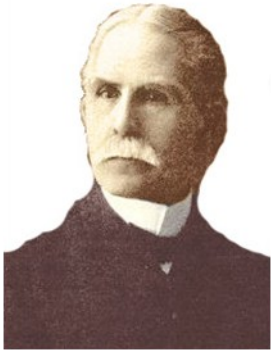
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
118 E. Mason Street
Lena, Illinois 61048

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

HISTORY OF HYMNS

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Devine" ELW 774



Elisha Albright Hoffman (May 7, 1839 – November 25, 1929) was an American Presbyterian minister, composer of over 2,000 hymns and editor of over 50 song books. He was born in Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. Hoffman's parents, Francis A. and Rebecca A. Hoffman, were both of German descent. His father worked as a minister in the Evangelical Association for over 60 years, which likely influenced Hoffman's decision to enter the ministry.

Hoffman grew up singing sacred hymns both in church and in the home with his parents. After completing high school, Hoffman furthered his education at Union Seminary in New Berlin, Pennsylvania, and was subsequently ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1873.

Following his seminary education, Hoffman began work with the publishing branch of the Evangelical Association in Cleveland, Ohio. After serving in this position for 11 years, Hoffman held several pastoral positions in the Midwest.. Hoffman died in 1929 in Chicago, Illinois, and is buried there in Oak Woods Cemetery.

During the course of his life, Hoffman composed over 2,000 hymns, and edited over 50 song books. While possessing natural musical abilities, Hoffman never attended a school of music. Any musical instruction Hoffman received came from his experiences at his father's church or at home. In addition to singing at church, the Hoffman household had a daily family worship time, of which hymn singing was an important part. Hoffman, therefore, became very familiar with the musical and spiritual tradition of Evangelical hymnody at a very early age. It was during these times of family worship that Hoffman developed a love for sacred music and a belief that song was "as natural a function of the soul as breathing was a function of the body."

Source: Wikipedia

August 2026 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Lutheranism in Colonial America,

Lutheranism in Colonial America, while distinctive, may have been underappreciated leading up to the American Revolution. Rooted primarily in German-speaking immigrant communities, alongside the Reformed and Dunker traditions, Lutherans were not as politically dominant as the Anglicans or as unified as other Protestant groups. However, their influence, particularly through key figures like Henry Melchior Muhlenberg and other Lutheran leaders, extended across many of the colonies. This influence was meaningful in shaping both religious life and political identity in the 18th century.

The earliest Lutherans who arrived in North America did not come primarily as refugees fleeing religious persecution. Instead, they came for opportunity: land, economic stability and the freedom to practice their faith without excessive interference. Large groups settled in Pennsylvania and gradually migrated south down the Great Wagon Road into the Valley of Virginia, and into the backcountry of the Carolinas. There were other settlements along the Atlantic seaboard. In many cases these ethnic groups retained their language, customs and religious traditions within the wider English-speaking colonies.

As Lutheranism expanded, the settlements and adherents grew. This called for more ecclesiastical organization and leadership, which is where Muhlenberg emerges. Born in Hanover, Germany, and a subject of the British crown, he arrived in North America in 1742. His journey was not accidental; it was orchestrated through connections with the Lutheran church in Europe, particularly through the influence of Chaplain Friedrich Michael Ziegenhagen of London, who issued Muhlenberg's call to Pennsylvania. Educated in a German university founded by King George II, Muhlenberg embodied the nature of Colonial Lutheranism.

Often referred to as the "Father of Lutheranism in America," Muhlenberg worked to organize congregations, establish standards for pastoral training, and bring a sense of unity to a geographically dispersed population. His work was not only administrative; it was pastoral, and by his love for the people he served, it became deeply personal. This pressure was felt strongly by his children, of which he writes in October 1763, "Unfortunately my boy Peter enjoyed very little care and supervision from me, owing to the distractions of my pastoral duties." He traveled extensively, visiting congregations up and down the colonies, mediating disputes and ensuring doctrinal consistency. In 1774, on the eve of revolution, he was called as far south as Ebenezer, Ga., where he worked alongside Christoph Friedrich Triebner to resolve tensions within the Salzburger Lutheran community there.

Muhlenberg's influence extended to his own family. By early adulthood his sons Peter and Frederick were both Lutheran pastors and became prominent figures in the Revolution. Peter symbolizes the intersection of Lutheran faith and revolutionary fervor. Ordained as a Lutheran pastor, he is famously remembered for casting off his clerical robe to reveal a Continental Army uniform beneath, rallying his Woodstock, Va., congregation to join the fight for independence. As Peter served as the chair of Dunmore County Virginia's Committee of Safety, and represented the county in the Virginia House of Burgesses.

Henry Muhlenberg wrote in his journal on July 4, 1776: "Today the Continental Congress openly declared the united provinces of North America to be free and independent states. This has caused some thoughtful and far-seeing *melancholici* to be down in the mouth; on the other hand, it has caused some sanguine *miopes* (short-sighted persons) to exult and shout with joy. *In fide videbitur cuius toni* (it will appear in the end who has played the right tune)." Father Muhlenberg was not as enthusiastic about Revolution as his son Peter, nor later Frederick who went on to serve as the first speaker of the United States House. Families were divided on the urgency and need for Revolution, some fought and others stood by, while other Lutherans such as Christian Streit and Christoph Friedreich Triebner served in roles of chaplain to the armies in North America. Streit served as the chaplain to the 8th Virginia Continental Regiment, at endorsement of the Pennsylvania Ministerium, which was led by Col. Peter Muhlenberg. Following the war Streit became the first settled pastor at the Lutheran church in Winchester, Va.

Continued on page 8

Highlights from June 11, 2026 Good Shepherd Council Meeting

Agenda Review: The Agenda was reviewed. Having no additions or corrections to the Agenda, the Agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report was reviewed. Having no additions or corrections, the Secretary's Report was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jay Andrews presented his report. He noted that there was no electric bill last month due to the tornado, this months bill was larger than usual. He also noted the gas bill was high but that now that summer is here it should be lower next month. This was also complicated due to the switch of gas provider used by the church. Jay also noted that the $15,000.00 has been transferred this is money the congregation approved at the Annual Meeting to maintain the budget. Currently the budget is $3,675.00 behind but there is still money in the checking account. Treasures report approved as presented.

Electric Bill: $342.34 Gas Bill: $2,428.49

Pastor's Report: Pastor Thomas Mosbo presented his report. He noted that May included the celebrations of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, plus the memorial service for Marilyn Fulfs. In May, Pastor Thomas concluded a Bible Study of First Peter, which he felt sparked good conversations. Pastor Thomas also worked on his monthly duties as Pastor.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Music Committee: Worship and Music will be having a meeting Sunday, June 14, 2026 following Worship Service.

Stewardship Committee: Coralyn Hudik thanked everyone who helped with Sundae Sunday Fellowship Hour. Upcoming event at AJ's Meats grill day. People have signed up to help cook and serve on June 26th. There will be another day to help on July 10th.

Learning Committee: Learning Committee reported that Graduation Recognition Sunday went well. Also, Sunday School has gone well this year and the committee is looking forward to Sunday School starting in the fall.

Women of the ELCA: The Women of the ELCA are having a book reading and discussion on June 28th.

Unfinished Business:

Constitution: Pastor Mosbo noted that the Synod Assembly was starting on Friday, June 12th. He also said the Synod would e presenting a new Constitution for the Synod churches to model their constitutions after.

New Business:

Donation from Grace Episcopal Church: Grace Episcopal Church from Galena sent a donation to Good Shepherd to help with tornado damage. The money will be used for any repairs needed and a Thank You note will be sent to Grace Episcopal Church.

Continued on next page.

Church Road Signs: Coralyn Hudik reported that she has been looking into new road signs for the church. She was looking for suggestions as to how the signs should look. Discussion followed with some suggestions. Coralyn will work on this and report back to council.

Having no other business before the Church Council, the Council adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next Council Meeting will be on July 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Janis Kurth
Church Council Secretary

Lena Lions Fall Festival, September 11th and 12th

"The Cadillac of Small Town Festivals"

Good Shepherd will again be having a float in the Lena Lions Fall Festival Parade along with the Hospitality Tent uptown. Volunteers will be needed to help decorate the truck for the parade and to greet guests in the Hospitality Tent during the festival. If you would like to volunteer, sign up sheet is available in the hallway going into Fellowship Hall or you could call the church office at 815-369-5552. This years parade theme is "Celebrate America's 250 Years!".

Save the Date

Good Shepherd's annual Outdoor Worship Service will be held August 9th at 10:30am at Good Shepherd. Following with potluck Bring your favorite dish to pass, enjoy a great picnic gathering with friends.

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."
- Henry Ford

Treasurer's Report
Jay Andrews

Income June 2026	$4,275.00
Expenses June 2026	$6,952.32
Net Income (Loss)	$(2,677.32)
Income, Year to Date 2026	$43,907.08
Expenses, Year to Date 2026	$50,271.19
Net Income (Loss)	$ (6,364.11)



THE FRIENDSHIP CENTER

Do you have just a little bit of free time to help the Friendship Center with their current staffing needs? We have a little bit of everything available for you to serve. We need a bus driver, a van driver, a bus aide, and an RN to round out our staffing needs. The bus aide position is a volunteer position but the rest are all paid positions. If you'd like to know more about these opportunities, please call Denise or Jenny at the Friendship Center (815-369-2690) You don't have to take a shift every day to help. But a shift or two per week would really help us out.

Happy Birthday

8/2 Madison Tessendorf
8/3 Virgil Gordon
8/5 Karen Cross
8/11 Layton Albright
8/15 Mercedes Freitag
8/16 Dennis Broege
8/18 Nikola Cornwell
8/21 Virgil Martin
8/21 Alec Aurand
8/24 Donna Gullickson
8/26 Ethan Fye
8/29 Pastor Miranda

COME- visit with friends. Join us for Friendship Club

On **August 13th (Thursday) at 12:30pm**
for potluck, music, devotion, fun, and fellowship!
No reservation needed. Just show up!



Entertainment by the Jeff DeLay Family.
Hope to see many of you at our next gathering!

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

The month or August was named in honor of Augustus Caesar, the Roman emperor and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Eventually, Augustus was shortened to simply, August.

www.funfactsabout.com/fun-facts-about-august/

Concerts in the Park

Lena Park District is hosting free
Concerts in the Park on Sundays during the summer.

Concerts begin at 6:00pm in the parking lot next to the pool at Lions Park. You may stay in your vehicle and listen to the performers, or bring lawn chairs and sit on the blacktop.

The show lasts until 7:30pm and we keep our Snack Shop open until 7:00pm on Concert nights

Sunday, August 2: No Worries Band
(sponsored by Lena's EFree Church)
Sunday, August 9: Lena Free Church Worship Team
(sponsored by Lena's EFree Church)

Youth Corner

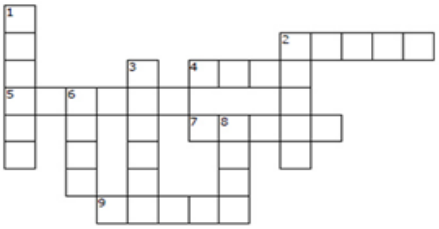


Rally Day
Will be held on September 20th.

Rest for the Weary



"For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30 (NIV)
Based on Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)



ACROSS
2. Not heavy
4. The opposite of go
5. A heavy load that you carry
7. The place within a person where their feelings or emotions are
9. Very tired, especially after working hard for a long time

DOWN
1. Not proud or not believing that you are important
2. To get knowledge or skill about a subject
3. Calm, kind or soft; not violent
6. Stop and relax to regain your strength
8. Not difficult

WEARY	HUMBLE	EASY	BURDEN	REST
COME	HEART	LIGHT	GENTLE	LEARN

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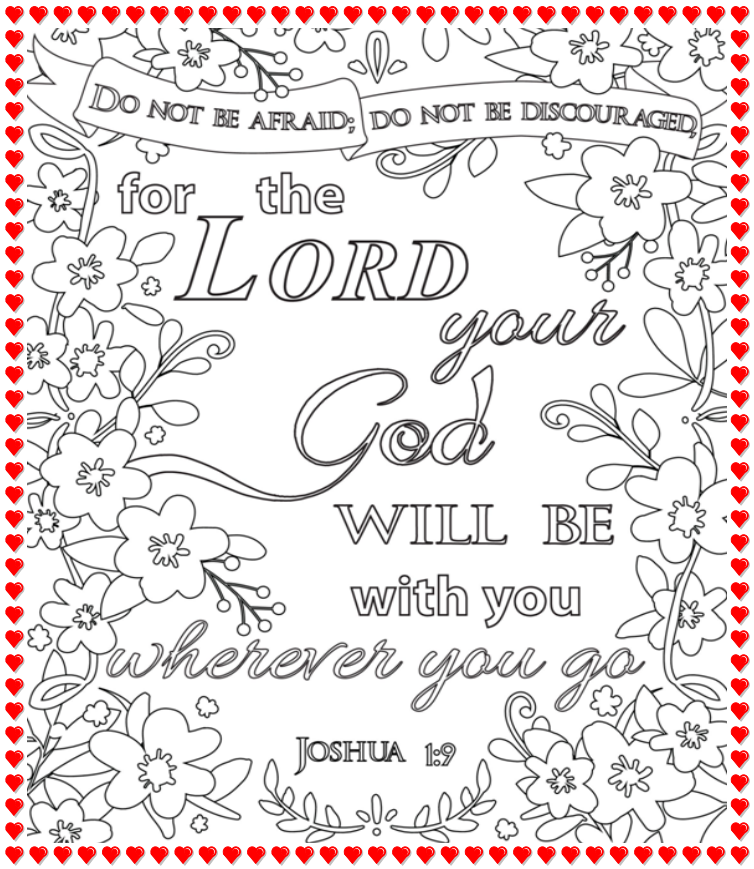

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
z	y	x	w	v	u	t	s	r	q	p	o	n
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
m	l	k	j	i	h	g	f	e	d	c	b	a

Use the code above to decipher these words from Psalm 119:9 (NIV).

Bible Cryptogram

s l d x z m z b l f m t n z m p v v k

s r h d z b k f i v ? y b o r e r m t

z x x l i w r m t g l b l f i d l i w .

We lift our Prayers for:

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Virgil Martin, Caroline Jam, Cyndy Schumacher, Virgil Gordon, Jerry Martin, Donna Christen, Richard Freitag, Sherry Freitag, Connor Stadermann, Ryse Stone, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Connie, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Jim DeMontigny Jr., Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Brenda, Christine Beyer, Bob Schulz, Kenny Frie, Steve Rothschadl, Gary L. Hartwig, Josh, Hannah, Ray Phillips, Susan, Allison Biddick, Brad Rackow, Kim Choin, Jeannie, Dianne, Nancy, Pat McCluskey, Jim Briggs, Sandi, Tina, Jim, Ronald Schrader, Christine S., Carol Lartz, Amy and Leta Tolke.

Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the family and friends of Pauline Swearingen and Sandra Reed.

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.

We are looking for 1 adult or 1-2 youth volunteers at the Le-Win Food Pantry

Good Shepherd will be at the Le-Win Food Pantry on Saturday, Food Pantry hours are 8:30am-11:30 pm, volunteers are needed for upcoming months of October 24th and December 26th. If you are interested, put your name on the sign up sheet at the ramp or contact the church office at 815-369-5552.

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!

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."

Women of the ELCA Northern Illinois Synod

2026 Annual Convention

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

9AM - 3PM

New Life Lutheran Church
249 N Bolingbrook Drive
Bolingbrook, IL

Registration and coffee start at 8:00 a.m.



All women in the Northern Illinois Synod are welcome to attend the 2026 Annual Convention, *I Am Worthy, All Are Worthy,* on Saturday, September 19, at New Life Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook.

Our worship will be led by Pastor Julie Monnard, Assistant to the Bishop, and Pastor Lindsay .Fertig-Johnson, Synod Generosity Director and Associate Pastor at New Life in Bolingbrook.

Our afternoon breakout sessions will be led by Pastor Pat Fish and Yenny Muñoz-Swainger.

On the following pages, you will find information on how to register and scholarship application, resolution forms, and so much more. Or go to the NIS WELCA Annual Convention website,

Lutheranism in Colonial America,

Continued from page 2

Christoph Friedreich Triebner was pastor with the Salzburger Lutherans in Georgia. In contrast to Streit, he ran at first look of the British and Hessian occupation of Savannah, and he sought refuge among the Hessians (German soldiers fighting for Britain). He served as a chaplain and a guide for the British and Hessian troops. Following the war, he was not welcomed back to his congregation.

The Lutheran understanding of "two kingdoms" tells us that both earthly and spiritual kingdoms exist. A person of faith is in the world, yet not of the world, therefore we may not be surprised at Henry Muhlenberg's reluctance to the War for Independence. Eighteenth-century Lutherans varied widely in their support for, opposition to and reluctance to participate in the war for American independence.

Lutheranism has existed through good government, poor government and so-so government, yet we trust that God's hand is working in, with and through God's people by means of the Spirit. As we reflect on our nation's 250th anniversary we are mindful of all those who have come before us, and we look with hope, for our nation, trusting in God's presence with us, and for all those throughout the world.

Source: Playing the right tune | Living Lutheran

Northern Illinois Synod
Women of the ELCA
2026 Convention Scholarship Application

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Address _____City, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Name of ELCA Congregation where you are a member _____

Your Conference _____ Pastor's name and phone _____

1. What is your involvement with the Women of the ELCA? _____

_____

_____

_____

2. What is your goal for attending the Convention? _____-_____

_____

3. Would you be willing to share your Convention experiences? _____

_____

4. Have you received a Convention Scholarship before? _____

When? _____

Your age: 20-35 _____ 36-50 _____ 51-75 _____ 76-? _____

Your Signature _____ **Date**_____

I you apply for a scholarship, please include your completed application and registration form and send it to the address listed below. Each conference will be awarded one full scholarship. Those applying for a scholarship will be notified in a timely fashion and can assume their registration will be covered.

Deadline for Scholarship Application: August 19, 2026

Please return completed scholarship application and registration form to:
Chris Beyer, 5713 S. Derinda Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028

Registration Form
Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA
37th Annual Convention, September 19, 2026

Theme: *"I Am Worthy, All Are Worthy"*
New Life Lutheran Church
249 Bolingbrook Rd, Bolingbrook, Illinois

Article VI – Conventions; Section 2. Representation. Item 1. Voting members of a convention shall be the elected officers of the Synodical women's organization and

one voting member for each unit on the roll of this Synodical women's organization.

Note: Voting member's duties include attending the business session of the convention.

Please check one: VOTING MEMBER__ ALTERNATE ____ PARTICIPANT ____

(Deadline is August 19)

Please circle your conference:

Central East North Northeast Northwest South Southwest West

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Address_____City_____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address_____ _____

Special Meal Request: ____ Vegetarian ____ Gluten Free _____

Name of ELCA Congregation where you are a member _____

Address of Church _____

Pastor's name and phone _____

Your signature _____ Date _____

(If you apply for a Scholarship, please include your completed Scholarship Form with this completed Registration Form and send them both to Chris Beyer. Her address is on the Scholarship Form. Scholarship requests are due by August 19.)

If you are not applying for a Scholarship, please complete this form byAugust 19,2026(indicating if you are a voting member or a participant, with the $50 registration fee) and send to:

Convention Registrar: Kay Johnson, 6043 Skinner Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084

Registration Fee: $50.00 (Please do not send cash) Make your check or money order payable to: Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA (NIS WELCA)

We encourage you to send your individual and/or unit offering with your registration. The convention offering will be divided between the Churchwide WELCA, Becoming Church, Oswego, and Yenny Munoz-Swaninger's K-12 Educational Program. Items for physical offering are listed on the convention invitation.