

May 2023 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Vicar's Thoughts

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Here we are in the season of Resurrection. Our Lord has risen in truth in our hearts, in the life of the church, and in the entire world around us. We see his life in every budding tree, in birds soaring in the skies, and especially in every kind and loving thought and deed of those around us. Because Christ lives, we all have new life. As the world continues to open up this spring, may we see and appreciate the life and love around us which comes from God, and may we be agents of his love to others. May we live as "Resurrection people", filled with the hope and peace that Jesus' Resurrection brings us.

I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my everlasting head!

He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives, all blessings to impart.

*Blessings in Christ,
Vicar Thomas*

We lift our Prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Willie Kayser, Rene', Sue Kraft, Paul Fahr, Trina Green, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay, Shanna, Kathy Charlie, Brad, Jack, Gretchen, Tina, Joe, Dan Kempel, Ron Heckman, Justin Yeager, Phil, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Jim Clay, and Sharon Janicke.

Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of the resurrections for family and friends of Paul Fox and Lois Paulsen God of new life be with all of us.

Highlights from Council Meeting March 16, 2023

Agenda: The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed. Several items were added to the Agenda as follows: Holy Week and Easter services schedule, Easter Breakfast, Synod Assembly Delegates Registration, and Birthday Gathering for Willie Kayser and Jim Swain during Fellowship Hour on April 2, 2023. The Agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report: There were three (3) Secretary's Reports presented to the Council. The January 12, 2022 regular Council Meeting, January 29, 2023 Council Meeting following the Annual Meeting, and the February 27 Special Council Meeting requested by the Property Committee. All three reports were approved as presented to the Council.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jay Andrews noted that two large checks came in January and February so that the income is looking very good as of now. The current accounts are in the black and looking good.

Electric Bill \$185.51 Gas Bill \$1,457.98

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Vicar's Report: Vicar Thomas Mosbo presented a report that shows how his time is spent working for the congregation. He has spent his time preparing and presiding over Sunday morning worship services, attending meetings, visited and brought communion to shut-ins and the elderly members, provided pastoral care on the phone, attend Tuesday Bible Study and participated at the Food Pantry and the Men's Group, officiated at funerals and provided pastoral care for the families. The Vicar's Report was approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Music: The Worship and Music Committee met on January 16, 2023. The Liturgy was set for the Lenten and Easter seasons. Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Holy Week services and Easter Sunday were discussed. Checking on the Lena Ministerial Association will be having the Noon Lenten Lunches. Graduate Recognition Sunday is set for May 14, 2023. It was decided that it would be nice to ask all families of the congregation if they have any graduates this year, children, grandchildren, or other family members.

Stewardship Committee: Coralyn Hudik attenuated the Congregational Resourcing Event and the one seminar she attended suggested that a congregation could help their members with getting their offering to the church by setting up a direct deposit account for the church members to utilize.

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Highlights from March Council Meeting

Property Committee; The motor on the boiler was installed by Molitor Plumbing on Saturday. The job was not completed, but things are working and Molitor Plumbing will be back to finish the job at a later date.

Scholarship Committee: The dates and details for applying for a Good Shepherd Scholarship are in the Newsletter.

Men's Group: The Men's Group took down one of the trees on the Washington Street side of the church. The tree was dead. The wood was given to Larry Fulfs for his wood pile.

All Committee Reports were approved as presented to the Council.

Old Business:

Constitution: Still working on the Constitution. There have been more suggestions from Synod.

New Business:

Membership: It has been brought to the attention of the Church Council that Gary Hudik is not recognized as a voting member of the Congregation. Vicar Thomas noted that in doing some research, he understands that shortly after Gary and Coralyn Hudik were married, Gary planned on joining the church, but due to the illness and death of the Pastor at the time, it was never completed. After some discussion, the Church Council decided to welcome Gary Hudik as a Baptized member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday: Palm Sunday will have the Passion reading with the participation of the congregation.

Maundy Thursday Service will be at 7:00 pm. It was decided not to do the foot washing but the alter will be striped while reading scripture.

Good Friday Service will be at 7:00pm with the snuffing out the candles while reading scripture.

Easter Sunrise Service was discussed. Last year it was done with the Methodist Church at the cemetery in Lena. Vicar has approached Pastor Kari but it does not look like that will happen this year. After discussion on what to do, it was decided to hold Sunrise Service here at the church at 7:00 am. With Easter Service following at 9:30 am.

Easter Breakfast: An Easter Breakfast is being planned for 8:00 am following the Sunrise Service. The Menu includes egg casserole, coffee cake, fruit, milk, orange juice, coffee and water. There will be a free will offering to cover any expenses and any extra offering after expenses will go to the boiler repair bill.

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Highlights from March Council Meeting

Synod Delegates: Synod Assembly Registration is due soon. There needs to be delegates from Good Shepherd to attend.

It was brought to the Church Councils attention that during Fellowship Hour on April 2, 2023 it would be nice to celebrate Willie Kayser's and Jim Swain's birthday. Sue Rush is in charge of the cake and Coralyn Hudik will bring ice cream.

It was noted that along Route 20 at Rafters Restaurant that Good Shepherd is advertised on their digital billboard. The question was asked if there was a cost for this. The answer is no.

Having no other business before the Council, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be on April 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

Pastor Uses A Glass Of Water To Teach Complaining Woman A Lesson

By Mel Johnson On July 28, 2017
In Modern Day Parable

"A lady went to her Pastor and said 'Pastor, I won't be going to your church anymore.'

The Pastor responded 'But why?'

The lady said 'Ah! I saw a woman gossiping about another member; a man that is a hypocrite; the worship team living wrong; people looking at their phone during service; among so many other things wrong in your church.'

The Pastor replied 'OK. But before you go, do me a favor: take a full glass of water and walk around the church three times without spilling a drop on the ground. Afterwards, leave the church if you desire.'

The lady thought: too easy! She walked three times around the church as the Pastor had asked. When she finished she told the Pastor she was ready to leave.

The Pastor said, 'Before you leave I want to ask you one more question. When you were walking around the church, did you see anyone gossiping?' The lady replied 'No. 'Did you see any hypocrites?' The lady said 'No. 'Anyone looking at their phone?' 'No. 'You know why?' 'No. 'You were focused on the glass, to make sure you didn't stumble and spill any water. It's the same with our life. When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we don't have time to see the mistakes of others. We will reach out a helping hand to them and concentrate on our own walk with the Lord.'"

At any church, there are going to be things to complain about. A church is filled with people, and people aren't perfect. Only Jesus can set the perfect example, so let's focus on Him!



“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

The Spring Gathering for our conference was recently held with approximately 40 in attendance. Nearly 90 attended the NIS WELCA Spring Retreat. It is truly a blessing to be in the company of women.

There are more opportunities to gather as women coming up this fall. The Northern Illinois Synod Women’s Organization Convention will be held October 7 at St. John’s in Peru. The Twelfth Triennial WELCA Convention is currently scheduled for September 19-21 with the 2023 WELCA Gathering currently scheduled for September 21-24 both in Phoenix, Arizona.

Our very own Good Shepherd Piece Corp women faithfully gather every Wednesday. They work on the quilts both at home and in Fellowship Hall. They are certainly an example of ministry and action!

Northern Highlights is a quarterly publication with WELCA news for our synod. It includes reports from the Executive Committee, the other conferences as well as articles from our Discipleship, Justice and Stewardship advocates. The emailed version is free and the hardcopy version is \$10 per year. Subscription forms are available on the WELCA bulletin board or from Sheila.

Gather is the magazine of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Several months ago, Good Shepherd WELCA received a generous donation so that we would be able to order subscriptions. There are copies available in the magazine rack near the church office. Future monetary donations for the subscriptions can be given to Rene’ or Sheila.

Sheila K. Keene

Treasurer’s Report

Jay Andrews

Incoming March 2023	\$4,060.00
Expenses March 2023	<u>\$8,728.63</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4,668.63)
Income, Year to Date 2023	\$25,103.99
Expenses, Year to Date 2023	<u>\$32,204.00</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4,100.01)
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“All of us have moments in our lives that test our courage.

Taking children into a house with a white carpet is one of them.”

— Erma Bombeck

Youth Corner



When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.



Congratulations Graduates,

Bravo on graduating, What a magnificent moment.

Take pride in everything you've achieved up to this moment, and everything you're about to do. You are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in your life, wishing you all the best for your future.

Lauren Rene Kurth, daughter of Carl and Jessica Kurth and granddaughter of Wayne and Janis Kurth, will be graduating from Hampton-Dumont High School on May 21, 2023. After graduation, Lauren plans on attending Des Moines Area Community College to major in and earn an Associates Degree in Culinary Arts and Bakery Program. Lauren's future plans are to open a steak house and bakery and own her own restaurant.

Jared Timms, Grandson of Donna Gullickson, graduated from Southern New Hampshire University with a degree in computer science

We will recognize our graduates during the May 14th Sunday Worship Service. Please join us in congratulating them!

WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM WITH AGE/GRADE COMPLETED
1	June 18-23	Confirmation Week (Grades 6-9)
		High School Week (Grades 9-11)
		LE.A.P. Week 1 (Grades 10-11)
2	JUNE 25-30	STEAM Camp (Grades 3-8)
		LE.A.P. Week 2 Option (Grades 10-11)
3	JULY 2-7	Team USA (Adults with Disabilities) \$550
		On-site Day Camp (Grades K-5) \$200
4	JULY 9-14	Adventure Week (Grades 3-8)
		Night Owls (Grades 6-8)
		LE.A.P. Week 2 Option (Grades 10-11)
5A	JULY 16-21	Camp Oasis (specialty camp for youth with Chron's & colitis)
5B	JULY 22-23	Camp 24 Weekend \$75 in Watson Center \$100 in HOPE Center
6	JULY 24-28	Camp Odayin (specialty camp for youth with Heart Disease)
7	JULY 30-AUG 4	Water Week (Grades 3-8)
		LE.A.P. Week 2 Option (Grades 10-11)
8	AUG 6-9 *SPECIAL DATES	Young Pioneers (Grade 1-2) \$360
		Mini Mashup (Grades 3-8) \$360
		Family Camp Adults - \$260, Age 4-17 - \$190, Age 0-3 - Free

Lutherdale
Has over 75 years of experience in running summer camps. We follow over 300 standards established by the American Camp Association in order to provide a safe space for your children. Our program model is set up around small groups so that every camper has a cabin leader that will invest in, care for, and nurture your child.

May Birthdays

5/1 Shannon Albright	5/20 Nathan Lones
5/1 Coralyn Hudik	5/21 Faye Fulfs
5/1 Dennis Luke	5/23 Susan Koppean
5/1 Chloe Kurth	5/23 Sheila Keene
5/2 Lynn Meyers	5/24 Deb Hesselbacher
5/2 Laurie Meyers	5/24 Quinten Green
5/3 Angie Jones	5/24 Nathaniel Baker
5/5 Dawn Diffenderfer	5/25 Elizabeth Martin
5/7 Krystal Schlichting	5/26 Drew Solace
5/8 Degan Euler	5/27 Chris Brinker
5/10 Marcia Meyers	5/28 Brad Boeke
5/14 Nicole Sullivan	5/30 Nick Baker
5/17 Mark Raders	5/30 Alexander Stabenow
5/19 Sarah Geiseman	5/31 Scott Luke

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

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 prayers 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.

Answer or riddle from page 3.

The Cheetah!



Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center

Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center. This is a simple yet profound way to share the love of Christ and to put a smile on their faces to the residents in the nursing home. We are responsible for 10 cards each month. If you would like to make more that would be great too. 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!

We are looking for volunteers at the Le-Win Food Pantry For June 24th (2 adults or 1 adults + 1-2 youth)

Good Shepherd will be at the Le-Win Food Pantry every 4th Saturday of even numbered months from 8:20am-11:30am. Needs are high and we are looking for volunteers.

Upcoming months are : June 24th, August 26th, October 28th and December 30th. If you are interested, put your name on the sign-up sheet at the ramp or contact the church office.

May 2023 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lena, IA

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 Cub Scouts Meeting at 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall	2 Cub Scouts Meeting at 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall	3 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	4	5	6
7 9:30am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Chime Practice 11:15am Choir Practice	8	9	10 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	11 12:30pm Friendship Club Potluck/Meeting Entertainment by Tyger Johnson- One Man Band	12	13
14 Mother's Day Good Shepherd Sunday 9:30am Worship Service Graduate recognition Sunday 10:30am Fellowship 10:45 Chime Practice 11:15am Choir Practice	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	18 6:30pm Council Meeting <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i> 	19	20
21 9:30am Worship Service (Communion Sunday) 10:30am Fellowship	22	23	24 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters	25	26	27 4:30pm Men's Group
28 9:30am Worship Service Pentecost Sunday 10:30am Ice Cream Social Fellowship Hall	29  Memorial Day	30	31 8:00-11:30am Piece Corps Quilters			

May Volunteer Schedule

Greeter

May 7 Sue Diddens and Tim Gordon

May 14 Virgil Gordon and Darci Meier

May 21 Michelle Andrews and Anna Patterson

May 28 Wayne Kurth and Virgil Gordon

Lectors

May 7 Karen Niemeier

May 14 Tena Rackow

May 21 Sue Diddens

May 28 Coralyn Hudik

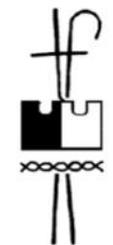
May 29 Tena Rackow

Communion Assistant

May 7 Beth Martin

May 21 Sue Diddens

Please mark your calendars for the dates that you have been assigned, if you cannot serve on the day that you have been assigned please switch with someone and /or call the church office by Tuesday of the week that you are to volunteer so that arrangements can be made.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
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Lena, Illinois 61048

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

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

May 31

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.

Luke 1:39-45

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Source: Sunday's and Season