

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

701 Iowa Avenue

Decorah IA 52101



# The Shepherd's Voice

November 2017



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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION





# *The Shepherd's Voice*

November 2017

## Words from Pastor Larson

Beloved of God,

We have already made great strides in reaching our main goal in the Place to Connect appeal! Our main goal is to inspire and invite generosity. We are doing that by reflecting on what God is doing among us and what more we could do with increased giving in 2018. Here are some of the comments I've heard:

"That weekly giving chart is so helpful. It has really gotten me thinking about my own giving."

"Thank you for the chance to talk to you about what I will give next year. I've been thinking about this and it really helps to talk through it with my pastor."

"Can you believe all the things that we're doing at Good Shepherd? I had no idea we did so much outreach and social action!"

"It is wonderful to see so many kids up front for the children's messages! I want there to be opportunities and space for those kids."

"I am really excited about this Place to Connect Appeal. I appreciate how transparent you are being about how our increased giving in 2018 will be used."

The Place to Connect appeal is a chance for us all to think together about our financial stewardship- our financial giving. Financial stewardship is a central practice for us as Christians. It is a practice that can set us free from the traps we fall into with money. It is so easy to think that more money and more things will make us happier, freer, more at peace - to put our trust in money and things rather than in God. It is so easy for us to get anxious about money, to fixate on gaining more and protecting what we have. As we give back what God has first given us, we discover that there is enough, that God does provide. Our trust in God grows and we become more centered in faith, hope and love.

The goal for increased financial giving in 2018 is \$85,000. We will use this increased giving to 1) care for and update our physical space, 2) strengthen intergenerational ministry, and 3) support social action. There are two ways you can be part of making this goal a reality. You can commit to an increase in your regular giving. You can also give an additional one-time gift now or in the spring.

In the week of November 13, you will receive a letter inviting you to make a Statement of Intent on Sunday, November 19. Please consider the specific invitation in your letter and plan to make a Statement of Intent. You will also receive a phone call that week to remind you of the Statement of Intent Sunday. I am available for conversation about your giving if that would be helpful to you. The dollar amounts indicated on the Statements of Intent will be used to develop a 2018 budget that will allow us to strengthen our ministry and care for our space. **One generous member has offered a challenge: if eighty-five households make Statements of Intent, this member will give an additional \$5,000.**

*I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:3-6*

Peace, Pastor Amy

# Stewardship

## A Place to Connect: Update

***Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.***

***Ephesians 3:20-21***

A Place to Connect has begun! On two more Sundays (November 5 and November 12) we will hear stories during worship from members of Good Shepherd. These stories will help us reflect on how Good Shepherd is living out our call to generosity and service. On Sunday, November 19, we will all be invited to consider our own giving for 2018. This is an exciting time for our congregation as we think of all what God's power within us is able to "accomplish far more abundantly than we can ask or imagine."

Please check out the hallway bulletin board for updates and visit with any member of the Stewardship Committee if you would like to learn more.

Amalia Vagts, Germano Streese, and Jerry Bruce

## Q&A with Rev. Peter Reuss

**Associate GSB Fundraising Consultant for 'A Place to Connect'**

*We've gathered together some of the questions that have emerged from our early conversations about Place to Connect and how Good Shepherd is working in increase generosity and giving back to God through our 2018 Stewardship Appeal.*

### ***Often a capital campaign is separate from an annual appeal. Why are they together?***

As I've gotten to know Good Shepherd, I've been impressed with your congregation's passion for caring for people. You truly know how to love your neighbors. Your building serves not only as a place of worship and faith formation. It also serves as a place of impact in the Decorah community (and beyond). As a congregation, you have discerned that building issues hinder your ability to reach out. Incorporating these building improvements into one unified budget acknowledges the connection the building has to your ministry. Caring for the building is not somehow separate from ministry...it is part of your ministry. Since you have the ability to care for your building in stages, it makes sense to include it into the regular budget. A capital appeal can serve a congregation well when the dollars needed are significant and will be paid over a number of years. This is not the case at Good Shepherd at this time.

### ***Can I make a designated gift for a specific project?***

The goals you have set out inspire people in different ways. Some want to see their gifts go to outreach. Others want intergenerational ministry. Others want to care for your building. It takes an entire community working together to have a robust ministry. Trust your leadership to carefully use your gift

*(Continued on page 4)*

to make the greatest impact. They will continue to keep the channels of communication open as decisions are made. With caring for your building critical to your outreach ministry, and a part of your annual budget, it does not make sense to designate gifts specifically to the building. Your congregational leadership has taken careful and deliberate steps to discern your building needs, which will lead to hiring a building space use professional to advise you. At this time, the specifics of what needs to be done (and in what order) are not known, so designating to specific building needs does not work well.

***If you don't want designated gifts, then why are we hearing about specific projects?***

The leadership of Good Shepherd provided specific projects as a way of explaining the immediate need for an increase in giving. The projects listed lay at the core of your ministry together and, when accomplished, will allow you to fulfill God's mission in new and powerful ways.

***Will we meet our goal through our Statements of Intent?***

We very well could meet the goal this fall. If so, we will thank you for your generosity and celebrate. It will also lead us to ask the question, "What do we do with the additional funds Good Shepherd will receive in 2018" because nearly every congregation receives more in annual offerings than they do in fall Intents. Good Shepherd has embarked on a process called Stewardship for All Seasons, with a goal of increasing giving by \$85,000 throughout 2018. The Statements of Intent provide one significant 'season' you work to achieve that goal, but it's not the only season of the year. Good Shepherd seeks to encourage generosity in all seasons by telling the stories of what God accomplishes through your ministry. If 100% of the goal is not met in the fall, the spring season may see a special appeal focusing on a very specific goal. This would be another step in the journey toward increasing giving by \$85,000 in 2018, allowing the people of Good Shepherd to connect with God, others, and the world.

***If I make a significant gift for 2018, will you expect me to give that amount each year?***

No one is "expected" to give. The goal, through Stewardship for All Seasons, is to encourage people on journeys of faith. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Providing opportunities to use 'treasures' helps people to participate in God's mission through Good Shepherd. While individual members of Good Shepherd will be asked to consider giving at specific levels (a process done prayerfully and with great care), it comes as an invitation, not an expectation. Due to circumstances some have the opportunity to give significantly more than the request and others will give less than the request. That is normal and expected.

***Why aren't we talking about a percentage increase?***

Through years of experience, we at GSB (the firm that developed Stewardship for All Seasons) learned that talking about specific dollar amounts has proved more helpful to people than talking about percentages.



### THIRD QUARTER TREASURER'S REPORT

We ended September with a slight profit for the year. Our income through September was \$165,493.85 and our expenses were \$165,185.17. September income was considerably less than previous months and September expenses were especially high because we paid off many of our benevolence promises. Assuming that September's drop in giving was just a blip, we should be in okay shape as we move toward the end of the year.

As you know, the Church Council policy is to limit the occasions where we make specific appeals for funds. We agreed that the hurricane flooding was one of those events that deserved a special appeal. As a result, when Joyce writes the final check Good Shepherd will have sent \$2,460.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Because the Church Garden (I thought it worthy of capitalization) is connected with giving, I thought I should pass on a few comments now that the season has ended (indeed, by the time you read this next year's season will have begun with the fall planting of garlic complete). Once again we can thank Ed Hover (and Charilyn, too) for continuing the work that Bob Felde and Craig Symons began somewhere around 2003. We also want to thank Mike Bollinger and Katie Prochaska for generously donating so many of the seedlings (including those amazing shallots) that the Hovers have paid for in the past. Not only did the garden provide some good looking produce every Sunday during its prime, the member donations will allow us to send just under \$400.00 to the Food Pantry at First Lutheran. As an aside, Ed is ready to cut back on his role in the garden so next February I'll call a meeting for anyone interested to talk about the garden's future.

Submitted by John Moeller

## Adult Forums

**Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>** - This past summer, Natalie Tapscott traveled to Thailand for two weeks on a Volunteer and Adventure Experience with the help of many at Good Shepherd. Natalie is 16 years old and a junior at Decorah High School. The program was with Global Visions International, a conservation and community development organization with programs available to both youth and adults. She will be speaking on her time there and what she learned while in Thailand.

**Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>** - Decorah Power board member, Tabita Green, will discuss the initiative to create a municipal electric utility in Decorah. The discussion will also consider how such initiatives fit into a bigger vision for a new economy that is focused on cooperation, strong local economies, and the wellbeing of people and planet. Come ready to learn and ask questions!

**Nov. 19** - To Be Announced

**Nov. 26** - No Adult Forum

## November Scriptures

<b>November 5</b> All Saints Sunday	Revelation 7:9-17 <i>The multitudes of heaven worship the Lamb</i>	Psalm 34:1-10, 22 <i>Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.</i>	1 John 3:1-3 <i>We are God's children</i>	Matthew 5:1-12 <i>Blessed are the poor in spirit</i>
<b>November 12</b> 23rd Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 5:18-24 <i>Let justice roll down like waters</i>	Psalm 70 <i>You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.</i>	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 <i>The promise of the resurrection</i>	Matthew 25:1-13 <i>The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids</i>
<b>November 19</b> 24th Sunday after Pentecost	Zephaniah 1:7,12-18 <i>The day of the LORD</i>	Psalm 90:1-8, 12 <i>So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.</i>	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 <i>Be alert for the day of the Lord</i>	Matthew 25:14-30 <i>The story of the slaves entrusted with talents</i>
<b>November 26</b> 25th Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 <i>God will shepherd Israel</i>	Psalm 95:1-7a <i>We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.</i>	Ephesians 1:15-23 <i>The reign of Christ</i>	Matthew 25:31-46 <i>The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats</i>

# November 2017 Ministry Teams

DATE	LITURGY/WORSHIP	USHER *Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP *Coordinator (F) food only
Sunday, November 5 11:00 Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Jonathon Struve  Communion Server: Ruth Bruce  Cantor: Dan Raney	1. *Mark Finanger  2. Erik Berg  Greeter: Jane Borelli  Acolyte: Keegan Joyce	1. * Joyce Epperly  2. John Jefferson  3. Lois Finanger  4. Jutta F. Anderson (F)
Sunday, November 12 11:00 Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Bob Felde  Communion Server: Reg Laursen  Cantor: Kate Narveson	1. *Ed Epperly  2. Jim Fritz  Greeter: Jane Borelli  Acolyte: Lulu & Poppy Bellrichard	1. * Jeri Laursen  2. Liz Fritz  3. Jutta F. Anderson (F)  4. Ingrid Callaghan  5. Sue Blair (F)
Sunday, November 19 11:00 Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Bob Larson  Communion Server: Jeri Laursen  Cantor: Reg Laursen	1. *Chris Johnson  2. Erik Johnson  Greeter: Reg Laursen  Acolyte: Abby Larson	1. * Diane Kruse  2. Marilyn Anderson  3. Al Anderson  4. Bonnie Johnson
Sunday, November 26 Live Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Chris Hick  Communion Server: Linda Wolfs  Cantor: Dennis Barnaal	1. *Dan Bellrichard  2. Martha Steele  Greeter: Mark Finanger  Acolyte: Lulu & Poppy Bellrichard	1. * Marilyn Rue  2. Sara Hanssen  3. Sue Blair  4. Mike Blair

**November Altar Guild: Bev Sheridan (convener) Jerrine Jacobsen, Karl Jacobsen**



# Good Shepherd Announcements

**REFORMATION GROVE PLANTED!** Although the weather took a sharp downturn for the proposed planting day of the Good Shepherd Reformation Grove, a few days earlier in the week provided time to put most of the trees and shrubs in the ground. Scott Hervey deserves a medal for the work he put in while Jim Fritz, Duncan McLean and Jane Kemp Bob Naslund, Karen McLean, and Bob Felde. were supporters. The Sunday School children planted one tree with fanfare on October 22, the day of the dedication of the Grove. Trees were safely delivered to members who purchased trees at a reduced rate. Mop-up will take place in November when the final report to the major granting agency, Trees Forever, is created and one additional grant proposal is submitted. Photos of all the Reformation Grove events can be accessed on the Good Shepherd flickr site while the Grove plan layout is pinned on the bulletin board in the corridor leading from the Narthex to the Fellowship Hall.

## **CNA GRADUATION AND RECEPTION**

Thursday, November 2, 1:30 p.m. -The congregation is invited to celebrate with the class at the ceremony in the sanctuary and reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please note change of time.

## **RETURN TO CENTRAL STANDARD**

**TIME Sunday, November 5**

Remember to "fall back" and turn your clocks back one hour.

## **GS DIRECTORY UPDATES:**

Diane & Jim Kruse: new address

Trudy Peterson: new phone number

Catherine Moeller: new address

Please see the online directory for these updates or call the church office at 382-3963.



## **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**November 16**



**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP:** Now thank we all our God! Join other members of our community by participating in the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on November 22 at 6:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church. A volunteer choir will sing at this service - all are welcome to participate. The choir will rehearse at 5:15 p.m. Fellowship will follow worship - please consider bringing a pan of your favorite fall treats (cut and ready to serve). Our Thanksgiving Eve offering will be designated for Wings of Refuge, an organization that works to lift victims out of human trafficking. Please bring monetary donations, gift cards (KwikTrip, Casey's, Walmart, Fareway, HyVee), or basic toiletry items.

**ALZHEIMERS CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** - The East Central Iowa Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is providing *Café Purple*, a caregivers support group, which encourages caregivers and their loved ones to attend for activities and socialization with others facing dementia; while caregivers share strength and resources. They will meet the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Decorah Lutheran Church. Contact for Alzheimer's Association: 319-277-4100.

NOVEMBER 22, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.

# Community Thanksgiving Eve Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH - 604 W. BROADWAY



## *All Saints Sunday*

Sunday, November 5 is All Saints Sunday, the day we remember and give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. We will read the names of saints from Good Shepherd. We will also have opportunity for personal prayer, reflection and candle lighting to honor the other saints we remember on this day.





**THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Lutheran World Relief kits.** With the help of a \$250 Thrivent Action card, we were able to purchase school bags (with some left over for next year) and also extra supplies for our school kits and baby care kits. Marie

Freerking received some donated fabric and made 13 Fabric Kits. The Sunday School helped to assemble 25 School Kits and CLA circle made 53 Baby Care Kits at their October meeting. The Upper Iowa River Conference of the Women of the ELCA will collect kits from all participating churches on Saturday, November 4 at Olson Explosives in Decorah to be delivered to the LWR warehouse in St Paul. Olsons donates a truck and driver for the trip with donations accepted from area churches. How nice to have a donation spot so close to us!

**2018 is fast approaching** and with that, we need to get our circle hostesses ready for the new year. Please get them to Jenny as soon as possible. We will also have our WELCA annual meeting and mid-winter brunch on January 27. Please contact Bev with any program ideas.

**Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)** has asked the Women of the ELCA for support in a special project that they have identified as crucial to the families of Iowa. The Projects are Client Assistance, Spiritual Life and God's Work. The NE Iowa Synod Organization of the Women of the ELCA has chosen to support the Spiritual Life project with a goal of raising \$5,000. The Spiritual Life Program centers both staff and residents on LSI's mission to **respond to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service.** The Spiritual Life Program nurtures the spirit of youth through relational ministry with Pastor Dennis Bauer. Since we are not having a fall soup luncheon/country store, you may want to contribute extra funds to this program, you can give your donation to Bev Sheridan or leave it in the WELCA box in the church office. Thank you for your support of this program.

**Upcoming event:** November 4: LWR pickup, Olson explosives

### November Circle Schedule

- 11/7 - Mary Circle - 4:00 p.m. - Jane Jakoubek hosts
- 11/8 - Miriam Circle - 2:00 p.m. - Carrie Solberg hosts
- 11/14 - Anna Circle - 9:30 a.m. - at Aase Haugen
- 11/28 - CLA Circle - 7:00 p.m. - Bev Sheridan hosts



# Social Justice

# AAMPARO

Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities

Good Shepherd recently became the first congregation in our synod to be designated an AAMPARO Welcoming Congregation. AAMPARO stands for Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities. It is a commitment by the ELCA to serve vulnerable children and their families with emotional and spiritual support, and to accompany them to gain access to local and institutional services they might need and to advocate for justice for them. It also is intended to address root causes of their need to flee their homes in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and came about after an ELCA delegation visited Central America to understand the exodus of people seeking protection in the U.S. Violence, insecurity, and the inability of governments to protect their most vulnerable citizens are key in the displacement of these children and families. Congregations around the U.S. have begun to find ways to minister to this vulnerable population as the larger church works toward fair and compassionate migration policies and change in the home countries of those seeking refuge specifically from these Central American countries. It is important to note that in Spanish, the word “amparo” means protection, refuge, or shelter.

Marty Steele along with Pastor Marion are the AAMPARO representatives for Good Shepherd, and along with the Social Concerns Committee are in the process of providing opportunities for members to learn about what causes the exodus of children from their homes in Central America. We hope to provide a variety of opportunities for further understanding as well as for accompanying and advocating for these children and their families. They are our neighbors. The legislative and administrative actions directed at immigration are in rapid flux and provide us multiple opportunities for advocacy (watch for more information and the opportunity to sign up for alerts). Recent examples include the setting of the annual refugee cap at its lowest level in decades and the efforts to prosecute family members for paying to have their children accompanied (smuggled) into the U.S. This AAMPARO commitment is new within our congregation and suggestions on appropriate opportunities to fulfill this mission are welcomed!

One way of living out this commitment for me has been to become the legal guardian of an unaccompanied minor who fled his home in Guatemala for the hope of opportunities in the U.S. The most important part of this commitment has been to put in regular time interacting with this youth and his family to form a trusting relationship and to ensure that he has adequate food and shelter and access to education as he navigates the legal process to obtain Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and eventually earn the right to work in this country and perhaps, citizenship. This relationship has been formed in close connection with Catholic Charities, who provide legal immigration services in our area. Most of these young people live with extended family or family friends, but need to be designated as abandoned by their parents or meet other specific qualifications to be eligible to have a guardian appointed. This relationship has been quite rewarding for me but does require a consistent commitment of time to build and maintain a trusting relationship that will help the young person navigate life in a new country. There may be a need for more guardians in the future and this is certainly part of our AAMPARO commitment. We hope to explore with you a variety of ideas and opportunities for serving out this commitment. Please contact Marty Steele with ideas or questions.

# Social Justice

## Good Shepherd Email Action Alerts

*Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matt. 25:37-40*

Over the past few months, the Social Justice committee has offered members of the congregation opportunities to tell our elected representatives our hopes and concerns about pending legislation by hosting postcard writing events. Now we are extending those opportunities by creating an email action alert for members who wish to be informed of pending legislative action so that they may contact their representatives. This model is based on the ELCA Advocacy Action Alerts which inform participants about needed action on a wide variety of legislative issues including immigration, housing, health care, food insecurity, and the environment. Each of these concerns is supported by ELCA social statements which articulate the relationship between our Christian faith and public policy. You may sign up to receive action alerts by writing your name and email address on the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex, or by contacting Pr. Marion ([mpruitt.jefferson58@gmail.com](mailto:mpruitt.jefferson58@gmail.com))



# ∞ The Music Page ∞

## “Messiah” comes to Good Shepherd



An engraving of Handel by Jacobus Houbraken in 1760

### December Music Schedule

12/3	Choir	(Joyce, “Hear Us”)
12/10	Handbells	(TBA)
12/17	Choir/Band	(Wagner/Grier, “Advent Canticle,” Handel, “For Unto Us”)
12/24	Choir/Band	Band plays <i>Messiah</i> selections prior to service; choir sings “Little Lord” for service
12/31	Handbells	TBA

This fall, the Good Shepherd Band has been learning five movements from the popular oratorio, *Messiah*, by George Frederic Handel. The following information is excerpted from an article in *Smithsonian* magazine.

Handel composed *Messiah* in an astounding interlude between August and September 1741. The text was prepared in July by the prominent librettist, Charles Jennens, and was intended for an Easter performance the following year in Dublin. “I hope [Handel] will lay out his whole Genius & Skill upon it, that the Composition may excel all his former Compositions, as the Subject excels every other Subject,” Jennens wrote to a friend.

There were several reasons for the choice of Dublin for *Messiah*’s debut. Handel had been downcast by the apathetic reception that London audiences had given his works the previous season. He did not want to risk another critical failure. Dublin was one of the fastest-growing, most prosperous cities in Europe, with a wealthy elite eager to display its sophistication.

*Messiah*’s success in Dublin was in fact quickly repeated in London. It took time for *Messiah* to find its niche as a Christmas favorite. There is so much fine Easter music—Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion*, most especially—and so little great sacral music written for Christmas; but the whole first part of *Messiah* is about the birth of Christ. By the early 19th century, performances of *Messiah* had become an even stronger Yuletide tradition in the United States than in Britain.

There is little doubt about Handel’s own fondness for the work. His annual benefit concerts for his favorite charity—London’s Foundling Hospital, a home for abandoned and orphaned children—always included *Messiah*. And, in 1759, when he was blind and in failing health, he insisted on attending an April 6 performance of *Messiah* at the Theatre Royal in Covent Garden. Eight days later, Handel died at home.

## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL

October 17, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pr. Amy, Megan Buckingham, John Moeller, Luther Snow, Heather Cote, Germano Stresse, Reg Laursen and Jeri Laursen. Guest: Steve Holland

Devotions were given by Heather Cote reflecting on the Youth Forum Monopoly game and her conversation with her son Mason.

R. Laursen moved to adopt the agenda having Holland present first, seconded by Snow, passed.

### **New Business:**

#### **Steve Holland: Mission Endowment Fund Continuing Resolutions**

Holland distributed a copy of the resolutions with changes and additions the committee recommended. Application for money to the Endowment Fund will be May 1. R. Laursen questioned the 4% limit. To pass these resolutions would require 2/3 vote from Council or a simple majority from the congregation at the annual meeting. Snow thanked the committee and moved acceptance of the report and sending it to the full congregation, with Council support, for final discernment. Stresse seconded, passed.

Cote moved to approve the September minutes, J. Laursen seconded, passed. Snow asked that the time of the council meeting (7:00 p.m.) be noted at the bottom of the minutes in the Announcements.

#### **Formation of a Building Committee**

The second step in the process of Space Exploration as suggested by the ELCA is to form a Building Team. Step one was the Vision and Planning Team (SET), who listened to the congregation and is in the process of proposing recommendations and priorities to share with the Council. Snow moved, Stresse seconded, that Fritz, Buckingham and Pr. Amy recruit members and suggest the description of the duties for the Building Team and report back to the November Council meeting. The Team should consist of 6-8 people. Passed. Fritz and R. Laursen have already asked to be on this Team.

### **Old Business:** None

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

#### **Education Committee** – Heather Cote

SS/Youth will be assisting in the planting of the trees on October 22 and are excited to see the money they raised during Lent be put to use; SS/Youth members (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders) will be attending the Youth Blast at Good Earth Village with Pr. Amy on November 3-4 in Spring Valley, MN; leaders and helpers for SS have been recruited through December; Sunday, December 17, 5:00 p.m. will be the Christmas program.

#### **Evangelism Committee:** Luther Snow (for Lise Kildegaard)

Prs. Judd and April Larson were welcomed as Associate members on September 24; a new member information session was held on October 1; there was been a Nursery refresh; Jane Jakoubek continues with Faith Five Suppers. The committee continues to work on posters for the Nursery; another New Member Sunday on November 12; tips for Greeters; card ministry for homebound and shut-ins for Thanksgiving; play space for Fellowship Hour; and the idea of having GS families working with new members to help new people to more easily integrate into our church family.

Property and Management Committee: Reg Laursen

The committee is pursuing the making of a footstool for use by the lectern and making holders for the red fellowship books so they do not take up space on the pew. The Kinderhaus sign will be installed soon. The P/M committee brought to the Council a motion to have 2 signs made and installed by the front sidewalk. They will be similar in style to the Kinderhaus sign but smaller. One will say "Sanctuary/Church Offices" and the other "Fellowship Hall". No second was needed. Passed.

Stewardship Committee: Germano Stresse

The Task Force will begin engaging with the focus groups; a timeline for the stewardship campaign will be included in the mid-week email and there will be letter sent out this week to members; a Phonathon will take place on November 15 in the evening; the "statements of intent" (pledges) will be received on November 19 during worship.

Worship and Music Committee: Luther Snow

The committee asked for feedback from the Council on the Christmas schedule. December 24 is on a Sunday. There will be a morning service and a 4:00 Christmas Eve service. Should there be a service on Monday, December 25? The committee is looking into Healing services & Global services.

Pastor's Report:

Pr. Amy:

Pr. Amy asked Council to receive the following on New Member Sunday on November 12: Ingrid Callaghan; Brian, Sandhya Purohit, Pranav and Gautum Caton; Rob, Irma, Allison and Grace Hudson. R. Laursen moved, J. Laursen seconded. Passed. There may be others and Pr. Amy will email Council to receive them.

Pr. Amy has performed two weddings recently; Confirmation will include two Luther students who are interested in learning more about Lutheran theology. They will serve as mentor learners with our three 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Pr. Marion:

Marty Steele will be joining the Social Justice Sub-Committee; AMMPARO will become more visible in our congregation with signage and information on the web site.

New Initiative: The SJ committee will be inviting members of the congregation who would like to join an email group that will issues "action alerts" when legislative action is pending.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Offering in September was a bit low but that could be from the special appeals for Flood Relief.

Total income year to date: \$165,493.85

Total expenses year to date: (\$165,185.17)

Net income year to date: \$ 308.68

R. Laursen moved, Cote seconded to approve the report. Passed

Announcements:

October Newsletter Deadline is October 19, 2017

Next Council meeting will be November 14, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: J. Laursen moved to adjourn, Cote seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Jeri Laursen, Congregation Council Secretary

# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <p>No Worship at Good Shepherd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Joint Ref-ormation Worship at Luther College</li> <li>10:50 AM No Fellowship Hour or Sunday School/Youth Forum</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>6:00 PM AL/ANON</li> </ul>	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> </ul>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</li> <li>9:30 AM Opportunity Homes</li> <li>9:30 AM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>6:00 PM NO Confirmation Class</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</li> <li>1:30 PM CNA Graduation</li> <li>1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>5:00 PM Community Meal</li> <li>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>5:30 PM Youth Blast @ Good Earth Village</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Blast @ Good Earth Village</li> </ul>
<p>5</p> <p>All Saints Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 AM Choir Warmup</li> <li>9:30 AM Worship</li> <li>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</li> <li>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</li> <li>10:50 AM Adult Forum</li> <li>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</li> <li>5:00 PM Farmers Market</li> <li>Poduck and Annual meet-</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>6:00 PM AL/ANON</li> </ul>	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 AM Election Day</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>4:00 PM Mary Circle</li> </ul>	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</li> <li>9:30 AM Brooke practice</li> <li>10:30 AM Aase Haugen Communion</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>2:00 PM Miriam Circle</li> <li>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <p>Recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</li> <li>1:30 PM Travel Club</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>11:00 AM Education Committee</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> </ul>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>New Member Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 AM Handbell Practice</li> <li>9:30 AM Worship</li> <li>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</li> <li>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</li> <li>10:50 AM Adult Forum</li> <li>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>6:00 PM AL/ANON</li> </ul>	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 AM Anna Circle</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>7:00 PM Council Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</li> <li>9:30 AM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Opportunity Homes</li> <li>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>5:00 PM Decora Community Meal</li> <li>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> </ul>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Stewardship Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 AM Choir warmup</li> <li>9:30 AM Worship</li> <li>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</li> <li>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</li> <li>10:50 AM Adult Forum</li> <li>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>6:00 PM AL/ANON</li> </ul>	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <p>Recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</li> <li>9:30 AM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>6:00 PM NO Confirmation Class</li> <li>6:00 PM Community Thanksgiving Eve Service</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> </ul>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 AM Band Warmup</li> <li>9:30 AM Live Radio Broadcast</li> <li>9:30 AM Worship</li> <li>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</li> <li>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</li> <li>10:50 AM Adult Forum</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>6:00 PM AL/ANON</li> </ul>	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>7:00 PM CLA Circle</li> </ul>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</li> <li>9:30 AM Brooke practice</li> <li>1:00 PM Brooke practice</li> <li>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</li> <li>2:00 PM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Ben Hippen practice</li> <li>11:00 AM Luren Singers</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>