



The Shepherd's Voice

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

We are God's people and the sheep of God's Pasture—Psalm 100:3

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Good Shepherd is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

October 2016

WORDS FROM PASTOR LARSON

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Beloved of God,

It has been a difficult month in Decorah. As we have sought to recover from the flooding on August 23-24, we've been hit again and again by more storms and more rain. So many have had to deal with water issues again and again. We've said goodbye to many loved ones in our congregation, in our community and beyond. Others we love are struggling with health concerns; some are close to death. We're aware of massive recent flooding in towns near us. Issues and conflicts on the national and global scene are so often distressing.

In all of this, we are not alone. We have the consolation of God who has entered into our suffering to bring healing, hope and new life. God comes to us again and again in Word, sacrament and worship, in creation, and in the body of Christ. With this consolation, we can console those who are in any affliction.

Thank you Good Shepherd for all the ways you have consoled people in affliction this month. You have consoled the Ruiz and Jacobsen families by helping to clean up, doing laundry, preparing meals and raising funds. You've done the same for many other friends and neighbors. You have consoled the families of Ruth Branhagen and Bunice Heidtke and others in Decorah by attending their funerals and offering healing funeral luncheons. You have consoled me with all the cards you've sent and the kindness you have shown as I grieve my friend Sarah. You also brought the consolation of joy to our neighborhood with the Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic and to me as you celebrated the first anniversary of my installation as your pastor. Thank you!

This month we will begin our pledge drive; there is more about that in this newsletter. As you consider your pledge, consider how we can bring consolation to others by sharing freely of what God has first given us. We also receive consolation ourselves when we give because we join in God's work in the world. It is healing for us to participate in God's work of bringing new life.

Another opportunity we have to bring consolation to our community will be on Tuesday, November 1 - All Saints' Day. Our Worship and Music Committee is planning a Service of Healing and Hope that evening at 7pm. This will be a contemplative prayer service that will allow us to remember the saints who have died and pray for healing for all who grieve. We will also pray for healing and hope for our nation and our world in advance of the national election on November 8. Congregations and individuals around Decorah will be participating in this service with us. Together we will share in the consolation God gives so that we can offer it to others. Peace to you, Pastor Amy

CONGREGATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

Ever since our Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic, when I stop and pay attention, I hear a little voice in my heart saying "Wow!" What a great witness that work and joy can go together. I maybe should have been more apprehensive to take on the coordination of the picnic, but as it turned out, my lack of anxiety was justified, and it was based on what I've seen over and over in this congregation: we step forward, we're resourceful, and we enjoy each other.

Special thanks to Dave Judisch for coordinating set-up, Gail Judisch and Norma Refsal for decorating the tables, the communications sub-committee for outstanding publicity, David Lester for obtaining healthy hotdogs, Kathy and Braden Bakke and Lise Kildegaard for greeting our guests, the Hollands for organizing games for the kids, Mike, Sue, Namoli and the brass for music, and more people than I can name for taking shifts in the kitchen, bringing the feast, and staying to clean up.

We might wonder whether the event warrants the work to carry it off. It's not a service project, exactly, nor an evangelism event. And yet it broadcasts to the community both our appreciation of God's bounty and our abundant goodwill as a congregation – our pleasure in each other and in welcoming others to join us. Pastor Amy offered a blessing that began "Let the table be wide." The picnic embodies that message. The new location also made the event more visible and welcoming.

And the work was not burdensome (I think and hope) to any one person. Thanks to SignUp Genius and everyone's goodwill, I was able to find people to sign on for all the tasks and contributions of food and drink. The aim was to spread the work around so everyone could also enjoy the picnic. I sense that the model worked. If you have any concerns that I should make note of for the next coordinator, please let me know.

Don't forget that another way to share the hospitality of the table is to attend Community Meals at First Lutheran, every first and third Thursday. Our congregation's turn to bring salads and desserts and to serve is coming up on October 6th.

And as the rains continue, our hands will be needed to help with God's work in other ways. Right now we are helping three families connected to the congregation, and funds beyond that need will go to Lutheran Services in Iowa for their flood relief efforts.

Kate

WORSHIP NOTES

October 23 - New Member Sunday

Pr. Mark Anderson, Assistant to the Bishop in NE IA, will preach. Please let Pr. Amy know if you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd.

October 30 - Reformation Sunday

Festive worship with a visit from Martin and Katie Luther. A hearty Fellowship Hour will feature a "Katie's Table Celebration" with food from Katie Luther's table.

November 1, 7pm - Prayers for Healing and Hope

On All Saint's Day and one week before the national election, we will gather for a contemplative worship service to pray for healing and hope for individuals, the Decorah community and our nation.

November 6 - All Saints Sunday

Our bulletin for this service will include the names of all we want to remember on this day. Please sign their names on the sheet located by the guest book as you enter church, [beginning Oct.2](#), to compose a cover page for the bulletin to be used on this day.

November 23, 7pm - Community Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

We are hosting the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service this year. Please let Jonathon Struve (struvejo@luther.edu) know if you can usher or help with coffee that evening. Congregations are asked to bring pans of pumpkin bars to share. Brooke Joyce will lead an event choir that evening. If you'd like to participate simply attend the 6pm rehearsal that evening.

OCTOBER SCRIPTURES

Sunday, October 2 20th Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u> <i>Wicked surround the righteous; wait for the LORD</i>	<u>Psalm 37:1-9</u> <i>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD.</i>	<u>2 Timothy 1:1-14</u> <i>Guard the treasure entrusted to you: faith and love in Christ</i>	<u>Luke 17:5-10</u> <i>Faith the size of a mustard seed</i>
Sunday, October 9 21st Sunday after Pentecost	<u>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</u> <i>Naaman washes in the Jordan and is cleansed</i>	<u>Psalm 111</u> <i>I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.</i>	<u>2 Timothy 2:8-15</u> <i>If we die with Christ, we will live with Christ</i>	<u>Luke 17:11-19</u> <i>One leper made clean by Jesus gives thanks to God</i>
Sunday, October 16 22nd Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Genesis 32:22-31</u> <i>Jacob's struggle with the angel: I'll not let go until you bless me</i>	<u>Psalm 121</u> <i>My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.</i>	<u>2 Timothy 3:14--4:5</u> <i>In the presence of Christ the judge, proclaim the message</i>	<u>Luke 18:1-8</u> <i>The widow begs for justice; God grants justice to those who cry to God</i>
Sunday, October 23 23rd Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22</u> <i>Jerusalem will be defeated</i>	<u>Psalm 84:1-7</u> <i>Happy are the people whose strength is in you.</i>	<u>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</u> <i>The good fight of faith</i>	<u>Luke 18:9-14</u> <i>A Pharisee and tax collector pray together</i>
Sunday, October 30 <u>Reformation Sunday</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:10-18</u> <i>Learn to do good, seek justice, and rescue the oppressed</i>	<u>Psalm 32:1-7</u> <i>All the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble.</i>	<u>2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12</u> <i>Faith and love amid persecution and adversity</i>	<u>Luke 19:1-10</u> <i>Zacchaeus climbs into a tree to see Jesus</i>

The Music Page

Singing/Chanting/Speaking the Psalms

As you worship on a Sunday morning in many Christian congregations around the world, you'll come to a point in the service when you might be asked to chant all or part of a Psalm. In a service in which congregational singing is dominated by hymns and songs, it can be a little unnerving to sing in this way, sometimes without accompaniment, and without the guide of musical notation to help us know when to "change" notes. Chanting is also a form of musical expression that seems quite distant to us, and may remind us of hooded monks in a cold, stony abbey in a distant country.

It's true that Psalm chanting is an ancient tradition that pre-dates Christianity. These religious poems were an important part of Jewish Temple worship. They were sung by choirs, by the congregation, by the Rabbi, sometimes in alternation, and often accompanied with instruments. In other words, the ancient Jewish tradition of chanting the Psalms was not so different from what we do today.

Over the next few weeks, we will begin experimenting with the way we experience the Psalms in worship. For example, they can be spoken rather than chanted, or sung with melodies rather than chanted, or sung in 4-part chorale style. 15th and 17th century English and Scottish psalters, for example, included both tunes that corresponded with particular Psalms as well as chorales that could be sung either by the choir or the congregation. In the Episcopal hymnal from 1982, a series of 4-part chorales are provided as Psalm tunes. And over the years, many composers have simply taken a Psalm text and set it to music, either for a solo voice or for choir, to be "performed" in a liturgical setting, without the direct participation of the congregation.

As we chant, speak, sing and listen to the Psalms this fall, here are some things to think about:

1) When we chant, are you able to focus on the words, or are you focused on changing the musical notes at the right time?

2) When we alternate verses with the choir or the cantor, is it easier to listen and pay attention to the words you're hearing?

3) What happens when you speak the words of a Psalm as opposed to chanting or singing? What do you notice?

Lutherans have a love and a rich tradition of musical expression. The Psalms, however, are really about the words, not the music. Let us consider what Martin Luther himself wrote: "Many of the Fathers have loved and praised the book of Psalms above all other books of the Bible. No books of moral tales and no legends of saints which have been written, or ever will be, are to my mind as noble as the Book of Psalms; and if my purpose were to choose the best of all the edificatory books... and to have them assembled and presented in the best possible way, my choice would inevitably fall on our present Book."

Psalm 1 from a Scottish Psalter, first published in 1650. The text has been adapted to have a consistent number of syllables so that it can be sung to Thomas Tallis' music.

1 TALLIS, C. M. THOMAS TALLIS.
♩ = 80 (21 seconds*)

PSALM I.

mf **T**HAT man hath perfect blessed-
ness
Who walketh not astray
In counsel of ungodly men,
Nor stands in sinners' way,

mf **2** Nor sitteth in the scorner's chair;
But placeth his delight
Upon God's law, and meditates
On his law day and night.

mf **3** He shall be like a tree that grows
Set by a river's side,
Which in its season yields its fruit,
And green its leaves abide;

mp **4** And all he doth shall prosper well.
The wicked are not so;
But like they are unto the chaff,
Which wind drives to and fro.

mp **5** In judgment therefore shall not
stand
Such as ungodly are;
Nor in the assembly of the just
Shall wicked men appear.

mf **6** Because the way of godly men
Is to Jehovah known;
Whereas the way of wicked men
Shall quite be overthrown.

* The time in seconds is given for the singing of the tune.

STEWARDSHIP

We are excited to invite you into conversation and prayerful reflection about the many ways you give to God through your membership at Good Shepherd. Over the next six weeks, we will be sharing ways we can grow in our life together through the faith practices of intentional giving. We believe that everything comes from God and all we have belongs to God. Stewardship is about caring for the resources God gives us. Giving to God is a spiritual discipline. As with other spiritual disciplines, it is helpful to plan and act with intention. Acts of stewardship are not about what God, Good Shepherd, or our neighbor needs. God has already assured us that God cares for all. Instead, the spiritual discipline of stewardship is about our need to give.

In the coming weeks, we will invite all members of Good Shepherd to reflect on their own giving. Later this month, you will receive a packet with a letter, worksheet, and pledge form. One way to make a financial commitment is through percentage giving, that is, giving a percentage of your income. Mark Allan Powell writes that percentage giving helps us “ground our good intentions in habit.” Percentage giving also helps to grow in giving within our own personal financial circumstances rather than comparing the dollar amount we give to the dollar amounts others are able to give. What amount of giving helps free you to follow Christ?

Being stewards of all that God gives is more than a financial commitment. We also give our time and passion. Each member of Good Shepherd commits to serving as part of the ministry teams that fuel our life together. We look forward to these conversations together as a congregation and we give thanks for the many ways that Good Shepherd works together for the good of God’s creation.

With gratitude, The Stewardship Committee: Amalia Vagts, Kris Frank, Ed Epperly

The Good Shepherd Congregation Council has signed on to the following resolution that will be brought to the Human Rights Commission and hopefully to the Decorah City Council. If you wish to sign the resolution as an individual, please email Barbara Dale <nonrev909@neitel.net>

Friendship Not Fear

Standing in Solidarity with Muslims in our Local Community and the Nation

We, the undersigned, are concerned about the alarming wave of Islamophobia sweeping our nation. The Muslim students at Luther College, the Somali Muslim community in Postville, and Muslims around the country are our friends and neighbors and they are facing greater challenges in their day-to-day lives as a result of the growing fear. Advocates for Muslims receive threats on a regular basis. While anti-Muslim hate crimes intensify, prominent politicians support proposals advocating for mosque closings, registration programs, internment camps, and halting refugee resettlement.

Our diverse gifts and perspectives as a community lead us to a common commitment to work for justice, inclusion, and equality. We repudiate the hostility and hatred aimed at Muslims in and beyond our community. We deplore hate speech and fear mongering – and the bigotry and violence they spawn. We pledge to challenge Islamophobia whenever and wherever it occurs, to foster relationships with Muslims based on friendship and not fear, and to serve the common good by maintaining a firm commitment to racial and religious diversity.

October 2016 Ministry Schedule

DATE	LITURGY/WORSHIP	USHER *Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP *Coordinator (F) only bring food
Sunday, October 2	Asst. Minister: Reg Laursen Communion Server: Krista Holland Cantor: Jason Rausch	1.* Glenn Nelson 2. Jane Borelli Greeter/Nursery: Anna Norris Acolyte: Mara Holland	1.* 2. Bev Sheridan 3. Bev Nelson/Sarah Olson 4. Sharon Drew (F) 5. Jutta Anderson (F)
Sunday, October 9 <u>BROADCAST</u>	Asst. Minister: Robert Naslund Communion Server: Elizabeth Kaschins Cantor: Reg Laursen	1.*Daniel Raney 2. Jeri Laursen Greeter/Nursery: Marilyn Rue Acolyte: Jeri Laursen	1.* 2. Elizabeth Kaschins 3. Robert Naslund 4. Marilyn Rue 5.Jutta Anderson (F)
Sunday, October 16	Asst. Minister: Jim Fritz Communion Server: Elizabeth Fritz Cantor: Johnathon Struve	1.*Ed Epperly 2. Joyce Epperly Greeter/Nursery: Anna Norris Acolyte: Anna Norris	1.* 2. Diane Kruse 3. 4. Mary Fritz (F)
Sunday, October 23	Asst. Minister: Ruth Bruce Communion Server: Jerry Bruce Cantor: Daniel Raney	1.*Glenn Nelson 2. Jane Borelli Greeter/Nursery: Bev Sheridan Acolyte: Mara Holland	1.* Joyce Epperly 2. Ed Epperly 3. Robert Naslund 4. Ruth & Jerry Bruce
Sunday, October 30 <u>BROADCAST</u>	Asst. Minister: Krista Holland Communion Server: Steve Holland Cantor: Megan Buckingham	1.*Jerry Bruce 2. Bev Sheridan Greeter/Nursery: Ruth Bruce Acolyte: Leah Holland	1.* Gail Judisch 2. Elizabeth Kaschins 3. Marilyn Rue 4.

October Altar Guild: Marilyn Anderson, Charilyn Hover, and Jane Kemp.

SPECIAL EVENT:

Wellington Place Bingo Party; October 11,
1:00-1:30 Game, 12:30 setup.
Volunteers from any team are welcome!

45 prizes - fruit, cheese/cracker
pkgs, quarters, diet soda, dia-
betic candy. Jeri Laursen
Cookies/treats for 45

Volunteers at event:

1. Gail Judisch
- 2.
- 3.

EDUCATION

We kicked off the Sunday School year with Rally Day on September 11th. The kids were thrilled to decorate the annex, and we appreciate everyone who helped prepare this space for our kids. This year, we will be focusing on a single theme for four weeks at a time. Our first theme is The Last Supper, which will be followed by The Lord's Prayer. Each session will open and close with music led by Brooke Joyce

For the first three Sundays the kids will all work together to learn the story and do crafts and games around that theme. On the 4th Sunday of each rotation we are planning to pair students in groups of two with similar-age kids and an adult mentor to reflect on the story/theme. These small groups will meet for 20 minutes in the middle of the Sunday School time (11:05-11:25) and will be an opportunity for the kids to get to dig a little deeper into the story at an age-appropriate level and also to spend some time with other adults in the Congregation. This is just for Sunday School students, not confirmation students.

The Sunday School kids are age 5-12.

The Education Committee will prepare the lesson for adults to follow (review of story, reflection questions, simple faith practice). Adults just need to show up in the Annex at 11:05 ready to spend 20 minutes reflecting on faith with two students. We need adult mentors for two Sundays this fall: Nov 6th, and Nov 20th. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Megan Buckingham at meganjbuckingham@gmail.com or by phone at [319-230-0282](tel:319-230-0282).

Adult Forums

As part of a preparatory year to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Adult Education at Good Shepherd will place an emphasis on Reformation topics. In response to Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's call for Lutherans to read and study the Catechism together, we will do a series dedicated to that task.

October 2 - Pastor Marion Pruitt Jefferson will lead the first session on focusing on the Ten Commandments.

October 9 - A session on the Creed is tentatively planned with an alternative topic pending.

October 16 - Brad Hanson will lead a session on The Lord's Prayer.

October 23 - Catherine Moeller will be discussing her recent experiences with the ELCA Young Adults in the Global Mission program.

October 30 - Katie's Table Celebration - A hearty Fellowship Hour with food from Katie Luther's table.

Sessions on Baptism and Communion are planned for 2017. Additionally, we are working towards a session on Luther's 95 Theses, and the 32 Points of Agreement recently approved by the ELCA assembly. Further descriptions will be posted on the web page as they become available.

GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVING AS AN INVITING CONGREGATION OCTOBER

CHALLENGE: Think about one thing your congregation does very well: music, coffee hour, service, and use that to finish the sentence "My church is really good at ____." Try this one time per week with one person in a conversation.

COMMUNITY MEAL SPONSOR - Good Shepherd is the sponsor organization for the Decorah Community Meal on Thursday, October 6th. The meal is served from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm at First Lutheran Church. Members of Good Shepherd are asked to sign up to serve as volunteers in setting up, serving, and cleaning up. We are also asked to provide salads and desserts. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex. Please call Dave Judisch at [563-380-7707](tel:563-380-7707) if you have questions, or if you can't sign up at the church.

NOTE OF THANKS – Sharon Drew would like to thank all in the congregation for their prayers and support during the illness and death of her brother, Clayton Wangness.

A TREE GROWS IN DECORAH - The church council and through them, the Committee for Property and Management, has authorized the formation of a task force to plan a church-sponsored tree planting project. It will be designed to create a living memorial of Martin Luther's 1517 actions which initiated the Reformation. Ed Epperly serves as chairperson. If you would like to serve on this planning committee, please notify Jenny in the church office.

GRANT REQUEST - A grant of \$2,000 has been received from the Depot Outlet for projects at Good Shepherd. The projects are intended to complete the hospitality upgrades which were part of the 25th anniversary celebration of the 1988 addition to the church building. They include the purchase and installation of new entryway flooring, signage distinguishing the two entrances to the building and enhancements to

the main entryway, and two all-weather exterior benches to replace the original wooden ones at the main entrance. Special thanks to Property and Management Committee members and Erik Berg for their assistance gathering information for the grant proposal.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS NEEDED: The Riehle Decorating Company of Cresco specializes in the redecoration of church sanctuaries, principally through creative painting designs. The Property and Management Committee of GS has voted to have them make a presentation regarding our sanctuary. A Task Force will be chosen from interested members to meet with their representatives. If you are interested in being on this task force contact the Church Office or any member of the P/M Committee (Jerry Frank, Marty Steele or Reg Laursen) by Oct 15th.

Directory Updates

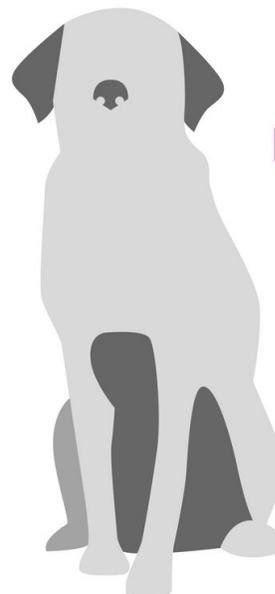
Check online directory for specifics

Leota Knudsvig
New address
cell only, No land line

Jonathon Struve - new cell

November Newsletter Deadline

October 20



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

DECORAH FISH HATCHERY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8
10:00 A.M.

ALL PETS & PEOPLE WELCOME!

HOSTED BY: DECORAH UCC,
GOOD SHEPHERD, & FIRST
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHOTOS POSTED ON FLICKR - Photos of all Good Shepherd events are posted on the Good Shepherd flickr site. Click on the flickr logo at the top right of the Good Shepherd website homepage to access the photos. The photos have also been assembled in albums for ease of viewing. Most recently, many photos from Rally Day and the Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic have been posted.

DHS 2016 Homecoming Freshman class attendants were Lillian Grouws, daughter of Jeni and David Grouws, and Keaton Solberg, son of Denise and Brian Solberg.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - The prayer shawl makers will meet at the home of Jane Kemp (316 Riverview Drive) on Wednesday, October 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to come and help provide this symbol of Good Shepherd's and God's care and support when people need it most.

JOIN US!

Upstairs T-Bocks

Today's students deal with a lot of crazy issues and stressful situations. *Elevate* hopes to provide a fun, safe, denominationally-neutral place for students to just "be". Each month we hang out, worship God and talk about what God has to say about who we are in the midst of the "crazy".

Doors will open each month at 6:30 p.m. with worship beginning at 7:00 p.m. Students will be welcomed, check-in, and come together for a relaxed worship and games, followed by a time of hang out with food. These monthly gatherings are led by youth leaders from Decorah Covenant, Decorah Lutheran, First Lutheran, and St. Benedicts churches. All students in grades 7-12 are welcome and encouraged to come. Pr. Amy will be there!

BACKPACK PROGRAM PEANUT BUTTER APPEAL:

The Backpack Program (the school year program that sends home food with kids on Friday so they have food over the weekend) has learned that it is in need of peanut butter. The regional food bank warehouse in Waterloo has requested that towns collect their

own peanut butter to help offset the cost of the program to the food bank. The Good Shepherd Social Justice Committee has responded to this need. We ask that members of Good Shepherd donate either money (checks to Good Shepherd should say "Backpack Program" on the memo line) or buy a jar (or several jars) of peanut butter that would fit in a kid's backpack along with the other food. We ask that people buy the peanut butter with less sugar for nutritional reasons. You can leave the peanut butter jars in the basket for food bank donations in the lobby. For more information, contact Lyle Otte or Pastor Amy.

SEEKING FACILITATORS for a Decorah wide conversation about white privilege happening this spring. We will be testing resources and training facilitators this fall. If you are interested, please talk to Pr. Amy. We'll be using material called *White Privilege: Let's Talk—A Resource for Transformational Dialogue*. This is an adult curriculum from the United Church of Christ that's designed to invite not just UCC members, but communities far and wide to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race. In particular, this curriculum focuses in on consciousness about white privilege.

A GRAND PIANO CELEBRATION CONCERT will be held at Decorah Lutheran Church at 3 p.m. on October 9th. The Decorah Chorale, Luren Singers, and Northern Lights will each sing a section and then join together for final pieces. All are invited. This free concert is to express appreciation to all who contributed toward the purchase of a 7' Model BB Mason Hamlin grand piano.

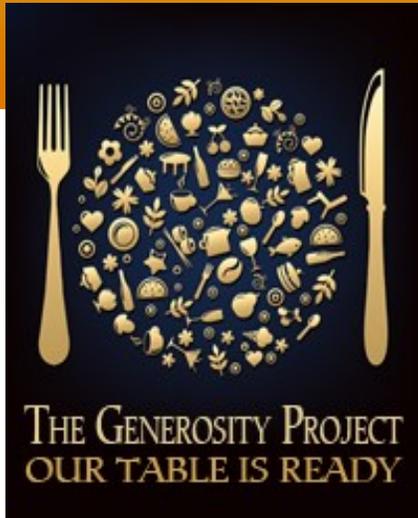
CANOE RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HARVEST SUPPER will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at Canoe Ridge Church, rural Decorah. Serving Mike Reick's Chicken, Mash Potatoes, Dressing, Gravy, Corn, Cranberry Salad, Lefse, Rolls, Cookies/Bars, and Beverages. Take outs available. Serving begins at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 for ages 12 and over and \$5 for 11 and under; preschool free. Call Bette Forde 382-3220, Virginia Hanson 382-9414, Bill Rude-380-1004, Roger Halvorson, 382-5516 or stop into Decorah Rental or Ladybug Landscapes.



CONNECTING GENERATIONS

Equipping Households

Creating Centers for the Faith Practice
of Generosity



Generosity is reflected in the daily practice of one's faith. • Generosity is a faith practice best formed in households. • Our daily decisions to Share, Save and Spend are shaped by God's Story in Jesus. • Regardless of age, we are all called to be Stewards of God's abundant grace.



The Generosity Project is a lively ½ day, interactive, intergenerational workshop, modeling a congregation's potential to connect and equip all ages and generations as Steward Leaders in the congregation and in the home.



**Sunday, October 23, 2016
1-3:30pm,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Decorah, IA**

This fall we will again be collecting articles for the **LWR School Kits**. Education is important in every community, but especially those where poverty or disaster limits the options of young people looking to improve their lives. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children and in some cases, adults, to continue learning despite the hardships of poverty and disaster they face. We will send the kits to the LWR distribution site on November 5. A collection box has been set out in the narthex.

Items needed for **School Kits** are:

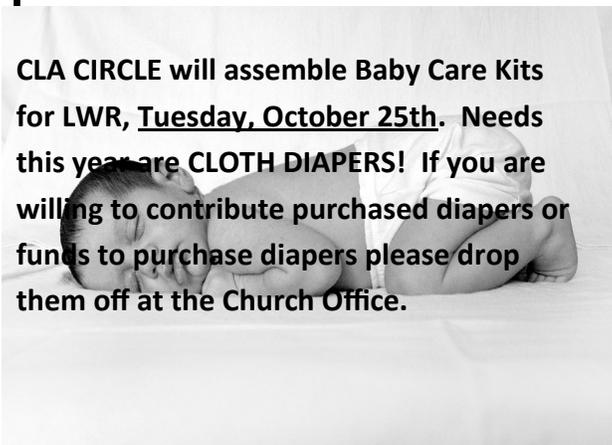
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Four 70 sheet notebooks-wide ruled | One 30 centimeter ruler | One pencil sharpener |
| One pair blunt scissors | Five unsharpened #2 pencils | One 2 ½ inch eraser |
| Five black or blue ballpoint pens | One box of 16 or 24 crayons | |

Our annual FALL SOUP LUNCHEON AND ATTIC TREASURES/BAKE SALE will be held on Sunday, November 6, 10:30 - 1:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets for food donations and workers will be out soon. As in the past, we will be asking for people to bring soups, milk, desserts and vegetable trays along with volunteers to work in the kitchen and at the attic treasures sale and bake sale. Start looking around your house for special items that you may longer have a use for but someone else would find irresistible. Yummy baked goods are also needed for our bake sale. We will decide at our WELCA brunch in January where the proceeds from this project will go. Contact Bev if you have any new suggestions for distributions of funds.

Women of the ELCA's Tenth Triennial Gathering will be held July 13-16, 2017 in Minneapolis under the theme "All Anew". The gathering will bring women together from across the church with life-changing workshops, worship, bible study and more. It will never be closer for us than it will be in 2017. Registration opens September 6. Early-bird registration is \$310 through December 31; after that, registration is \$350. Register at welcatg.org or send an email to women.elca@elca.org for a registration packet. The Northeast Iowa Synod also has scholarships available to help cover the cost of the registration. Forms can be found at www.neiasynod.org or contact Bev Sheridan for more information.

Ten Good Reasons to attend the Tenth Triennial Gathering (more to come in the following months)

10. **Hear the Gathering choir raise the roof** with our All Anew theme hymn, "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading."
9. **Worship together** with thousands of Lutheran women.



CLA CIRCLE will assemble Baby Care Kits for LWR, Tuesday, October 25th. Needs this year are **CLOTH DIAPERS!** If you are willing to contribute purchased diapers or funds to purchase diapers please drop them off at the Church Office.

OCTOBER CIRCLE SCHEDULE

- Mary Circle: 10/4, 4:30 p.m. Julie Iverson (Ridgeway) hosts
- Anna Circle: 10/11, 9:30 a.m. Doris Barnaal hosts
- Miriam/Ruth: 10/12, 2 p.m. Carol Hasvold hosts
- CLA Circle: 10/25, 7 p.m. Jutta Anderson hosts at church

Dear Sheep of God's Pasture at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

On behalf of my family, Sarah and Karl, I want to offer my deepest gratitude for the financial and prayerful gifts you have given us. This gift makes our journey possible at Wartburg and lightens the burden of debt which we will carry in the coming years. I am deeply grateful for all the growth and formation that happens in this place and am continually amazed at all the connections centered here and in all places of worship which are then sent out and scattered as the Body of Christ for the sake of the world. Your support makes this a reality for me and leads this Body further towards wholeness in nurturing this connection. Thank you!

I am looking forward to starting this new school year, my second year of study. I am amazed to see how much learning has taken place for me through all the study, community and worship which are the staples of life together here at Wartburg. I also had a particularly meaningful experience this summer in completing CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) at Advocate BroMenn Hospital in Normal, Illinois. I was greatly challenged and humbled by the opportunity as a chaplain to accompany people, typically in the midst of the vulnerabilities of sickness and death. I worked mainly on oncology and cardiovascular units. My self-awareness was deepened as I navigated my own anxieties surrounding embodying a pastoral presence for people who are suffering, and my own understanding of the Gospel message was also affirmed as it met the reality of these people's lives and gave real comfort and peace. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to do this kind of transformative learning, and look forward to continuing back on campus and in the midst of the learning community at Wartburg.

Thank you again for your prayers and your financial gifts which make my seminary education possible! I am so grateful for your support and can attest to seminary education as a meaningful and transformative experience which partakes of the grace and call of Christ's Body in and for the sake of the world. Thank you and thanks be to God!

Peace in Christ, Nathan Wicks

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Wicks". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016, 7 P.M.

Present: Pr. Amy Larson, Kate Narveson, John Moeller, Jeri Laursen, Megan Buckingham, Jonathon Struve, Lise Kildegaard, Reg Laursen. Unable to attend: Amalia Vagts and Drew Duffy

Devotions were given by Kate Narveson. Kate read a translation by Mary Sydney Herbert on Psalm 139.

Megan Buckingham moved, Reg Laursen 2nd to approve the August Council minutes. Approved.

Lise Kildegaard moved, Reg Laursen 2nd to adopt the agenda. Approved.

Old Business:

Narveson is writing up notes from the Friends and Neighbors Picnic and asked for council input and observations. She will put their comments into her report. Kildegaard said the Evangelism Committee felt "freed up" to do other things. SignUpGenius worked well. Kitchen crew shifts went well and had good turn over. Communications Sub Committee did a great job on publicity. R. Laursen asked what the objectives are of the picnic. Fellowship with our members? Outreach? Low key evangelism?

Narveson reminded the committees to ask any sub committees to turn in a report in October.

New Business:

Statement of solidarity and support for Muslims: Peace and Justice put together a report to present to congregational councils in the Decorah community. After some discussion Kildegaard moved that Pr. Amy suggest to the NE Iowa Peace and Justice Center a small change in their statement to include the phrase "Muslims are our friends and neighbors", but that the congregational council endorses the statement whether or not it is amended. Motion was seconded by Buckingham. Passed. The statement will be included in the October newsletter.

The October Council date will be October 25 because the regular meeting time falls during Luther Fall Break.

Recurring Work of the Body – Committee, Pastor, and Officer Reports

Education: Megan Buckingham

VBS was fantastic! The Sunday School curriculum for this fall will focus on one story/theme for four weeks. The sessions will open and close with music and prayer. On the fourth week the students will break up into groups of two and be paired with adults to reflect on the story and do Faith Five. The Education Committee is pleased with the annex and the kids love it.

Evangelism Committee: Lise Kildegaard

The Committee will be picking a date for New Member Sunday. The discussion at committee is whether or not to add new things to the calendar or is the calendar already full. They are looking to the future.

Property and Management Committee: Reg Laursen

Jenny Werner is looking into insurance for the purchase of a lift platform for the church office to accommodate her need to stand while working on the computer. This is put on hold until she hears about insurance. The annex has been painted, except for some trim. We had a bee infestation that has been addressed. Jane Kemp has been in touch with Jerry Riehle for a free consult regarding an upgrade of the interior of the sanctuary. P/M is looking for volunteers to be on a task force to meet with him. Jane Kemp

(Continued on page 14)

has secured a \$2000 Depot grant to update our entryways. P/M met with Dennis Pottratz to look into solar possibilities for the church.

Stewardship Committee: Pr. Amy (in the absence of Amalia Vagts)

The Fall Pledge Drive will be October 9-November 13. The goal is 84 pledges.

The committee has discussed nursery staffing. They recommended to the council that Good Shepherd affirm a new practice for the nursery. The nursery will be available to parents and caregivers, but will not be staffed by a volunteer. Megan Buckingham volunteered to visit with parents before the next council meeting about this proposal. The motion was tabled until the October meeting.

Worship and Music Committee: Jonathon Struve

On November 1 there will be a Service of Reflection and Prayer in anticipation of the upcoming election. Wednesday services will be held during Advent and Lent. A follow up survey will be done following Lent. The Art Committee is in discussion regarding a processional cross. David Faldet and Harley Refsal are working on a design. The hope is to have it available by Easter, 2017.

The Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be at Good Shepherd on November 23. There will be a pick up choir and pumpkin bars and coffee will be served. This will include the three in-town Lutheran churches, Decorah Covenant Church and St. Benedict's Catholic Church.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy

There are tentative plans to hold the Generosity Project event at Good Shepherd on Sunday, October 23 from 1-3:30. This is a synod event and they are looking for a coordinator. Pr. Amy has been in conversation with the coordinator of AMMPARO, the ELCA's strategy for Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities. This will go to Social Justice for discussion.

\$5370 (to date) has been collected by Good Shepherd members for Flood Relief. Some has been designated specifically for the Ruiz family, some for the Jacobsens and some undesignated. J. Laursen moved that the undesignated funds be given to the Jacobsens because of their greater expenses except for 10% of undesignated which will go to the Soliah family, former members of GS. This will include any additional contributions. Buckingham seconded. Passed.

Secretary: Jeri Laursen

J. Laursen reported that the membership roster update is nearing completion. Many personal contacts were made and about 30 letters have been sent out. Responses are coming in. Sharon Rendack will enter actions into the hand written roster book. Jeri Laursen will enter the data in the Shepherd's Staff computer program.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Income to date is \$145,457.64

Year to Date GS income over expenses is \$8888

We are caught up on all benevolences.

Buckingham moved, Struve seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The council concluded with the Lord's Prayer. The next council meeting will be Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. Struve is scheduled for devotions.

Submitted by Jeri Laursen, Secretary

October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25</p> <p>Social Media Week Check in at...Media Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Band Warm Up 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School/ 10:45 AM Adult Forum 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM CLA Circle 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast Homes 9:30 AM Opportunity Youth Class 4:00 PM Our Whole Lives 6:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band rehearsal 	<p>29</p> <p>Recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 4:00 PM Oneota Community Orchestra Dinner and Concert 	<p>1</p>
<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Handbell Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Mary Circle 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 8:15 AM CNA Class 4:00 PM Our Whole Lives Youth Class 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band rehearsal 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 12:00 PM Communications Sub-Committee 1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting 5:00 PM GS sponsored-Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Blessing of the Animals
<p>9</p> <p>Broadcast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Choir Practice 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Sunday School/Confirmation 6:00 PM Ben Sides Recital, 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Anna Circle 5:15 PM Evangelism Committee 8:00 PM Worship & Music Committee 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 8:15 AM CNA Class 10:30 AM Pr. Amy @ Aase 1:00 PM Pr. Amy @ Well. Pl. 2:00 PM Miriam / Ruth Circuit 3:30 PM Education Committee 4:00 PM Our Whole Lives 	<p>13</p> <p>Recycle Jenny arrives 8:15.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 1:00 PM Decorah Travel Club 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Quilt Guild 10:00 AM Stewardship Committee 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Choir and Band Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast Homes 9:30 AM Opportunity Youth Class 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00 PM Our Whole Lives 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band rehearsal 	<p>20</p> <p>November n...missions due</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 5:00 PM Decorah Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>New Member Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Choir Practice 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School/Confirmation 1:00 PM Generosity Project 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM CLA Circle 7:00 PM Council Meeting 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 4:00 PM Our Whole Lives Youth Class 6:00 PM Handbells practice 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band rehearsal 	<p>27</p> <p>Recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Broadcast</p> <p>Reformation Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Band Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ANON 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Prayers for Healing and Hope 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 6:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band rehearsal 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Adult Bible study 1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting 5:00 PM Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>5</p> <p>Lutheran World Relief Pickup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM DAR 3:00 PM Soup lunch and sale set up

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A Reconciling In Christ Congregation
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October 2016

The Shepherd's Voice

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Check out our website!

<http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org>



Good Shepherd is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation