

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
701 Iowa Avenue  
Decorah IA 52101



October 2017

## *The Shepherd's Voice*



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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION





# The Shepherd's Voice

October 2017

**Freed & RENEWED**  
**in Christ** 500 YEARS OF GOD'S  
**GRACE IN ACTION**



## Events Celebrating the Reformation

### **Sunday, October 8, - Adult Forum - Special 500th Anniversary of the Reformation at Good Shepherd**

Luther College Associate Professor of History Robert Christman - *Rebel in the Ranks: Martin Luther, The Reformation, and the Conflicts that Continue to Shape our World.*

### **Sunday, October 15, - Adult Forum - Special 500th Anniversary of the Reformation at Good Shepherd**

Rick Steves' "Luther and the Reformation", a documentary video .

### **Sunday, October 22 - Dedication of The Good Shepherd Reformation Grove at Good Shepherd**

9:30 am – During the Service; Sunday School children will help plant trees.

### **Monday-Wednesday, October 23-25 - Planting The Good Shepherd Reformation Grove**

Days and times for planting will be announced. Scott Hervey from Pine Creek Landscapes and representatives from Trees Forever will advise. Ground will be prepared before planting begins.

The Reformation Grove was made possible by donations from the congregation, the Sunday School Lenten project, the Depot Outlet, and Trees Forever in association with Black Hills Energy.

### **Sunday, October 29, 10:00 a.m., Luther College Center for Faith and Life.**

Join local ELCA congregations as we come together to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with the Reformation Festival Eucharist, Rev. April Ulring Larson will serve as preacher. Music by Norsemen, Aurora, Cantorei with Mass Choir (9th grade - adults) & Children's Choir (K-8) directed by Jennaya Robison.

Congregation choir members are invited to join the choir rehearsals on Sat., Oct. 28, CFL Main Hall. Mass Choir (9th grade - adults) rehearsal at 10:00 a.m., Children's Choir (K-8) at 11:00 a.m.

### **Sunday, Oct. 29, 4:00 p.m. Luther College Center for Faith and Life**

Reformation Hymn Sing with Marty Haugen, LC '73, For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free

### **Tuesday, October 31 Luther College**

More information about Luther College Reformation Symposiums and Concerts can be found at:  
[www.luther.edu/reformation-2017](http://www.luther.edu/reformation-2017)

**Tuesday, October 31**

**Exploring a Movement that Changed the World: Symposium, Presentations and Concerts**

**9:00 am** – Luther College Center for Faith and Life, Main Hall, Plenary Address: Brad Gregory, University of Notre Dame, “Why the Reformation Still Matters (Whether We want it to Or Not)”

**10:30 am -12:00 pm** - Luther College Center for Faith and Life, Main Hall

Presentations by Luther faculty, staff and students including Good Shepherd member Marv Slind.

**1:30 - 3:00 pm** - Luther College Center for Faith and Life, Main Hall

Presentations by Luther faculty, staff and students including Good Shepherd members Wanda Deifelt, David Faldet, Haley Jackson and Kate Narveson; Musical Performance: Martin Luther's "Aus Tiefer Not" (Out of the Depths); two settings are by Brooke Joyce. Performers include Philharmonia, Cantorei, Jonathan Struve, Spencer Martin, Gregory Peterson, and a large brass ensemble.

**7:30 pm** – Luther College Center for Faith and Life, Main Hall - Concert

The “Reformation Cantata” Project, initiated by Brooke Joyce, is anchored by four choral movements composed by Luther alums Daniel Kallman ('78), Sky Macklay ('10), Mark Peteri ('95), and Daniel G. Raney ('92). Performers include Collegiate Chorale (Jennaya Robison, '16, conductor), Cathedral Choir (Mark Potvin, '01, conductor), and Concert Band (Joan de Albuquerque, conductor). David Judisch, emeritus professor of music, will appear as an actor in one of the movements.

1517–2017  
the  
**REFORMATION**  
OF EVERYTHING

Exploring a movement that changed the world

## October Adult Forums

**Sunday, October 1, 10:50 am** - Luther College Theatre Department's *The Life of Galileo* --

Congregation member and Luther Assistant Professor of Theatre, Bobby Vrtis, will talk about Bertolt Brecht's play, *The Life of Galileo*, to be performed October 5-7. Brecht was drawn to the subject of Galileo's life because of his interest in the tension between a desire to speak (and discover) the truth and the need to survive in difficult times. Vrtis also plans to talk about Brecht's theories of what theatre should do and how that is shaping the Luther College production.

**Sunday, October 8, 10:50 am** -- Special 500th Anniversary of the Reformation --

Luther College Associate Professor of History Robert Christman --Professor Christman will speak about Notre Dame Professor Brad Gregory's new biography of Martin Luther, *Rebel in the Ranks: Martin Luther, The Reformation, and the Conflicts that Continue to Shape our World*. He will also provide a brief overview of the field of Reformation Studies, its changing emphases, newest avenues of investigation, and most recent insights. Christman's research interests focus on the German reformation, late Medieval and early modern Europe history, including the intersection of Islam and Christianity.

**Sunday, October 15, 10:50 am** -- Special 500th Anniversary of the Reformation --

Rick Steves' "*Luther and the Reformation*", a documentary video provided by the ELCA. Additional information and discussion questions are available on the ELCA's website [www.elca.org/ricksteves](http://www.elca.org/ricksteves)

**Sunday, October 22, 10:50 am** -- 2018 Stewardship Campaign: A Place to Connect.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is a place to connect. In this space, we connect with God, with others, and with the world. Come hear more about how we will deepen these connections and strengthen our ministry with increased giving in 2018.

**Sunday, October 29 – No Adult Forum, 10:00 am** – Reformation Festival Eucharist, Luther College CFL

## Words from Pastor Larson

Surely God is in this place! (Genesis 28:16) Here are just a few of the ways I see God at work among us:

We had a joyful Rally Sunday when our children led us in worship. At Good Shepherd, our children and youth got to see that they are central to our worship life and that this congregation values their participation and leadership.

At the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic, we gave our community an experience of the generosity, hospitality, abundance, and welcome that God wants the whole world to know. Thank you, Good Shepherd!

The Space Exploration Task Force (SET) has engaged the congregation in an intentional process of listening together to discern how our building helps us to love God and others and how our building could help us to do that more fully.

The members of the Stewardship Committee are working hard with our stewardship consultant, Pete Reuss, to lead us in a process called Stewardship for All Seasons which will be launched on Sunday, October 15. Members of a Stewardship for All Seasons Task Force are also helping with this process.

Surely God is in this place! Good Shepherd is a place to connect with God, others and the world. Now is the time to look to what we can do together in 2018 to deepen those connections. Thanks to the SET process and the Stewardship campaign, we have now identified three main goals for 2018. We will be able to meet these goals with increased giving. (Thanks to Amalia Vagts, Stewardship Committee chair, for putting language around these goals).

**Space:** Space: We seek to expand the welcome we feel around our communion rail in order to make our building even more of a place of connection. We will care for our central sanctuary space by doing needed updates and maintenance. We will hire a building space use professional to advise us on a multi-year plan to shape flexible and inviting space for youth, education, meeting rooms, offices and community activities and events. We will pay off the loan on the roof.

**Intergenerational Ministry:** We will focus on deepening youth and young adult connections to our ministry life through staff support and increased funding for: Sunday School, the new Youth Forum, youth retreats and service trips, Vacation Bible School and camperships to cover costs for Bible camps. Pastor Amy will continue to invest time with youth and young adults. Both pastors will continue to share in visitation with elders and will help other members stay connected to homebound members.

**Social Action:** We will strengthen our involvement with social action through more hands-on support of AMMPARO (accompanying migrant minors), Kid's Lunch Club, and the Decorah Community Food Pantry. We will also explore other opportunities for service and advocacy in Decorah and the larger world.

In 2017, a special gift made it possible to employ Pastor Marion Pruitt-Jefferson as Assistant Pastor at Good Shepherd. We now seek to fund that position through the budget so that the whole congregation can support the ministry that her presence helps to make possible.

To deepen connections through our building and our ministry, our goal is to increase giving by \$85,000 in new offerings throughout the year. We invite you to consider how you and your family may deepen and strengthen your connection to God, others, and the world through your intended giving in 2018.

Peace, Pastor Amy

# Stewardship

## A PLACE TO CONNECT: WITH GOD, OTHERS, AND THE WORLD

This fall, we will kick off intentional and spirited conversations around stewardship, giving, and generosity. We're focusing around the theme, "A Place to Connect," and we'll look at three key ways that happens – with God, others, and the world. The Stewardship Committee is working with Rev. Pete Reuss (our stewardship consultant). In addition, Jerry Bruce has convened a committed group of lead volunteers, the Stewardship Task Force made up of Jane Kemp, Tom Buresh, John Jefferson, Dan Bellrichard, Chris Hick, Linda Wolfs and Ruth Bruce.

You'll be hearing more in the coming months, but here is a sneak preview:

- Oct 15 Launch during worship, introductory letter (mailed)
- Oct(Ongoing) Small group conversations led by volunteers
- Oct 22 Testimony during Worship, Adult Forum small groups
- Nov 5 Testimony during Worship
- Nov 12 Testimony during Worship, Statement of Intent (mailed)
- Nov 16 Phonathon 6:30-8:30 pm
- Nov 19 Statement of Intent Sunday

There are many exciting things happening around Good Shepherd these days and our conversations around giving and sharing help us all dream and plan together. Please check the hallway bulletin board for updates. You can visit with any member of the Stewardship Committee if you would like to learn more. Amalia Vagts, Germano Streese, and Jerry Bruce

## Picnic Thank You!

### WHO LIKES TO CELEBRATE?

We do!

This September 10th saw the return of the annual Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic in the big, beautiful backyard of our church. An enormous tent was pitched, flowers were arranged on every table, and the feast was spread—local hot dogs from the Oneota Coop, and wonderful potluck sides and salads of every variety.

Children played games, marshmallows were roasted, musicians provided a lively soundscape, and friends and neighbors hung out being friendly and neighborly. And through it all-- the warm breezes and lambent light of a perfect September afternoon. All the volunteers who worked together to make this happy event are much to be praised—and special thanks go to David Lester, who coordinated everything. But our hats are off to whoever ordered that weather!

Lise Kildegaard, for the Evangelism Committee



# October 2017 Ministry Team Schedule

DATE	LITURGY/WORSHIP	USHER *Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP *Coordinator (F) only bring food
Sunday, October 1 Broadcast 11:00 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Bob Larson  Communion Server: Ruth Bruce  Cantor: Kate Narveson	1.*Dan Bellrichard 2. Bob Naslund Greeter: Hayley Jackson Acolytes: Lulu and Poppy Bellrichard	1.* Ann Naslund 2. Ruth Bruce 3. Liza Hicken 4. Christy Vrtis
Sunday, October 8 Broadcast 11:00 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Marv Slind Communion Server: Jim Buzza Cantor: Megan Buckingham	1.* 2. Greeter: Elizabeth Kaschins Acolyte:	1.* Bev Sheridan 2. Kathy Buzza 3. Marv Slind 4. Cheryl Donlon
Sunday, October 15 Live Broadcast 9:30 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Marv Slind  Communion Server:  Cantor: Jonathon Struve	1.*Joyce Epperly 2. Ed Epperly Greeter: Acolyte: Weston Cote	1.* Ruth/Jerry Bruce 2. Marv Slind 3. Cheryl Donlon 4. Diane Kruse
Sunday, October 22 Broadcast 11:00 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Bob Felde  Communion Server:  Cantor: Daniel Raney	1.*Chris Hick 2. Linda Wolfs Greeter: Acolyte: Hayley Jackson	1.* Charilyn Hover 2. Marilyn Anderson 3. Al Anderson 4. Kathy Buzza

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, REFORMATION SUNDAY**

SERVICE AT LUTHER COLLEGE, CENTER FOR FAITH AND LIFE, 10 A.M. No service at Good Shepherd

October Altar Guild: Marilyn Anderson (convener), Marie Freerking, and Carrie Solberg.

**\*\*\*MINISTRY TEAM NEEDS IN THESE BLOCKS\*\*\***

## October Scriptures

<b>Sunday, October 1</b> <b>17th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 <i>The fairness of God's way</i>	Psalm 25:1-9 <i>Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love. (Ps. 25:6)</i>	Philippians 2:1-13 <i>Christ humbled to the point of death on a cross</i>	Matthew 21:23-32 <i>A parable of doing God's will</i>
<b>Sunday, October 8</b> <b>18th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Isaiah 5:1-7 <i>The song of the vineyard</i>	Psalm 80:7-15 <i>Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)</i>	Philippians 3:4b-14 <i>Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ</i>	Matthew 21:33-46 <i>The parable of the vineyard owner's son</i>
<b>Sunday, October 15</b> <b>19th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Isaiah 25:1-9 <i>The feast of victory</i>	Psalm 23 <i>You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)</i>	Philippians 4:1-9 <i>Rejoice in the Lord always</i>	Matthew 22:1-14 <i>The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast</i>
<b>Sunday, October 22</b> <b>20th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Isaiah 45:1-7 <i>An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will</i>	Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] <i>Ascribe to the Lord honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)</i>	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 <i>Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica</i>	Matthew 22:15-22 <i>A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God</i>
<b>Sunday, October 29</b> <b><u>Reformation Sunday</u></b>	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 <i>Holiness revealed in acts of justice</i>	Psalm 1 <i>Their delight is in the law of the Lord. (Ps. 1:2)</i>	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 <i>The apostle's tender care for the Thessalonians</i>	Matthew 22:34-46 <i>Two great commandments: love for God and neighbor</i>

### ***Luther Serves (formerly Fall Fling), Saturday, October 28, 2017!***

***Need help with fall chores? The Luther College Student Congregation will send out students to assist area residents who need help with yard work and household chores. Students will work morning and afternoon shifts on Oct. 28. All work is done on a volunteer basis. Any donations received will benefit charities and relief work. Contact Luther College Ministries at [563-387-1040](tel:563-387-1040) or email [ministry@luther.edu](mailto:ministry@luther.edu) by Friday, October 13, to request a Luther Serves team.***

# Space Exploration Taskforce

Last winter, the Congregation Council asked members of the Property & Management Committee, the Council, and the Sanctuary Taskforce to meet with ELCA building consultant Anne Gerrietts. In part, the meeting was in response to the pressing need to replace the roof over the sanctuary. The Council also saw that the congregation was growing—occasionally overflowing the sanctuary and fellowship hall on Sunday mornings, and expanding the Sunday School roster. On Gerrietts' advice, the Council appointed a "Space Exploration Taskforce" (SET) to consider how the buildings and property meet the needs of our congregation and community. The Council appointed a small group of representatives to SET from the Property & Management Committee, the Council, and the Sanctuary Taskforce.

Since spring, SET has been meeting bi-monthly. Charged with drafting recommendations for improving Good Shepherds' buildings & facilities, SET had conversations with small groups of committee members and leaders to ask these questions:

## **How do Good Shepherd's buildings and spaces help us serve God and others? and How can Good Shepherd's buildings and spaces help us serve God and others in new ways?**

The taskforce met with members of the following committees and groups, who were selected at random to participate in the exploration conversations: the Kitchen Committee, the Nordic Fest committee, WELCA, the Altar Guild, Worship & Music, the choir and band, the Education Committee and parents of young children, the church staff, the Executive Committee, the Sanctuary Taskforce, and the Property & Management, Social Justice, Stewardship, and Evangelism Committees.

**These are the themes that emerged from the exploration conversations:**

### **How our current spaces serve us well:**

*Our sanctuary is open, light and fosters community. In the sanctuary we see and are seen.*

*We value our grounds for their beauty and the connection to nature.*

*Our space is hospitable. The church is open to the community, and Good Shepherd members and people in the community feel comfortable and welcome.*

*The kitchen and fellowship hall encourage fellowship, community and working together.*

*The facilities are accessible and feel safe for all people regardless of ability and gender identity.*

*We appreciate the balance of separation and openness between the narthex and the sanctuary.*

### **How we imagine our spaces could serve us better:**

*We want children and youth to be a central part of our congregational life. We want our facilities to meet the needs of Sunday School, youth and young families.*

*Our offices, meeting spaces, hallways and other gathering spaces feel limiting. We want spaces that are flexible and able to meet the evolving needs of our congregation and the community.*

*With some updates and changes, our kitchen could serve our congregation and the community in new ways.*

*(Continued on page 9)*

# Space Exploration Taskforce

## How we imagine our spaces could serve us better:

*Fellowship is deeply valued at Good Shepherd, but we find the fellowship hall, narthex and hallway sometimes limit our hospitality to visitors and children. We want the transition from worship to fellowship to be easy and inviting.*

*We are grateful for our outdoor spaces, and would like to use them more often and fully and with greater intention.*

*We value our sanctuary and imagine we could make improvements and updates so that it continues to be bright, welcoming and comfortable. We want to consider how to make the fullest use of its space.*

*We are concerned that our space isn't always as clearly accessible or welcoming as it could be due to multiple entrances, lack of outside lighting, uneven sidewalks and a small parking lot.*

*Storage is a challenge in many areas, and some adjustments could help with this. We want to store needed items accessibly without cutting into spaces we need for ministry.*

## We are also left with these questions:

*How can we best use the Annex to serve our mission and ministry?*

*Is there a major unmet need in our community or the world that, if we rethought our space, Good Shepherd could help meet?*

Taking into account these themes, and the congregation's feedback at the September 10<sup>th</sup> forum, SET is now working to draft recommendations for the Council's consideration. Those recommendations will be shared with the Council and the congregation later this fall.

As members of SET, we learned so much from these intentional conversations. Thank you for your participations in conversations about how our buildings serve Good Shepherd in our mission. If you have additional feedback, please email Megan Buckingham at [meganjbuckingham@gmail.com](mailto:meganjbuckingham@gmail.com).

The Space Exploration Taskforce

Jim Fritz, Megan Buckingham, Amalia Vagts, Reg Laursen, Jane Kemp, Bob Naslund



# Good Shepherd Announcements

## **DIRECTORY UPDATES:**

Cathy Bakke: new address

Please see the online directory for these updates or call the church office at 382-3996.

**BREAD BAKERS:** If you contacted Jeri Laursen volunteering to bake Communion bread but have not heard back from her, please call her again!

**SIGN-UP GENIUS OPPORTUNITIES** are now posted in two places on the Good Shepherd website. They can be accessed at the SIGN-UPS tab at the top of the website homepage or at their respective homes on the website. For example, the **SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS SIGN-UP GENIUS FORM** is also posted under the "Children's Ministries" link. The **FOURTH QUARTER SIGN-UP GENIUS** can be found on the *Sign-Ups* tab at the top of the home page on the Good Shepherd website and at the "Ministry Teams" link under the *Ministries* tab. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c48abaf2ea2f49-good1>

**HELP WITH THE COMMUNITY MEAL:** Good Shepherd will be the sponsor of the Decorah Community Meal on Thursday, October 19. Volunteers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up, and to bring salads and desserts. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex and on Signup Genius. Questions? Call Dave Judisch: 563-380-7707.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS:** Saturday, October 7, 10:00 a.m., Decorah Fish Hatchery -All pets and people are invited! Decorah UCC, Good Shepherd, and First Lutheran Church are the hosts.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who joined with us on Friday, Sept. 22nd for our concert!! We raised \$180 for Hurricane Relief which is being sent to LDR (Lutheran Disaster Response!!) The need is great and YOU responded! Also, our deep thanks for the group of volunteers from choir who provided wonderful refreshments and hospitality afterwards.

We look forward to sharing our songs and stories of faith and life again!

Many thanks for your presence, joy and love!

Sincerely, Mike and Sue Blair

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** 10/18, Jeri Laursen hosts.

**OUR NEXT NEW MEMBER SUNDAY** will be November 12. Please talk with Pastor Amy or Pastor Marion if you know someone who might be interested in joining the congregation.

**DACA RENEWAL SCHOLARSHIPS:** An announcement by the Department of Homeland Security on Sept. 5, 2017, stated that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will be quickly phasing out the program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). DACA allows certain people who immigrated to the US as children and who are without documentation to stay in the country and work if they apply by October 5. For many people in northeast Iowa, this change of application dates has created an urgent need to reapply and has created a premature expense since there is a \$495 application fee. If you are able to help fund scholarships, checks can be made out to **CONGREGATIONAL UCC** with "DACA scholarship" in the memo line, or you can put it in an offering envelope and label it with "DACA. More information as well as the scholarship application are available at [decorahucc.org/daca](http://decorahucc.org/daca). Thank you for your help.

**WALKING SUPPER:** Join us for a FREE MEAL and Community Walk at the Progressive Walking Supper on Wednesday, October 4th as part of the Healthiest State Initiative's Annual walk!

5-5:30-Appetizers at Carrie Lee School Park

5:30- Walk to John Cline

5:45-6:30-Walking Tacos at John Cline School Park

6:30-Walk to Library

6:45-Dessert at The Decorah Public Library

\*Bring your own waterbottles\*

This FREE Progressive Walking Supper is open to everyone thanks to the following partners:

The Winneshiek County Community Foundation, Gundersen Health Systems, Decorah Public Library, Decorah Public Schools, the Luther Women's Basketball Team, Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness Initiative, and Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission

**NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**OCTOBER 19**



**Donation boxes for LWR school kits and baby care kits are in the Narthex.** After doing an inventory of **School Kit** donations, it looks like what we really need is the 70 sheet notebooks. We need four notebooks for every kit, so that will be our school kit focus for this month. **Baby Care Kit** items needed are lightweight cotton t-shirts; long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers; receiving blankets; baby hats, jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts with a hood; socks; hand towels; cloth diapers; and bath-size bars of gentle soap. We have moved our storage location for our kits to the Annex. In doing so we discovered some fabric that had been donated. Thanks to Jeri Laursen for transforming these pieces into drawstring backpack-style bags for our school kits. If you have extra fabric that is taking up space in your sewing room, let me know and we will get them made into school bags. We will be accepting donations until October 8 and then will have the Sunday School help with assembling the school kits and CLA circle will assemble Baby Care Kits at their October 24 meeting at the church. All are welcome to come and participate.

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

November 4: LWR pickup, Olson explosives

#### **October Circle Schedule**

10/23 - Mary Circle - 4:00 p.m. - Sharon Drew hosts

10/10 - Anna Circle - 9:30 a.m. - at Aase Haugen Home, Haldis Kaasa hosts

10/11 - Miriam Circle - 2:00 p.m. - LaVerne Ramsey hosts

10/24 - CLA Circle - 7:00 p.m. - Kathy Buzza hosts Baby Care Kits at church



## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES, September 18, 2017, 7 P.M.

**Present:** Pr. Amy Larson, Jim Fritz, Megan Buckingham, John Moeller, Heather Cote, Lise Kildegaard, Amalia Vagts, and Marty Steele.

#### **Preparing our Hearts and Minds to Serve**

**Devotions** were given by John Moeller

**Approval of Minutes of August Council Meeting:** Kildegaard moved, Moeller seconded to approve the minutes as submitted by Jeri Laursen to the council by email; passed.

**Adoption of the Council Meeting Agenda:** Approval of Safety Policy removed from the agenda, as the final policy is not yet ready for council approval. Added seminary report to new business. Vagts moved, Cote seconded to adopt the agenda; passed.

**Old Business:** None.

#### **New Business:**

Vagts gave a brief seminary report. Vagts and Daniel Grainger have begun the fall semester at Wartburg Seminary. Vagts reported that it is an exciting time to be at Wartburg, which is experiencing a large increase in enrollment. So far it has been a wonderful experience.

Pr. Amy asked how council would like to handle requests for special fundraising appeals. After discussion, Vagts moved that we inform the congregation about Lutheran Disaster Response giving opportunities to encourage generosity and to deepen our engagement with a wider ELCA ministry, and that all other special appeals for funding be reviewed first by council. Cote seconded; passed.

Buckingham shared that the Space Exploration Taskforce (SET) has made good progress, but is not yet ready to present a complete list of recommendations for building/property improvements to the council. Buckingham brought a proposal from SET to implement a number of “quick-fix” projects immediately. Steele noted that some of the quick fixes are already in progress. After discussion, Moeller moved to approve the list of projects. Kildegaard seconded; passed.

Fritz noted that members of SET will soon need to consult with a professional building consultant or architect on site design. After discussion, the council indicated that it supports members of SET exploring options for hiring a consultant and expects that SET or a new building committee will bring a proposal and budget to a future council meeting. Buckingham reminded the council that it will need to appoint a building committee, which will be distinct from SET, once SET’s recommendations are delivered to council.

Due to conflicts with the community Thanksgiving worship service, council agreed to move the November council meeting to November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Nominating Committee will soon begin to work on the 2018 roster of candidates. Pr. Amy noted that December is a difficult time to meet and to contact members, and it is better if the committee begins work earlier in the fall. Moeller moved that two of Vagts, Kildegaard, and/or Snow will serve on the Nominating Committee. Cote seconded; passed.

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

Education: Heather Cote

Excited to be moving forward with fall—lots of amazing kids! Thanks to P&M for the wonderful work on the Annex! Youth forum is off to a great start. Kinderhaus is changing-out the room for the younger kids every Friday and Monday.

Evangelism: Lise Kildegaard

Made good progress on the nursery refresh, including securing a grant for the purchase of magnetic white boards. New social ministry: "Faith Five" simple suppers in members' homes. New member Sunday on September 24<sup>th</sup>, and planning another new member Sunday for November 12<sup>th</sup>. New member information session on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Very successful Welcome Friends & Neighbors Picnic, huge thank you to all the volunteers and to David Lester for organizing!

Property & Management: Marty Steele

Bulletin board is up in the hallway. Hearing devices are now rechargeable. Tree removed from the backyard so that it will not block sunlight to the solar panels.

Stewardship: Amalia Vagts

Excited to be working on the new "Stewardship for All Seasons" approach to increase overall generosity and giving. With the help of a consultant hired by the congregation, the committee is working on "A Place to Connect: with God, others, and the world" stewardship campaign. The campaign kicks-off on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> and culminates on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Worship and Music:

Pr. Amy shared that the committee is considering what to do for Christmas day worship and/or activities given that Christmas is on a Monday, and there will be a regular Sunday worship and then Christmas eve worship on Sunday. The community Thanksgiving worship will be on Tuesday at First Lutheran. Blessing of the animals on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Fish Hatchery. The committee is planning a global music service for Nordic Fest Sunday next year.

Pastor: Pr. Amy

Radio broadcast is now weekly, but having some technological challenges.

Pr. Marion and Megan Buckingham will represent Good Shepherd at a community asset mapping event.

President: Jim Fritz

Received grants from the Depot and Trees Forever for the Good Shepherd Reformation Grove. Met with landscape designer Scott Hervey. Will have some trees available for congregation members to plant at home. Will do a tree planting after the service on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Vice President: Megan Buckingham

None.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

As of 8/31/2017:

Monthly Income:	\$19,233.56	2017 YTD Income:	\$149,064.53
Monthly Expense:	\$18,147.72	2017 YTD Expense:	\$144,344.47
Net for Month:	\$1,085.84	2017 YTD Net:	\$4,720.06

Vagts moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Kildegaard seconded; passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

October Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 17, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Megan Buckingham, Vice President.

# October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>8:45 AM Handbells Practice</p> <p>9:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship School/Youth Forum</p> <p>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</p> <p>10:50 AM Good Shepherd Information Session</p> <p>10:50 AM Adult Forum/Bobby Vrtis</p> <p>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>9:30 AM CNA Orientation</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p> <p>6:00 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>4:00 PM Mary Circle</p>	<p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 AM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p> <p>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</p> <p>5:00 PM Community Meal</p> <p>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</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 Sunday School/Youth Forum</p> <p>10:50 AM Adult Forum/Martin Luther, Rebel in the Ranks</p> <p>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p> <p>6:00 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>9:30 AM Anna Circle</p> <p>7:30 PM Indivisible NE Iowa</p>	<p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>9:30 AM Opportunity</p> <p>9:30 AM Brookie practice</p> <p>10:30 AM Aase Haugen</p> <p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Wellington Pl.</p> <p>2:00 PM Miriam Circle</p> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal and 2 more...</p>	<p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</p> <p>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>11:00 AM Education Committee</p> <p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p>	
<p>Place to Connect Kickoff</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>9:30 AM Live Radio Broadcast</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</p> <p>10:50 AM Adult Forum/Luther and the Reformation Video</p>	<p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p> <p>6:00 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>5:15 PM Evangelism Committee meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>9:30 AM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</p> <p>5:00 PM GS hosts Community Meal</p> <p>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p> <p>7:00 PM Stewardship Committee</p>	<p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p>	<p>10:00 AM Place to Connect Focus Group</p>
<p>Reformation/Co...kation/Worship</p> <p>8:45 AM Band Warmup</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship Hour</p> <p>10:45 AM Sunday School/Youth Forum</p> <p>10:50 AM Adult Forum/A Place to Connect</p> <p>11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p> <p>6:00 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>Baby Care Kits Assembly</p> <p>5:00 PM SET - Space Exploration Task Force Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM CLA Circle</p>	<p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 AM CNA Class</p> <p>9:30 AM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>6:00 PM SET - Space Exploration Task Force Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</p> <p>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p>	
<p>No Worship at Good Shepherd</p> <p>10:00 AM Joint Reformation Worship at Luther College</p> <p>10:50 AM No Sunday School</p>	<p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p> <p>6:00 PM AL/ANON</p>	<p>7:00 PM A Place to Connect Forum</p>	<p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 AM Opportunity Homes</p> <p>9:30 AM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:00 PM Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor</p> <p>1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting</p> <p>5:00 PM Community Meal</p> <p>7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>1:00 PM Brookie practice</p> <p>1:00 PM Friends of Recovery</p>	