



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

March Newsletter

2016

...We are God's People and the Sheep of God's Pasture... Psalm 100:3

We are a congregation empowered by the Good Shepherd to:

Nurture and Support His flock through Christ-centered worship.

Welcome All, offering trust and respect while sharing God's unconditional love.

Reach Out to the broader community through service and responsible stewardship of all God's creation.



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Pastor Amy Larson

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Pastor Amy's Office Hours:

T/Th/F: 10 a.m.-12 noon, W: 10:45 a.m.- 12:45 p.m.

Check out our website!

<http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org>



FROM THE PASTOR

Beloved of God,

In my annual report I shared four questions that will guide me in the year ahead. I brought these to you as questions out of a deep conviction that, in our time, congregations don't need pastors to provide more answers. Congregations need good questions, questions that will draw out the community's collective wisdom and empower members to respond. Congregations need questions that will help people to grow into God's vision for God's church. My role is not to bring the vision for this congregation. My role is to help us to discern, claim and live out God's vision for this congregation. A set of shared questions can help us in this work.

The questions I've offered have arisen as I've prayed, reflected on the Ministry Site Profile you developed in the call process, and listened to you. These questions will be the focus of my newsletter article for the next four months. They will also be a focus for council meetings and, I hope, for work in committees.

This month let's consider the first question: **how can we deepen our prayer lives as individuals and as a community?** In the call process you indicated that a top priority for ministry with a new pastor is to "help people develop their spiritual life." I am hearing you express a desire for your faith to connect with your daily life and service in the world, prayer is a central part of that connection. Prayer is also crucial as we seek to discern and claim God's vision for this congregation. So I've made nurturing our prayer life a key focus in this year.

How can we deepen our prayer lives as individuals and as a community? Here's what's happening so far:

- We are developing new patterns for praying together at council and committee meetings.
- Confirmation mentors and students are praying for one another on Wednesday nights.
- In sermons I am offering reflections on prayer and invitations to prayer that arise from the scripture texts. After the sermon we are sharing in a few moments of silent prayer and reflection.
- Our Lenten theme "Coming to Our Senses: Returning to God" is focused on how our senses and our bodies can help us to pray and return to God. Each worship service involves an invitation to prayer. We've also produced a Lenten devotional to help us pray during Lent.
- We're drawing on the wisdom of two of our members who are spiritual directors, Brad Hanson and Jane Jakoubek. Brad is on the Worship and Music Committee and is helping the committee to think about prayer in worship. Jane is providing spiritual direction to Good Shepherd members at no cost. She is also developing a prayer retreat for fall. She wants to know how this retreat can work for you so please join her for an adult forum to discuss this on April 17.
- The prayer shawl ministry is very strong. A group of women knit prayer shawls and prayer squares and ask God's blessings upon them. The shawls and squares are then given to people in need of God's solace and care. The Mary Circle, made up of Good Shepherd members and community members, has a strong emphasis on prayer.

Further invitations to prayer:

- Each night share highs and lows with a loved one and pray for each other. This can be as simple as "thank you for (name high) and help with (name low)". Another possibility is to journal about your highs and lows and notice God's presence in the midst of them.
- As the prayer bell before worship is rung, pray that the worship would help us know God's presence. As it is rung after worship, pray to know God's presence as we leave. Notice other reminders to pray that

come in the midst of your daily life- message alerts, physical sensations like hunger or pain, the daily news, and faces of people in the grocery store can all be invitations to prayer.

- Open each meeting you have related to Good Shepherd work by thanking God for our highs and asking God's help in our lows.

What would help you to grow in your prayer life? What do you think could help us as a congregation to deepen in prayer? Let me know your thoughts and questions.

You are all in my prayers.

In Christ,

Pastor Amy

CONGREGATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

The members of the 2016 Church Council started our first meeting as a council by comparing notes on the paths that led us to Good Shepherd and to council service. One common theme, not surprisingly, was that we were asked. As Megan Buckingham noted, people need that kind of invitation. We all know all kinds of things we should do, or would like to do. It's hard, though, to go from inaction to action on our own. This is odd because very often we find that the action brings pleasure, or a sense of well-being or fulfillment. Someone actually did us a favor by asking us to serve (even if we also grumble a bit at all that we have to do). I was thinking about this because the stewardship committee has put in some long hard work on getting a new ministry team structure in place, and in this newsletter they present the spring ministry teams for April, May and June, the spring quarter. Remember, being asked is a gift!

And on the topic of reaching out, our evangelism committee is discussing ways in which we can make sure that visitors find their way to the narthex and that someone greets them. As a Council, we agreed that beyond helping new people get oriented physically, we also as a congregation depend on each other to be sure that members who could use a pastoral visit or other kinds of support are on our radar screen. If you know of someone who's been ill or struggling in other ways, please ask what would be helpful, and let one of us on council know, or speak directly to Pastor Amy. If it's hard enough asking people to do things for the congregation, it can be even harder for someone in need to ask for personal help. And if being asked to help is a gift, so is asking someone what is needed.

The poet George Herbert imagines a traveler coming to Christ but hesitating because "guilty of dust and sin." The poem continues,

"But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack

From my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,

If I lacked anything."

We are invited in, whatever our dust and sin. May we also extend quick-eyed love to each other.

Kate Narveson

LENT AND EASTER OBSERVANCES

LENTEN SERVICES AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 2

12:00 pm - Lent Organ Recital: Mike Reiter

5:30 pm - *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

TASTE and see that the Lord is good- John 2:1-10

LWR Baskets of Promise Kits: Nail clippers

6:15 pm - Soup Supper; Puppet Ministry: Sunday School Room with Sue Blair

Sunday, March 6

9:30 am - Fourth Sunday of Lent - Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 9

12:00 pm - Lent Organ Recital: Greg Peterson

5:30 pm - *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

Faith comes through HEARING - Jesus call us to life- John 11:32-44

LWR Baskets of Promise Kits: Combs

6:15 pm - Soup Supper; Puppet Ministry: Sunday School Room with Sue Blair

Sunday, March 13

9:30 am - Fifth Sunday of Lent - Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 16

12:00 pm - Lent Organ Recital: Brad Schultz

5:30 pm - *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

SMELL helps us pray to the God who brings life- John 12:1-3

Luther College's Collegium Musicum – Kathy Reed, Director

LWR Baskets of Promise Kits: Soap

6:15 pm - Soup Supper; Puppet Ministry: Sunday School Room with Sue Blair

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 20

9:30 am - Palm Sunday and Sunday of the Passion Worship with Procession of Palms and Holy Communion

Thursday, March 24

7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

Friday, March 25

7:00 pm - Good Friday Service featuring choral work "The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross" by Heinrich Schütz, with instruments and soloists

Saturday, March 26

7:00 pm - Community Easter Vigil Service – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 27

9:30 am - Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion and Festival Brass

THIS IS THE NIGHT: A COMMUNITY VIGIL OF EASTER

Join with Decorah area churches for a Community Easter Vigil to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 26 at First Lutheran Church. Reception to follow. This ancient service of watching and waiting carries us from the darkness of Good Friday to the radiant light of Easter. We celebrate God's acts of salvation throughout history, leading to the celebration of God's ultimate saving act: the death and resurrection of Jesus. We give thanks for light, listen to ancient stories of God's faithfulness, celebrate Christ's transformation from death to life, remember our baptisms, and celebrate the Eucharist together.

Ministry Notes

MINISTRY TEAM

March 2016

Conveners– Reg & Jeri Laursen

TEAM B (Partner Team E)

Bellrichard/Hickens

- Hasvold, Carol (1)
- Heidke, Bunice (1)
- Jones, Beth (1)
- Kaschins, Ed (2)
- Kilarski, Laurie (1,3)
- Knudson, Karl (2)
- Larson, Robert (2)
- Moeller, John (2)
- Trout, Jason (2,2)

Radio Broadcast: March 13

Please note: The broadcast of our services will be tape- delayed and will begin at approx. 11:00 am, after the broadcast of the Luther College Congregation service.

MARCH ALTAR GUILD

Jane Kemp, convener

Jerrine and Karl Jacobsen,

Elizabeth Kaschins

CANTOR SCHEDULE

3/2	Reg Laursen	3/20	Jason Rausch
3/6	Dennis Barnaal	3/24	Jonathon Struve
3/9	Megan Buckingham	3/25	Daniel Raney
3/13	Kate Narveson	3/27	Jonathon Struve
3/16	Jonathon Struve		

MARCH SCRIPTURES

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 6, 2016	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Fifth Sunday in Lent March 13, 2016	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
Liturgy of the Passion March 20, 2016 Sixth Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 23:1-49
Resurrection of the Lord March 27, 2016 Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12

STEWARDSHIP

Ministry Teams for April-June 2016

The following people are assigned to Ministry team this spring. Please sign up for specific dates on the bulletin board by the library.

Liturgy

- 1) Buckingham Megan
- 2) Christy Jon
- 3) Christy Janeen
- 4) Felde Bob
- 5) Steele Marty
- 6) Hanssen Sarah
- 7) Thompson Kathryn
- 8) Holland Steve
- 9) Holland Krista
- 10) Jakouobek Jane
- 11) Kemp Jane
- 12) Larson Bob
- 13) Naslund Bob
- 14) Snow Luther
- 15) Solberg Brian
- 16) Marinack Makayla

Fellowship

- 1) Anderson Jutta F.
- 2) Anderson Albert
- 3) Anderson Marilyn
- 4) Barnaal Doris
- 5) Blair Sue
- 6) Blair Kate
- 7) Donlon Cheryl
- 8) Epperly Ed
- 9) Freerking Marie
- 10) Hanson Marion
- 11) Hover Charilyn
- 12) Jacobsen Jerrine
- 13) Jefferson John
- 14) Jefferson Marion Pruitt
- 15) Jones Beth
- 16) Kjome JoAnn
- 17) Laursen Jeri
- 18) Moeller Lindy
- 19) Naslund Ann
- 20) Nelson Beverly
- 21) Refsal Norma
- 22) Schoel Judy
- 23) Kildegaard Lise
- 24) Swanson Kristin
- 25) Wilkinson Jaci
- 26) Wuest Glendalu

Ushering

- 1) Barnaal Dennis
- 2) Duffy Drew
- 3) Struve Jonathon Struve
- 4) Epperly Joyce
- 5) Frank Jerry
- 6) Freerking Russ
- 7) Hanson Brad
- 8) Kaasa Haldis
- 9) Kavan Choung
- 10) Kavan Cheuang
- 11) Laursen Reg
- 12) Vagts Amalia
- 13) Moeller John
- 14) Nelson Glenn
- 15) Nelson Jane Borelli
- 16) Raney Daniel
- 17) Rathje Rae Jean
- 18) Schoel Tim
- 19) Sheridan Bev
- 20) Torresdal Raymond
- 21) Torresdal Pam
- 22) Wuest Richard
- 23) Ylvisaker Richard

EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT

Our goal is to raise \$2,000 to split between a global effort and a local effort: Lutheran Disaster Response, which supports assistance for Syrian refugees, and the Community Food Pantry at First Lutheran Church. Please check out our bulletin board in the hallway for more information and to see the progress toward our goal.

SOUP SUPPER, MARCH 9TH

The Education Committee is coordinating the soup supper on March 9th. Children are invited to come after school that day to make two soups for the supper, including a recipe from the Soup for Syria cookbook, which ties in with our Lenten Project. We will have activities to keep the kids occupied until worship at 5:30pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER THEME

SUNDAY SCHOOL will meet three Sundays in March. We will not meet on Easter Sunday. Our themes from Desmond Tutu's Children of God storybook are:

- March 6th – Let My People Go, Exodus 7-15
- March 13th – Jesus in the Desert, Matthew 4
- March 20th – Jesus' Last Meal, Matthew 26

CONFIRMATION/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will meet March 6 and 20. Confirmands are required to attend the Lenten worship and Soup Suppers to meet with their Confirmation Mentor.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- SAVE the DATE!

We will host Vacation Bible School on August 15th-17th in late afternoon/early evening. Parents please let Megan Buckingham know times that would work best for you. If you are interested in assisting with VBS, please also contact Megan Buckingham, meganibuckingham@gmail.com.

OVERNIGHT CAMP AT EWALU

Good Shepherd youth who have completed grades 2-12 are encouraged to attend Camp Ewalu this summer. Camp is a great way to enjoy God's world, make new friends, have fun, and grow closer to God.

Good Shepherd youth will be attending Ewalu in Week 7, July 31-August 5, but you are welcome to attend anytime. The congregation will provide camperships to show our support this great faith building experience. To register or learn more go to www.ewalu.org. Let Pr. Amy know when you register and she'll get the camperships funds to you.

EWALU DAY CAMP FOR DECORAH YOUTH

Ewalu will be offering a Day Camp in Decorah for youth who have completed grades K-6. It will be held at First Lutheran Church August 6-12 from 9am-3pm. The cost is \$52. Good Shepherd will be helping to support this Day Camp and many Good Shepherd youth will be participating. Contact Pr. Amy if your child is interested or if you want to host or provide meals for day camp staff.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

W/ELCA NEWS

When emergencies like natural disasters or conflict arise, many families must flee their homes, leaving their belongings behind. When they arrive in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit allow them to wash away the dirt and sweat, with the fresh scent of soap and the softness of a towel as reminders of someone's care and concern for them in their plight. This Lenten season we are taking part in LWR's Baskets of Promise campaign. Each Wednesday, we'll collect items to form LWR Personal Care Kits that help impoverished people stay healthy in life's most challenging situation. In February we collected towels and toothbrushes and in March we will collect nail clippers, combs, and packaged bars of soap. The Good Shepherd youth will help assemble the kits in April and we will ship them out on May 7.

Last year our kits went to Burkina Faso. LWR's partner in Burkina Faso is Catholic Organization for Development and Solidarity (OCADES Caritas Burkina). OCADES seeks to empower individuals to engage the human, spiritual, political, economic, social and cultural order to show greater respect for human dignity. Personal Care Kits provide critical hygiene supplies to keep families healthy and able to work and attend school. Check the bulletin board by the fellowship hall for a map of where our kits go.

World Day of Prayer will be held in the Decorah Lutheran Church social hall on Friday March 4 beginning with coffee at 9 am. It will be followed by prayers, hymns, Bible readings, meditation and an offering. This year the women of the WDP Committee of Cuba call us into worship considering the words "Receive children, receive me". We are invited to learn about Cuba's history and rich cultural diversity. All are welcome to attend.

Coming Events:

- March 4 World Day of Prayer, Decorah Lutheran Church
- April 30 Cluster D Spring Gathering, Washington Prairie Lutheran Church
- May 6 May Friendship Day, First United Methodist Church
- May 7 LWR pickup, Olson Explosives

GOOD SHEPHERD W/ELCA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Bev Sheridan. Pastor Amy Zalk Larson offered a prayer.

Helen Schweizer moved to approve the minutes of the January 2015 meeting. Donna Bahr seconded. The motion passed.

Doris Barnaal reported on the 2015 krumkake baking. 3325 krumkake were baked raising \$2215.00. Doris noted that this is the largest source of WELCA income for the year. She noted that the krumkake project supports the Decorah community and also provides fellowship for members of Good Shepherd. Doris also observed that last year 83% of the money we raised was given to charities, with 17% being used for Good Shepherd initiatives.

Ann Naslund moved, seconded by Naomi Craft, that the treasurer's report be approved. The motion passed.

After some discussion, Marie Freerking moved to accept the proposed disbursement of funds for 2016. Barbara Berg seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was brief discussion about the soup luncheon and country store that takes place in the fall. Ann Naslund moved, with a second by LaVerne Ramsey, to continue to have the event. The motion passed.

Announcements:

The kitchen and funeral committees could have more members.

The Spring gathering is at Washington Prairie Church on April 30.

The Synod convention is June 18 at Wartburg College.

The 10th Triennial meeting will be held in Minneapolis in 2017.

Prior to the business meeting, Liza Hicken presented an informative program highlighting the CNA class that was held at Good Shepherd in January. The class portion of the program was held at Good Shepherd, the lab training was at NICC, and the clinical portion of the class was at Aase Haugen. It was a successful partnership.

Respectfully,

Lindy Moeller

SOCIAL JUSTICE

MARCH 2016, LSI NEWSLETTER

March is Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we're grateful for our many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving their communities!

Maybe you've never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you've had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves in overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability and many other situations.

Thank you to all of Iowa's social workers, especially those at LSI. We're proud of you.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

A Stable Home for Angela

When she was little, Angela was placed in Iowa's foster care system and was later adopted.

"I always wanted to have more children," said her adoptive mom Brenda. "We had done respite for Angela, and when she needed an adoptive home, she came to live with us. She fit in with us and knew us. It was an easy transition."

It was made even easier since Angela had Peggy by her side. Peggy is a social worker for Lutheran Services in Iowa's (LSI) behavioral health intervention services (BHIS) and helps children with a mental health diagnosis learn skills such as coping, anger management or healthy decision-making.

Over the years, Peggy has been there for Angela during times when she needed help building some new skills.

"Peggy helped me learn how to calm myself," Angela said. "I learned how to use running to do that, and I like to read. I cope better now. I know when I'm angry or upset."

Seeing young people like Angela thrive is what Peggy loves best.

"It's my brand of social work to support people over the years and watch them grow," she said. "Angela has done the hard work of staying strong throughout her losses, letting others get closer to her and focusing on what is good in her life. She has vast potential! She has had caring people all along the way, and Brenda was just the angel she needed to adopt her. What a beautiful thing for me to be a part of."

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

February 16, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. – MINUTES

Present: Pr. Amy Larson, President Kate Narveson, Jonathon Struve, Lise Kildegaard, Megan Buckingham, Amalia Vagts, Andrew Duffy, Reg Laursen, John Moeller, Jeri Laursen

Devotions were led by Pr. Amy. Psalm 23 was read and the members divided into twos and used the Faith5 format .

President Narveson called the meeting to order at 7:00. There were no corrections or additions to the January council minutes. The agenda was approved with one addition (mailing of financial statements).

Introductions: Each member shared their path to serving on the Council and told a little bit about themselves and how they use their spare time.

Narveson handed out information from the constitution regarding the role of the Council Committees.

Proposal for the new process: Narveson asked that each committee set a regular time for their meeting prior to council to allow for ease of meeting for members and the Pastor. They were also asked to send minutes from their meeting to Narveson and Jeri Laursen. The reports to council should then be a short summary of their committee meeting.

Council Info: Narveson handed out the listing of 2016 Congregation Officers, Council, Committees and Subcommittees, Church Staff and Music and Worship Leaders and asked members to check their information.

On-going Business:

The Mutual Ministry Committee has been suspended until the constitution can be revised. The proposed constitutional change is that the Executive Committee work with the Pastor on planning and staff evaluation. They would meet quarterly with the Pastor. This must be announced to the congregation and voted on at the annual meeting. This will be done at the next congregational meeting. Until this time, the executive committee will begin working with the Pastor on planning and staff evaluation.

R. Laursen moved, Duffy seconded to continue to support hosting CNA classes in the future. Motion passed. Janeen Christy and Pr. Amy have had conversations with the Synod on the Syrian refugee initiative. There are some obstacles that need to be addressed. Resettlement of refugees is handled differently now than in the 1980s. Vagts noted that there are perhaps other ways we could pursue to live out our history of helping refugees (International students at Luther, Central America refugees). Vagts moved that as a council we be open to the exploration of refugee sponsorship. Buckingham seconded, motion passed. R. Laursen noted that we should look into the other suggested ideas as well.

New Business: In March the Council will discuss how to approach updating the membership rolls.

Recurring Work of the Body – Committees, Pastor, and Officer Brief Reports

Education – Megan Buckingham

Vacation Bible School will be August 15-17. Because of conflict with VBS the August Council date and/or time will be addressed as the time nears.

Nathan Larson proposed a video night once a month with the youth.

Evangelism: Lise Kildegaard

Sharon Rendack is the new member on the committee.

The question of the Friends and Neighbors Picnic is being evaluated in committee. This will be discussed further at the March meeting.

Some ideas coming from the committee: 1) each Sunday have a person whose only duty is to be a Greeter; 2) Coffee Buddy at Fellowship Hour; 3) name tags for ushers; 4) set up a brunch for those interested after church.

The committee had a Valentine event with the children. 13-14 valentines were made and taken to members at the assisted living facilities. The committee also provided chocolates at Fellowship Hour and had cards with Valentine messages on them on the tables for members to take and give to people.

Property and Management: Reg Laursen

The committee will be addressing the Facilities Use and Fees Guidelines.

The quilt made for Pr. Mau (and returned to Good Shepherd by her brothers after her death) has been hung. A picture has been hung by the second kitchen.

The new copier will be delivered on February 18.

St. Grubby's Day will be Sunday, April 24.

Stewardship: Amalia Vagts

The new Ministry Team format will begin after Easter.

Worship and Music: Jonathon Struve

Brad Hanson has joined the committee

Wednesday Lenten Services themes will involve the senses.

There will be no Wednesday service during Holy Week. Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion is March 24 at 7:00; Good Friday service featuring choral work "The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross" will be March 25, 7:00; Community Easter Vigil will be at First Lutheran on March 26, 7:00; Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion is Sunday, March 27, 9:30 a.m.

There will be Wednesday services at 5:30 p.m. during Advent, Lent, June and July.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy

Pr. Amy will further pursue the refugee resettlement issue.

Confirmation mentors will meet with their student on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

A devotional booklet has been prepared for Lent.

President: Kate Narveson

Narveson noted that it was not clear at the annual meeting that Carol Hasvold gave \$5000 to the LED light project in memory of Pr. Paul Hasvold.

Vice President: No report

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: John Moeller

Moeller handed out the Cash Account Summary, Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual. Duffy moved, R. Laursen seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Approved.

R. Laursen moved, Duffy seconded to adjourn. Approved. Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Next council meeting will be March 15. Devotions: Jeri Laursen

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeri Laursen, Secretary

GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early! Good Shepherd Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet March 16th at the home of Jeri Laursen. Join us for green tea any time between 1-3:00 pm. All are welcome.

CREATE A TITLE FOR GOOD SHEPHERD'S NEWSLETTER!

In April, the monthly Newsletter will be available three ways. It will still be mailed to individuals in the current paper format and posted online on the Good Shepherd website under the CONNECT tab. But starting with a new initiative, people will also be able to subscribe to it through the website so it will arrive in their email at the same time it is delivered to the Post Office. A form will be posted on the website homepage which will allow our members and anyone who visits our website to subscribe to the Newsletter. This will alert our member subscribers to new issues and result in greater outreach about Good Shepherd to the wider public.

This increased outreach provides an opportunity to create a title for the Newsletter. Congregation members are invited to submit proposals for titles to the church office by **Wednesday, March 23**. After that deadline, the Executive Committee of the Congregation (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and Pastor Amy) will select a title from among those submitted. More than one title can be submitted by an individual. A prize will be awarded to the winner.

Proposals can be submitted to the church office via email (decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com), mailed (701 Iowa Avenue), or dropped off in the box marked "Newsletter Title Suggestions."

Let the brainstorming begin!

LENTEN ORGAN RECITALS

March 2, 12:00 p.m. – Mike Reiter

March 9, 12:00 p.m. – Greg Peterson

March 16, 12:00 p.m. – Brad Schultz

Coffee and dessert will be served following each recital in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to bring their lunch.

IN MEMORIAM EIUS

A concert by the Iowa/Hungary Project. New music for percussion and voices composed by Brooke Joyce and featuring the Collegiate Choir and Genevieve Kalland, soprano, Sunday, March 6, 4 p.m., Noble Recital Hall. A pre-concert talk will begin at 3 p.m. in the choir room.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR 2016

The Worship and Music Committee has decided we will have Wednesday Worship during Lent, the months of June and July, and Advent.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MARCH 18

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Kim Kavan: kimkavan89@gmail.com

Cheuang Kavan: Cheuanyk@me.com

Claude and Harriet Hayes: chhayes1964@gmail.com.

Cathy Bakke cell # 563 379 3188

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

REPORT OF THE DEPOT OUTLET 42ND ANNUAL MEETING

On January 19, 2016, over one hundred Depot Outlet delegates, clergy, employees, board members, and friends attended the 42nd Annual Meeting of The Depot Outlet Inc. at Decorah Lutheran Church. One of the highlights of the meeting was the review of the financial statements. Total revenue grew by 6 percent over last year to \$659,244.38. The Depot was privileged to give a record \$117,422.56 to non-profits in Winneshiek County. These included:

60 Funding Request = \$107,591.56
Bingo Reimbursements = \$4,800.00
Post Prom = \$750.00
Cab Program (Dolor) = \$4,181.00
Other Donations = \$100.00

This was all made possible by the generous donations given to The Depot, the faithful customers who shop at our store, and our dedicated employees and volunteers.

The second highlight of the meeting was the introduction of our new store director, Doug Nalean-Carlson. He is a 1999 graduate of Luther College. He is married to Stacey Nalean-Carlson, pastor of Glenwood and Canoe Ridge Lutheran churches, and they have three sons. Doug embraces the mission of The Depot to reuse and recycle, sell items at low prices, provide an opportunity for volunteers, provide work for area residents, and give back to non-profits of Winneshiek County. We are looking forward to his leadership and guidance as The Depot continues to grow and prosper. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of your Depot Outlet Store.

WINNESHIEK COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Winneshiek County Habitat for Humanity (WCHFH) seeks the support of local faith communities as it prepares to build its 30th home (in Hesper, Iowa). A Christian organization, WCHFH works in partnership with people in need to build and renovate decent, affordable housing. The houses are sold to those in need at no profit and with no interest charged. The former Friends Church in Hesper will be renovated for a family this year.

WCHFH will hold its annual Phonathon on March 6 and 13 to request donations for its latest house project. If you are called, we hope you can respond generously. If you don't receive a call and wish to donate, please send your donation to WCHFH, Box 457, Decorah, Iowa, 52101. Families interested in applying to be a partner family for the Hesper home may call 563-382-1802 or e-mail wchfh1@gmail.com. For further information about WCHFH, visit www.winneshiekhabitat.org.

COMMUNITY SINGING

Fun and safe singing together, for those who have always loved to sing AND for those who've always wished they could. Join Liz Rog for 8 weeks of joyful and inclusive *Community Singing*. No auditions, no experience needed, just come and be part of the crowd! Learn songs by call and response. 8 Mondays, beginning March 7, 6:30-8:00, in Decorah. To register contact NICC Continuing Education, (563)562-3263 ext. 219 or visit www.nicc.edu/solutions.

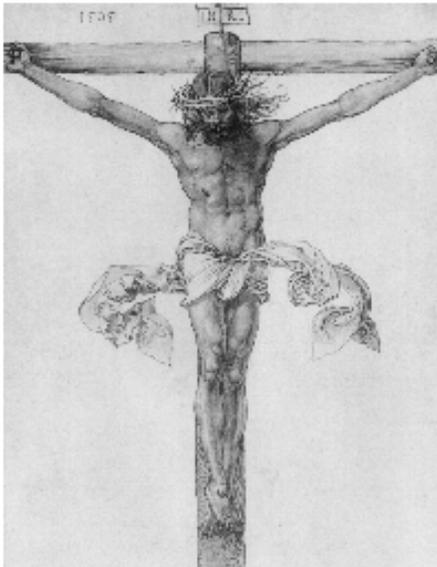
∞ The Music Page ∞

Lent, 2016

During this Lent season, the Good Shepherd Choir is learning one of the cornerstones of Baroque sacred music, "The Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross," by Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672). We are learning the work throughout the season, and sharing portions of it during Sunday morning services on 2/14, 2/21, 3/6 and 3/13. We will perform the entire work on Good Friday, March 25, as part of our 7 pm worship service.

Generally considered the most important and influential German composer prior to J. S. Bach (1685-1750), Schütz spent the bulk of his career in Dresden. His early music was heavily influenced by the teachers with whom he studied in Venice (including Giovanni Gabrieli, who composed for St. Mark's Basilica), and has a certain degree of experimentation and grandiosity. Once he settled in Dresden, however, the effects of the Thirty Years War made it more difficult for churches to support large music programs, and his music became simpler and more austere. The "Seven Last Words," composed around the year 1645, is such a work. Lasting approximately 15 minutes, it was originally scored for 5-part chorus (SATTB), a handful of accompanying instruments, and several soloists, who sing the part of the evangelist, Jesus, and the thieves crucified with him. At Good Shepherd, the chorus parts have been revised so that they can be sung by our standard SATB configuration, along with two vocal soloists, organ, and four instruments.

As part of our weekly rehearsals, choir members will offer their own reflections on Jesus' last words. Dan Raney began this devotional series with an overview and history of musical settings of these words, and a brief introduction to Schütz's work. Unlike a musical Passion, which usually tells the story of Jesus' final weeks and days prior to his crucifixion, "The Seven Last Words" takes us directly to the foot of the cross, and we are asked to keep these words "in our heart's affection."



Christ on the Cross (Albrecht Dürer)

Organ Recital Series

Good Shepherd's noontime Lenten Organ Recital Series returns this month on Wednesdays, March 2, 9, and 16 in the sanctuary. The performances will start at 12:15 and finish by 12:45.

The opening recital on March 2 will be played by Michael Reiter, Luther College Keyboard Technician with a degree in church music from Pacific Lutheran University and experience as a church musician in the Pacific Northwest and Southern California. March 9 will feature Luther College Organist and Music Department Chair Gregory Peterson, who served as Good Shepherd's organist when he was a student at Luther, and subsequently served as organist at the famous Old South Church in Boston. The final recital, on March 16, will be played by Brad Schultz, adjunct professor of music at Luther College and organist for Luther's student congregation.

Music Schedule, Winter/Spring 2016

2/7	Handbells/SS	SS choir "This Little Light of Mine"; Handbells at start of service and communion
2/14	Choir	Schütz, Introit to "Seven Last Words" (choir plus instruments)
2/21	Choir	Schütz, Thieves on the cross (choir plus instruments, plus vocal soloists)
2/28	Band	Gathering: Morales, "O Crux Ave"; Offertory: Esquivel, "Veni Domine"
3/6	Choir	Schütz, final words (choir plus instruments, plus vocal soloists)
3/13	Choir	Schütz, final chorale (choir plus instruments)
3/20	-	Small group?
3/25: Good Fr.	Choir	Schütz, "Seven Last Words" (choir plus instruments and vocal soloists)
3/27: Easter	Band/Handbells	Gathering: "And the Glory of the Lord"; Offering: SS choir/handbells (?); possible band postlude
4/3	Choir	Gospel #1: You are Holy
4/10	Choir	Gospel #2: Happy Day
4/17	Choir	Gospel #3: Soon and Very Soon
4/24	Band	Gathering: Sacri Concentus (Hassler); Offering: Largo (Handel); Postlude: Risen in Victory (arr. Montgomery)
5/1	Choir	Gospel #4: Glorify the Lord
5/8	Choir	Gospel #5: The Storm is Passing Over
5/15: Pentecost	Choir/Handbells	"Tongues of Fire" with choir and handbells
5/22	Band	Band plays Gathering, Offering and Postlude (selections from Canadian Brass Book)

- ❖ Choir rehearses weekly, Wednesdays 7-8 pm; on Sundays, warm-up at 8:45
- ❖ Band rehearses weekly, Wednesdays 8-9 pm; on Sundays, warm-up at 8:45
- ❖ Youth Handbell Choir rehearses at 8:45 on the morning we play
- ❖ All members/friends/guests at Good Shepherd are welcome to join each of these groups. For more information, please contact our music director, Brooke Joyce: 382-4452, or wbjoyce3@gmail.com.

Extra Piano

As many of you have noticed, we now have two upright pianos in the Fellowship Hall, which is very exciting, should we wish to have a piano duel. However, one is probably enough. If you are interested in obtaining one or the other of these instruments, please contact Brooke.

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</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 Youth Sunday School 10:45 AM Adult Forum 10:45 AM Confirmation 1:00 PM Erik Sessions recital and reception 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 5:30 PM SoDa Club (Song and Dance Club-- area kids and Luther students) 6:30 PM AL/ALON 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM organ practice 4:00 PM Mary Circle 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM Organ Recital by Mike Reiter 5:30 PM Lenten Worship 6:15 PM Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 11:00 AM printer training 5:00 PM Community Meal 7:00 PM Winnesheik Democrats 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Day of Prayer 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Youth/Confirmation 10:45 AM Sunday School 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 5:30 PM SoDa Club (Song and Dance Club-- area kids and Luther students) 6:30 PM AL/ALON 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Jane Jacobek 9:30 AM Anna Circle 2:00 PM Pr. Amy @ Well. Pl. mittee 5:00 PM Evangelism Committee 6:30 PM Adult Forum Subcommittee 8:00 PM Worship & Music Committee 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM Organ Recital by Greg Peterson 2:00 PM Miriam / Ruth Circles 3:30 PM Sun. School Soup 5:30 PM Lenten Worship 6:15 PM Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadcast 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 5:30 PM SoDa Club (Song and Dance Club-- area kids and Luther students) 6:30 PM AL/ALON 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM Council Meeting 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM Organ Recital by Brad Schultz 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Minnie 1:00 PM Jane Jakobek 3:30 PM Education Committee 5:30 PM Lenten Worship 6:15 PM Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 5:00 PM Decorah Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Palm/Passion Sunday Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Youth/Confirmation 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ALON 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM CLA Circle 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 2:00 PM Pr. Amy @ Aase Haugen 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 7:00 PM Good Friday Worship 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Community Easter Vigil Service
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Easter Worship Hour 10:30 AM No Fellowship School 10:45 AM No Sunday School 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:30 PM AL/ALON 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM Vietnam Veterans Event 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<p>2</p>

ALTAR GUILD: Jane Kemp, convener Jerrine and Karl Jacobsen, Elizabeth Kaschins	Ministry Team 2016			MONTH of MARCH Conveners: Reg and Jeri Laursen	
	WEDNESDAY March 2 5:30 p.m.	WEDNESDAY March 9 5:30 p.m.	WEDNESDAY March 16 5:30 p.m.	MAUDY THURSDAY March 24 7:00 p.m.	GOOD FRIDAY March 25 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY SERVICE	Abby Larson Reg Laursen John & Lindy Moeller Reg Laursen	Ava Holland Carol Hasvold Anthony Ruiz Jeri Laursen Megan Buckingham	Mara Holland Carol Hasvold Karl & Clara Knudson Jonathon Struve	Natalie Tapscott Bob Larson Reg & Jeri Laursen Jonathon Struve	Jeri Laursen Bob Larson Bob Larson Reg & Jeri Laursen Daniel Raney
ACOLYTE					
ASST. MINISTER					
USHERS/GREETERS					
CANTOR					
SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. SERVICE	SUNDAY March 6	SUNDAY March 13	SUNDAY March 20	EASTER SUNDAY March 27	
ACOLYTE	Keaton Solberg	Abby Larson	Lulu Bellichard	Jeri Laursen	
ASST. MINISTER (1)	Anthony Ruiz	John Moeller	Reg Laursen	Reg Laursen	
COMMUNION ASST. (1)	Bob Larson	Bob Larson	Carol Hasvold	John Moeller	
USHERS/GREETERS (2-3)	John & Lindy Moeller	Carol Hasvold Dan Bellichard	Carol Hasvold Dan Bellichard	Reg & Jeri Laursen John & Lindy Moeller	
CANTOR	Dennis Bamaal	Kate Narveson	Jason Rausch	Jonathon Struve	
COFFEE SERVERS (2-3) *In Charge	Karl & Clara Knudson Elizabeth Kaschins Reg & Jeri Laursen Alicia Trout Burnice Heidtke (food)	Karl & Clara Knudson Lindy Moeller Reg & Jeri Laursen Alicia Trout Burnice Heidtke (food)	Reg and Jeri Laursen Liza Hicken Laune Kilarski Matt & Demise Tapscott	(No Fellowship Hour)	
NURSERY	Nathan Larson	Liza Hicken	Keaton Solberg	Alicia Trout	
BROADCAST - Ushers remember to tape (broadcast delay 11 am)		BROADCAST			
SPECIAL EVENT: NO EVENTS					

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America
A Reconciling In Christ Congregation
701 Iowa Ave.
Decorah, IA 52101

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March 2016

Newsletter