

September 2023 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Thoughts from the Vicar

Greetings in Christ,

Well, it has now been an entire year since I first arrived at Good Shepherd and I have been blessed to be able to serve you during this time. Coral and I continue to enjoy all the friendships we have made and the ways in which we have all been able to serve our Lord together. I have appreciated your help and encouragement, which have meant a great deal to me.

So now as we move into autumn, we begin another year together. Summer vacations are over and schools are beginning their new school year. A few trees have started to change colour (even though the summer heat is still with us). Our choirs will begin practicing again to help enliven our worship time.

This time of year always feels to me like a new beginning, full of energy and hope. God calls us to new adventures in the life and work he has given us. I am excited about what lies ahead for us. It is my joy and my privilege to be able to continue to serve you and worship our Lord together with you.

Blessings in Christ,

Vicar Thomas

CONTACT of Northern Illinois

815-233-4357

CONTACT Crisis Helpline is a 24 hour crisis helpline that has been serving Northern Illinois since 1981. CONTACT is accredited by CONTACT USA and is one of over 50 centers throughout the United States. CONTACT Crisis Helpline is a member agency of the United Way of Northwest Illinois, and the 708 Mental Health Boards of both Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties.

Yearly CONTACT handles over 25,000 calls and refers over 200 individuals to services that are available in Northern Illinois. CONTACT phones are answered by Certified Line Specialist who are certified in Mental Health First Aid. These individuals volunteer their time to provide the 24 hour 7 days a week confidential helpline.



*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 22nd*

*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.



Friends...Friends...Friends...

Fun, Fellowship and Food

The Le-Win Friendship Club

Meets on the Second Thursday of the Month at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lena, IL. To enjoy a potluck dinner and music together. Everyone welcome no matter what church you belong to.

No need to eat at home, plus you can enjoy the music where area musicians share their talents.

The potluck begins at 12:30pm with music at 1:00pm. Bring a neighbor or friend to join in. If you need a ride phone Good Shepherd at 815-369-5552 and leave a message.

We welcome all seniors to our club, it has been a non-denominational group since 1959. We would love to see you.



Friendship Club

COME- visit with friends. Join us for Friendship Club on September 14th (Thursday) at 12:30pm for potluck, music, devotion, fun, and fellowship!

No reservation needed. Just show up! Bring a friend!

Entertainment by Deb Leininger.

Hope to see many of you!

Highlights from July 20th Church Council Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Jonathon Kurth at 6:35pm on July 20, 2023

Secretary's Report: It was noted that in the June 15, 2023 minutes that the in the motion to move the Interest from the Enduring Gifts account to the Current Account, the amount of the interest to be moved was left out. The motion made by Dale Gullickson and Donna Gullickson should read; Dale Gullickson moved to take the interest in the amount of \$1,097.84 from the Enduring Gifts Fund and move it into the Current Accounts. The Secretary's Report was approved with the correction.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jay Andrews reported that with summer being here, the bills of the church are going down. Unfortunately, the offerings have been low for the past month. The Current Account is still in the hole.

Gas Bill \$551.94 Electric Bill \$149.86

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Vicar's Report: Vicar Thomas Mosbo reported that he attended Synod Assembly along with Wayne Kurth and Dale Gullickson. He is also working on the Adult VBS that will be starting on July 1, 2023. Vicar is coming to the end of his Internship here at Good Shepherd. He is still working on some projects and hopes to have an October meeting with the Synod and Wartburg College. Vicar Thomas has also been performing his regular duties of preparing for and conducting Sunday Worship, visiting and taking communion to shut-ins and elderly, providing pastoral care and attending church and community-wide functions and meetings. Vicar's report was approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Music: Should have a meeting soon.

Stewardship Committee: Stewardship Committee is planning to have a church wide Pot-luck lunch on September 10, 2023 starting at 12:00 pm (noon) in the Fellowship Hall. After the meal, everyone is invited to stay in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy a Hymn Sing of favorite songs.

Finance Committee: Has not met yet.

Men's Group: The Men's Group will be singing during Worship Service on July 23, 2023.

Having no other Committee Reports motion to accept all Committee Reports were approved as presented.

Old Business: The Constitution Committee will be having another meeting soon.

New Business:

Fall Festival: The Fall Festival is coming soon, the theme this year is "Our Past-Our Future" and it will be held on September 8-9. after discussion about a float and having candy for the float and different things to do or hand out at the Hospitality Booth. The motion was made to have a float and Hospitality Booth again this year. Motion approved.

Continued on next page

Bible Trivia

Who lived the longest, as recorded by the Bible & how old was he when he died? Answer on page 7

Continued from previous page.

Highlights from July 20th Church Council Meeting

Gutter Guards: The Gutter Guards are completed. The final bill from Pearl City Seamless Gutters has come. The total unpaid balance for the works is \$680.00. Motion made to pay Pearl City Seamless Gutters from the SF BMI Interest. Motion Approved.

Having no other business before the Church Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be on August 17, 2023 at 6:60pm. Devotions and snack will be provided by Janis Kurth.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

The International Day of Peace, also officially known as World Peace Day

The International Day of Peace is a United Nations-sanctioned holiday observed annually on 21 September. It is dedicated to world peace, and specifically the absence of war and violence, such as might be occasioned by a temporary ceasefire in a combat zone for humanitarian aid access. The day was first celebrated in 1981 and is kept by many nations, political groups, military groups, and people.

To inaugurate the day, the United Nations Peace Bell is rung at UN Headquarters (in New York City). The bell is cast from coins donated by children from all continents except Africa, and was a gift from the United Nations Association of Japan, as "a reminder of the human cost of war"; the inscription on its side reads, "Long live absolute world peace".

In 2001 the opening day of the General Assembly was scheduled for 11 September, and Secretary General Kofi Annan drafted a message recognizing the observance of International Peace Day on 21 September. The September 11 attacks, often referred to as 9/11, were perpetrated on that same day when a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the militant Islamist terrorist group al-Qaeda against the United States of America occurred just blocks away from the UN on the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001. That year the day was changed from the third Tuesday to specifically the twenty-first day of September, to take effect in 2002. A new resolution was passed by the General Assembly, sponsored by the United Kingdom (giving credit to Peace One Day) and Costa Rica (the original sponsors of the day), to give the International Day of Peace a fixed calendar date, 21 September, and declare it also as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence.

International National Day of Peace is not to be confused with World Day of Peace

The **World Day of Peace** is an annual celebration by the Catholic Church, dedicated to universal peace, held on 1 January, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Pope Paul VI established it in 1967, being inspired by the encyclical *Pacem in Terris* of Pope John XXIII and with reference to his own encyclical *Populorum Progressio*. The day was first observed on 1 January 1968.

Source: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Willie Kayser, Rene', Sue Kraft, Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Sue Rush, Coral Mosbo, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan and her baby, 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, Justin Yeager, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Jim Clay, Sharon Janicke, Ethan Hanna and Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman.

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 note and words of encouragement. Our hope is to make them smile! Questions? Contact the church office.

For all the little and big ways you've pitched in... a BIG thanks! Your all amazing, 54 cards were taken to Lena Living Center in August.



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.

THANK YOU!

Dear Pastor and Church Members,

We appreciate your generous donation to the Lena-Winslow Food Pantry. Your support enables us to feed our hungry neighbors in the Lena-Winslow and Orangeville School District.

Larry and Judy Buehnau
Food Pantry Directors



Thank You

A BIG thank you to Darci Meier and her family for their generosity in allowing their Good Shepherd family to celebrate their outdoor worship service at her home. The world needs more kind, thoughtful people like you.

Thank you for your labor of love and generosity for the church,



September Birthdays

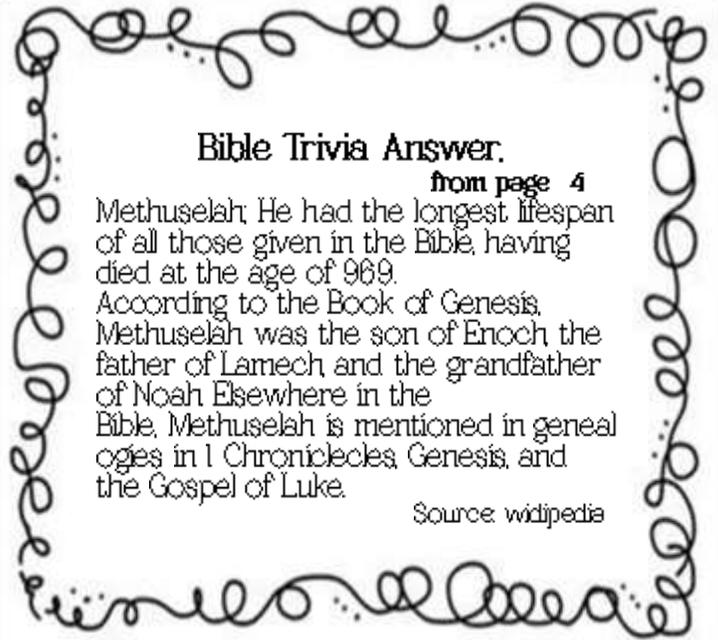


09-01 Tim Tessendorf
 09-01 Marcy Schwartz
 09-02 Marilyn Hardel
 09-03 Joshua Proehl
 09-04 Colton Brinker
 09-10 Brianna Andrews
 09-11 Nina Mueller
 09-11 Michael Geiseman
 09-14 Eric Runkle
 09-15 Jennifer Huneke
 09-16 Duane Fox
 09-17 Alexis Martin
 09-21 Sydney Fox
 09/21 Anna Andersen
 09-24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



Treasurer's Report Jay Andrews

Incoming July 2023	\$6,426.10
Expenses July 2023	\$7,352.01
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (925.91)
Income, Year to Date 2023	\$77,387.43
Expenses, Year to Date 2023	\$66,291.37
Net Income (Loss)	\$11,096.06



Bible Trivia Answer.

from page 4

Methuselah; He had the longest lifespan of all those given in the Bible, having died at the age of 969. According to the Book of Genesis, Methuselah was the son of Enoch, the father of Lamech, and the grandfather of Noah. Elsewhere in the Bible, Methuselah is mentioned in genealogies in 1 Chronicles, Genesis, and the Gospel of Luke.

Source: wikipedia

September

September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as the number of the month: it is the ninth month and has 9 letters.

Source: Fun Facts



Lena Fall Festival 2023
 Our Past-Our Future
 September 8th and 9th



Good Shepherd will be having a Hospitality Tent and a float in the parade, volunteers are needed to design and build the float and to work in the hospitality tent. Sign up sheets for both are available by Fellowship Hall.



Piece Corps Good Shepherd Quilt Ministry

*Each and every Wednesday morning-for 49 years, the members of Piece Corps meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fellowship Hall from 8:00am to 11:30am to assemble quilts. There are so many people who help make this ministry possible: the sewers, fabric cutters, ironers, quilt tiers, quilt binders, those who supply us with donations of fabric, batting, thread, and money, and finally- Each year, on Quilt Sunday, the church is draped with quilts. We thank God that He has given us work to do that impacts so many others. We will never know all the people who benefit from our quilts; but we know God's Love and Work is never done; and so each year we strive to do our best. Our Quilt Ministry and Piece Corps had another very successful year. **652 quilts were made this year.** Since 1974 (49years) a total of 19,562 quilts have been made and sent. We do keep score! Thank you to everyone for your help and support. None of this would be possible of many, many hands, lots of donations, and God's Love and Prayers. Thank you!*



Where did some of the quilts go?

- 14 Lap Robes to Monroe
- 27 Quilts and 26 Bath Towels Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
- 23 Quilts and 7 Blankets to Barb Dahl
- Bath Towels to Donna Phillips for her son who lost his belongings in a house fire.
- Bath Towels and Fitted Sheets to Veteran's Pantry.
- 6 Quilts were purchased by individuals.

Lord bless these quilts and all who have made this Ministry possible. With you help and blessings, may it continue for years to come, and may you continue to bring others into our Ministry of Love. We remember all those, no longer with us, who helped start this ministry. We are truly richer for all they did to lead the way. May God's Love continue to bless us all, and may our quilts made out of love for your neighbors, always wrap your children in that love. Amen!



Quilts boxed and ready to be delivered to Monroe, WI
A special thank you to those who helped pack-up and transport the quilts to Monroe, and load them on a semi truck so they get to the people who need them.

September Volunteer Schedule

Greeter

September 3 *Michelle Andrews and Darci Meier*
September 10 *Tim Gordon and Wayne Kurth*
September 17 *Sue Diddens and Michelle Andrews*
September 24 *Tim Gordon and Darci Meier*

Lector

September 3 *Tena Rackow*
September 10 *Karen Niemeier*
September 17 *Cora Hudik*
September 24 *Sue Diddens*

Communion Assistants

September 3 *Wayne Kurth*
September 17 *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.

Upcoming events

September 7th *Friendship Club potluck and entertainment*
September 8th & 9th *Lena Lions Club Fall Festival - Our Past-Our Future*
September 10th *Quilt Sunday Worship*
September 14th *6:30pm Good Shepherd Council Meeting*
September 30th *Men;s Group*

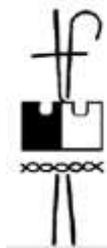
Piece Corp Quilters meets every Wednesday from 8:00-11:30am



September 2023



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2
3 9:30 am <i>Worship Service</i> (Communion Sunday) 10:30 am <i>Fellowship</i> 10:30a.m <i>Choir/Chime Practice</i>	4 1:30 pm <i>Fall Festival Float</i> work day “Office Closed” <i>Labor Day</i>	5	6 8:00-11:30 am <i>Piece Corps Quilters</i>	7	8 Lena Fall Festival; Our Past, Our Future GS-Hospitality Tent Friday Night and Saturday Afternoon. GSLC Float in Parade on Saturday	
10 9:30 am <i>Quilt Sunday Worship</i> <i>Service</i> 10:30 am <i>Fellowship</i> 10:45a.m <i>Chime Practice</i> 11:15a.m. <i>Choir Practice</i>	11	12	13 8:00-11:30 am <i>Piece Corps Quilters</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	14 12:30 pm <i>Friendship Club</i> <i>Potluck,</i> <i>entertainment by</i> <i>Deb Leininger</i> HOLY Cross Day	15	16
17 9:30 am <i>Worship Service</i> (Communion Sunday) 10:30 am <i>Fellowship</i> 10:45a.m <i>Chime Practice</i> 11:15a.m. <i>Choir Practice</i>	18	19	20 8:00-11:30 am <i>Piece Corps Quilters</i>	21 6:30 pm <i>Council Meeting</i> International Day of Peace	22	23 Autumn Begins 
24 9:30 am <i>Worship Service</i> 10:30 am <i>Fellowship</i> 10:45a.m <i>Chime Practice</i> 11:15a.m. <i>Choir Practice</i>	25	26	27 8:00-11:30 am <i>Piece Corps Quilters</i>	28	29 National Coffee Day 	30 4:30 pm <i>Men's Group</i>



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

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

Holy Cross Day

Every September 14, we observe Holy Cross Day as a lesser festival, singing;

"Lift High the Cross"

ELW 660

It's an ancient Christian celebration, going back to at least the seventh century. But did you know there's a bold woman at the heart of Holy Cross Day?

Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great (AD 306-337), was a Christian, and Constantine attributed his victories to Christ. The Roman empire outlawed our faith for many years, but Constantine changed that and granted tolerance to all religions in the empire.

The holy sites in and around Jerusalem had been lost for nearly 200 years since the Romans had razed the city and plowed under the ashes. Now Constantine wanted those holy sites found, excavated, and preserved, with Christian churches to honor them, and he asked his mother, Helena, to lead the expedition. As she traveled, she founded churches, hospitals, and hostels to serve and shelter the poor and destitute. In Jerusalem, she discovered three crosses, one of which had the board with the title "The King of the Jews" still attached. And that, according to the story, was the cross on which Jesus was crucified.

Helena was a bold woman of steadfast faith and determination. So, when you sing "Lift High the Cross," remember Helena and imagine how thrilled she must have been when her workers lifted an old wooden cross out of the earth that had covered it for so long. *This message is an excerpt from a Women of the ELCA blog by Audrey Novak Riley. On September 14th, we observe Holy Cross Day.*

Source: www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/daily-grace/lift-high-the-cross