



## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

October 2015

*A Reconciling In Christ Congregation*

**...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.

(<http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org>)



### Contact Information:

Church Office: 563-382-3963 / Fax: 563-382-3700

Email: [decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com)

Church Office Hours: 8:00-12 Noon M-F

Pastor Amy Larson; Cell: 563-379-5098 - [amyzlarson@gmail.com](mailto:amyzlarson@gmail.com)

Pastor's Office Hours: M, T, Th: 10am-12 Noon; W 10:45am-12:45pm

### Worship Schedule:

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m.; 6:15 Supper

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 10:30 a.m.

**September – May:**

Sunday School/Adult Forum: 10:45 a.m.

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### FROM THE PASTOR

Beloved of God,

Thanks be to God for what has happened among us this past month. Wednesday night and Sunday morning worship services have been rich and life giving. Our staff positions have been filled with gifted people. Committees are working well and important ministry is being done. We're moving ahead on replacing the roof. We had a powerful installation day, the amazing Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic, and a great start to Sunday School and Adult Education. Important outreach work is happening through WELCA, the prayer shawl ministry, the emergency assistance fund and the social justice subcommittee. God has been at work in and through us.

What happens next? Where is God leading us now? As we look to the future, it seems a good time to look at our mission statement. It begins with the words: "***We are a congregation empowered by the Good Shepherd.***"

This is a radical statement in a North American cultural context. The narrative in our culture is that we are empowered by our own effort, know-how and initiative. We pride ourselves on working hard and getting it done. We value go-getters and do-gooders. We want results and progress.

When we say we are "empowered by the Good Shepherd", Jesus Christ, we're making a very different claim. We're saying that our strength comes not from our own hard work but from Christ. And the strength Christ gives is not an American style, onward and upward, forward progress, kind of power. Instead, Christ enters the pain, brokenness and messiness of the world trusting that God brings new life. He calls us to do the same.

Christ's strength comes as we listen to the needs of our congregation and the world. It comes as we pay attention to those our culture says are last, for Christ says the last shall lead the way into God's new reality. It comes as we are nourished by scripture and share in the meal where Christ feeds us with his body and blood. It comes as we wait for guidance from the Spirit rather than rushing ahead seeking progress. It comes as we pray. Prayer is a deep source of empowerment.

I pray for you every morning. I pray through the directory, remembering your needs and concerns and thanking God for the ways each of your gifts and need blesses this congregation. I pray for guests among the congregation, for those not pictured and for those who do not have a welcoming community. Please pray for me. Please pray with me on your own and when you gather to do the work of Good Shepherd.

If you or your group struggle with prayer, try simply saying “thank you” for something and asking for “help” with something. Or try simply taking a few breaths to let go of our culture’s notions of power and receive the power of God’s Breath, God’s Spirit. Or read a portion of scripture slowly and pay attention to one word or phrase that speaks to you. Let us pray.

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God’s Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.*  
*Ephesians 3: 16-21*

In Christ, Pastor Amy

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## **GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - September 15, 2015 – 7:00 pm**

**Present:** Jim Fritz, Amy Zalk Larson, Kate Narveson, Clara Knudson, Matt Tapscott, Jon Struve, Drew Duffy, Krista Holland, John Jefferson

**Devotions – Pastor Amy Zalk Larson led us in a lectio divina**

**Minutes of August Council Meeting approved; agenda adopted with additions by Jim Fritz and Matt Tapscott.**

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

**Education Committee:** The group has begun to collaborate with youth and family representatives; they plan confirmation every other Sunday during Sunday school hour, and hold joint activities with children and youth the other Sundays. They are also in conversation with adult forum planners to set up storytelling, with Tabita Green serving as first storyteller. Kate Blair will help Krista and Megan. Adult Forum invites committees to contact them about programming. Once a month during Adult Forum time, Pastor Amy will be meeting with mission teams in advance of their month of service. Matt Tapscott and Jim Fritz recommended videos on bullying made by local kids.

**Evangelism Committee:** the group doesn’t yet have a final report on the Welcome Friends and Neighbors picnic, but initially can report a great success, with lots of volunteers, and special thanks to Doris Barnaal for tireless help. We served at least 225 hotdogs, along with 26 pounds of chicken generously donated by the Ruiz family. (note for next year: be sure the outdoor classroom is neatened at the end) The committee is reflecting on what further work they are called to. In the short term, they hope to follow up with attendees who expressed an interest in the congregation.

**Property & Management Committee:** Water heaters and ductwork are almost done; waiting for electrical hook-up. No roof report yet. Jim Fritz requested info on R-values, needed for grant writing for insulation.

**Stewardship Committee:** Big push now is the fall pledge drive, to kick off Oct. 18, with Temple Talk Oct. 25, bishop visit Nov. 15. There is also a Ministry Team update underway, and the Social Justice subcommittee is beginning work to respond to the refugee crisis in the Middle East and Europe.

**Worship and Music Committee:** Wednesday Night services have had mixed attendance, with a strong response to the nights with shared meals. Holden Evening prayer seems to be well received, with almost 30 in attendance. Need to figure out how to plan meals, balancing attendance and cost. The committee would like to request a contingency fund as a budget item for 2016 to take care of cost overruns. Perhaps, the ministry teams could help with beverages. Once a month, Tabita Green will lead the choir in gospel music. The committee is updating usher and worship leader instructions; will do training.

**Pastor:** Evangelism is underway, with outreach to regular guests and interested picnic attendees. Pastor Amy has been meeting with every committee and subcommittee, and has been doing visits and offering communion at Wellington and Ause Haugen. Jutta Anderson will help. Pastor Amy has also been visiting shut-ins and people on the prayer list. Confirmation has started, with four students right now. The calendar has been transferred to Google Calendar. New email: [decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com). We have hired an administrative assistant, who will be trained by Jenny Werner. In appreciation of lots of hard work by Jenny, the council will give her a thank-you gift. Every member visits are being set up, and bible study will resume in October. We hope to have Bishop Ullestad as guest pastor in November.

**President:** Karl Knudson has drawn up a loan contract for the roof loan. Eric Berg has finished rebuilding, sealing, painting, and gilding the sign out front. The sign was paid for from line item 116, generously created for that purpose by the Sunde family.

**Vice President:** Kate helped Pastor Amy interview applicants for the administrative assistant position, and offered the report of social justice subcommittee

**Treasurer:** Offerings are strong. LED project and support for Catherine Moeller are paid.

**Announcements** – November Newsletter Deadline is ***October 23, 2015.***

**Next Council meeting – *Tuesday, October 20, 2015 7:00 pm***

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 with prayers by Kate Narveson.

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## CONGREGATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Members of Good Shepherd,

Psalms 98:4, "Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music."

I think I feel the need to "Shout for joy" for all of the recent events at Good Shepherd. The choir, band, harmonica soloist (!), and special guest musicians "burst into jubilant song with music" throughout yesterday's Installation celebration of Pastor Amy and the Welcome Neighbors Picnic. It was a beautiful day, filled with beautiful music, overt feelings of joy, and simply "a good time was had by all!!" We also welcome several new faces to the Good Shepherd staff!

The Installation was a fulfilling event following a long, deliberative process to call Pastor Amy. I want to send a huge "Shout for joy" to all of the members of the Call Committee for the many hours of serious, contemplative deliberations we went through during that journey. It certainly wasn't a "straight line" to our final choice but I know we all feel that it was the "right choice"!! I also want to express my appreciation for the dignity of that process. It was very challenging, no doubt....even stressful. But it was also rewarding and enriching. It was a blessing to be a part of it.

Another huge shout-out should go to the Evangelism Committee for their fantastic organization of the Welcome Neighbors Picnic. What a spectacular crowd! What great food! What fantastic weather! What jubilant music! Somebody told me that we should stop hosting this event now because we probably couldn't top this year's. :-

) Thanks to Evangelism chair, Matt Tapscott (and family), Gail and David Judisch, Lise Kildegaard (and her beautiful dog/petting zoo!), Joel Ruiz for his masterful barbecuing, everyone who brought that great food, and all the volunteers who assisted. What a great space we have in our backyard and what a great way to celebrate within it!

My next shout-out goes to Erik Berg who has completely restored the Good Shepherd sign at the front of the building. The sign had fallen into a pretty sad state of repair. However, it was made from redwood and could be salvaged. Erik fixed up the problem areas and cracks, painted the entire sign, gilded (!) the shepherd's crook, and re-hung it with help from a small crew. It looks fresh and the new LED spotlights really make the gilded crook/cross "pop" at night. Thanks also to the Sunde family who, many years ago, established a fund for the maintenance and upkeep of the Good Shepherd sign.

We have hired a new Administrative Assistant to the Pastor!! Her name is Erika Lozano. She is originally from Southern Florida and was doing seasonal work as a biologist in Winneshiek, Allamakee, and Clayton counties. Apparently, during her time here she has fallen in love with the area and Decorah specifically. She now hopes to settle in the area and is looking for a way to give back to the community. She has a wide range of secretarial, computer, and interpersonal skills that make her a fantastic candidate for this position. Erika will start work immediately and job shadow for a week or two. I hope you'll all stop by to welcome Erika to Good Shepherd.

A big thanks goes to Jenny Werner who has been the interim Administrative Assistant to the Pastor. She's been putting in a lot of extra hours to insure things are done right. She's pursuing other job opportunities now with more hours and benefits but I really think we're incredibly lucky to have her during this time of transition. She'll help Erika make the transition as smoothly as possible.

I also want to officially welcome Cheryl Ruiz as the new Good Shepherd custodian. She has much experience working with motels in the area. I know she'll keep the facilities shined up at its best! We are now fully staffed at Good Shepherd!! Hallelujah!

The new water heaters have been installed and will be fully operation in early October. We'll have hot water, immediately, in the kitchen! The roofing project over the Sunday School area and the Fellowship Hall will be finished before the snow flies. If you've wanted to be involved throughout this year in the revitalization of our church facilities that we have undertaken, but due to scheduling issues/health issues/whatever you couldn't join the awesome volunteers who have made such a difference this year, then I'd like to encourage you to consider a special donation to the fund to repair the roof. We will only owe about \$8000 after the roof and water heaters are done. This is a remarkable feat considering the scope of these projects, but one which I hope can be topped by our efforts to eliminate that debt. Wouldn't it be a wonderful gift to ourselves if we could make it happen prior to Christmas?? Stewardship has many "missions". Maintaining God's house is just one of them.

I hope the joy of this past weekend extends throughout the next 20 years and beyond!!!

Jim  
James L. Fritz, President  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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## TREASURER'S REPORT GENERAL FUND

8/20/2015

Total Income from January 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015: \$115,242.20

Total Expense from January 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015: \$108,444.12

Income is greater than expenses by: \$6798.08

(Note: Estimated July benevolences payable to the Synod and other organizations in the amount of \$3000.00 have not been paid and will be sent out with August and September benevolences in a quarterly payment.)

Respectfully submitted, Clara Knudson

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### MISSION ASSISTANCE FUND- Treasurer's Report

8/18/2015

3/24/2015 Account Balance: **\$ 1,818.87**

Additional Deposit in March **\$ 75.00**

Deposits in April **\$ 31.00**

Deposits in May **\$ 52.00**

Deposits in June **\$ 116.00**

Deposits in July **\$ 83.05**

Deposits from 8/1/15 to 8/17/15 **\$ 60.26**

4/8/2015 Rent assistance **\$ (350.00)**

4/8/2015 Utility assistance **\$ (125.00)**

7/15/2015 Rent assistance **\$ (600.00)**

8/13/2015 Purchase 8 grocery gift cards **\$ (200.00)**

8/13/2015 Purchase 4 gasoline gift cards **\$ (100.00)**

8/17/2015 Purchase 4 gasoline gift cards **\$ (100.00)**

8/18/2015 Account Balance: **\$ 761.18**

Note: Good Shepherd General Fund set a budget of \$300.00 for the Mission Assistance Fund.

As of 8/18/2015, none of the budgeted \$300.00 had been spent.

Grocery and gasoline gift cards are for Pastor to give when necessary.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Clara Knudson

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### GOD'S GIFTS TO US; OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Honour the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; Proverbs 3:9*

God calls us to give generously to others. This fall, Good Shepherd families and individuals will be invited to consider where God is leading us as a congregation and how we can generously share our resources with Good Shepherd.

Our Stewardship conversation, "First Fruits," will begin on Wednesday, October 14 and conclude on November 22. During this time, you'll hear personal stories from Good Shepherd members about how they think about stewardship and giving to the church. You will be invited to consider how your family would like to be involved with Good Shepherd in the coming year. We make commitments of our time and financial giving in the fall

so that we can begin to imagine the ministry we will build together in the coming year.

This year's Stewardship Series will include the following key events:

**Wednesday, October 14 and Sunday, October 18** - Kick-off in Worship

**Sunday, Oct. 25** - Giving Testimony

**Sunday, Nov 1** - Adult Forum - Stories of Giving

**Sunday, Nov 8** - Giving Testimony

**Sunday, Nov 15** - Bp. Steven Ullestad, Adult Forum - Our Gifts to the ELCA

**Sunday, Nov. 22** - Conclusion and Thanksgiving

We invite you into prayerful discernment about how your family can give to Good Shepherd in the coming year.

*Stewardship Team* Amalia Vagts, John Jefferson (Chair), Ed Epperly

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## MINISTRY TEAM SCHEDULE

### October 2015 Convener- Frank

#### Team D (Partner Team A)

Bakke, James (2)

Buckingham, M (1)

Buzza, Jim (2)

#### Frank, Jerry/Kris (2)

Hasvold, Ruth (1)

Jacobsen, Karl (2)

Joyce/Self (2)

Kaasa, Haldis (1)

Kavan, Cheuang (2)

Solberg, Paul (2)

Suntken, Jane (1)

### November 2015 Convener- Bahr

#### Team E (Partner Team B)

#### Bahr, Vernon (2)

Casebere, Shirley (1)

Drew, Sharon (1)

Felde/Steele (2)

Fritz, Jim (2)

Fritz, Mary (1)

Gall, Janet (1)

Holland, Steve (2,3)

Hover, Ed (2)

McCann, Nick (2)

Nelson, Bev (1)

Rathje, Rae Jean (1)

Solberg, Brian (2,2)

**Please Note:** When you are ushering, attending the nursery, or working in the kitchen, please remember to pick up after church or coffee. Ushers, remember to check the pews after the service. Also, if everyone returns hymnals to the rack and recycles their bulletins at the end of the service, it will make the usher's job easier! Thanks!

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## WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AND SUPPER

At Wednesday Night Worship we are singing Holden Evening Prayer and sharing in Holy Communion. We also share in the simple faith practice called **Faith5™**, which you may want to try at home.

**Faith5\*** is a set of five simple practices that allows us to connect with each other, connect with scripture and connect with God. This type of faith conversation can be done each night at home around the dinner table, at bedtime or on the phone with a loved one. The practices are:

**SHARE your highs and lows.** Many of us already do at supper or over the phone. This type of sharing is a faith practice that allows us to live our two keys aspects of the life of faith: gratitude and lament. Sharing lows especially reminds us that we don't need to put on a happy face to be a person of faith or to come to worship.

**PRAY for one another's highs and lows.** We pray a simple prayer in which we say "thank you" and name the other person's high, and "help with" and then name the other person's low.

**BLESS one another.** In this world where we're barraged by so many words and information overload, we need to speak and hear words of blessing. All the words coming at us tell us we only have value as consumers

and competitors, we need to hear words of love, assurance and blessing.

**READ a Bible verse or story.** You can use the Psalm printed in the Sunday bulletin or another short reading.

**TALK about how the Bible reading.** Share what you noticed and how it might connect with our highs and lows.

If you are doing these practices at the supper table, just go around the table sharing highs and lows, then take turns praying for and blessing the person next to you. At Wednesday Night Worship we share, pray and bless in groups of two and then talk about the Bible reading over the simple supper after worship.

\* Faith5 was developed by Dr. Rich Melheim. He suggests doing the practices in a different order.

The Wednesday night services have been a blessing to families and people who will be gone on Sundays. They will continue into October. We need help with the simple supper. Contact Jonathon Struve [struvejo@luther.edu](mailto:struvejo@luther.edu) if you can help.

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#### CANTOR SCHEDULE

Wednesdays:  
10/7: Don Berg  
10/14: Reg Laursen  
10/21: Jonathon Struve  
10/28: Sharon Drew

Sundays:  
10/4: Dennis Barnaal  
10/11: Daniel Raney  
10/18: Kate Narveson  
10/25: Jonathon Struve

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#### OCTOBER ALTAR GUILD

Charilyn Hover, Carrie Solberg, Kalle Solberg

#### OCTOBER RADIO BROADCAST WILL BE OCTOBER 18

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

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#### OCTOBER SCRIPTURES

##### 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

##### OCTOBER 4

Genesis 2:18-24  
Psalm 8  
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12  
Mark 10:2-16

##### 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

##### OCTOBER 18

Isaiah 53:4-12  
Psalm 91:9-16  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Mark 10:35-45

##### 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

##### OCTOBER 11

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15  
Psalm 90:12-17  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10:17-31

##### REFORMATION SUNDAY

##### OCTOBER 25

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 46  
Romans 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36

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#### CONFIRMATION/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR ADULT MENTORS

Confirmation is held 10:45am on Sunday mornings as part of the Youth Sunday School Class. This year the class includes youth grades 6th-9th grade. Pastor Amy will meet with the class every other week in her office. The Sundays she is not with them they will be doing another activity together including service, discussion, and the intergenerational storytelling that will happen once a month.

Those in 8th and 9th grade wishing to publicly confirm their faith are also expected to: complete 15 sermon notes each year, assist with worship, do service within and outside the church, attend Lenten mid-week worship and meet with an adult mentor periodically during coffee hour and Lenten Soup Suppers. This year's 8th and 9th graders are Natalie Tapscott, Anthony Ruiz, Ava Holland and Keaton Solberg. **If you would like to serve as an adult mentor who will meet with a confirmation student periodically during coffee hour and Lenten Soup Suppers, please contact Pr. Amy.**

## OCTOBER SCHEDULE FOR CONFIRMATION/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

October 4- meet in Sanctuary to hear from Kate Blair about Catherine Moeller in Mexico  
October 11- meet in Pastor Amy's Office  
October 18- meet in Sanctuary for intergenerational storytelling with Tabita Green.  
October 25- meet in Pastor Amy's Office

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## GOOD SHEPHERD ANNOUNCEMENTS

### VISITING OPPORTUNITIES

The Evangelism Committee organized an outreach project called: Warming Winter with God's Love. This involves members of the congregation visiting

Congregants who are currently residing in care facilities. The Evangelism committee would like to encourage any member of the congregation visiting a friend at one of the care facilities to take a few extra minutes to visit others in the same place.

Here is a list of persons from our congregation who are residing in the Decorah care facilities. Keep in mind there may be occasional inaccuracies as people move in and out of care.

**Wellington Place:** Linda Lambert, Justine Lionberger, Jaerdis Nesheim, Carmen Sunde. Don Pilgrim is now living with his daughter, Mary, at 306 Day Street.

**Aase Haugen:** Richard & Millie Dinger, Flo Klosterboer, Diane Kvamme, Dorothy Magelssen, Paul Solberg, Maxine Swiggum.

**Eastern Star Assisted Living:** Naomi Craft #116, 911 Ridgewood Dr.



Introducing Flickr, the online photo management and sharing application now posted on the right side of the Good Shepherd website homepage. The Flickr logo is located next to the logos for Facebook and Google+. Dustin Cote has uploaded all the photos from the website gallery and added the most recent photos from the Welcome Friends and Neighbors picnic. Click on the Flickr logo to view the photos. Additional photos will be added when available.

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### MIDDLE EAST & EUROPE REFUGEE CRISIS

A record number of refugees and migrants from the Middle East are fleeing war and poverty and making a terrifying, life-threatening journey to find a safer, better way of life in Europe. As a church, we are called to respond. **Lutheran Disaster Response** is committed to meeting basic humanitarian needs and upholding the rights of those fleeing war and crisis. We are working with our companion churches – the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary and the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia – and The Lutheran World Federation to

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### FLICKR LAUNCHED ON THE GOOD SHEPHERD WEBSITE



provide food, diapers, blankets, water, health kits, hygiene kits and psychosocial services to assist those who have fled their homes. We are also in communication with our church companions in Germany as they receive tens of thousands of refugees. Your prayers and support are needed now for immediate relief. Gifts designated for the Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those directly impacted. **Please make your check to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and write in the memo line, Refugee Crisis.** If you wish to sign a petition asking the White House to admit another 100,000 Syrian refugees please go to <http://wh.gov/iR9hZ>

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### EVERY MEMBER VISITS

Pastor Amy will begin every member visits in October. Each visit will be 20 minutes long – watch for the sign-up at worship and online.

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### NEW CHURCH EMAIL/CALENDAR

The church has a new email address: [decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com). Mail sent to the old email will be forwarded. The official church calendar is now on the website. If you use Google Calendar yourself, you can subscribe to have this calendar displayed when you use your own calendar. To add or correct something on the church calendar, please contact the church office. Please make sure your group/committee meeting in on this master calendar as we have lots of requests for use of the building.

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### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Beverly Nelsonn

Ann Highum & Jerry Freund

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### POSTAGE STAMPS

Please save your canceled postage stamps for Verne Koenig, he has a project he uses them for. There is collection box in the church office by the copier to drop them into. Thank you.

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### NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

A new member Sunday will happen soon on a date that works for those wishing to join Good Shepherd. If you are interested in membership, please talk with pastor Amy.

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### PATH TO CITIZENSHIP

Path to Citizenship is a northeast Iowa organization comprised of a coalition of various Decorah area faith groups. Its mission is to aid those people who require assistance with immigration issues, whether it be for personal or legal need. The steering committee for this organization is made up of representatives (as of May 2014) from Decorah Congregational UCC Church, First Lutheran Church of Decorah, First United Methodist Church of Decorah, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Decorah, Northeast Iowa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and Saint Benedict Catholic Parish of Decorah. The Northeast Iowa Peace and Justice Center, Inc., is also represented on this steering committee. As part of our mission we are supporting, through volunteerism and fund raising, a United Methodist Immigration Ministry known as Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON) which brings an immigration lawyer to Decorah once per quarter, and offers those legal services to clients at no charge.

If you wish to contribute, please write your checks to Good Shepherd Lutheran and write "Path to Citizenship" on the memo line.

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### FIRST LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

As a volunteer at the First Lutheran Food Pantry, I have seen a very large increase over the summer in the number of people seeking assistance. Carolyn Flaskerude, the coordinator of the Food Pantry, tells me that in June there were 625 clients and in July 651. In addition, the Waterloo Food Bank's support for our local pantry has been reduced due to a budget shortfall. So if you can donate food or money, please leave it in our Food Pantry Basket in the narthex. But even more important is the need **for people to help** with the afternoon food pantry work. It is open for two hours (1:30-3:30) Mondays through Fridays and one hour (6:15-7:15) Thursday evenings. If you can help at

the pantry just once a month or more often, Carolyn and the other volunteers would greatly appreciate it. You can call the First Lutheran office ([382-2638](tel:382-2638)) or Carolyn ([382-4417](tel:382-4417)). If you have questions or concerns, please give me a call, ([382-3137](tel:382-3137)).

-Lyle Otte, Social Justice Committee member

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

Church Office: [decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com)

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## CROP HUNGER WALK

**Sunday, October 4, 2:00 pm** – Registration for the annual “Walk to End Hunger One Step at a Time” takes place at the Regents Center, Luther College, at 1:30 pm. Don Berg is the Good Shepherd contact and organizer. Donation forms are available on the hallway counter. Additional information is available at the Church World Service website: [hunger.cwsglobal.org](http://hunger.cwsglobal.org)

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## QUILTING PLUS SALE

Jeri Laursen is having a sale of much of her quilting and craft supplies in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** Fabric, books, patterns, partially completed blocks and projects, threads, stamps, cross stitch and more. Stop by for a shopping spree!

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## COMMUNITY MEAL TWICE A MONTH

The **DECORAH COMMUNITY MEALS** bring people together from all walks of life to share a meal together.

The meals are free to all and they occur on **the first & third Thursday evenings** each month from **5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church.**

**Please join us the “First Thursday” on Oct. 1, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Good Shepherd will provide salads and desserts. Please sign up at the Narthex to volunteer for set up, serving, cleaning, and providing the salads/desserts.** The Norse Culinary Team at Luther College provides the main course for this meal

On the **first** and **third** Thursday – Good Shepherd, along with First Lutheran, Northeast Iowa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Ryumonji Zen Monastery, the

United Methodist Church, and St. Benedict’s Catholic Church are the faith groups that organize and coordinate the event. McCaffrey’s Dolce Vita has provided the main entrée on the third Thursday of the month. Other faith groups and community organizations have brought salads and desserts, and have volunteered. All members of Good Shepherd are welcome to come enjoy these free meals.

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## ADULT FORUMS

All adult forums are held weekly in Narthex at 10:50 a.m., just after worship.

**CHAT WITH PASTOR.** The November Ministry Team is encouraged to come meet, share and chat with our new Pastor, Amy Larson. **Sunday, October 4.**

**LEARN ABOUT BARNABAS UPLIFT**Narthex. Join Liza Hicken and her colleague from NICC to hear about the Barnabas Uplift Project. How can Good Shepherd support this important ministry? **Sunday, October 4.**

**MINDFULNESS.** First in our series of intergenerational story sharing sessions will be led by Tabitha Green, Good Shepherd member and author of the new memoir, "Her Lost Year." **Sunday, October 18.** Nick McCann facilitating.

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### SENA MARIE HANSON MEMORIAL RUN/WALK

Good Shepherd is invited to be part of the 1st Annual Sena Marie Hanson Memorial 5k Run/Walk/Bike on **Saturday, October 3.** This event raise funds for the Domestic Abuse Resource Center at Helping Services for Northeast Iowa. 100% of the proceeds will go directly to helping the women, men, and children whose lives are impacted by emotional, mental, and physical abuse. To sign up, email the church office to receive a copy of the web page link (it is too complicated a web address to print!) Sign up by September 15 to receive a free t-shirt.

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**CANOE RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL HARVEST SUPPER**

The annual harvest supper will be held on **Wednesday, October 14**, serving begins at 4:30pm. Tickets are \$12 for 12 & over; 11 & under \$4.00; preschool free. For more information or for purchasing tickets, please call 382-9414, 382-3220, or email Virginia Hanson at [Virginia.hanson9414@gmail.com](mailto:Virginia.hanson9414@gmail.com).

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**FALL FLING**

Need help with fall chores? The Luther College Student Congregation will participate in the ELCA call to service, "God's Work. Our Hands", with Fall Fling 2015. **On Saturday, October 24** students will assist area residents who need help with yard work and household chores. All work is done on a volunteer basis. Any donations received will be divided between local and global ministries. Contact the Luther College ministries office at 563-387-1040 or email [ministry@luther.edu](mailto:ministry@luther.edu) by **Friday, October 16** to request a Fall Fling team.

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**WELCA  
WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

We will continue to collect items for our Lutheran World Relief school kits through the month of October. A collection box will be placed in the narthex for donations. We will be assembling them on October 25 with the help of the Sunday School. Items needed are: 70 sheet notebooks, 30 centimeter rulers, pencil sharpeners, safety scissors, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, black or blue ballpoint pens, box of 16 or 24 crayons and 2 1/2 inch erasers. CLA Circle will also be assembling Baby Care Kits on October 27 in the church fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to come and participate and then [join in the Bible study](#) after. Donations for Baby Care Kits can be left in the W/ELCA cupboard in the KinderHaus room. Pastor Amy will have a blessing of the Kits on Sunday October 25.

We will again have our Soup Luncheon/Country Store on November 8. We will be serving a variety of soups along with breads and bars/cookies. Our Country Store will include baked goods (breads, cookies, bars, pies, Norwegian pastries, lefse, jellies & jams, etc.) and slightly used attic treasures. You never know what items you have that someone else might enjoy or need. Sign-up sheets will be available early in October. Funds raised will be given to local and global missions.

I hope you are enjoying your Gather bible study series for this year. In the fall, Liv Larson Andrews, pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in the West Central neighborhood of Spokane, Washington, brings us a three-session study on speed and slowness, examining how the Kingdom of God moves slowly, yet we are asked to move with ever greater speed. Liv lives with her spouse and young son and dreams of hosting the first ever lectionary-based cooking show. "Slow Faith" brings us "Sabbath Keeping" in September, "Make Haste O Lord (October)" and ends in November with "*Tempo Gusto!*" **In December** – You will find an Advent devotional to use for your W/ELCA events. **In the winter** – We will explore the book of Philippians "Christian Citizenship 101". With this format a variety of new writers can be used and opportunities can be created for new women to join the study group. For those who do not get the magazine, we will have a

section in the communication cubbies labeled "Gather Magazine" by the church office and current subscribers can add their magazines when they are finished and someone else will be able to enjoy the magazine. This is a good opportunity to read the good articles and Bible study that are always included. It is also a way to share your Gather magazine with others in the congregation and community. Reuse, recycle, renew.

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## WELCA UPCOMING EVENTS

October 25 – Blessing of LWR Kits

November 7- Lutheran World Relief Pickup

November 8-Soup Luncheon/Country Store

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