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

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

History of Hymns
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Joseph Medlicott Scriven,
(10 September 1819 – 10 August 1886)

Joseph Scriven was born in 1819 of prosperous parents in Banbridge, County Down, Ireland. He graduated with a degree from Trinity College Dublin in 1842. His fiancée accidentally drowned in 1843, the night before they were to be married. In 1844, at the age of 25, Scriven left his native country and migrated to Canada, settling in Woodstock, Ontario. He left his country feeling a spiritual calling to serve the Lord in his Plymouth Brethren faith. He only remained in Canada briefly after becoming ill, but returned for good in 1847.

For two or three years he conducted a private school at Brantford. In 1855, while staying with James Sackville in Bewdley, Ontario, he received news from Ireland of his mother being terribly ill. He wrote a poem to comfort his mother called "Pray Without Ceasing". It was later set to music and renamed by Charles Crozat Converse, becoming the hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus". Scriven did not have any intentions nor dream that his poem would be for publication in the newspaper and later becoming a favorite hymn among the millions of Christians around the world.

About 1857 he moved near to Port Hope, Ontario where he again fell in love and was due to be married, but in August 1860 his fiancée fell ill with pneumonia and died.

He then devoted the rest of his life to tutoring, preaching and helping others.

Scriven drowned in 1886 at age 66. At the time of his death he was very ill with fever, and had been brought to a friend's home to recover. It was a very hot night, and he may have possibly gone outside to cool down, or to get a drink of cold water from the spring. His friend reported, "We left him about midnight. I withdrew to an adjoining room to watch and pray. You may imagine my surprise and dismay when upon visiting his room I found it empty. All search failed to find a trace of the missing man, until a little after noon his body was discovered in the nearby river, lifeless and cold in death."He was buried next to his second fiancée in her family cemetery near Bewdley.

Source: Wikipedia.org

July 2025 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Greetings!

Thank you for the ministry of Jesus Christ that you share in your context.

As a member of Good Shepherd, Lena, you have experienced the joys and challenges of being part of a small congregation. Your congregation works differently than a larger congregation, and that is good! It does mean that not all synod events are designed with you in mind, however.

This summer, Northern Illinois Synod is hosting an event that is designed just for you! It is called "Finding Vitality in Scrappy, Small Congregations," and it is held August 22-23 in Sterling. Our guest speakers, Teresa Stewart, author of *The Small Church Advantage*, and Rev. Donna Simon, Bishop-elect of Central States Synod, have served in scrappy congregations. They will bring a certain energy that is unmatched! They will help congregation leaders create unique plans for their specific congregations that will bring new energy and vitality to worship and ministry.

This event only costs about $50 per person and includes all meals and a shared hotel room (or $40 without a hotel room or $100 with a single hotel room). This event is subsidized by a grant from the ELCA so that participant costs are greatly reduced!

Please promote this event in your congregation and plan to send a few key leaders. Here is a link to a flyer and two cover letters all in one pdf: All Handouts.pdf

Here is a link to our synod webpage for the event, which includes a more detailed description of the event and the registration link: https://nisynod.org/events/finding-vitality-in-scrappy-small-congregations

Registration closes August 8, so please register soon!

God be with you.

Peace,

The Rev. Julie Monnard
Assistant to the Bishop
Northern Illinois Synod, ELCA
P.O. Box 443
Moline, IL 61266

Office: 309/794-4004
Mobile: 563/505-9045
Email: jmonnard@nisynod.org

Treasurer's Report
Jay Andrews

Incoming May 2025	$ 4,928.00
Expenses May 2024	$ 6,923.79
Net Income (Loss)	$(1,995.79)
Income, Year to Date 2024	$45,402.97
Expenses, Year to Date 2024	$48,580.70
Net Income (Loss)	$ 3,177.73

Men's Group

On July 26th the Men's Group will meet at 4:30pm.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Join us on July 10th (Thursday) 12:30pm for Potluck, music, devotion, fun, and fellowship!

No reservation needed. Just show up! Bring along a friend, and make new friends.

Delta II will provide afternoon entertainment at 1:00pm.

We lift our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Marilyn Fulfs, Gary Hudik, Virgil Martin, Caroline Jam, Cyndy Schumacher, Virgil Gordon, Jerry Martin, Donna Christen, Richard Frietag, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, 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, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Tina, Joe, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman, Bruce Stewart, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Jim DeMontigny Jr., Linda Kruger-Kleckler, Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Dennis Bokemeier , Brenda, Kara Allen, Christine Beyer, Judy, Bob Schulz, Kenny Frie, Steve Rothschadl, Gary L. Hartwig Josh, Hannah, Ray Phillips, Susan, Allison Biddick, Brad Rackow, Gene Medeke and Demetrio Velazco.

Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call or email the Church Office to submit your request , phone at 815-369-5552 or email at; goodshepherdlena@outlook.com.

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.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
May 8, 2025

Agenda: The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed. Additions to the Agenda: Lena Food Pantry Rent and Insurance, Agreement for Lena Fall Festival Booth form the Lena Lions, and Ministerial Association.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report was reviewed. After some discussion, the Secretary's Report was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jay Andrews presented his report. The check book is in the black but the overall budget is in the hole. There was a question about the high Gas Bill. Mr. Andrews noted that the boiler needed some repairs and that the problem is now solved. Gas Bill: $1,657.04 Electric Bill: $312.59. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Thomas reported that the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services had few members attend, but the Easter Sunday services were well attended. Pastor Thomas has been continuing to visit the shut-ins and other members of the congregation as well as working on the bulletin, preparing for worship services and many other duties. The Pastor's Report was approved.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee: Pastor Thomas Mosbo mentioned that janitorial supplies needed to be looked at as there is a funeral on Saturday May 10, 2025. This will be directed to Property Committee as soon as possible.

Scholarship Committee: Everything is set for Graduate Recognition Sunday on May 18, 2025 which will have a reception following the Worship Service.

Face Book: Pastor Thomas Mosbo reported that he is working on a new You Tube account for the church. It should be up shortly. The new home page for the account will be published in the bulletin and newsletter.

Old Business:

Constitution: Synod has been contacted as to the status of the Constitution. As of meeting time, they had not responded.

New Business:

Food Pantry Rent: The Food Pantry Rent is $600.00. Janis Kurth made a motion to pay the Food Pantry Rent of $600.00 from the SF Trust Endowment Interest. Motion approved.

Food Pantry Insurance: It was reported that Wayne Kurth talked to the insurance agent and that the insurance for the Food Pantry is enforce. The building is insured for $225,000.00 with the contents insured for $20,000.00 and a deductible of $2,500.00.

Lena Lions Fall Festival: The form came from the Lions to rent a spot for the Good Shepherd Hospitality Booth. The paper work was given to the Property Committee.

Ministerial Association: Pastor Thomas Mosbo reported on the meeting of the Lena Ministerial Association. The Ministerial has two separate funds that they work with. The fund for the Food Pantry and a Benevolent Fund. The Benevolent Fund is in force so that someone in need can go to the Ministerial Association and ask for help. The Ministerial Association is going to take the Benevolent Fund and disperse it to the individual churches to use at their discretion.

Having no other business; the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:50 pm. Next meeting will be on June 12, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

Our Purpose Statement

"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."

All women of the ELCA are members of WELCA and are welcome at all of our Good Shepherd, synod and churchwide activities.

Resolutions for the Northern Illinois Synod (NIS) Women of the ELCA (WELCA) are presented and voted on at our annual convention. The Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) accepts offerings and gives financial support for the current resolutions. These resolutions will be shared here in the coming months.

Over the years the NIS Women of the ELCA have been blessed to enjoy the company of women from India who have attended our conventions. There have also been several people from our synod who have traveled to India to be with our companion synod members.

Resolution: Arcot Lutheran Church Women's Fellowship Desk

Whereas God calls us in the Great Commission to go into the entire world and bear witness;

Whereas Northern Illinois Synod has established a companion congregation relationship with Arcot Lutheran Church in India by signing a covenant in 2008 to make Christ known around world:

Whereas the Women of the ELCA of Northern Illinois Synod also established a "walking together" relationship with the Women's Fellowship Desk.

Whereas the Women's Fellowship Desk in Arcot Lutheran Church ministers to the women and children in poverty through many self-help programs and education and are eager to sustain a companion covenant with us;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA be encouraged to continue to support the Women's Fellowship Desk of our companion synod, Arcot Lutheran Church of the United Evangelical Lutheran, with our prayers and offerings. The NISWO will continue to accept offerings that will be forwarded to them so that they may grow in faith and love of Christ through word, prayer, and action.

Northern Illinois Synodical Women's Organization Convention, September 18, 2021

If the ant hills are high in July, it means a hard winter is coming.

Dear NISWO Sisters in Christ,

The board is excited to extend an invitation to the in-person convention on Saturday, September 20, at First Lutheran Church, Rockford.

Our theme for the day, "Rescue, Redeem, Restore", will be developed through inspiring worship, powerful keynote speakers, and an informative and inspiring forum.

Prayerfully consider joining us and bringing friends to enjoy a day of worship, fellowship, food, fun, and for voting members, an especially important business meeting. Women do not need to be part of an active WELCA unit to attend as a participant that day.

God bless your day and the rest of your summer and hope to see you on September 20!

Your NIS Women of the ELCA Conference Representative, Christine Beyer

*** Note: The convention materials are posted on the WELCA bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. You may also contact Sheila for forms or if you have questions.*

Le-Win Food Pantry

We are looking for volunteers

Good Shepherd helps 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: August 23rd, October 25th and December 27th. If you are interested, the sign up sheet is by the ramp near Fellowship Hall or contact the church office. We appreciate your assistance at the food pantry.

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 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!

PUZZLE PAGE

1) True or False: Paul was rescued from prison by an angel?

Answer on page 8

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

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62. Paul and Silas Prayed & Sang in Prison

AWAKING	KILLED	SHAKEN
BANDS	LAID	SILAS
CHARGING	LOOSED	SIRS
DOORS	LOUD	SPRANG
DREW	MIDNIGHT	STOCKS
EARTHQUAKE	PRISON	STRIPES
FELL	REJOICED	SUPPOSING
HARM	SAFELY	THYSELF
JAILOR	SANG	TREMBLING
KEEPER	SEEING	WASHED

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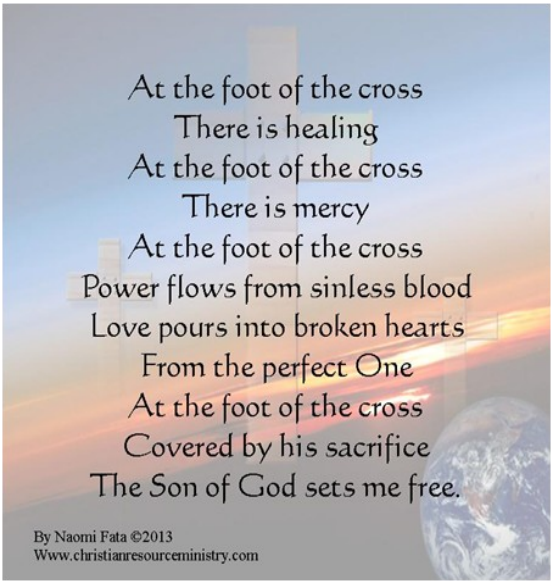
2) Who went with Paul on his early mission trips?

Answer on page 8



Lemonade Floats

Ree Drummond Pioneer Woman

Ingredients;

1 cup sugar
10 lemons, plus sliced lemons for garnish
1 pint lemon sorbet

Directions

1-For the simple syrup: Heat the sugar and 1 cup water in a medium saucepan over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until the sugar is dissolved. Remove from the heat and let cool.

2-Juice the lemons; you should have a bit more than 1½ cups lemon juice. Pour the lemon juice into a pitcher and add 6 cups cold water and 1 cup of the simple syrup.

3-Pour the lemonade into glasses and top each with a scoop or two of lemon sorbet. Garnish with lemon slices.

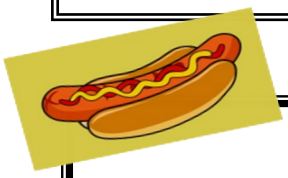
Note: I have used Real Lemon bottled juice instead of squeezing the lemons.

Betty Allen

Northern Illinois Food Bank
Mobile Market Pantry Schedule
Hours: 3:00pm-4:30pm

July 8, 2025 at Jane Adams Trail Parking Lot, West High Street and Ewing Drive, Orangeville, IL.

August 12, 2025 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 625 Country Lane, Lena, IL.



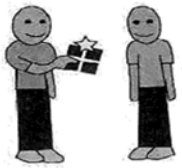
Americans

eat **155 MILLION Hot Dogs** each Fourth of July! According to Forbes. In 2010 that would have set the Americans back $104.7 million for the dogs and another $70.4 million for the buns!

Source: Emily Williams, Fourth of July Trivia

Mystery Cryptogram

Kindness



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
8	3	10	14	9	22	19	2	23	13	24	20	4	25	15	1	26	11	18	6	21	17	5	16	12	7

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/1	Billie Jo Runkle	7/11	Jace Schlichting
7/2	Connie Kraft	7/11	Joanna Esker
7/2	Coral Mosbo	7/12	Austin Andrews
7/2	Joe Green	7/14	Danica Balbach
7/4	Craig Raders	7/14	Andrew Drye
7/6	Lori Timms	7/20	Shirley Fox
7/6	Linda Heidenreich	7/20	Bob Roettger
7/6	Ben Huber	7/25	Dale Gullickson
7/6	Sondra Winters	7/27	Tara Wolfrom
7/7	Alan Esker	7/27	Heather Clifton
7/9	Alicia Gross		

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

Did you know?

The Declaration of Independence Wasn't Actually Signed in July...

On July 4, 1776, Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence, but it wasn't signed until almost a month later. When the declaration was formally approved on July 4, John Hancock and Charles Thompson (president and secretary of the Continental Congress) signed the draft. But the official copy wasn't signed by all 56 signers until August 2, 1776.

Source: Emily Williams, Fourth of July Trivia

Answer to questions on page 7

1) True

2) Barnabas