

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

701 Iowa Avenue

Decorah IA 52101



April 2017 Newsletter

The Shepherd's Voice

In this Issue

- Holy Week Services 1
- Words from Pastor Larson 2
- Worship Notes 3
- April Scriptures 3
- President's Message 4
- April Ministry Team 5-6
- Education 7
- April Adult Forums 7
- GS Announcements 8-9
- WELCA News 10
- Tapscott Letter 11
- Music Page 12
- Mowing Schedule 13
- Council Minutes 14-16
- April Calendar 17

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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION





The Shepherd's Voice

April 2017

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 9:30AM

Procession with Palms

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 7PM

Christ's Last Supper Forms us to Love

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 7PM

Out of the Depths-Service of Shadows
Special Music composed by Brooke Joyce and
offered by Good Shepherd Choir and Jonathon Struve

COMMUNITY EASTER VIGIL, APRIL 15, 7PM

A Service of Fire, Scripture, Water, & Holy Communion
This one hour service will be followed by food and fellowship.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 9:30 AM

Festival Worship with Good Shepherd Band

Pastor's message on following page

Words from Pastor Larson

Beloved of God,

This year our Congregation Council has been doing a SOAR planning process. SOAR stands for STRENGTHS, OPPORTUNITIES, ASPIRATIONS and RESULTS. This process began with the congregational survey at the annual meeting in which people were asked what they value and hope for regarding Good Shepherd. (Results of the survey were in the March newsletter and are posted outside the office. If you missed the meeting you can still take the survey. Blank surveys can be found in the cubbies outside the office. Completed ones can be returned there also.) Key STRENGTHS identified in that survey were: worship, a focus on social justice, and the welcome many feel at Good Shepherd. HOPES identified in the survey include: identifying a focus for our social justice work, building the ministry with children, and increasing our welcome.

In February, the Congregation Council looked at the survey results and identified OPPORTUNITIES for the year ahead:

1. Balance expanding opportunities for kids/youth with continuing attentiveness to the wisdom/experience/needs of elders in the congregation.
2. Support Pastor Amy and Pastor Marion in this new experience/gift of a support pastor—be attentive to the gifts of each so that each can best use her passions and skills to serve the evolving needs of the congregation.
3. Persevere in our work for social justice while continuing our commitment to listen to the different ways in which we interpret/seek to live our call to do justice.
4. Identify the theme or focus of our “outwardness” as an umbrella for our actions such as social justice.
5. Lift up new leaders in all areas—not limited to official capacities. Support members in leading and in participating so that we can all make valuable contributions and be served in our community of faith.

In March, the Congregation Council looked at the STRENGTHS and OPPORTUNITIES and identified two ASPIRATIONS for the year ahead. These are to lead the congregation in 1) practicing deep hospitality as guided by the biblical witness and 2) saying “*yes and*”. Number one: Deep hospitality includes focusing our social justice work on caring for refugees and immigrants and working for just immigration laws. It also includes deepening our capacity to extend hospitality in worship and fellowship hour, considering how our building can be more hospitable, and welcoming the noise and mess of children. Number two: Saying “*yes and*” is a way we can affirm the gifts and perspectives each person brings while also remaining open to things that will challenge us and take us a step further. I believe God is always saying “*yes and*” to us. “*Yes, you are loved and you need to love others.*” “*Yes, you need to serve and you need to rest.*” “*Yes, care for children and tend the elders.*” “*Yes, your convictions should be heard and here is another way to think about it.*”

Next month, we will focus on RESULTS. As we pursue these OPPORTUNITIES and live into the ASPIRATIONS, what will RESULTS look like? What growth do we hope to see and how can we tend it? If you have questions or comments about this process or these OPPORTUNITIES and ASPIRATIONS, please talk to me or a Council member.

This month, we are all invited to experience the deep hospitality of God in Holy Week and Easter worship. We will experience again that God has said *yes* to us by entering the brokenness and death of our world; *and* even death cannot stop God from loving us and our whole world.

Peace to you, Pastor Amy

Worship Notes

We will be using the liturgical setting number four from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) during the Easter Season. This setting includes special festive parts for brass. This summer will use the Behold I Make All Things New Liturgy composed by Ben Larson as well as liturgical setting number six from ELW, this setting uses gospel and jazz rhythms.

Reminder- Good Shepherd is hosting the Community Easter Vigil this year. Sign up if you can help with dessert following the service. Worship leaders and ushers are not needed. Please contact Amalia Vagts who is the Coordinator for the Fellowship Hour following the Vigil Service on Saturday evening. Her contact information is in the Directory and online.

FROM THE ALTAR GUILD ...The liturgical seasons and colors will be changing soon. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, April 9. The color for the days from then through Maundy Thursday is scarlet, the color of the crucifixion; purple is the alternate. Barbara Berg, who created and wove our paraments and pastor's stoles, incorporated scarlet sections in the paraments and stole we have been using throughout Lent so that they would serve for Holy Week, as well. The gates in the weavings will change from purple to scarlet with black crosses woven in. The altar and gates are stripped at the end of the Maundy Thursday service and will remain bare through the Good Friday service until they are re-dressed with white and gold for the celebrations of the Community Saturday evening Easter Vigil and our Easter Sunday Festival Worship that mark the beginning of the Easter season. This fifty-day season will end with the Day of Pentecost, June 4, for which the liturgical color is bright red.

April Scriptures

Sunday, April 2 Fifth Sunday in Lent	Ezekiel 37:1-14 The dry bones of Israel brought to life	Psalms 130 I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)	Romans 8:6-11 Life in the Spirit	John 11:1-45 Baptismal image: the raising of Lazarus
Sunday, April 9 Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a The servant of the Lord submits to suffering	Psalms 31:9-16 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)	Philippians 2:5-11 Humbled to the point of death on a cross	Matthew 26:14--27:66 The passion of the Lord
Sunday, April 16 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43 God raised Jesus on the third day	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)	Colossians 3:1-4 Raised with Christ to seek the higher things	Matthew 28:1-10 Proclaim the resurrection
Sunday, April 23 Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Christ's resurrection: the fulfillment of God's promise to David	Psalms 16 In your presence, there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)	1 Peter 1:3-9 New birth to a living hope through the resurrection	John 20:19-31 Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ
Sunday, April 30 Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Receiving God's promise through baptism	Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19 I will call on the name of the Lord. (Ps. 116:13)	1 Peter 1:17-23 Born anew through the living word of God	Luke 24:13-35 Eating with the risen Christ

Council President's Message

The Good Shepherd Church Council recently talked about “deep hospitality”. What is this, you might ask? Is it being sure to greet visitors? Is it welcoming all who enter? Is it providing a space that welcomes? It is that and more.

I have always felt that Good Shepherd was a welcoming place. The original reason my family and I transferred from another church in town to Good Shepherd was due to this very reason. We sat at coffee, alone, at the other church but were nearly mobbed at coffee at Good Shepherd. Plus, living as close and with as many neighbors also belonging to Good Shepherd, it just felt right. It still does.

As we continue our discussions about immigrants and the need for there to be welcoming places for those looking for a new home, I am proud of the stance and efforts that Good Shepherd has taken. It is a part of our collective DNA to reach out to help the oppressed and the lost. It is one of our most important qualities.

We have made great strides to provide a place that welcomes all: members, guests and the community. We share our spaces with many groups. This causes some challenges but it also helps us spread our mission among others. We have a wonderful space to worship and spend time in Fellowship. As we grow, we will need to continue to provide inviting spaces for all.

As a part of the desire of the congregation to explore our spaces and upgrade where needed, the Council has undertaken an effort to determine what comes next. Unfortunately, a bad chunk of roof is going to need to be fixed ASAP but we are looking into other possibilities too.

We hosted Anne Garriets, who is an ELCA Building and Spaces Consultant. Anne has a degree in Engineering and is responsible to all congregations west of the Mississippi. Her job is to help congregations in building/remodeling processes. She walked through our entire facility and grounds with us and discussed what things she saw that might need upgrading. She was very excited that we had already surveyed the congregation about our aspirations and challenges, as that would have been the first thing she recommended for us to do. She had many great ideas and it's always good to have a neutral person with “fresh eyes” look at the things we see each day. Anne will be a great resource for us as we move forward with our Capital Campaign efforts.

A Space Exploration Taskforce (I love the name!) or SET has been established to assist in this Capital Campaign. This Council approved group of individuals will serve as the committee that will oversee the entire process. All other committees will report their findings to this group. This group will then make recommendations to the Council and congregation. We want to take the time necessary to address all needs and assess what is necessary and what is not.

We're also discussing that a portion of the Capital Campaign should go to building the larger church abroad. While nothing is yet decided, it would be amazing to help a congregation in Africa or some other place in need.

As we work to provide a deeper welcome to all, through our actions, word and deed, I hope that we will keep in mind that Christ might be among the most needy. We won't recognize him but we should treat each of our brothers and sisters as if it was Him. I think the Council's discussions about Deep Hospitality is a good start along this road.

Respectfully,
Jim Fritz, President

April 2017 Ministry Schedule

DATE	LITURGY/WORSHIP	USHER * Lead	Fellowship* Coordinator
Sunday, April 2	Asst. Minister: Jane Jakoubek Communion Server: Jerrine Jacobsen Cantor: Jason Rausch	1.*Bob Naslund 2. Dennis Barnaal Greeter: Jane Borelli Acolyte: Weston Cote	1.*Doris Barnaal 2. JoAnn Kjome 3. Bev Sheridan 4. Jeri Laursen
Wednesday, April 5, 5:30 p.m.	Asst. Minister: Bob Larson	1.*Jeri Laursen 2. Ruth Bruce	Soup Supper
Sunday, April 9 Palm Sunday BROADCAST	Asst. Minister: Jane Jakoubek Communion Server: Jane Kemp Cantor: Reg Laursen	1.*Jeri Laursen 2. Ruth Bruce Greeter: Reg Laursen Acolyte: Mason Cote	1.*Joyce Epperly 2. 3. Elizabeth Kaschins 4. John Jefferson 5. Pastor Marion (F)
Thursday, April 13 Maundy Thursday 7 p.m.	Asst. Minister & Cantor: Jonathon Struve	1.*Amalia Vagts 2.	
Friday, April 14 Good Friday, 7:00 p.m.	Asst. Minister: Harland Nelson	1.*Chris Hick 2. Linda Wolfs	
Saturday, April 15 7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil	Fellowship Only	1. *Vagts /Lester 3.	2. Ed and Joyce Epperly 4.
Sunday, April 16 Easter Sunday	Asst. Minister: Harland Nelson Communion Server: Jane Kemp Cantor: Jonathon Struve	1.*Bob Naslund 2. Jeri Laursen Greeter: Reg Laursen Acolyte: Ann Naslund	No Fellowship
Sunday, April 23	Asst. Minister: Pam Torresdal Communion Server: Megan Buckingham Cantor: Kate Narveson	1.*Ed Epperly 2. Ray Torresdal Greeter: Reg Laursen Acolyte:	1.*Jeri Laursen 2. Diane Kruse 3. Jutta Anderson (F) 4. John Jefferson 5. Pastor Marion (F)
Sunday, April 30	Asst. Minister: Bob Naslund Communion Server: Pam Torresdal Cantor: Daniel Raney	1.*Ray Torresdal 2. Russ Freerking Greeter: Jane Borelli Acolyte:	1.* 2. Lise Kildegaard 3. Sara Hanssen (F) 4. Jeri Laursen
Altar Guild: Carrie Solberg (convener), Janeen Christy, Jon Christy			

MINISTRY TEAM LIST – April - June 2017

Liturgy

Buckingham Megan
Christy Janeen
Christy Jon
Felde Bob
Hanssen Sara
Holland Krista
Holland Steve
Jakoubek Jane
Kemp Jane
Larson Bob
Lester David
Naslund Bob
Snow Luther
Solberg Brian
Steele Marty
Struve Jonathon
Thompson Kathryn

Ushering

Barnaal Dennis
Borelli Jane
Epperly Ed
Frank Jerry
Freerking Russ
Hanson Brad
Kavan Cheuang
Kavan Choung
Laursen Reg
Moeller John
Nelson Glenn
Raney Daniel
Rathje Rae Jean
Schoel Tim
Sheridan Bev
Struve Jonathon
Torresdal Pam
Torresdal Raymond
Vagts Amalia
Wuest Richard
Ylvisaker Richard

Fellowship

Ailabouni Jon
Ailabouni Kate
Anderson Albert
Anderson Jutta
Anderson Marilyn
Barnaal Doris
Blair Sue
Cote Dustin
Cote Heather
Craft Naomi
Donlon Cheryl
Epperly Ed
Freerking Marie
Hanson Marion
Hover Charilyn
Jacobsen Jerrine
Jefferson John
Jones Beth
Kildegaard Lise
Kjome Wendy
Laursen Jeri
Moeller Lindy
Naslund Ann
Nelson Beverly
Refsal Norma
Schoel Judy
Swanson Kristin
Wuest Glendalu
Ylvisaker Joanne

Education

The Education Committee and our Sunday School children would like to thank the congregation for all of their assistance with the March 15th Lenten soup supper. We are grateful to those who brought soup, set up the Fellowship Hall and assisted with clean up after supper. Our children enjoyed giving back to the congregation by making and serving soup during this event.

Would you like to get to know our Sunday School children? We are seeking a few more volunteers to assist with our Faith Five activities on Sunday, April 2nd and Sunday, May 7th. We provide instructions to guide you through this simple faith practice that includes reading the story/theme, praying together and blessing each other. These activities will require approximately 30 minutes of your time during Sunday School. Our children have enjoyed interacting with several adults in our congregation so far this year – please consider joining us for our two remaining sessions! **Contact Anna Norris (amakemp@yahoo.com) for more information and to volunteer.**

Kids and parents are invited to Canoe Creek Farm on **Sunday, April 9** to visit with Barb and Kevin Kraus and their herd of sheep. The visit will be part of our four week theme on Psalm 23. We will depart Good Shepherd following worship around 10:45 am and will return to Good Shepherd around noon. **Please RSVP to Heather Cote (cotecheck@gmail.com) if your child would like to join us on this field trip and/or if you are willing to assist with transportation**

April Adult Forums

April 2nd – will be led by Decorah's Forester Robin Sailor. She will explain the city's plan to replace diseased Ash Trees and discuss what trees Good Shepherd might consider planting on its property.

April 9th – Palm/Passion Sunday – no adult forum

April 16th – Resurrection of Our Lord – no adult forum

April 23rd – St. Grubby's Day – no adult forum

April 30th - Come and join Leboy Oltimbau and Musa Kamaika, Tanzanian men who are members of the Maasai tribe, and who have been in residence at Luther College this spring. Not only have Leboy and Musa served as cultural guides and translators for Luther programs in Tanzania, they have welcomed Luther students and faculty in their homes. While in Decorah, they have been sharing their culture, which has developed around the herding of cattle, sheep and goats, while experiencing American life and greeting old friends.

Good Shepherd Announcements

NOONTIME LENTEN ORGAN RECITAL, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 12:15-12:45 - Five students from the Luther College Organ Studio - Caleb Bendull, Kristen Carlson, Emily Riley, Christine Skogen, and Andrew Sorenson - will perform a program that includes works of Dieterich Buxtehude, Michel Corrette, Cesar Franck, and Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens. This is the last in this year's series of organ recitals.

EASTER FLOWERS - Altar Guild welcomes contributions of fresh flowers and flowering plants to grace the sanctuary for the Community Easter Vigil on Saturday evening and our Easter Sunday Festival Worship. Contributions can be designated in honor or memory of loved ones and friends. Because of allergies and sensitivities, please refrain from choosing heavily scented flowers and plants. Hydrangeas, azaleas, tulips, daffodils, and mixed bouquets are examples of good choices. Please have them delivered to the Narthex table ***no later than noon on Saturday, April 15.***

THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Team will meet April 19 from 1-3:00 at the home of Sylvia Clisham. We welcomed two new crafters in March and would love to have you join us! Contact Ruth Bruce at 419-7567 for additional information. Our Prayer Shawl Ministry recently made a gift of a dozen shawls to two area agencies: Helping Services for Abused Women and Winneshiek Medical Center Hospice.

ST GRUBBY'S DAY APRIL 23: Mark your calendar to wear your grubby clothes to church on April 23 so you can participate in fun and fellowship with other GS members while sprucing up our grounds and buildings. We end with pizza fellowship.

FROM THE NELSONS: We must empty our garage by April 30. We would like to give away these items: a 15-cubic foot Coronado freezer, an exercise bicycle, a homemade cedar chest (built by Harland's dad), and a four-drawer metal file. Harland Nelson - 382-2138.

IMMIGRATION AND UNACCOMPANIED MINORS - Presentations and a panel discussion on Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m., in Luther's Olin Hall, room 102. Susan Schmidt, Visiting Assistant Professor of Social Work, and Yer L. Vang, immigration attorney with Catholic Charities will speak about their experiences with unaccompanied minors from Mexico and Central America. The event is sponsored by Luther's Center for Ethics and Public Engagement (Krista Holland is assistant director of the Center) and is open to the public at no charge.

CAMP EWALU VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND – Friday, April 28 – Saturday, April 29. Get your hands dirty and help Camp Ewalu get ready for the hundreds of campers that will come to camp this summer. Service is a big part of what keeps Camp Ewalu running and looking great. Thank you to the many hands that help this ministry continue to flourish! ALL are welcome. This is a great event for families, individuals, youth groups, and congregations. People are invited to come for a few hours or for the whole weekend. The schedule can be viewed at <http://www.ewalu.org>. Please RSVP by April 21 at 563-933-4700 or email camp@ewalu.org.

FIRST LUTHERAN TRAVELERS AND FRIENDS invite you to join them on Thursday, May 4 for a trip to Plymouth MN. The day includes transportation, lunch and an afternoon matinee of "*The Church Basement Ladies*" in "*Rise Up O Men.*" Pick up a flyer with details and a reservation form on the poster located outside Fellowship Hall at Good Shepherd. \$74 per person covers all costs and gratuities and is payable with cash or check to the First Lutheran Office by April 10.

ARE YOU ON THE QUARTER TWO MINISTRY TEAM? Please check the bulletin board or Signup Genius to make sure you have signed up to serve at least twice in April, May, or June. Together, we all provide this service to each other.

Good Shepherd Announcements

Liberating Grace Conference at Luther, April 1st, is now free of charge and open to anyone who would like to attend all or part of the day long event. Ralston Deffenbaugh will offer the keynote address, Sat., April 1, 8:45 a.m. in the CFL addressing the topic: *Welcoming the Stranger and The Global Challenge of Refugee Protection in an Age of Fear*. He brings the voice of compassion, practice, and faithful wisdom born of experience to pressing issues of how faith communities respond to the needs of immigrants and refugees. Nadia Bolz-Weber will also be speaking at 10:30 that morning on the topic *A Week in the Life of a Preacher*. During the afternoon, participants can select from a variety of workshops led by Luther faculty and guests on topics such as *The Enduring Impact of Luther's Liturgical Revolution*, *For the Sheer Joy of it: Luther's Theology of the Body*, *J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor*, *New Directions in Martin Luther Research*, among others. More information about the conference is available online at: <https://www.luther.edu/reformation-2017/conference/>

WINNESHIEK COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is currently seeking a partner family for its next building project, slated for Ridgeway, Iowa. Partner families must have employment, demonstrate that they currently have an inadequate housing situation, and, working alongside volunteers, be able to invest many hours of labor or "sweat equity" into building their homes and the homes of others. For more information, e-mail wchfh1@gmail.com, call (563) 382-1802, or visit www.winneshiekhabitat.org.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB will hold its semiannual fund raising event, "Dessert Among the Flowers" at First Lutheran Church on Thursday, April 27, 7 PM. The club will decorate 20 tables in unique floral themes and will provide fancy desserts. The doors will open at 6:30 PM for viewing the tables. David Roslien, retired Luther professor of biology will speak on "Some Secrets of Winneshiek Wild Flowers". Viset Hovden will demonstrate edible art with delicate carvings of fruits and vegetables. Door prizes will be given. Tickets are \$9 and are only available IN ADVANCE. They can be purchased from garden club members, the Oneota Food Co-op or by calling 382-3091 or 380-0472.

HESPER LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will host a Spring Brunch on Sunday, April 9, 2017. Serving is from 9:30 am - 1:00 pm. Menu includes: "Build Your Own Omelet", Belgian Waffles, Homemade Cinnamon Rolls, Applesauce, Juice, Milk & Coffee. Adults: \$9.00, Children 6-11: \$5.00 and Children under 5 are Free. Come and join us for Brunch and enjoy some great food and fellowship!

ST. BENEDICT'S SALAD LUNCHEON is April 13, 11:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$8, available at the door or Parish Office. Carry outs are available.

LUTHER COLLEGE MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH is on Sunday, May 14, in Peace Dining Room, serving 9am-2pm. Adults • \$16.95, Children (5-10) • \$7.75. Reservations are required and can be made at the Ticket Office, 563-387-1357 or tickets.luther.edu/Online.



CLA Circle will be assembling Baby Care Kits at the April 25 meeting in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. If you enjoy shopping at garage sales (city-wide is April 22) or at the Depot, these are good places to find nice, clean items for the kits. A list of items needed for the Kits can be found in our WELCA handbook or on the Good Shepherd website.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our LWR Personal Care Kits. To date we have enough towels, toothbrushes and combs to make over 35 kits, but still need bath-sized soap (4-5 oz) and metal nail clippers. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit allow families who must flee their homes 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. The Sunday school children will be assembling the kits on April 23 and they will be shipped to the warehouse on May 6.

The Northeast Iowa Synodical Women's Organization annual convention will be held June 17 at Wartburg College in Waverly. Convention registration forms and scholarship applications are available from Bev Sheridan. Education scholarship application forms are also available for women who are furthering their education. Scholarship deadlines are May 15, 2017.

Women of the ELCA's Tenth Triennial Gathering will be held July 13-16, 2017 in Minneapolis. We'll gather under the theme "All Anew", inviting every woman to explore personal and communal transformation. Registration is \$350. Beverly Nelson and Beverly Sheridan are planning on attending the gathering. Please include them in your prayers. Register at welcatg.org or send an email to women.elca@elca.org for a registration packet (or contact Bev Sheridan).

Ten Good Reasons to attend the Tenth Triennial Gathering

10. **Hear the Gathering choir raise the roof** with our All Anew theme hymn, "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading."
9. **Worship together** with thousands of Lutheran women.
8. **Bring home a tote bag** full of fresh new ideas for ministry and action.
7. **You'll be refreshed and renewed** by gathering with thousands of other women who share our faith.
6. **You'll meet so many of your favorite authors** all in one place.
5. **Learn so many great new ways to promote healing** and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.
4. **You'll make a real difference in people's lives** with your generous offering at Closing Worship, which will be divided among the PV for Phebe project, Cherish All Children, and ongoing ministries of the Women of the ELCA.
3. **Make friends with thousands of bold women** from around the country and around the world.

April Circle Schedule

- 4/4 - Mary Circle - 4:00 p.m. – Marion Hanson hosts
- 4/11 - Anna Circle - 9:30 a.m. - Joanne Ylvisaker hosts
- 4/12 - Miriam Circle - 2:00 p.m. - Donna Bahr hosts
- 4/25 - CLA Circle - 7:00 p.m. - Lindy Moeller hosts at church

Dear Good Shepherd Members,

As a 16 year old, will-be-junior at the Decorah High School, I felt that I was ready and capable of participating in a volunteer service trip this summer from July 15 -28, in Phang Nga, Thailand through Global Visions International. I have talked with Pastor Larson and asked if it was okay to share this letter with the church community. GVI is a conservation and community development volunteer organization with a youth component for students ages 15-17. A group of sixteen English speaking students from around the world, under the supervision of Global Visions staff, will spend our time painting, making repairs, and other improvements on a local school in Phang Nga. In addition to focused volunteer hours, there are a few select days dedicated to cultural immersion and experiencing Thailand.

I am making this trip financially possible through a variety of means including grants and scholarships, summer employment, savings, and fundraising. I am volunteering at local non-profit organizations such as the Decorah Community Meal, the Decorah Public Library, the Head-Start classroom, and our Lenten suppers as a fundraising activity in which I am asking friends and family to make a monetary pledge per hour that I volunteer. I plan to spend 25 to 30 hours volunteering by May 31st. I would appreciate any support either spiritually or financially that you are able to provide.

The purpose of this trip is to improve the local infrastructure of the educational center to provide a better education for the students and for use as a community center. I am excited by the opportunity to participate in meaningful international volunteer service as well as gain a better understanding of the Thai culture and explore how their educational system compares to my school experience. I am excited to experience traveling internationally as well. Upon my return I would love to spend time sharing my experience with the church community. I am happy to answer any further questions that you may have regarding this experience. Feel free to email me at tapscottdecorah@gmail.com or call [563-387-6069](tel:563-387-6069). Thank you for your blessings and consideration in this opportunity.

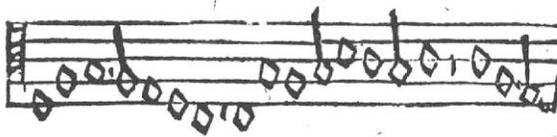
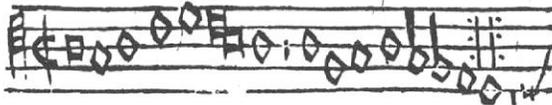
Sincerely,

Natalie Tapscott

The Music Page

The Hymns of Martin Luther, part III

Der Lobsanck Christ ist erstanden/
Gebessert.



Christ lag yn todes banden/ fur vnser
sund gegebē. Der ist widder erstandē/
vnd hat vns bracht das leben. Des wir
sollen frolich seyn. Got loben vñ dāck
bar seyn vnd syngen Alleluia.

Den todt niemāt zwingen kund/ bey allē menschē
kyndē. Das macht alles vnser sund/ keyn vnshult
war zu finden. dauon kam der tod so bald/ vñ nam
vber vns gewalt/ hielt vns yn seym reich gefangē.

Luther's hymn as published in 1524

During the season of Easter, we will hear several settings of Martin Luther's hymn "Christ lag in Todesbanden" (Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands), for which Luther provided both the words and music. On Easter Sunday, we'll hear a version played by the band, and on 4/30, the choir will sing a 20th century setting. Below is the text from stanzas 1 and 2, which can also be found in the ELW, #370:

- 1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands
and brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
and sing to God right thankfully
loud songs of hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 2 Our Savior Jesus, God's own Son,
here in our stead descended;
the knot of sin has been undone,
the claim of death is ended.
Christ has crushed the pow'r of hell;
now there is naught but death's gray
shell—
its sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!

April Music Schedule

- 4/2 Choir (hymns and service music)
- 4/9 Choir (Out of the Depths, st. 4)
- 4/14 Choir (Out of the Depths, all)
- 4/16 Band (Prelude/Offertory/Postlude, plus hymns and service music)
- 4/23 Handbells (TBA)
- 4/30 Choir (Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands)

Choir and Band rehearse each Wednesday at 7 and 8 pm. Handbells rehearse 4/19 at 6 pm.

Lenten Organ Series

Good Shepherd's noontime Lenten Organ Recital Series concludes on Wednesday, April 5 in the sanctuary. The performance will start at 12:15 and finish by 12:45, and will feature the Luther College Organ Studio - Caleb Bendull, Kristen Carlson, Emily Riley, Christine Skogen, and Andrew Sorenson. Their program will include music by Dieterich Buxtehude, Michel Corrette, César Franck, and Jacques Lemmens.

Good Shepherd 2017 Mowing Schedule

	<u>Crew Leader</u>	<u>Crew Members</u>	
10-Apr	Dan Raney	Bob Felde	Sub
17-Apr	Tim Schoel	Al Anderson	Sub
24-Apr	Dennis Barnaal	Claude Hayes	Sub
1-May	Don Berg	Claude Hayes	Jane Jakoubek
8-May	Bob Naslund	Chris Hick	Linda Wolfs
15-May	John Moeller	Amalia Vagts	David Lester
22-May	Reg Laursen	Jane Jakoubek	Al Anderson
29-May	Tim Schoel	Ray Torresdal	Dennis Barnaal
5-Jun	Bob Naslund	Dan Bellrichard	John Jefferson
12-Jun	Dan Raney	Bob Felde	Marty Steele
19-Jun	Brian Solberg	Claude Hayes	Karl Knudson
26-Jun	Reg Laursen	Chris Hick	Linda Wolfs
3-Jul	Bob Naslund	Dennis Barnaal	Ray Torresdal
10-Jul	Russ Freerking	Dan Bellrichard	Erik Berg
17-Jul	Tim Schoel	Jane Jakoubek	Al Anderson
24-Jul	John Moeller	Brian Solberg	Karl Knudson
31-Jul	Reg Laursen	Chris Hick	Linda Wolfs
7-Aug	Russ Freerking	Don Berg	Ray Torresdal
14-Aug	Brian Solberg	Erik Berg	John Jefferson
21-Aug	John Moeller	Claude Hayes	Don Berg
28-Aug	Dan Raney	Bob Felde	Martha Steele
4-Sep	Russ Freerking	Ray Torresdal	Brian Solberg
11-Sep	Tim Schoel	Erik Berg	John Moeller
18-Sep	Reg Laursen	David Lester	Amalia Vagts
25-Sep	Bob Naslund	Bob Felde	Martha Steele
2-Oct	Russ Freerking	Dennis Barnaal	Al Anderson
9-Oct	Dan Bellrichard	Erik Berg	Jane Jakoubek
16-Oct	Dan Raney	Martha Steele	Bob Felde

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES, March 21, 2017, 7 P.M.

Present: Pr Amy Larson, Jim Fritz, Megan Buckingham, John Moeller, Heather Cote, Lise Kildegaard, Luther Snow, Amalia Vagts and Jeri Laursen

Devotions were given by Jim Fritz, reading from Matthew 25.

Approval of Minutes:

Buckingham moved an amendment to the February minutes asking that the following wording be used for the council SOAR discussion from last month rather than what was printed in the published February minutes:

OPPORTUNITIES: WHAT NEEDS OUR ATTENTION THIS YEAR?

Considering the congregational survey, the 2016 council wishes and your own wishes for the congregation, what do you see as 3 top opportunities for our congregation in this year?

Group 1:

1. Balance expanding opportunities for kids/youth with continuing attentiveness to the wisdom/experience/needs of elders in the congregation.
2. Support Pastor Amy and Pastor Marion this new experience/gift of a support pastor—be attentive to the gifts of each so that each can best use their passions and skills to serve the evolving needs of the congregation.
3. Persevere in our work for social justice while continuing our commitment to listen to the different ways in which we interpret/seek to live our call to do justice.

Group 2:

1. Identify the theme or focus of our “outwardness” as an umbrella for our actions such as social justice.
2. Lift up new leaders in all areas—not limited to official capacities. Support members in leading and in participating, so that we can all make valuable contributions and be served in our community of faith.

Snow seconded the amendment; motion passed. R. Laursen moved to approve the February minutes as amended, Kildegaard seconded; motion passed.

Adoption of Council Meeting Agenda: Vagts moved, Buckingham seconded to approve the agenda; motion passed.

New Business:

SOAR Process- Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results- Last month the council identified strengths and opportunities for the congregation looking at the congregational survey from the Annual Meeting (see opportunities above.) This month we identified aspirations for the year ahead. These are: 1) Deep Hospitality and 2) Say “yes and”. See Pastor Amy’s April newsletter article for more on these.

Vacation Bible School staffing. The dates for VBS are August 8-10. Cote, as a representative from the Education Committee, moved that the committee hire a VBS Coordinator and that \$100 from line item 491 Contingency Funds be designated to support this position. Vagts seconded; motion passed. \$200 from line item 412 Church Schools and \$200 from line item 441 Youth (total of \$500) may also be used for VBS and the support of a coordinator.

Church Building Consultant update:

Ann Geritz came to Good Shepherd on March 13 and met with a committee of representatives from the council, the P/M committee and the sanctuary refurbishment committee. The recent Congregational Vitality Project survey was shared with her and she and the committee took a tour of GS facilities. She will continue as a resource for the congregation. The next step is to establish a committee to lead the process which we will call the "Space Exploration Task Force". Potential members Jim Fritz, Megan Buckingham, Amalia Vagts, Reg Laursen, Marty Steele, Bob Naslund and Jane Kemp were presented to the council for approval. R. Laursen moved, Cote seconded to approve the task force membership; motion passed. They will be asked to survey the committees of the council about how space is currently working for them and how they see space needs 5 years from now. Kildegaard asked that the task force consider giving 10% of the Capital Fund Campaign monies to a benevolence cause such as support of our missionaries, the Oyebade family.

Receiving New Member KJ Rebarcak: Vagts joyfully moved to receive KJ into our membership, Buckingham seconded; motion passed. KJ will remain an associate member of St. Paul's in Davenport and while being a full member at Good Shepherd.

Neighbor's Picnic Update: The picnic is usually held the second Sunday of September. We are actively in pursuit of an individual who will coordinate the event. Ideas can be sent to Pr. Amy or Jim Fritz.

Guests in Directory: Buckingham moved, Vagts seconded, that frequent visitors who request to be included be added to our church directory; motion passed.

Old Business:

Synod Assembly Voting Member: R. Laursen moved, J. Laursen seconded to approve Jane Kemp as a voting member at the Synod Assembly; motion passed. The President and Vice President are normally the voting members from a congregation. Jane will replace Buckingham who is unable to attend.

Continuing Resolution Review: Current resolution copy will be sent out to committees to review and possibly update. .

Roof Repair Update: R. Laursen moved that, although funding has yet to be raised, GS get on the Moss Roofing "jobs to do list". The bid is a minimum of \$30,000. Over \$13,000 has already been earmarked. If payment to Moss is needed before fund raising is completed it may be necessary to take out a loan. Vagts seconded; motion passed.

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

Education: Heather Cote

- The Sunday School (as of March 19) has raised \$684.58 for their Lenten Offering designated for the Good Shepherd Reformation Grove and LWR. Their goal is \$2000.
- The Sunday School will go to Canoe Creek Farm (Barb Kraus) to visit with her sheep.
- "Faith 5" volunteers are still needed for April 2 and May 7 during Fellowship Hour.

Evangelism: Lise Kildegaard

- Pr. Marion is now working with the committee that consists of Kildegaard, Sharon Rendack and Janeen Christy.
- New members were received on February 26 and the next New Member Sunday is planned for May 7.
- Good Shepherd Information Session will be Sunday, March 26 for those interested in joining the congregation, regular guests and those who joined in February.
- The committee is working on a description of duties/expectations for Greeters.
- Three “Good Shepherd +” events were recently attended by GS members. The committee asks that you let them know of any potential future events (sports, music, etc.). Kildegaard will make a portable bulletin board announcing events as they arise. Also, if anyone is interested in being a host for an event let the committee know.

Property and Management: Reg Laursen

- A new battery operated vacuum has been purchased using WELCA funds. This is a light weight, easily maneuvered vacuum for touch up needs.
- A space heater has been purchased for the library. It can be used in other areas of the church as well.

Stewardship: Amalia Vagts

- The committee is re-organizing with new member Germano Stresse and Amalia back from her work sabbatical.
- Social Justice Subcommittee has been very active leading adult forums and activities related to immigration.

Worship and Music: Luther Snow

- We have three more Lenten dinners. Stewardship, P/M and Evangelism will be coordinating them.
- We will host the Easter Vigil on April 15 this year. We will begin with a bonfire then coffee and dessert will follow the service.
- The committee decided that this summer rather than Wednesday services there will be “special” services (such as Summer Solstice on June 21 with a campfire and perhaps a worship connected to a lunch packing evening for the Backpack Program) plus some “Good Shepherd+” events.

Pastor Amy’s report:

- Information session for new members, regular guests and those considering joining will be this Sunday, March 26.
- May 7 will be our next New Member Sunday.
- She has been focusing a lot on social justice: working with that subcommittee, addressing immigration issues and the AMMPARO program, and co-facilitating the White Privilege conversations that have gone well.
- Lenten Worship is going very well. It is nice to have a variety of voices preaching. It was a joy to welcome the children who made and served soup.
- Upcoming vacation was noted in Pr. Amy’s report.

No reports from the President, Vice President and Secretary

Treasurer’s Report: John Moeller

Total income year to date: \$33,727.20

Total expenses year to date: \$30,025.58

Net income year to date: \$ 3,701.62

J. Laursen moved to approve the report, Kildegaard seconded; motion passed.

The council meeting adjourned at 8:55 with the Lord’s Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Jeri Laursen, Congregational Secretary

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 ■ 8:45 AM Handbells Practice</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Sunday School-</p> <p>Introduction to J.S. Bach's</p> <p>■ 10:50 AM GOOD SHEPHERD</p> <p>■ 12:15 PM Sandy Good</p>	<p>27 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>28 ■ 7:00 PM CLA Circle</p>	<p>29 ■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>■ 12:15 PM LENTEN ORCAN RECITAL</p> <p>■ 5:30 PM Lenten Midweek Worship</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Soup Supper</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>■ 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 ■ Recycle</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p>	<p>31 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p>	<p>1 ■ 10:00 AM Bridal Shower</p>
<p>2 ■ 8:45 AM Choir Warm Up</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Confirmation Class</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Adult Forum</p>	<p>3 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>4 ■ 4:00 PM Mary Circle</p>	<p>5 ■ Morgan comes</p> <p>■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>■ 12:15 PM Lenten Organ</p> <p>■ 5:30 PM Lenten Midweek</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Soup Supper</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>■ 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 ■ 1:30 PM Property and Man-agement Committee Meet-ing</p> <p>■ 5:00 PM Community Meal</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p>	<p>7 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p>	<p>8 ■ 7:00 PM Community Easter Vigil Service</p>
<p>9 ■ BROADCAST</p> <p>■ 8:45 AM Choir Warm Up</p> <p>■ 8:45 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Sun. School visit</p> <p>■ Sleep Farm</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Adult Forum</p>	<p>10 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>11 ■ 9:30 AM Anna Circle</p>	<p>12 ■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Opportunity Homes</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Pr. Army @ Aase</p> <p>■ 1:00 PM Pr. Army @ Well. Pl.</p> <p>■ 2:00 PM Miriam Circle</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>■ 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 ■ Recycle</p> <p>Jenny arrives 8:15.</p> <p>■ 1:00 PM Travel Club</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p>	<p>14 ■ Good Friday</p> <p>■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Choir Warm Up</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Good Friday Wor-ship</p>	<p>15 ■ 7:00 PM Community Easter Vigil Service</p>
<p>16 ■ Easter Sunday</p> <p>■ 8:45 AM Band Warm Up</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Sunday School/Confirmation</p>	<p>17 ■ Office Closed</p> <p>■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>18 ■ 7:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p>19 ■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>■ 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Min-istry</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Handbells Re-hearsal</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>■ 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 ■ 10:00 AM NO Bible Study--study resumes 4/27</p> <p>■ 5:00 PM Decorah Commu-nity Meal</p> <p>■ 5:00 PM Oneota Coop An-nual Meeting</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p> <p>■ 7:30 PM Worship and Music</p>	<p>21 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM CLA Circle</p>	<p>22 ■ Cluster D Spring Gathering</p>
<p>23 ■ St. Grubby's Day</p> <p>■ 8:45 AM Handbells Warm Up</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>■ 5:30 PM Farmers Market</p> <p>April Meeting</p>	<p>24 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>25 ■ 7:00 PM CLA Circle</p>	<p>26 ■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Kinderhaus New</p> <p>■ 6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>■ 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 ■ Recycle</p> <p>■ 10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p> <p>■ 7:30 PM Worship and music</p>	<p>28 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p>	<p>29 ■ 10:00 AM Bridal Shower</p>
<p>30 ■ Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>■ 8:45 AM Choir Warm Up</p> <p>■ 9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>■ 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>■ 10:45 AM Adult Forum</p>	<p>1 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p> <p>■ 6:30 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>2 ■ 4:00 PM Mary Circle</p>	<p>3 ■ Morgan comes</p> <p>■ 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>4 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>■ 1:30 PM Property and Man-agement Committee Meet-ing</p> <p>■ 5:00 PM Community Meal</p> <p>■ 7:00 PM Narcotics Anony-mous</p>	<p>5 ■ 1:00 PM Friends of Recov-ery</p>	<p>6 ■ 10:00 AM Bridal Shower</p>

