHEON at St. Joseph** March 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm. **MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE** March 27<sup>th</sup> supper at 5:30pm. worship at 6:30pm.

# March Birthdays



3/1 Cheryl Torkelson

- 3/1 Chloe Flack
- 3/3 Connor Kurth
- 3/3 Cindy Tessendorf
- 3/3 Duane Christen
- 3/3 Jessica Anderson
- 3/4 Jessica Alexander
- 3/5 Jarret Winder
- 3/6 Ryan Hastings
- 3/8 Raeger Sullivan
- 3/9 Michelle Andrews
- 3/11 Lois Paulsen
- 3/13 Bob Schlachter
- 3/13 Ella Wolfrom
- 3/14 Logan Fahr
- 3/14 Don Wienand
- 3/15 Larynn Shumaker
- 3/16 Nakoah Cornwell
- 3/18 Connie DeWilde
- 3/19 Barbara Price
- 3/20 Pastor Sarah Schaffner
- 3/23 Paige Hancock
- 3/24 Chuck Kraft
- 3/28 Matthew Huber
- 3/27 Kristi Patterson
- 3/31 Caroline Jam

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



## **Can Cows Forecast Weather?**

Perhaps the most folklore is about cows. Certainly, their bodies are affected by changes in air pressure. This is also true of sheep, cats, and other animals.

If a cow stands with its tail to the west, the weather is said to be fair. If a cow grazes with its tail to the east, the weather is likely to turn sour.

This is some true here. Animals graze with their tail toward the wind so that if a predator sneaks up behind them, the wind will help catch the scent of the predator and prevent an attack. The cow's prediction might also be wrong during a hurricane.

(2018 Old Farmers Almanac)



Lenten Devotion Books There are two Lenten devotion books this year. One is Lasting Hope: Devotion for Lent 2019 which contains daily readings which is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. This accessible and colorful format makes it easy to incorporate a simple

Christian observance into your Lenten journey. The other is <u>Lenten Study Guide: ELCA World Hunger's 40 days of</u> <u>Giving</u> which contains short weekly readings with questions for reflection of conversation. Each sessions draw on stories from projects supported by ELCA World Hunger and each questions help deepen our Lenten journey by reflecting on what the Lenten practice of repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works love means for us today. Both are available at the rack.

#### Lena Area Lenten Luncheon Schedule

March 6<sup>th</sup> at Lena UMC, 118 W Mason, hosted by McConnell UMC and Grace Free



March 13<sup>th</sup> at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason.

March 20<sup>th</sup> at Evangelical Free Church, 720 N Freedom Street

March 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph, 410 W. Lena Street

April 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. John's 625 Country Lanepril 10<sup>th</sup> at Lena UMC, 118 W. Mason

April 17<sup>th</sup> at Lena UMC hosted by Salem and Beloved Churches.

Luncheon starts at noon followed by a short devotion. A free will offering will be accepted. All are welcome!

You might be Lutheran if.....

.....When you were little you actually thought the Reverend's first name was "Pastor".



# It is time to order Easter Lilies *Lilies will be* **\$12.00** *per plant and* can be ordered by using the envelopes provided in the pews. Please place them in the offering plate or you can drop them off at the church office. Orders must be in by April 7th. Lilies may be picked up after the 9:30 am Easter Sunday Service. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS can be picked up at the church office starting April 1<sup>st</sup> Applications must be filled out and returned by April 30<sup>th</sup>



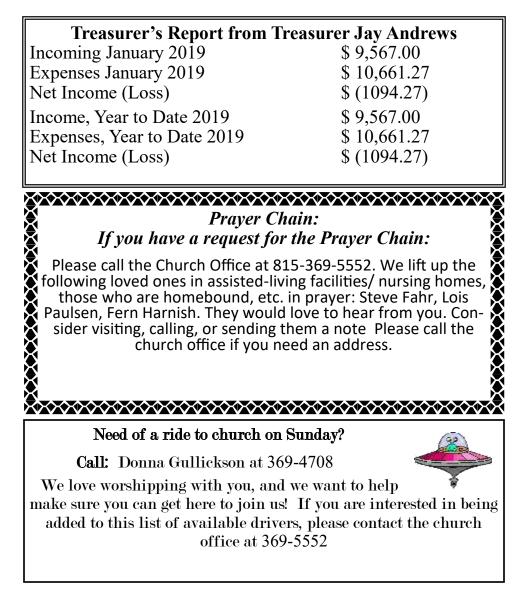
#### "Souper Bowl of Caring"

The Youth Group of Good Shepherd would like to thank all worshippers who donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$443.62 was col-

lected. Thank you. Your donations will be given to Le-Win Food Pantry and ELCA World Hunger. Thank You!



<u>AMAMMAMMAMM</u> Beth Martin, Donna Gullickson, Cindy Doubler, Dale Gullickson, Alexis Martin and Shirley Fox for helping with the February Newsletter



### **Confirmation Class Reunion Sunday**

To celebrate Good Shepherd's 162<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, we are having Confirmation Reunion for the classes of 1996, 1998, and 1999 on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Pastor David Raben will come and preach on that Sunday. Spread the word! Invite friends for our special day! We will have potluck dinner after Sunday Service.

## **Highlights from February Council Meetings**

- Jay Andrews reviewed the January Treasurer's Report which indicated a gas bill of \$750.76 and electric bill of \$226.72. The report was approved with K. Patterson making the motion and Don Wienand the second
- Pastor reviewed past and upcoming events. The winter sock drive was successful with a total of 149 pairs of socks, 1 hat and 6 pairs of gloves which were donated to the Lena-Winslow Elementary.
- Souper Bowl of Caring contributions totaled \$443.62.
- The Stephen Ministry Workshop is scheduled for March 23 at Our Savior's Lutheran, Rockford and the Congregational Resourcing Event is set for March 9 at Kishwaukee Community College. The event is open to anyone in the congregation.
- A first-time event for Good Shepherd, Confirmation Class Reunion Sunday, is set for March 17. Pastor and Mrs. David Raben will be our guests and everyone confirmed during his leadership are invited to attend. A shared lunch will follow.
- In Committee Reports, D. Luke said the Worship and Music Committee are planning events for Lent. Various Good Shepherd groups will provide food for mid-week services. K. Patterson said the Learning Committee is discussing confirmation scheduling and volunteers would be appreciated for that class as well as with Sunday School for younger students.
- D. Luke said the Property Committee will meet March 5 to discuss the installation of the new sound system which was approved at the annual meeting. He also noted the list of memorial suggestions will be reviewed. V. Gordon motioned to accept committee reports and K. Patterson made the second. All approved.
- Council also approved the appointment of Coralyn Hudik to fill the remaining Council seat. K. Patterson moved to approve the selection and T. Gordon made a second. Motion approved unanimously.
- A male delegate is still needed for the NW IL Synod Assembly June 14-15.
- D. Luke advised volunteers are needed to assist Sunday worship services. Training will be provided to anyone interested.

Complete copy of minuets will be posted on the bulletin board.

A successful female executive stood before the Pearly Gates, facing St. Peter himself. "Strange," mused St. Peter, "we've never had an executive make it this far before. I'm not sure what to do with you. While I think it over, I'll let you experience a day here and a day in Hell."

So the female exec spent an entire day lounging on clouds, playing the harp, having intelligent civilized discussions with great philosophers. Her Z4 hours passed quickly and she was then transported to Hell where the Devil took her to a beautiful country club where she found many of her old friends, dressed to the nines, drinking, joking, laughing, having a great time. They talked old times, played golf, had steak and lobster, drank Champagne and danced till dawn.

Before she knew it, her 24 hours was up and she was back at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter said, "I've considered your placement, and decided I'll just let you choose where you wish to spend eternity." She thought only briefly before she replied. "Well, Heaven was nice, but, no offense, I had a great time in Hell." And back down she went. But this time she found herself in a desolate wasteland covered with garbage. Her friends were still there, but now they were dressed in rags, picking up garbage and carrying it from one pile to another. "Wait a minute," stammered the woman to the Devil, "I don't understand. Yesterday when I was here, there was a golf course and a country club and we ate lobster and drank Champagne and we danced the night away, having a wonderful time. Now everyone's slaving away shoveling garbage." The Devil looked at her and smiled. "Yesterday we were recruiting you. Today, you're staff!"

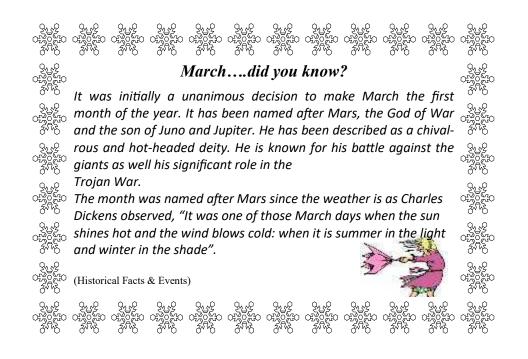


**Hannah Circle** will meet on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 9:00 am at the home of Rene' Johnson-621 Deer Trail Dr., Lena. Rene' Johnson (815-369-2818) is the Bible Study leader. This is "Potluck"—we will not have a hostess.

Our first Bible Study for 2019 is from the Gospel of John-"Meeting with Jesus" by Julie A. Kanarr in our January "Gather Magazine."

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March 13, 2019 is the Wednesday Noon Lenten Lunch hosted by Good Shepherd. Hannah Circle is coordinating the soup and sandwich meal. We will meet at 9:00 am on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 to set-up and prepare the meal. If you would like to help with set-up and preparation before, or clean-up after, or both, please contact Rene' Johnson at 815-369-2818 or just show up. We welcome all who would like to participate. Come and enjoy a Lenten message along with soup and sandwich.





To all the Ladies of the Lutheran Churches of the ELCA:

The Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) would like to invite all ladies to join us at the Spring Assembly gathering on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Christ Lutheran Church in Stockton for brunch and a humorous program on aging. Gathering stats with registration at 9am and brunch served at 9:30am with program to follow. There will be a lot of fellowship and laughter. The program is called "YOUNG AT HEART, BUT OLDER IN OTHER PLAC-ES' by Nancy Hanewall Stacy who will be presenting the program. Reservations and a fee of \$10 to cover the brunch and the program is needed by March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. See bottom of the flier. A free will offering will be taken for on going programs of the NW Conference.



Date: Monday, March 11, 2019 Time: 1:00 pm / 1:30 pm Location: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

118 E. Mason Street, Lena, Il

(Handicap access at Washington Street entrance)

Parkinson Support

Group Meeting

EVERYONE IS WELCOME !!! Invite all those you know who are interested in sharing in an afternoon of sharing Parkinson Disease information, fellowship and refreshments.

If you have a favorite snack or treat you would like to bring to share, it would be greatly appreciated.

Our speaker will be:

LIZ MOSHURE-from RAMP (815-233-1128)

Topic will be:

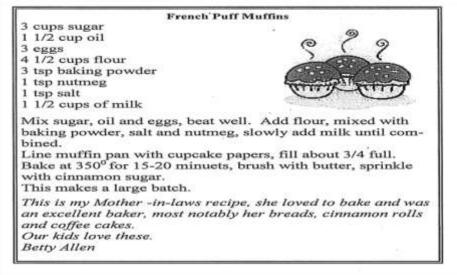
"COMMUNITY RESOURCES & HOW REFERRALS WORK."



#### ANY QUESTIONS ???

OR if you want your name removed from our mailing list; Call: Carol Griffin 815-947-2208 OR 815-616-0616

If you would prefer to receive meeting information via email, please send your request to Carol Griffin at cag@aeroinc.net



#### Story of a Cross

Years ago, men cursed my name, and looked at me with deepest shame. My limbs were rough and dark and bare, and no one ever thought to wear a cross. I stood for death and hate and fear - a killer's scream - a mother's tear Rightful end for a life of sin - a prize no man desired to win a cross. And then, one day a young man came: another victim for my frame. His face was strong, yet strangely soft - not the kind you see aloft a cross. I saw the crowd and heard the cries: " Crucify! Make sure he dies!" Why this young man? Why now his turn? What had he done that he should earn a cross? I heard them scream, "If you are God, come, save yourself - with just a nod. Call your angels; prove you're He. God wouldn't hang upon a tree a cross." His pain-filled eyes still spoke of love. And then he strained to look above: "They don't know what they're doing, Lord; even now I bear their sins' reward. this cross!" A smaller group stood near the base with tears of pain upon each face; I saw His mother's stricken eyes, and thought how much she must despise this cross. But, in her eyes there was no hate. How could she accept her son's dire fate? He seemed so different from the rest of sinners who were sent to test the cross. And then, a cry of pain and fear: "My God! My God! Why aren't You here?" His breath came hard and short and fast - "It is finished!" He had finally passed the cross. If this were all there was to tell, man's soul would still be doomed to hell. But, this young man, we all have learned, took on Himself what mankind earned. the cross. So, now I stand for hope and life - no longer symbol of Man's strife; For Jesus Christ, God's only son, that fearful battle fought- and won! the cross! Alleluia, Alleluia, Amen © Copyright Susan D. Gordon

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 2:30am Worship Service- Transfiguration Sunday 0:30am Fellowship 0:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Class 1:00am Choir Practice 2:30pm Good Shepherd at Lena Living Center 5:00pm Chime Practice	4	5 1:00pm Pastor Miho Text Study 5:30pm Property Committee Meeting	<b>6</b> 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon at Lena UMC 12:45pm Ash Wednesday Service at Lena UMC 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service at Good Shepherd	7 9:00am Hannah Circle at the home of Rene' Johnson	8	2 9 9:15am-3:15pm Congregational Resourcing Event, Kishwaukee Community College Malta <i>T urn your</i> <i>clocks ahead</i>
10 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	<b>11</b> 1:00pm Parkinson Support Group	12 9:45am Hymn Sing Lena Living Center 6:30pm Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon at Good Shepherd 5:30pm Supper (WELCA) 6:30pm Mid-week Service	14 12:00pm Friendship Club Potluck/ Entertainment Deb Leininger Good Shepherd 162 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
17 D:30am Worship Service Confirmation Reunion Sunday 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	18	19 2:00pm-3:00pm Pr. Miho at PLC Committee Meeting, synod office, Rockford	20 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon at Evangelical Free 5:30pm Supper (Men's Group) 6:30pm Mid-week Service	<b>21</b> 1:00pm Good Shepherd at Friendship Center Devotions and Dessert	22	23
24 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	25	26 1:00pm Pastor Miho Text Study	27 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon at St. Joseph 5:30pm Supper (Learning Committee) 6:30pm Mid-week Service	28	29	30
31 9:30 am Worship Service - Youth Sunday 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice					nmunion Set-up/Cle & Sharon Schlachter	

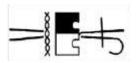




# March Worship Volunteers

March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	March 10 <sup>th</sup>		
Lector Janis Kurth	Lector Beth Martin		
Acolyte Hanna Brinker	Acolyte Jacob Runkle		
Assisting Minister Jay Andrews	Assisting Minister Wayne Kurth		
Worship Assistant Cora Hudik	Worship Assistant Denny Luke		
Communion Assistants Marybeth Brinker and	Communion Assistants Beth Martin and		
Sue Diddens	Ashtyn Brinker		
Communion Ushers Andrew Martin and	Communion Ushers Jim Swain and Virgil Gordon		
Denny Luke			
Sound System Wayne Kurth and Ashtyn Brinker	Sound System Troy Doubler and Hanna Brinker		
Greeters Bill and Jean Engel,	Greeters Willie Kayser, Troy Keene,		
Gene and Vivian Hesselbacher	Jerry and Beth Martin		
Ushers Bob and Sharon Schlachter,	Ushers Chris and Angie Brinker,		
Jerry and Beth Martin	Paul and Shirley Fox		
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	March 24 <sup>th</sup>		
Lector Sue Diddens	Lector Sheila Keene		
Acolyte Kayla Runkle	Acolyte Jared Runkle		
Assisting Minister Brianna Andrews	Assisting Minister Jay Andrews		
Worship Assistant Marybeth Brinker	Worship Assistant Sue Diddens		
Communion Assistants Shirley Fox and	Communion Assistants Sheila Keene and Denny Luke		
Cora Hudik	Communion Ushers Virgil and Joanne Martin		
Communion Ushers Tim Gordon and Troy Keene	Sound System Troy Doubler and Ashtyn Brinker		
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Sound System Troy Doubler and Ethan Fye	Greeters Chris and Angie Brinker,		
Greeters Virgil and Joanne Martin,	Sue Diddens, Marybeth Brinker		
Bob and Sharon 💦 👞 🚽			
Schlachter 🛛 🕵 🌮	Ushers Gene and Vivian Hesselbacher,		
	Tim Gordon, Andrew Martin		
Ushers Gary and Cynthia Boeke	Elevator Operators Troy Keene		
March 31 <sup>st</sup>			
Youth Sunday	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		
The Good Shepherd Sunday School Youth will be	office by Tuesday of the week that you are to		
leading our service.	volunteer so that arrangements can be made. 815-369-5552		
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Sound System			
Denny Luke and Sunday School Youth	. M 🏁		
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Month's Highlights!March 6Ash Wednesday Worship Service, 12:45pm at UMC, 7:00pm at Good Shepherd.March 7Hannah Circle 9:00amMarch 11Parkinson Support Group 1:00pm.March 12Hymn Sing at Lena Living Center 9:45amMarch 13Lenten Dinner hosted by WELCA 5:30pm, Lenten Service 6:30pmMarch 14Friendship Club Potluck/Entertainment 12:00pmMarch 20Lenten Dinner hosted by WELCA 5:30pm, Lenten Service 6:30pm.March 21Good Shepherd at Friendship Center for Devotions & Dessert 1:00pm.March 27Lenten Dinner hosted by Learning Committee 5:30pm, Lenten Service 6:30pm.March 31Youth Sunday	WORSHIP SCHEDULESunday Worship Service9:30 amPre-K & K Sunday School after Children's MessageFellowship Hour10:30 amSunday School10:45 amCHURCH OFFICE815-369-552PastorPastor Miho YasukawaChurch SecretaryBetty Allen
UMC, 7:00pm at Good Shepherd. enten Service 6:30pm pm ;, Pr. David Raben. 1, Lenten Service 6:30pm. otions & Dessert 1:00pm. 5:30pm, Lenten Service 6:30pm.	For More Good Shepherd Pictures and highlights go to Facebook: "GSLCLenalL" or www.GoodShepherdLena.org



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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