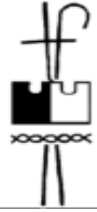


June 2021 Newsletter



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 E. Mason, Lena, IL 61048 Phone # (815) 369-5552

Shepherd's Voice

[Jesus] also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. Mark 4:26-28

Dear God's beloved,

Summer must be on its way. Grasses are green. Flowers are blooming. Hummingbirds are in our back yard. And children and school staff are completing the school year. It feels just yesterday, when I had layers of clothes, with wool coat and boots. All of a sudden warmer weather appeared! How did that happen? (Of course I like it. This is a lovely surprise from God every year!)

Sometimes things just happen. Like summer weather and encountering deer on the road sometimes things just happen regardless of what we do. And I find comfort in it. Five years ago, my hometown was hit by huge earthquake. It was an unprecedented earthquake (the bigger quake happened two days after the first one), and it just happened in the middle of the night. There were people who tried to find explanations on it. Some people claimed that it was because of active faults in the island (but it still does not explain why it happened in my hometown in that timing. There are plenty of active faults in all over the world.) Some people claimed that it was because Japan was godless country (sorry but whoever said this did not know about religion in Japan.) In my view none of such explanations could really have helped. But to me earthquakes just happened. It just happened.

Sometimes or many times we, human beings, like to have explanations. Maybe explanations help us not to repeat the same mistakes or maybe good analysis is help us to do it better for the next time. I am a big fun of feedbacks and analysis so that I can improve and do better. However, sometimes things just happen regardless of our intentions and efforts. One day our legs give up, and we may fall with no reason. The seeds germinate without any reasons. Cats can disappear one day and come home three months later with no reason. Children grow during summer with no specific reason, and I do not recognize them when I see them in Fall. Gray hair appears one day with no reason (though you may still want to blame your family members for each gray hair). Sometimes things just happen, and that is OK.

Jesus told a parable that a person scattered the seed in the field, and the person had no idea how they grew. It just happened. The seed just germinated, sprouted, and grew. No reasons, and that is OK. Sometimes things just happen. So when you take a walk, or take a ride, or look outside the window, please remember that sometimes things just happen, and that is OK. Flowers bloom. Corn grows. Just breathe God's grace, and we may go on for another day.

God be with you this summer.
Pr Miho

Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center



*Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center. This is a new ministry to share the love of Christ to the residents in the nursing home. **We are responsible for 10 cards each month.** If you would like to help with this ministry, just bring cards to church **by the 10th of each month.** Please sign and include short encouraging words. Our hope is to make them smile! Questions? Contact the church office or Pr. Miho.*



Ellen Kyles Memorial Service

Please join us for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Ellen Kyles. We will gather together on June 26th at 12:30pm at Coach's Golf & Grill 623 Robin Ct. Lena, IL. to remember our wonderful mother and friend who will be greatly missed.

Please bring your fondest memories of Ellen to share with family and friends.

Please RSVP to Deb Solace at 815-369-2845 or via email debsolace@hotmail.com.

Worship News

We give thanks to GS family for your prayers and support this past year.

During summer we will gradually add elements in worship. .

-Children's message will be added starting June.

-We will start having communion in 1st and 3rd Sundays starting in June.

-We will add part of liturgies (ELW Setting 10) each month.

By Fall we are hoping to return to pre-COVID worship service. Situations are constantly changing, so please keep eye on updates regarding worship. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.



NEW

Bible Study Group

Would you like to get together and talk about stories

in the Bible? If so, come and join our new Bible Study group! We will meet on **Tuesdays at 10am at church**. We will start on **June 22nd**. No experience necessary! Just show up! And if you'd like, bring your Bible. Questions? Contact the church office.

If you are interested in reading Sunday message, please feel free to contact the church office or Pr Miho for a copy.

Join a Book Group With other Good Shepherd members



Do you like to read? Do you like to meet new people? Do you like to learn about history of Christianity? You may join a book group!

We meet on Wednesday 3pm-4pm via zoom. We read one chapter from The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation by Justo L. Gonzalez. You have not missed much. We are still in 3rd century. All are welcome to join anytime. We are very casual group. If you are interested, contact the church office for the zoom link. Just try it out!

*This is a part of John 10: 16 ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Pearl River, NY.

Highlights from April 8th Church Council Meeting

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the March 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed. The minutes of the Special Council Meetings were reviewed.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Andrews reported that he is moving the \$10,000. from the Endowment Fund to replenish the Revolving Account.

Heating: \$726.86

Electric: \$179.26

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported that since the last Council Meeting she had preformed funeral services for Helen Cross and Delbert Scheider. Smile cards are still be done for the Lena Living Center.

Committee Reports:

- **Worship and Music:** The Lena Park District sent a letter asking the Church if they were booking a park for a summer picnic. The questions of if the picnic could be scheduled for later in the year.
- **Learning Committee:** Kristy Patterson reported that for Easter a sidewalk art project was completed around the Church and that artificial flowers were put out. These will be replaced later with live flowers. Confirmation Classes have started. The Committee is looking for projects for the summer months.
- **Service Committee:** Good Shepherd is to help with the Food Pantry on April 24.
- **Scholarship Committee:** Applications for the Good Shepherd Scholarship are now available at the Church Office. Kayla Runkle and Krista Keen have completed their requirements for their scholarships. Treasurer Jay Andrews has disbursed funds to the recipients.
- **Men's Ministry:** The Men's Group attended the Easter Sunrise Service and sang an anthem.

Old Business: Pastor Miho Yasukawa reported that she, Karen Neimeier and Virgil Gordon were working on updating the Church constitution in order to get in in closer alignment with the Synod Constitution. This will be a long process and pastor will keep the Church Council up to date as to the progress of the revisions.

New Business: Duties of a Church Council Member as per the Church Constitution were read by President Wayne Kurth. This gave all the Council Members an idea of what there duties on the Church Council entail. Wayne Kurth and Tim Gordon reported on several items for the Property Committee. The Committee is recommending to open a fund for Organ Repair. They suggested that the entire organ repair be done all at one time to save money on extra service calls that would be incurred if things are done separately. The Committee also recommends replacing the laptop computer. They are also checking into a digital camera that would work with the laptop to record services. The committee is also looking into gutter guards. They are checking on cost.

Committee assignments were discussed. Anna Patterson for Learning Committee and Janis Kurth for Memorial and Worship and Music Committee. Others will decide next meeting.

Pastor Miho Yasukawa requested a vacation day for Sunday, April 25, 2021. she will be receiving her second Covid vaccinations and is worried about possible side affect.

Treasurer Jay Andrews will be paying the Food Pantry payment of \$600 for rent.

Pastor Miho was asked to comment on what she thought her strengths and weaknesses were and if she liked her work in Lena. Discussion followed ending with that she is very happy in Lena.

Discussion was brought up on the AED and CPR training. Wayne Kurth will contact Louise Lameyer on how this could work with Covid restrictions.

Next Meeting will be held on May 13, 2021 at 6:30pm

Submitted by Janis Kurth

Secretary of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

June Birthdays

06/02 Aaron Smith
 06/03 Jay Andrews
 06/06 Kevin Huttenlocher
 06/06 Madlyn Diddens
 06/06 Jerry Cross
 06/09 Sarah Andrews
 06/10 Sue Holtz
 06/10 Tommy Baldauf
 06/10 Jase Baldauf
 06/13 Richard Rutter
 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

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



Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee met on May 2, 2021 at 10:30am in Fellowship Hall. Present were Karen Niemeier, Shirley Fox, Coralyn Hudik and Marybeth Brinker

The committee accepted applications from Ashtyn Brinker and Hanna Brinker. An application from Jessica Koning was denied because she is not a participating member of Good Shepherd, as criteria requires. Marybeth sent a letter to inform Jessica of the situation.

Ashtyn and Hanna will each receive \$1000 scholarship award upon successful completion of their first semesters in college.

Respectfully submitted,
Marybeth Brinker
Chairperson

A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Are you looking for something to do on Saturday morning? Come and join us for planting flowers at church. Just show up on **June 5th (Saturday) 9am-noon.**

Thanks to generous donation of potting soil from Lena Milling for this project.

We are looking for your favorite hymns for worship in summer.

Please submit your favorite hymns to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Name (optional): _____

Favorite Hymn: _____

Tell us why it is your favorite _____

We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B., Larry Hunkle, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Deb Lindeman Harder, Paul Heller, Dave Heinkel, Cindy Tessendorf, Janet, Rysz Stone, Harry Perra Jr, Nicole, Meghan, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Susan Andersen, Chuck, Joyce, Marcia, Deb, Mary, Gerbod, Terri, Tina, Julie, J.T., Jamie, Penny Day, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, the Anthony Nelson family, Jim DeMontigny, Richard Gordon, Kirk, Bonnie W., David Gray, Donny Fox, and Kyle. Pray for love, peace, comfort, and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Gene Hesselbacher, Norma Jean Parkinson, and Brad Moore

Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call the Church Office to submit your request at 815-369-5552. We are also looking for anyone who would like to join the prayer chain. We send prayer through phone chain and e-mail. You pray individually and pass it on to the next person in the prayer chain. God hears our prayers. If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

We are looking for volunteers at the Le-Win Food Pantry from 8:20am-11:30am

Our next volunteer date: June 26th.

We usually need 2 adults and 2 youth volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering at Food Pantry, here are upcoming dates for 2021: August 28th, October 23rd, and December 25th.



TYLER'S
JUSTICE CENTER
FOR CHILDREN

TEEING OFF FOR TYLER'S GOLF OUTING

Saturday, June 19th

Woodbine Bend Golf Course
3500 East Center Road
Stockton, IL 61085

Registration at 8:00am—Shotgun Start 9:00am—Cost \$75.00 per person

- Scramble format (4-player teams) includes 18 holes, cart rental, and lunch
- Cash prizes for top teams
- Hole prizes
- Games
- Silent Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Drink Cart
- Rapped with Smoke BBQ Food Truck

To register visit: www.tylersjusticecenter.org or call 815-947-6030



Remember, your not completely dressed until you put a smile on your face.

Members & Friends of
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Property Committee and Church Council is seeking your help. The church organ is in need of repair. The total project is to repair lift pneumatics (part of the key board), replace the blower, and the rectifier.

This will result in a total cost of \$11,500. These repairs could be done in stages, but the Property Committee and Council recognizes that this would add to the overall cost due to added service calls to accomplish these repairs.

The Council has decided to open an "Organ Repair Fund" for anyone to contribute to the cost of repairing the organ. All monies directed to this fund will go only to repairing the organ.

If you wish to make a donation please put it in the offering plate Sunday morning or to the Church office. Please write on the offering "Organ Repair Fund" so it is deposited properly.

The organ adds so much to our worship services making this an important project. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and donations to this important project.

God's Blessings,
Good Shepherd Property Committee
and Church Council

Treasurer's Report
Jay Andrews

Incoming April 2021	\$10,807.45
Expenses April 2021	\$13,810.69
Net Income (Loss)	\$(3,003.24)
Income, Year to Date 2021	\$44,288.66
Expenses, Year to Date 2021	\$49,218.29
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4,929.63)



equipping God's people for service

**Open Registration –
Dive In at Any Time!**

The diakonia™ Program is a two-year process of lay spiritual formation consisting of 12 courses, 6 per academic year. Each course is 5 sessions in length and meets weekly on Zoom for a 3 hour class. Assignments and reading relate directly to your life and ministry (within family, parish, neighborhood, and vocation), giving you a solid background of the topic. You work at your own level, and assignments reflect the understanding that students are already busy in their families, jobs, and parish. Typically, students average approximately 2 to 5 hours of studies per week in addition to class time. The goal of the diakonia program is to help you discover your God-given gifts, strengthen your faith and discern your purpose within your congregations, synods, and the church-wide body of Christ. Through the diakonia experience, you will gain a better understanding of theology and your relationship to God, helping you bear fruit as a light of Christ in your community and beyond. New courses begin every 5 weeks, and you can jump in at any time. Not sure, come to a few classes and see if diakonia is for you. For more information on the diakonia program, visit www.nisynod.org/diakonia or discuss it with your pastor.



Good Shepherd would like to thank *Lena Dental* for their generous donation of oral care products for Lutheran World Relief and their campaign for Personal Care Kits for families are driven from their homes due to disaster, conflict, poverty and more.

Thank
you 



This is an article from Gather May 2021 Issue, pages 26-29

Always a Child OF God

A conversation between a mom and a Pastor

By, Jane Schuchardt with Meredith Lovell Keseley

“You got this,” she whispered to me throughout the day of my beloved son’s funeral and burial. Ryan died by suicide, ending his near 20-year struggle with bipolar disorder. While our family lived in Northern Virginia, Pastor Meredith was always there for me, modeling how to be loving and supportive as this talented, caring and generous young man struggled daily to find wellness. When we moved across the country, she and I kept in touch. When we asked Pastor Meredith to be part of Ryan’s funeral service, she and her husband, an organist, made the 1,300-mile trek to rural northeast Nebraska in October 2019. Together with family and friends, we gloriously celebrated Ryan’s life, setting ourselves on a lifelong journey to honor his memory and find meaning in our own lives without him.

Through honest conversation here in Gather magazine, we strive to increase understanding about the all-too-common struggle parents experience when adult children shun formalized religion. We also give voice to the ravages of mental illness. For these reasons, we are sharing the following heartfelt conversation.

Jane: Ryan was baptized, confirmed and active in youth choir. Both my husband and I, as lifelong Christians, modeled what we understood it meant to be people of faith. As a college student, Ryan went to worship services when home, though his association with formalized religion subsided. What did we do wrong?

Pastor Meredith: Rest assured, this is a common scenario, I have this conversation regularly with parents whose children have been raised in the faith and-for whatever reason-choose not to practice that faith in adulthood.

The reason isn’t as important as these two things. First, you didn’t do anything wrong. You raised Ryan in the faith to the best of your abilities. As a church we have a long way to go in helping our young adults transition from growing up in the church and making Sunday school crafts to being adults who are equipped with a faith to sustain them for a lifetime.

Second, God’s desire and ability to be in relationship with Ryan was never dependent on Ryan’s desire and ability to be in relationship in return, just because Ryan didn’t exhibit an active relationship with God doesn’t mean that God wasn’t there every step of the way, reaching out, watching out and offering love.

Jane: Early in his 20’s, Ryan’s struggle with mental illness reared its ugly head. Establishing a career was challenging. Medicines dulled his affect and limited his concentration and motivation. Without medication, he experiences severe suicidal ideations and the inability to manage the highs and lows that define this complex mental illness. He sought help from highly regarded mental health professionals, but with limited success. When asked about church he reported frankly, “A loving God would not do this to me. The Lord’s Prayer says ‘thy will be done.’” was it God’s will to bring this horrible burden on my son?

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Pastor Meredith: Mental illness, cancer and all other human struggles are part of the brokenness of creation on this side of the kingdom of heaven. Ryan's mental illness wasn't God's will for Ryan. It wasn't a test that God was putting him-or you-through. We will never know why Ryan was ill. However, we can be certain that Ryan's pain and suffering were not God's will. We can also be equally certain that God was there in the midst of it every step of the way.

Jane: As years passed, the illness took and increasing hold. Ryan tried-he really tried-through difficulties with employment and social interaction worsened. The side effects of the prescription drug cocktail, like weight gain, lethargy, sleep deprivation, etc., were debilitating. Even though he sometimes rejected us, he knew he was truly loved by his family and friends.

Hospitalizations occurred about every four years, often associated with foiled suicide attempts. In spite of insistent prayer, there was no answer from God. I began to question my faith. If there really is a God, how could this be happening? He was high school valedictorian, graduated college with high honors, obtained a prestigious financial-analyst designation, studied and performed music and had so much potential. Where are you God?

Pastor Meredith: Get angry at God! Sometimes people are reluctant to do this, thinking it's disrespectful or a sign of doubt. God can handle our anger and welcomes it. God created us to be in authentic relationships with one another and with our God. I've never been in a relationship that mattered that didn't involve some anger. Anger shows that we care what the other person does and that we are invested in that relationship enough to fight for it. When we get angry with God instead of just walking away, we communicate that our relationship with God matters.

Keep asking questions, "Where are you, God?" Yell, scream, cry and demand answers. As you do, know that God isn't going anywhere. Your anger will never be too much for God. It will never push God away; it will only draw God closer to you. God is there in the midst of your questioning just as God was with Ryan in every moment of his questioning, too.

Jane: Fast-forward a couple of decades. Now retired from employment in Washington DC, my husband and I moved to the family farm in the heartland. Always doing everything we could to help our son, we suggested that he live in a second house on the farmstead. Mostly out of desperation, he agreed.

As with any young adult, Ryan wanted to blaze his own trail, be employed, find a girlfriend, maybe be a dad, enjoy life and be a contributing member of society. In addition to the ravages of the illness, each day he became more embarrassed that the successes enjoyed by others his age seemed beyond reach. My husband and I spent many hours with him, listening intently to his plans, few of which came to fruition.

Any relationship Ryan had with God was definitely strained and-though he never said so directly-maybe nonexistent. Then after a family weekend together, where he hugged and kissed us good night and said "I love you. See you tomorrow," I found him dead.

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Jane: The house was pristine with documents in order, including a heartfelt suicide note that read, in part: “Too much pain. Too much hopelessness. I’ll never get better...You have done everything you could to help me. No one loved me more than you...Please understand that this is something I had to do.” Did God reject him since he questioned Christianity?

Pastor Meredith: Absolutely not! Let me say that again for good measure. NO! God did not reject Ryan. God’s love for Ryan was never dependent on Ryan’s ability to love God in return. God loved Ryan just as much in his last breath as God loved him in his first.

God was there at every moment with Ryan, throughout his illness and in every one his earthly moments, reaching out, trying to get through with the message that Ryan was beloved. God’s voice, however, wasn’t the loudest voice in Ryan’s head that day he died by suicide. The mental illness became the loudest-and probably the only-voice in Ryan’s head.

God welcomed Ryan into the kingdom of heaven with open arms and God cried alongside you with every tear you shed in grief and heartbreak. God is big enough to be able to do both simultaneously. God is the parent who wanted everything for Ryan that you wanted, who shares in the anger and grief over the mental illness that took Ryan’s life, and who was there with arms surrounding him in the last moments of his life. As a person and a mother, you are made in the image of God, which-to me-means that all the motions you have experienced on this journey with Ryan are ones that God shared too.

Jane: The next days were a flurry of shock, sadness, expressions of sympathy and funeral planning. Does God heal through death? Were a Christian funeral and burial appropriate?

Pastor Meredith: God shows up in death-always! God has a track record of showing up in the midst of the ashes of our lives to bring healing, hope and new life. Did God want Ryan to die? No. Can God bring healing and hope out of Ryan’s death? Absolutely!

A Christian funeral and burial are appropriate for a baptized child of God. Ryan’s funeral offered us the chance to give thanks to God for giving Ryan to us to know and love. Through it, we celebrated who Ryan was on earth and who Ryan is in death-a beloved child of God, named and claimed in the waters of baptism and brought into eternal life through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Christian funerals and burials are about what God has done, not what we have done. A Christian funeral and burial were appropriated for Ryan and are appropriate for any baptized child of God whose family finds meaning and comfort through this ritual.

Jane: Now more than a year since Ryan’s death, what assurance do we have that he is in heaven? Will we ever see him again?

Pastor Meredith: At his baptism, God promised Ryan a place in the kingdom of heaven. There was nothing Ryan could do here on earth to change that. There was no earthly power or bodily illness that could change that. Ryan is absolutely-without a doubt-in heaven. Like everyone, he isn’t there by his own doing, but by God’s doing. Jesus’ crucifixion and death were just as much for Ryan as for you and me and the whole world. God’s got this! God’s got Ryan! There is no need to worry for even a moment about that.

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Pastor Meredith: Amid grief that feels overwhelming and questions that some days seem endless, rest in this certainty: Ryan is in heaven. One day, you will be reunited with him in the kingdom of heaven, there is no brokenness. All are made whole. You will know Ryan not as he was in his illness, but as he was in his most joyful moments. Cling tightly to this promise in the midst of your journey through grief.

**WHEN YOU ARE SAD OR UPSET,
ALWAYS REMEMBER THESE POINTS**

- Pain is part of growing.
- Everything in life is temporary.
- Worrying and complaining changes nothing.
- Your scars are symbols of your strength.
- Every little struggle is a step forward.
- Other people's negativity is not your problem.
- What's meant to be will eventually be.
- The best thing you can do is keep going.

Source: averstu.com quotes

**Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-TALK**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
LifelineSuicidePreventionLifeline.org



Congratulations

Le-Win 2021 High School Graduates

Hanna and Ashtyn Brinker have graduated from Lena- Winslow High School.

Ashtyn will continue her education at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI, majoring in accounting. She would like to study abroad someday.

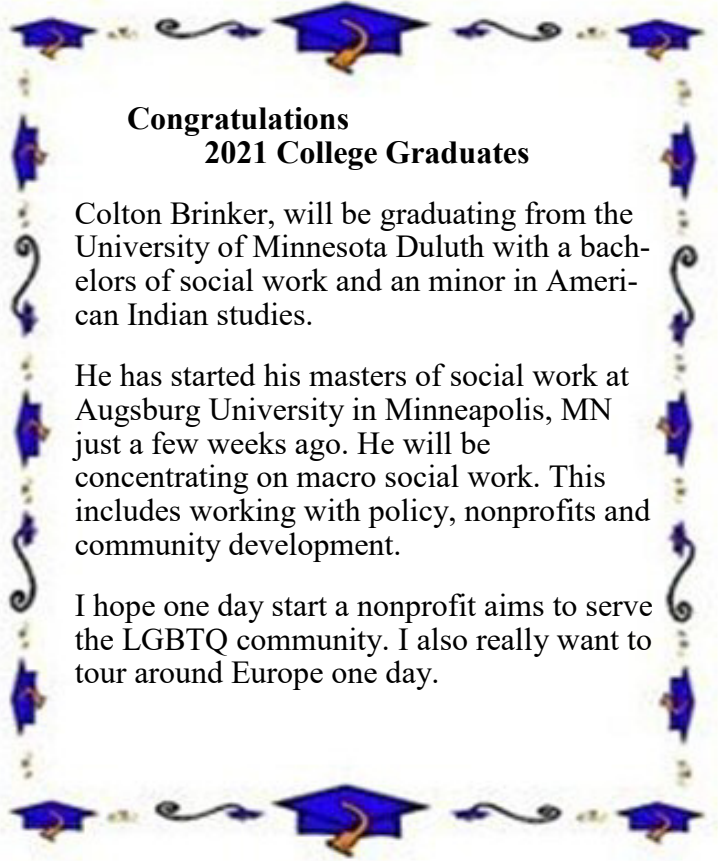
Hanna will continue her education at University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh to study Elementary Education. Traveling to Peru is on her bucket list.

**Congratulations
2021 College Graduates**

Colton Brinker, will be graduating from the University of Minnesota Duluth with a bachelors of social work and an minor in American Indian studies.

He has started his masters of social work at Augsburg University in Minneapolis, MN just a few weeks ago. He will be concentrating on macro social work. This includes working with policy, nonprofits and community development.

I hope one day start a nonprofit aims to serve the LGBTQ community. I also really want to tour around Europe one day.

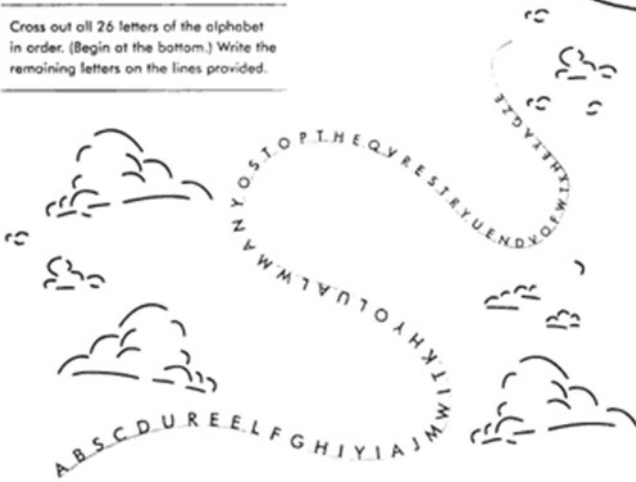


We are still actively seeking help at the Friendship Center. We are looking for help in the following positions: Substitute Bus Drivers and Van Drivers. We are also looking for Cooks Helpers. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining our team or have questions, please reach out to us at (815) 369-2690 and ask for Randy or Denise.

Jesus' Farewell

The Great Commission and Ascension
—Matthew 28; Acts 1

Cross out all 26 letters of the alphabet in order. (Begin at the bottom.) Write the remaining letters on the lines provided.



What was the last thing Jesus said to the disciples before He went into Heaven?

(Matthew 28:20)

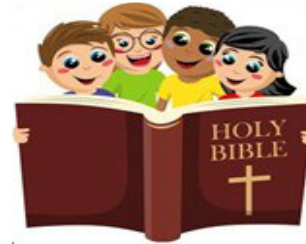
Used by permission: Bible Puzzles for Kids Ages 6-8, Cincinnati: Standard Publishing Group, © 2006



Fun Page Celebrate

Lessonary 13

 * DEAR GOD,
 *
 * Thank you for
 * loving us so much
 * that you gave us an
 * awesome creation
 * to enjoy!
 * Amen.



The Holy Trinity

R	S	N	H	I	R	E	H	T	E	G	O	T	I
I	R	N	N	O	C	T	P	G	A	G	L	I	M
I	E	I	N	C	A	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	M
E	S	E	N	A	A	F	R	E	A	T	T	E	O
H	U	E	R	I	E	B	T	S	R	E	A	J	R
O	R	E	S	D	O	G	I	I	T	L	H	E	T
L	E	E	O	D	E	E	A	B	L	S	O	N	A
Y	C	E	F	E	C	A	N	E	L	R	I	I	L
S	T	E	A	J	G	O	R	R	Y	E	D	I	I
P	I	S	T	E	U	N	E	N	O	I	I	T	R
I	O	N	H	S	L	B	O	R	F	H	V	I	S
R	N	T	E	U	R	P	E	R	T	I	I	G	O
I	R	U	R	S	B	B	N	B	T	I	N	B	E
T	E	L	R	B	E	L	I	E	F	S	E	E	L

- FATHER
- PRAISE
- IMMORTAL
- DIVINE
- HOLY SPIRIT
- INCARNATION
- STRONG
- RESURRECTION
- SON
- BELIEF
- TOGETHER
- GOD
- JESUS
- BIBLE

◆◆◆◆◆
 ◆ *GOD, when things are hard, help*
 ◆ *us to keep going and not give up!*
 ◆ *Amen.*
 ◆◆◆◆◆

Youth corner



Our youth are doing awesome!
Check church's Facebook page
to find them out!

Confirmation Class is going!

Confirmation class meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings. Youth and adults are learning something new every time. One of our favorite Bible characters is Thomas. Do you know Thomas? Do you know what he likes? Thomas likes trains! We are having fun. During summer we are planning to have more fun starting with picnic and fishing in June.

Thank you for praying for our youth!



For all high school Youth
Mark Your Calendar!

2022 ELCA
YOUTH GATHERING
boundless
GOD BEYOND MEASURE

July 24-28, 2022 @ Minneapolis, MN



Who is the dancer in the Bible?
Answer is Miriam. You will find her in Exodus 15:20-21.
In confirmation class we always learn something new!



Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Lettuce
Lettuce who?
Lettuce in. It's hot here!

Thank you to our children and youth for leading Good Shepherd Sunday worship on April 25th. You guys did an awesome job!



Fathers in the Bible

This father sets worthy examples to follow.

Scripture is filled with people we can learn much from. When it comes to the challenging vocation of fatherhood, several fathers in the Bible show what is wise to do and also what is not wise to do.

The most important father figure in the Bible is God the Father - the ultimate role model for all human dads. His love, kindness, patience, wisdom and protectiveness are impossible standards to live up to. Fortunately, he is also forgiving and understanding, answering fathers' prayers and giving them expert guidance so they can be the man their family wants them to be.

God the Father, the First Person of the Trinity, is the father and creator of all. Jesus his only Son, showed us a new intimate way of relating to him. When we see God as our heavenly Father, provider and protector it puts our lives in a whole new perspective. Every human father is also a son of his highest of God, the constant source of strength, wisdom and hope to Christians everywhere.

Lessons to Learn From God the Father

God is constant; he never changes. We can depend on Him.

God is faithful.

God is love.

Our heavenly father is an example for earthly fathers to emulate.

Source: Zavada, Jack. "9 Famous Fathers in the Bible."
Learn Religions, Feb. 8, 2021, learnreligions.com/fathers-in-the-bible-701219.

Friendship Club Announces 2021 Summer Gatherings

Entertainment by;

Deb Leininger will perform on Thursday, June 10th.

Thursday, July 8th, will bring Ruter Ministries to the park for your enjoyment.

On Thursday, August 12th, entertainment will be provided by Bobby Edler.

All gatherings will be at 1pm at Lena Lion's Park Shelter House.





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Martin Luther's Small Catechism

The Lord's Prayer

The Seventh Petition





And deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We ask in this prayer, as in a summary, that our Father in heaven may deliver us from all kinds of evil— affecting body or soul, property or reputation—and at last, when our final hour comes, may grant us a blessed end and take us by grace from this valley of tears to himself in heaven.

June 2021 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lena, IL



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Flower of the month, roses. 		1	2 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 11:30am-12:30pm Pr. Miho at PLC zoom meeting	3	4	5 <i>National Hot Air Balloon Day</i> <i>9:00am-12:00pm</i> <i>Planting flowers at church</i>
6 9:30am Worship Service	7	8	9 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	10 1:00pm Friendship Club at Lion's Park. Music by Deb Leininger	11	12
13 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation class and picnic	14 <i>Flag Day</i> 	15	16 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	17 6:30pm Council Meeting	18 6:30pm-9:30pm NIS zoom Synod assembly	19 8:30am-3:30pm NIS zoom Synod assembly
20 9:30am Worship Service 	21	22 10:00am Bible Study group	23 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	24 Full Moon called "Strawberry Moon" 	25	26 Good Shepherd at Lena Food Pantry
27 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am-11:30am Confirmation class	28	29 10:00am Bible Study group	30 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters			

June postcard prayers and blessings

If you would like to send this postcard to your neighbors or friends, come and pick them up at church.

Land Mowers Prayer

I thank Jesus, everyday, for this beautiful lawn you have helped me create.



Peace of Christ be with you!

Prayer at outside



*Peace of Christ be with you!
God bless you this week!*

For flowers that bloom about our feet.
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet.
For song of bird, and hum of bee.
For all things fair we hear or see.
Father in heaven, we thank thee!

Ralph Waldo Emerson

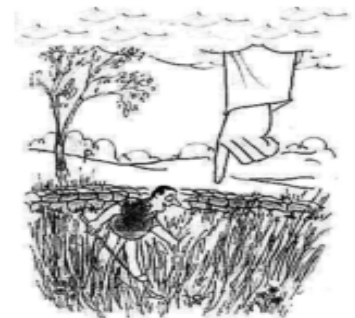
Blessing for fathers



A Fathers Day Blessing

*Blessed is the Father, who lets the Lord be his guiding hand.
Whose faith brings his family courage, whose wisdom comes from
God.
And whose children still stand and honor him.*

Blessing for Golfers



A Golfers Blessing

May your drives be long and straight,
May your putts be short and true, and
May there ever be a bit of green grass under every lie
Fr. Brian Cavanaugh

God bless you this week!