

November 2021 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Shepherd's Voice

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure lives in you. 2 Timothy 1:5

Dear God's beloved,

Do you like stories? Fiction or non-fiction, stories are fun. Since my childhood I love to hear and read about life stories. (no wonder I majored in history in college.) Stories of people are fascinating. Lived experiences are full of adventures, dilemmas, humor, and life. I believe that stories speak directly to our hearts.

The author of the Second Letter to Timothy reminds us of the power of stories of faith. Timothy was a third generation Christ follower. His grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice shared their faith, and their faith stories had been witnessed in the life of Timothy, a co-worker of the Apostle Paul. We do not know much about Lois and Eunice (their names only appear in 2 Timothy), but the way Timothy was living reflected the faith of his grandma and mom. The faith of Lois and Eunice impacted Timothy and his life.

Last year while trying to find a way to survive in the wake of global pandemic, stories of the faith of God's people helped me to stay alive. Especially Marion and Ellen's stories made me laugh and breathe in such stressful days. Their comical wisdom in their faith stories gave me strength to trust in God. I am thankful for Paul and Beth for offering permission to share Marion's faith statement in this newsletter, (Thank you!) and I hope her trust in God will inspire us to go another day.

Marion wrote:

God created us. God saves us. God promises those who believe that gift of life eternal. He does not promise that our life will be easy, comfortable and free of pain. He does not promise us "a rose garden." God doesn't promise an easy journey, just a safe landing.

What I believe:

God created us and loves us very much. He gave us freedom to choose the course of our lives and wishes us nothing but the best. To guide us in our lives, He has sent us His Son, Jesus, who came to show us how to live holy lives and how to die, trusting in God's never ending love and concern. God has provided many saints and angels along the way to help us and His spirit is constantly prodding us to holy living in ways we can't fathom or imagine. *Praise be to God!*

May the Lord be with your spirit.
Grace be with you!
Pr. Miho.

Martin Luther Quotes; On Faith

"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."

Source; www.relevantmagazine.com

Highlights from September Council Meetings

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report from August 19th was reviewed. A couple of corrections were made. Secretary's Report was approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Andrews reported that there was only \$1000. left in the Revolving Cash Fund. He is suggesting that Committee Chairpersons monitor their spending closely. Jay also suggested the use of the Enduring Gift Fund interest, Memorial monies, and to make an appeal to the congregation.

Gas: \$243.87 Electric: \$187.57

Pastor's Report: Pastor Miho thanked everyone who helped with Fall Festival activities. The Quilt Raffle had four winners this year who were very pleased with their quilts. The Mobile Food Bank will be at St. John's on September 21.

Committee Reports:

- **Worship and Music Committee:** All Saints Sunday will be celebrated on November 7th, 2021 with the remembrance of all the saints from November 2019 to November 2021. Also, there will be only one Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm. A Christmas Day Service will be celebrated and a Blue Christmas Service will be on Sunday, December 26 during the regular Worship Service.
- **Learning and Youth Committee:** The Family Fun Day was well received with consideration of holding it again. The Confirmation Youth are being encouraged to help more with morning Worship Service.
- **Service Committee:** The committee found volunteers to help at the Lena Food Pantry. More volunteers are needed for the coming months.
- **Finance Committee:** The Finance Committee met on September 13, 2021. the primary discussion was regarding the current financial condition of Good Shepherd Church and how to move forward looking at 2000. it was determined that it will take approximately \$35,000 in income to pay the expenses for the remainder of 2021. following the current giving trends, the Committee anticipate to receive between \$15,000 and \$20,000. it was decided to extend an invitation to Rev. Denver Bitner to come and give some input from the Synod as to how Good Shepherd could continue into the future.
- **Property Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **WELCA:** Seven car loads of quilts were taken to Monroe on September 16, 2021 to be shipped to Lutheran World Relief.
- **Men's Group:** There will be a meeting on September 25, 2021 to prepare for God's Work. Our Hands. The Steak Fry is coming up in October

Old

All Committee Reports were approved.

Business

- **Gutter Guards:** Still working on getting more quotes for the project.
- **God's Work Our Hands:** There will be small projects around the Church for Saturday, September 25 to complete. On Sunday, September 26 Good Shepherd will be helping to clean veteran's grave markers .

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page.

New Business

- Pastor's Health Plan: After looking at the different options the Synod recommended, it was decided to go with the Gold + plan for 2022, being the most cost effective for the congregation.
- CPR Training will be held sometimes after the Holidays.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be on October 21, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

September Treasurer's Report Jay Andrews

Incoming September 2021	\$4,866.70
Expenses September 2021	\$7,918.55
Net Income (Loss)	\$(3,051.85)
Income, Year to Date 2021	\$82,602.61
Expenses, Year to Date 2021	\$97,868.78
Net Income (Loss)	\$(15,266.17)

The Piece Corps Quilters Group

Would like to thank all of our angels who have helped by trimming the fabric at home and who have generously donated material to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you for your donations.



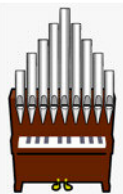
Greetings from the Stewardship Committee

This is an informative letter. On May 9, 2021 a congregational meeting was held seeking the approval for the Church Council to apply for the Payroll Protection Program. **Blessing #1. Blessing #2** in June the Good Shepherd Received \$10,792.85. This was used for payroll. **Blessing #3** the loan was forgiven in September. **Now seeking Blessing #4 and beyond donations to assist in financially keeping the doors of Good Shepherd open.** Even a penny will be appreciated.

Thank you,
The Stewardship Committee
Coralyn Hudik, Jon Kurth
Virgil Gordon, Miho Yasukawa

Organ Fund-THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have donated towards the repairs. The Church Council has decided to have Levsen Organ Company repair the organ for a cost of \$850.00



Elevator Repairs

The Church Council has decided that repairs to the motor for the elevator are to be completed by PDC of Monroe, WI.



Good Shepherd has a few extra pews they are going to dispose of. Price is negotiable. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of the pews, contact the church office or phone Tim Gordon at 815-766-1147.



Lena Area Church Cooperative

The Lena Area Church Cooperative will be giving gift certificates for meat and groceries to those in need this upcoming holiday season. If you would like to donate monetarily to the Lena Area Church Cooperative you can either put the money in the earmarked basket in the Fellowship Hall, or you can put it in the offering being sure to designate that it should go to the Lena Area Church Cooperative or LACC. The Lena Business and Professional Association will be doing the Giving Tree again this year at the Lena Mercantile. Please contact the Mercantile if you have questions concerning the Giving Tree.

Thank you,
Shirley Fox and Mary Lloyd

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

We lift up our prayers

Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B., Nina Mueller, Curt, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Deb Lindeman Harder, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr, Nicole, Meghan, 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, Kay, Sue, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jonathan, Cindy, Amber, Chris, Ron, Vicki, Peter, Sophia, Abby and her triplets, Brenda, Abby Schick, Brenda, Jack, Gretchen, Kay, Roger. Pray for love, peace, comfort, and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Richard Dickers, Gordon Garnhardt, and Lisa Briggs.

Dear Jesus, as a hen covers her chicks with her wings to keep them safe, protect us today under your golden wings, for your mercy's sake. Amen.

Prayer Chain:

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call the Church Office at 815-369-5552. We are also looking for anyone who would like to join the prayer chain team. We send prayer through the phone chain and e-mail. You pray your own and pass 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.





11-01

Margery Ference

- 11-03 Brian Albrecht
- 11-03 Brianna Lynn Fye
- 11-04 Kathy Andrews
- 11-04 Ashtyn Brinker
- 11-04 Hanna Brinker
- 11-06 Lorene Solace
- 11-06 Neal Shumaker
- 11-06 Dale Andrews
- 11-07 Amanda Lessman
- 11-07 Cameron Baker
- 11-10 Martin Luther
- 11-13 Brian Eilders
- 11-15 Sarah (Huber) Andrews
- 11-18 Deanna Drye
- 11-19 Lukas Price
- 11-20 Melinda Reed
- 11-20 Wade Flack
- 11-22 Leona Block
- 11-22 Sue Diddens
- 11-23 Peggy Roettger
- 11-28 John Huneke
- 11-30 Taylor Patterson
- 11-30 Alex White

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

Please remember to check our website; www.goodshepherdlena.org for Sunday Bulletins and monthly Newsletter.

All Saints Sunday—November 7th
Worship with all saints

This year's All Saints Sunday we will remember them with a carnation on the altar and also by lifting their names during prayer of the people. We will worship together with all saints.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR THOSE WHO CAN HELP WITH SUNDAY WORSHIP.

- ELEVATOR OPERATOR
- SOUND SYSTEM
- USHERS
- LECTOR (WHO WILL READ SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER)

IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW. WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!

Le-Win Food Pantry Volunteer
We are thankful for all our volunteers who offered their time and donations to the Le-Win Food Pantry this year. THANK YOU! Our last volunteer date will be in December. Date and time will be TBA.

Please keep eye on the bulletin.

Never To Young
Will meet in December for Christmas Trivia.

Devotion Books

October-December issue of Christ in Our Homes and The Word in Season are available now. These devotion books are helpful way to keep growing our faith. Take one home today!

Attention: Committee Chairpersons,

It won't be long and we will be into 2022. Chairpersons please start to look at your committee work for 2021 and write up your year-end report and turn it in to Betty in the secretary's office. We need to put these into the Annual Report folder.

Please submit your reports to the office by December 10th, 2021.

Thanks to everyone serving on the numerous committees that we have here at Good Shepherd. Using your time and talents help to keep all of our programs going to do God's work.

Congregational Council President
Wayne Kurth

Each year, Good Shepherd's chancel is decorated with poinsettias for the Christmas Services. You may order poinsettias in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of the birth of Jesus! Orders must be placed by December 12th. Cost will be \$14.00.



Please complete the form below and mail it or drop it off at the church office.

Thank you!



Poinsettia Order

Given by:

phone # : _____

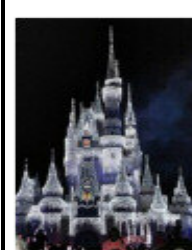
Given (check one)

___ **in memory of...** ___ **in honor of...**

Name (s) _____

On October 11th Good Shepherd hosted a flu shot clinic sponsored by FHN. There were 12 people came to the flu clinic to be vaccinated.

Thank you to everyone who came to get their flu shots along with the staff from FHN for arranging Flu Shot Clinics for our ea.



Did you know?

Decorating Disney Parks for Christmas involves *8.5million lights*, adorning Disney World's four theme parks, two water parks, and over two dozen Disney World resort hotels."

Answers to Martin Luther's Reformation Day Quiz, from page 9.

- 1) A Germany
- 2) C, the Lute
- 3) B, Romeo and Juliet
- 4) D, German
- 5) D, All of the above.
- 6) B, forgiveness and sin
- 7) C, 95
- 8) B, A former nun.
- 9) D, Music
- 10) D, Because he refused to recant his heretical views.



Christ the King HAT Sunday

November 21st.

Wear your HAT to worship, we will celebrate the last day of the church year by wearing our favorite hat to worship service.



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 love of Christ to the residence 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.

Advent Litany

from ELCA World Hunger
Action Guide for Congregations. Advent 2021

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Instill in us a yearning to seek your presence in each other.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Quicken us to help all people feel welcomed and supported.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Rouse us to care for one another, friend and stranger alike.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Inspire us to be your handiwork in the world.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Fill us with a holy hunger for a just world where all are fed.

Stir us our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your Son.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!

Lena Cemetery Association

Dear Pastor and Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

On behalf of the Lena Burial Park Board of Managers, thank you for including Lena Burial Park in the church's "God's Work. Our Hands" activity this year. We value your support and appreciate the thoughtfulness of your congregation.

As you know, we have several on-going projects, including cleaning and restoring gravestones, and beautification of the grounds. The hard work members of Good Shepherd did yesterday allowed us to move forward on an important part of those projects. The cleaning of the memorial stones for the veterans who are buried in Lena Burial Park helped us to not only honor those who served their country but also to maintain the history of their service recorded on the stones. Together we make a difference!

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the cemetery sexton, Jake Andrews (815-541-4841) at any time, should you have any questions or suggestions about anything involving Lena Burial Park. We welcome your input and thank you again for your work on behalf of the cemetery.

Martha Haas, Clerk
Board of Managers
Lena Cemetery Association





Jared Runkle



Jacob Runkle



Nakoah Cornwell



Meet our youth!
They are fun and amazing!
Look forward to more youth
pictures next month!



How well do you know
the father of the Reformation?

Martin Luther

Test your knowledge by taking
this Reformation Day Quiz.

- Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483 in what country?
a. Germany b. Austria c. France d. England
- As an adult, Martin Luther wrote dozens of hymns. His love for music dated back to his early school days, when music was his favorite subject. Although he was particularly fond of playing this instrument, he gave it away before entering the monastery at 21.
a. the violin b. the harpsicord c. the lute d. the French horn
- Which of the following events did NOT occur during Martin Luther's lifetime?
a. Columbus discovered America c. Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel
b. Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet d. Copernicus taught heliocentric universe
- Martin Luther said he never saw a Bible until he was 20 years old. He later translated the Bible into this language so that common people (not only priests and monks) would be able to read it:
a. Latin b. English c. French d. German
- Martin Luther originally intended to become a lawyer and completed both his bachelor's and master's degrees toward that end. What happened that convinced him to become a monk instead?
a. he made a vow to St. Anna c. he saw a light from heaven like the Apostle Paul
b. he was frightened by a violent storm d. all of the above
- Martin Luther objected to the fact that a Dominican friar by the name of Johann Tetzel was selling "indulgences." What were parishiners promised in exchange for buying these pieces of paper?
a. a raffle ticket b. forgiveness of sin c. a new Bible d. all the above
- On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted a list of theses, or topics he wished to debate, on the door of the Wittenburg Castle Church. How many items were on the list?
a. 31 b. 90 c. 95 d. 99
- Whom did Martin Luther marry?
a. his childhood sweetheart c. a nurse who cared for him in his old age
b. a former nun d. none of the above - as a monk, he stayed single
- "Next to the Word of God," what did Martin Luther say "deserves the highest praise"?
a. the Pope b. the Virgin Mary c. music d. marriage
- At the Diet of Worms, Luther was condemned as "a demon in the appearance of a man." Why?
a. because he had defaced church property c. because he wouldn't eat the worms he was served
b. because he had red hair and flushed skin d. because he refused to recant his heretical views

The Last Supper Word Search



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- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------|
| BETRAY | GIVEN | PREPARE |
| BLESSED | HYMN | REMISSION |
| BLOOD | JESUS | SINS |
| BODY | JUDAS | SON OF MAN |
| BREAD | KINGDOM | SOP |
| BROKEN | LAST SUPPER | SORROWFUL |
| DESIRE | LORD | TABLE |
| DIP | MASTER | TAKE |
| DISCIPLES | MEMORIAL | THANKS |
| EAT | NEW TESTAMENT | UPPER ROOM |
| EVENING | PASSOVER | VINE |
| FATHER | PETER | WATERPOT |
| FRUIT | POURED | WINE |

Answers to quiz on page 7.



We will collect Thankofferings during November and December.

Giving Thanks to God

-All Day, Every Day

The daily practice of giving thanks to God for blessings received is at the heart of our lives as women of faith. Even the ordinary blessings of daily life call us to gratitude.

Lutheran women have a time-honored way to practice giving thanks Thankofferings. Some women keep the practice of setting aside daily Thankofferings throughout the year, and then joining all those daily offerings into one with those of other women in the community well, it is powerful.

In ordinary times and some of us may be able to hold Thankoffering services just as we always have in ordinary times our treasurer gathers up all the offerings given at the Thankoffering service and forwards the total amount to the church-wide expression of Women of the ELCA. (See our 2020-2021 Thankoffering service at welca.org/thankofferings)

But things are different this year, so many among us will be making our Thankofferings differently. Many of us will pray in private and make our Thankofferings in private, too (Jesus told us that God hears us when we pray privately: Matthew 6:6). Others of us will pray together on the phone or via internet and make our Thankofferings that way (Jesus told us that where two or three are gathered in his name, he is there among us: Matthew 18:20. he did not rule our phones or the internet!)

You can learn more about Thankofferings and their long history at welca.org/thankofferings.

Giving by Mail	Giving online	Giving by Phone
Make out your check to Women of the ELCA and write "Thankoffering" on the memo line. Then mail it to: Women of the ELCA c/o ELCA Gift Processing P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009	Make your Thankoffering with a credit card at welca.org/give . Simply choose the amount of your gift and specify "Thankoffering" in the dropt down list. After you've filled in all your information, make sure to scroll down to the bottom and click the "I'm Not A Robot" square before clicking "Donate Now".	Call 800-638-3522 or 773-380-2700, and press 0. The operator is authorized to charge your Thankoffering to your credit card.

"Sometimes dreams are wiser than waking.", Black Elk.

Black Elk was a famous holy man, traditional healer and visionary of the North American tribe Oglala Lakota (Sioux).

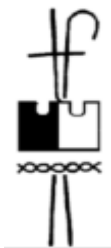
Source; Color Yourself Calm, compiled by Tiddy Rowan.



November 2021 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lena, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 10:00 am Bible Study Group 4:00pm-5:30pm Mobile Food Pantry at St. John's parking lot	3 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00am Pr. Miho at Rostered Minister's zoom meeting	4	5	6
7 All Saints Sunday 9:30am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	8	9 10:00 am Bible Study Group	10 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 9:00am Pr. Miho at NW Conference zoom meeting	11 <i>Veterans Day</i> 1:00pm Friendship Club Entertainment by Mississippi Man	12	13 World Kindness Day- share an uplifting note or text message to a friend or relative.
14 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	15	16 10:00 am Bible Study Group	17 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters 10:00am Pr. Miho at Rostered Minister's zoom meeting	18 6:30pm Council Meeting	19 Full Moon 	20
21 Christ the King HAT Sunday 9:30am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	22	23 10:00 am Bible Study Group	24 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	25 Thanksgiving Office Closed 	26	27
28 First Sunday of Advent 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Choir Practice 5:00pm Chime Practice	29	30 10:00 am Bible Study Group				





Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
118 E. Mason Street
Lena, Illinois 61048

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

Martin Luther's Small Catechism

The sacrament of Holy Baptism

What then is the significance of such a baptism with water?

It signifies that the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sin and through repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans 6, "We were buried with Christ through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."

Small Catechism of Martin Luther ELW page 1165