

June 2020 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Shepherd's Voice

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. (Psalm 23:1-3)

Dear God's beloved,

May the spirit of God be with you and give life to you and your family this day. How are you doing friends? Are you hanging in there? A couple weeks ago one member asked me "How are you really doing?" after watching my message on the church's Youtube channel. I answered that some days I felt good and hopeful and other days I felt unproductive and stressed out like a normal life: there are good days and bad days, uphill and downhill, highways and detours. As I grow older (and hopefully wiser), I began grasping the complexity and beauty of life.

This COVID-19 public health crisis brought me plenty of time to read and to think about ministry, church, my work, and of course God and God's works. It is amazing how God works. There are so many ways I am impressed by kindness shown and shared in our community. As you know, our council & other members are contacting our GS family to share God's care. Some of us learned to make masks to share with those who need to be protected from the virus. Also, praying for God's protection, helping with grocery shopping, feeding children, sending cards, you name it. God is working through us in this time of crisis for the past 9 weeks.

What will happen next? I do not know. I do not know when and how we can safely gather for worship at church. But I do know that God is walking with us along this journey. God leads us to the right path. It may not look the way we envision, but God will guide us to the green pasture, to the abundant life. So I continue to ask for your prayer, your support, and your patience. With the help of God we will go through this crisis together, and I thank you for your love. You help me see God's grace around my life. You are God's blessings to me, my friends, so please stay healthy and be safe! God be with you always,

Pr. Miho

Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jay Andrews	
Incoming April 2020	\$ 7,742.00
Expenses April 2020	\$ 9,201.05
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (1,459.05)
Income, Year to Date 2020	\$ 36,752.74
Expenses, Year to Date 2020	\$ 40,742.18
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (3,989.44)

June Birthdays

06/02 Aaron Smith

06/03 Jay Andrews

06/06 Jerry Cross, Kevin Huttenlocher, Madilyn Diddens

06/09 Sarah Andrews

06/10 Sue Holtz, Tammy Baldauf, Jase Baldauf

06/13 Richard Rutter

06/14 Seth Cory , Autumn Ockerman

06/19 Corey Wybourn

06/20 Darlene Aurand, Karen Niemeier, Gary Boeke

06/21 Sue Kraft

06/25 Deb Mammoser, Kelsey Albrecht, Jessica Koning

06/29 Kelly Derr, Jacob Runkle, Jared Runkle, Darci Meier, Katie Jo Huber

If we missed your birthday (or someone in your family), please call or send e-mail to the office so that we may update our records!

We lift in our prayers

Abiding God, you come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way, especially Bob and Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Delbert Scheider, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Gene Hesselbacher, Lois Paulsen, Fern Harnish, Kelsey, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Jon Forsythe, Brooke, Diane, Deb Lindeman Harder, Cindy Tessendorf, Randy, Brian, the Heimann family, Dave Heinkel, Janet, Paul Heller, Lori, J.T., Dan and Sue White, Irene, Jeff and Deb, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr., Nicole, Meghan, Hailey Bettenhauser, Mary Schick, Kyle, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Jerred, Bronwein, Matt and Julie, and Susan Andersen. With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remember our ministry partners in your prayer.

Le-Win Food Pantry/LACC; Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center; NIU Grace Place Campus Ministry; LOMC; Rockford Rescue Mission; Lena Living Center; Lutheran Social Services of Illinois; Lutheran World Relief; Northern Illinois Synod; ELCA World Hunger/God's Global Barnyard.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELCA churchwide organization is here to support its members, congregations, synods and partners. Call 800-638-3522 and press #4 or email HereToServe@ELCA.org for prayer, support and answers to questions.



CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Blessings to Good Shepherd's Scholarship recipients for 2020!!!

Krista Keene, Taylor Patterson, and Kayla Runkle will receive a \$1000 scholarship after they complete a successful first semester in college.

Linda Heidenreich will receive a \$200 scholarship to continue her education at Highland Community College. She will pursue a certificate for Basic Nursing Assistant. Linda would like to use her skills in a nursing home setting.

Krista Keene graduated from Lena-Winslow High School and will attend Highland Community College. She will pursue an Associates Degree and entrance into the Nursing Program. Then, she will transfer to another college to achieve a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. Krista hopes to use her nursing skills in the local area.

Taylor Patterson graduated from Lena-Winslow High School. He will study Technology at Highland Community College.

Kayla Runkle graduated from Pearl City High School. She will attend Saint Ambrose University in the fall. Kayla will pursue a degree in Kinesiology with acceptance into the Track 1 Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program. She would like to specialize in pediatric physical therapy at a children's hospital.

All of these recipients have served our congregation in many ways. We thank them for their dedication to Good Shepherd, and wish them success in their college endeavors.



VBS 2020

Theme: Fruit of the Spirit

Date & Time: July 6-9, 5:30pm-8:00pm

Location: Lena UMC (joint with Beloved, Lena UMC, and Good Shepherd)

**Please keep in mind that this is subject to change. Questions?*

Please contact Kristy (kpatterson5388@gmail.com; 608-214-5388).



A note from Church Council

We give you thanks for your support and prayers. It was a tough decision to cancel in-person worship service due to the shelter-in place order, but we believe that our congregation made a right decision because our members' safety is our priority. We are prayerfully discerning how to be a church, and how to protect our members and our communities. We appreciate your continuous prayer. We will go through this crisis together. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact council members. Thank you.

Offerings while church services are cancelled.

If you are wondering what to do with offerings during the COVID-19 pandemic, you can mail your offerings to the church. Church staff gets mail every week and the counter will count and deposit them in timely manner. Your continuous financial support is greatly appreciated. And a BIG THANK YOU to all who continue to give financial support to Good Shepherd. Your generosity helps us continue to do God's work. THANK YOU! If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Wayne or Pr. Miho.

Thank You

**To GS family for their prayer
To children & youth
To caregivers
To artists & musicians
To farmers
To frontline workers
To God who walks with us
THANK YOU.**

**Card Shower
for
Betty Martz**

Betty is turning 90 years young on June 23, 2020.

Her address is 25814 Willow Road, Lanark, IL 61046

Happy Birthday Betty!

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**Looking...For
Special Music for
Summer Worship**

If you or someone you know would like to share your talent, please call Vivian at 815-369-4496, or contact the church office.

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A Devotion from New Every Day

*New Every Day: Forty Devotions for Disaster Survivors speaks to us in this time of uncertainty. Booklets are available at the church.

“A Mother’s Comfort”

For thus says the Lord: As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you. Isaiah 66:12, 13

When the prophet Isaiah spoke these words of comfort on God’s behalf, Isaiah’s people had been living in exile. Defeated in battle and dragged to a foreign land, they had lived away from home for more than a generation. Their original houses were destroyed or occupied by others. They were miles from where they had grown up, lived and worked, and raised their children. They wondered how they could be at home in another land. Some even wondered whether God could be worshiped there. In the middle of these losses, God spoke through Isaiah to assure the people of God’s presence.

You, too, have been pulled away from loved ones and familiar routines. You may wonder where God is or whether you can even worship God in these circumstances.

Isaiah’s words are for you too. Even in unfamiliar places, God is at hand. Even in the disruption of daily routines, God is nearby. Even in the terrible losses, God is as close to you as a mother who holds her little child.

Dear God, thank you for holding me in your heart. When I am hurt and grieving, comfort me.

When I feel lost, keep me close. Amen.

***If you are looking for devotion materials, we have Christ in Our Home, Word in Season, New Every Day, and SPARK FAMILY Kid’s in God’s Word in the rack. Check them out!**



Friendship Club meetings in June and July are cancelled. Thank you.

FUN page

Bible Quiz

Many of us are at home spending lots of time with family. Here are Bible quizzes for your family to try. Answers are in the next page. Enjoy! *Source: SPARK House "Bible Bingo"*

1. Who trusted God to help him defeat Goliath? (📖 1 Samuel 17:1-55)
2. Who were the first people to take care of creation? (📖 Genesis 2:7-8, 22)
3. How many disciples did Jesus choose and also named them apostles?
(📖 Luke 6:12-16)
4. How many total people went on the ark? (📖 Genesis 7:13)
5. What gifts did the wise men bring baby Jesus? (📖 Matthew 2: 11)
6. What did the fishermen Simon and Andrew leave to follow Jesus?
(📖 Matthew 4:18-20)
7. Who told the Israelites God's rules to teach us how to get along with God and each other? (📖 Exodus 20:1-21)
8. What kind of animals do shepherds take care of? (📖 John 10:1-16)
9. Who was an apostle who wrote letters to Christians in Rome and cities all around the Mediterranean Sea? (📖 Romans 1:1-7)
10. What is the special name for the day of rest? (📖 Exodus 20:8-11)

How did you do with the Bible Quiz? If you have any suggestions or ideas for the newsletter, please share with us (e-mail: GoodShepherdLena@outlook.com or gslpastor@outlook.com (pastor Miho) or call the church at 815-369-5552.) Thank you.



Happy Birthday God's Church

It's PENTECOST! 50 days after Easter is called Pentecost when Jesus' promised Holy Spirit came down to people. Pentecost is called the birthday of the church because the Holy Spirit came to the disciples, helping them share God's story with people in many different languages.

We all have different gifts, but not the kind wrapped up at a birthday party. Gifts are things we can do to share God's story. The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to each person. Let's read Acts 2:1-21 with you family and talk about ways you'd like to share God's story.

Source: [Kid's Celebrate](#), children's bulletin in Sundays and Seasons

Finding Five

When pent, penta, or pente starts a word, it means five. See if you can match up these pent- words with their meanings.

Pentecost

The first 5 books of the Bible

Pentagon

An athletic competition with 5 events

Pentathlon

A musical scale with 5 notes

Pentateuch

A shape with 5 sides

Pentatonic

The day that happens 50 days after Easter

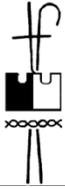
Source: [Reader](#), Children's bulletin in Sundays and Seasons



☺Thank you, God for being with us wherever we go. Amen

Bible Quiz Answers

1. David
2. Adam and Eve
3. 12
4. 8 (Noah, his wife, their 3 sons, and their sons' wives)
5. gold, frankincense, and myrrh
6. Net
7. Moses
8. Sheep
9. Paul
10. Sabbath day



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*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.*

Luther's Evening Blessing

In the evening, when you go to bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say:

"God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then, kneeling or standing, say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer as well:

"I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

Then you are to go to sleep quickly and cheerfully.

Source: Small Catechism of Martin Luther ELW page 1167