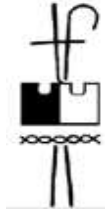


September 2021 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Shepherd's Voice



[Andrew said to Jesus] "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish." (John 6:9)

Dear God's beloved,

Summer seems to have passed the baton to Fall. Students are back to school in Lena, and the football and volleyball games will start soon. The Fall Festival is around the corner (Mark your calendar! It will be on September 10-11). Several people began mentioning the "f word" (frost). I am not keen on saying good bye to summer but I guess it's time to cherish summer memories. Did you have a good summer? What are your highlights from this summer? Some of my highlights of this summer were corn, tomatoes, beans, pop up lilies, zucchini, peppers, broccoli, hydrangea, and candies. All of them came from the hands of friends who generously shared from their gardens, their yards, and their candy jars. These were small gifts, but they brightened my day (especially on my blue, crabby days). They were signs of caring, love, and joy.

This summer we read John chapter 6 in worship. It was the story of feeding 5000 plus crowd with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread. This feeding story appears in all four gospels. (Thanks, Rene for pointing that out!) Each account tells unique details of the story. For instance, Matthew tells us about the presence of women and children at the feast, and John tells us that a boy shared 2 fish and 5 loaves of barley bread. I learned this year that barley bread was commoner's (or poor people's) bread. And Jesus made this humble offering into a joy feast. Once Jesus blessed these small gifts and handed them to the crowd, they became a sign of God's love. All who ate were satisfied and had 12 baskets of leftovers. They became abundant blessings of God.

Small gifts can change the lives of many. Offering a short extra drive to see the growing corn in the fields may brighten one's lonely day. Sharing sweet peaches with a friend brings joy. Delivering flowers from home makes shut-ins smile. God makes our small offerings into signs of abundant love of God. And we need God's abundant love in our society right now. As you may be aware, many people, young or old or in-between, are living with heavy burdens emotionally, economically, physically, and spiritually. Many are feeling overwhelmed and lonely. Mental illness is a serious concern. God can use our small gifts to reach out to those who are struggling. As a church, we are going to collect items for the food pantry and school supplies at the Fall Festival hospitality tent. We may not be able to solve all the problems in society, but we can be the boy and his family in the story to share our joy and prayer to the folks through our meager gifts of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items and notebooks and crayons. With the blessings of Jesus they will become a sign of God's abundant love to the world.

Friends, thank you for being little Christ's in this broken world!
Pr. Miho



With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Piece Corps

"Sometimes it takes only one act of kindness and caring to change a person's life."

Jackie Chan

*The Piece Corps would like to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to The Holy Cross Catholic Church of Stockton for taking our quilts to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Your kindness is much appreciated and will help keep our friends at the reservation warm during the cold months ahead.*



Friendship Center

We are still actively seeking help at the Friendship Center. We are looking for help in the following positions: R·N,'s, C·N·A's Part time C·N·A's 2 days per week, about 4hrs per day. We are also in need of Bus Drivers, Van Drivers, Bus Aides, Cooks and Cook 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. Be sure to check out their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/friendshipcenterlena> or their web site,



All are invited to our

Annual Wine and Cheese Evening

Saturday, September 26th at 6:00pm at Donna Gullickson's home.

Please bring your favorite wine, pop or lemonade as well as some cheese or other finger foods. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the evening.



Worship Volunteers needed

We are updating our list of those who can help with Sunday worship.

The Church Council has decided that instead of having separate ushers for greeters and communion, that the Worship Ushers could assist with communion as well as be greeters, the Lector and Worship Assistant could be the same person. Live Stream operation will be one person, Power point operator will be one person, and the Elevator Operator can be done by one person above the age of 18. This will require 6 volunteers weekly. We will help you learn how to do each task.

If you are available to help, contact the church office with the your name, phone number and the area you are willing to volunteer. There is also a sign up sheet on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you very much. We appreciate all your help!



Highlights from July 15th Church Council Meeting

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the July 15th, 2021 Church Council Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jay reported that he had been in contact with the bank about the Payroll Protection Program Loan. We have the money as of last month, he is now checking what is needed next to get the loan forgiven. Jay is keeping in close contact with the bank to get this done at the appropriate time. Jay will keep the Council updated on this progress.

Heating: \$464.03 Electric: \$134.55

A question was asked if the heating bill was a little high yet? Jay noted that the last billing period paid was from April 8 to May 7. Wayne Kurth noted that the boilers were not shut off until last May and that is why the bill still seems to be so large. Jay also reported that the budget is running \$3000.00 behind needed funds.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported that she had officiated at the wedding of Brianna Andrews and Demetrio Velazco. It was a good service. Pastor reported that she received an email from the ELCA Open Door Grant. We did not get the grant, however they offered a \$50.00 honorarium when a survey is completed later this year. She also noted that the Lena Drug Store donated 36 nail clippers for the LWR Persona Care Kits. We still need 19 soaps and 18 combs. Under Event/Activities and Children/Youth in Pastor's report a couple of dates were questioned. After looking them over it was determined that they were the wrong dates and corrected. Kristy Patterson moved to accept the Pastor's Report with corrections. Coralyn Hudik seconded the motion. Pastor has contacted Pastor Karen Tews of Prince of Peace to take care of any Pastoral calls during her vacation of July 27 to 30, 2021.

Committee Reports:

- **Stewardship Committee:** Coralyn Hudik reported that there will be a gathering at her farm west of Lena for July 25, 2021 for a fellowship time of the group "Never to Young". She also noted there will be other activities coming up in the future.
- **Learning and Youth Committee:** Kristy Patterson noted that Confirmation was going well. The group had a trip out to the Lena Drive Inn the other Sunday. A good time was had by all.
- **Service Committee:** Good Shepherd was at the Lena Food Pantry on June 26, 2021. Workers are needed for the Food Pantry on August 28.
- **Finance Committee:** Committee Chair, Way Kurth reported that the Finance Committee is looking to have a meeting in mid September. Date to be set later.
- **Property Committee:** Committee Chair, Tim Gordon reported that the Property Committee will be meeting on Monday evening, July 26, 2021.
- **Men's Group:** Troy Doubler noted that the Men's Group will be singing during Worship Service on July 18, 2021 and that they would be serving ice cream sundaes and root beer floats during Fellowship Hour. On August 15th, the Men's Group will be hosting a cook out and in October they will have their steak fry.

All Committee Reports were approved.

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

Highlights from July 15th Church Council Meeting

Old Business

- **Worship Volunteers:** There are signs up sheets on the bulletin board by the ramp. Troy and Wayne will be out of town on Sunday, August 8th. Tim Gordon and Jon Kurth volunteered to run the sound system and power point that Sunday.

New Business:

- **God's Work Our Hands:** Troy Doubler addressed the Council about participating in God's Work Our Hands project. He showed a video from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on God's Work Our Hands Ministry. Some ideas for God's Work Our Hands include helping at the Lena Cemetery, someone has asked to have their gutters cleaned, getting the Youth involved doing possible sidewalk art and possible other projects. There is a need of at least 18 volunteers to make this work. There will be sack lunches provided for the workers. There will also be consideration of what Covid restriction will be at that time. The date is under consideration at this time and whether it will be a two day project or not. Troy will be putting up a sign up sheet by the ramp soon.
- **Fall Festival:** We will again have a booth at the Fall Festival this year. More details to come.
Next Meeting: August 19, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary



Family Fun Day!

Date: Saturday, September 4, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Location: Citizen's Bank Parking Lot

Please join us for a fun afternoon

**Face Painting! Giant Jenga! Spin the Wheel! Pick a Duck!
Labyrinth! Bicycle tune-up 101! Chalk Art! And more.**

Rain date: Monday, September 6, 2021, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm



Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.—Mark Twain

We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B., Rene Johnson, Nina Muller, Curt, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Deb Lindeman Harder, Paul Heller, Dave Heinkel, Cindy Tessoroff, Janet, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr, Nicole, Meghan, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, J.T., Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Jim DeMontigny, Richard Gordon, Bonnie W, David Gray, Kay, Sue, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jonathan, Cindy, Amber, Chris, Ron, and Vicki. Pray for love, peace, comfort, and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Nancy O'Leary, Julie Sweeney, Bill Homes and Jean Galway.

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.

Join a Book Group With other Good Shepherd members

Do you like history? Do you like to meet new people? Are you interested in how the Christianity developed? You may try this 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 finally getting to the 5th century. All are welcome to join anytime. We are a very casual group. If you are interested, contact the church office for the zoom link.

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



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



*We need 1 adults and 2 youth volunteers for
the next GS volunteer date: October 23rd*

If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry. Sign-up sheet is located in hallway by Fellowship Hall or let the church office know.

Thank you for supporting the feeding ministry.



STILL PRAYING

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS
MEDITATIONS *for* LATER LIFE
Susan Carol Scott

Is This the Same Person?

Lord, I'm just a spring chicken. I'm only 81. But it's tough when I see things I used to do. I can't even try to do them now. In days gone by, I used to leap out of bed. Now, I ask instead "Am I the same person?" I wonder a lot about that.

-Daniel, age 81

Passage

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Mark 12:31

Perspective

Are we ever the same person as we were the day before? Likely not. Philadelphia's Franklin Institute once featured a facial time travel exhibit. While looking into the viewer at an image of your face, you turned a dial to watch your face progressively age on a TV screen. It was quite a time-trip!

How ever-changing is our body image across the age spectrum from birth to death's door! Such changes are often so gradual that we're slow to appreciate them from inside our own skin. But we are sure to take notice when our body or brain no longer serves our will as it once did.

As we adjust to changes in our appearance, physical abilities and mental capacity, we may also undergo an attitude adjustment. When younger and more able-bodied, it was easier to emotionally and physically distance ourselves from the aged or physically challenged. But in time, we may become the one who trips, falls, breaks a bone, and cries out, "How could this have happened?"

These unwelcome calamities collapse the distance between "us" and "them." In accepting a more vulnerable self-images, our empathy grows for those we once identified as "them." "Them" becomes "us," and at once our heart goes out to others and to ourselves.

Practice

How have your own troubles sensitized you toward the troubles of others? Put that sensitivity to use by reaching out to someone you once avoided due to his or her infirmities

Prayer

*God of my ever-changing life, teach me to love myself just as I am,
so I might love others just as they are.*

Source: Upper Room Books, Nashville



Daily Bread

Moses said to them, "it is the bread that Lord has given to you to eat."

Exodus 16:15

God's people were wandering in the desert without any means to sustain themselves. They did not have homes, gardens, farmlands, or food. So God sent them manna. Every morning they awoke to find a flaky substance on the ground around their tents-enough for the day. At first they didn't know what it was, so they asked their leader. Moses told them it was bread that God had given them. God provided what they needed-bread to eat.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer 'Give us this daily bread,' this story may come to mind. Our prayer for daily bread is a statement of faith: God will meet our needs. Each morning is an exercise in trust: when I wake, I will discover that God has given me all I require for today. Each evening is an exercise in the same kind of faith: when I wake in the morning, everything I need will be there. I need not worry. God provides the bread-an all else-that I need.

Source: Christ in our Home, Jan. Feb. Mar.



God's Work Our Hands
Sunday, September 26th, 2021 Sign up now!

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"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

JOIN US
for a
day of service

Treasurer's Report

Jay Andrews

Incoming July 2021	\$6,134.09
Expenses July 2021	\$9,909.67
Net Income (Loss)	(\$3,775.58)
Income, Year to Date 2021	\$72,446.81
Expenses, Year to Date 2021	\$79,169.29
Net Income (Loss)	\$(6,722.48)

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.

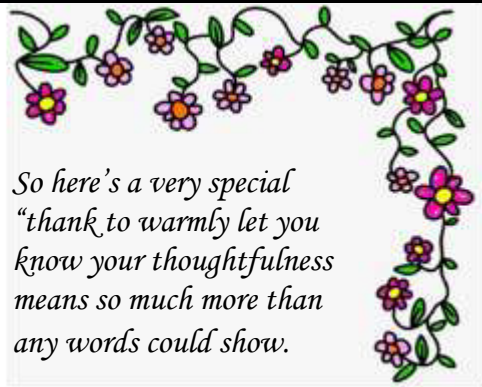
God's Blessings,

Good Shepherd Property Committee and Church Council



Bible Study Group

Come and join our new Bible Study group! This group is for anyone who is curious about the stories in the Bible. We will meet on **Tuesdays at 10am at church**. And if you'd like, bring your Bible. We are reading from the first book of the Bible—Genesis. If you have questions, just contact the church office. Hope to see you!



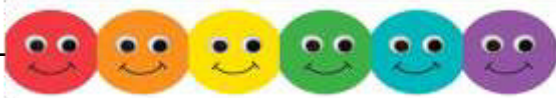
So here's a very special "thank to warmly let you know your thoughtfulness means so much more than any words could show.

Thank you so much for the beautiful carnations. They lasted a long time.

*Blessings to you.
Love
Fern Harnish*

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.



Fall Leaves

Red, yellow, orange, brown-
Leaves are falling all around.

See them dance
In the cool, fall air.

Rake them and pile them
And bag them with care.



*Giving Thanks
~ for the ~
blessings of you.*

Thank you so very much for the day brightener with RED ROSES! What a nice surprise! They were so beautiful. Thanks for thinking of us.

Paul and Beth Fahr



The best and **most beautiful things** in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be **felt with the heart.**

- Helen Keller

September Birthdays



09-01 Tim Tessendorf
09-01 Marcy Schwartz
09-02 Marilyn Hardel
09-03 Joshua Proehl
09-04 Colton Brinker
09-09 Elizabeth Reed
09-09 Cynthia Boeke
09-10 Brianna Andrews
09-11 Nina Mueller
09-11 Michael Geiseman
09-14 Eric Runkle
09-15 Jennifer Huneke
09-16 Duane Fox
09-17 Alexis Martin
09-21 Sydney Fox
09-24 Sally Huber
09-27 Andrew Martin
09-28 Makenzie Meier
09-30 Cody Shumaker
09-30 Ryan Huttenlocher
09-30 Grayson Albright

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

Presence and Peace

Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." John 20:26

Doubting God's presence is part of the process of faith. When Thomas, one of the disciples, doubted Jesus gave him the assurance he needed. The evening after Jesus had risen from the dead, he appeared to some disciples who were gathered behind closed doors. They were afraid, grieving, and hiding; two days earlier, they had witnessed Jesus' death. Because Thomas was not with them that night, when others told him about Jesus' appearance, he did not believe them, saying that he would need to see for himself. A week later, Jesus appeared again, and Thomas saw the risen Lord with his own eyes.

Like Thomas, you may feel doubtful about Christ's presence. The loss of home, friends, or family may make it difficult to see through your pain and recognize Christ standing in the middle of it. Yet, Jesus comes to you as he did to the first disciples. Through doors that have been closed by heartache, loss, and fear, he comes to stand with you. He steps through grief and anxiety to bring you peace.

*Lord Jesus, help me believe that you are with me and trust in your word of peace.
Amen.*

Source: New Every Day, Forty Devotions for Disaster Survivors,
Revised © ELCA, 2007

Lena Fall Festival

Friday, September 10th and Saturday, September 11th.

Our Hospitality Tent will be open Friday evening and Saturday after the parade. Stop by the Good Shepherd Fall Hospitality Tent this year, we will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items for the Le-Win Food Pantry and school supplies for the area students. A volunteer sign-up sheet for the Hospitality Tent will be posted on the board by Fellowship Hall.

Fun Page

Knock,
Knock



Who's There?
A broken pencil.
A broken pencil who?
Never mind, it's
pointless.



The Beginning

Do you know how the world began? Use the graph to find out. Each column has a number and each row has a letter. Use the number and the letter combination to solve this puzzle. (Example 5C = G) Read the story in Genesis 1:1—2:3.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	A	L	T	H	D	W	I	C
B	T	E	O	G	Y	H	W	I
C	L	T	S	A	G	A	T	H
D	O	R	G	I	E	L	A	N
E	I	S	H	E	M	R	D	P

- 5C 3B 7E 8A 2D 4E 1A 7C 2B 5A 4C 6D 1C
- 3A 6B 1E 8D 4B 3C 6A 4D 1B 3E 4A 8B 2E
- 6C 2A 5E 7A 3D 8C 2C 5B 8E 1D 7B 5D 6E

Answers from fill in the blanks.
1. loved 2. whoever 3. Eternal 4. send 5. save

Dear God

Thank you for my home and
for my entire family, thank you for
the love you give to each one of us so
we can share it with others, and help
us to live a happy life.

Amen

Answers for jokes from previous page
1. Pencil-vania
2. Supplies
3. In the kinder-garden.

Act of Love



O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured.
Amen

Youth Corner

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

1. Where do school supplies spend their summer vacation?
Source : Pockets Magazine 2018

2. What did the janitor say when he jumped out of the closet?
Source : Pockets Magazine 2018

3. What's the best place to grow flowers in school?
Source : Pockets Magazine 2017

The End

by Evie Curry, 9, Connecticut

Summer was so fun this year.

I wish the end was not here.

School is already back in session,

And I have to make a confession;

It really is such a bummer

When we have to wave goodbye to summer!

Source : Pockets Magazine 2018



Answers on next page.

Father God

Come and be with us today.

Fill our hearts with joy.

Fill our minds with learning.

Fill our classrooms with peace.

Fill our lessons with fun.

Fill our friendships with kindness.

Fill our school with love. Amen.

School Starts Soon—so much to do!

My pants are too short! Guess I grew.
My shirts are too tight! My shoes have holes.
My toes poke out above the soles.



I need some glue—squeeze of stick?
Box of markers, thin or thick?
Rulers, folders, colored pencils,
Paper, notebooks, maybe stencils?

My backpack's stuffed and so's my head.
I'm wide awake. I toss in bed.
Worries tumble around my brain,
They won't be still—drive me insane.



Recheck my list; I've got it all.
Picked out my clothes—just right for fall.
I made my lunch, set out my shoes,
Set my alarm with time to snooze.

I check the date. I wail! I shriek!
'Cause school won't start until next week!

Source : Pockets Magazine 2017

Fill in the blanks.





¹⁶For God so (1) _____ the world that he gave his one and only Son, that (2) _____ believes in him shall not perish but have (3) _____ life. ¹⁷For God did not (4) _____ his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to (5) _____ the world through him.

John 3:16-17



September 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00 am Pr. Miho at Rostered Ministers zoom meeting	2	3	4 1:00 pm-4:00 pm Family Fun Day at Citizens Bank Parking Lot
5 9:30 am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Choir practice 5:00 pm Chime practice	6 1:30 pm Fall Festival Float work day "Office Closed" Labor Day	7 10:00 am Bible Study Group	8 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	9 1:00 pm Friendship Club entertainment by Glenda Linneman	10 11 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;">Lena Fall Festival GS-Hospitality Tent Friday Night and Saturday Afternoon. GSLC Float in Parade on Saturday</div>	
12 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 1030 am Confirmation Class 11:00 am Choir practice 5:00 pm Chime practice	13 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting	14 10:00 am Bible Study Group	15 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00 am Pr. Miho at Rostered Ministers zoom meeting	16 6:30 pm Council Meeting	17	18 10:00 am-12 noon NIS Women of ELCA Zoom Convention
19 9:30 am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Choir practice 5:00 pm Chime practice	20 Full Moon  Pr. Miho at Professional Leaders Conference	21 10:00 am Bible Study Group	22 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters First Day of Autumn	23 	24	25 4:30 pm Men's Group 6:00 pm Annual Wine and Cheese evening at Donna Gullickson's home.
26 9:30 am God's Work. Our Hands Sunday 11:00 am Choir practice 5:00 pm Chime practice	27	28 10:00 am Bible Study Group	29 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters	30 		



*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,
for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*

Mark 10:14



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Email: goodshepherdlena@outlook.com
Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"
Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org

Martin Luther's Small Catechism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What gifts or benefits does baptism grant?

It brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the words and promise of God declare.

What are these words and promise of God?

Where our Lord Christ says in Mark 16, "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned."