



The Shepherd's Voice

August 2018

Words from Pastor Larson

Beloved of God,

I've been thinking a lot about our sanctuary lately, as work is being done in there. I continue to be struck by the tremendous gift we have in a space that allows us to see one another as we worship and share in Holy Communion. As the Space Exploration Task Force put it, "In the sanctuary we see and are seen."

I recently came across an article reflecting on the power of facing one another and seeing one another in worship. It spoke to me about what happens in our space and I wanted to share portions with you. The article was written by Rev. Isaac S. Villegas, pastor of Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. It is entitled "Holy Gaze" and appears in the July 18, 2018, issue of *The Christian Century* magazine.

"To face one another in worship is to beckon our bodies to reveal the neediness hidden in our souls, the permeability at our core—that we live for and by others. We are beggars, gathered to receive grace. We are priests, consecrated to administer the sacraments with our hands as we pass Christ's peace, with our songs as we breathe the Holy Spirit, with our eyes as our gaze welcomes each other into God's beauty. 'Whoever sees the church,' says Gregory of Nyssa, 'looks directly at Christ;' our gathering reveals the beauty of Christ's body.

"Several years ago, a member of our church told me that he learned the graces of a gaze, the mutuality of a glance, at our worship service. He learned how to receive another's attention without looking away in fear, in embarrassment at the thought of exposing his human neediness for connection. Turned toward one another as we worshiped, he beheld God's affirmation of his life as he rested his self into the sacrament of our reciprocal gaze, the grace of Christ's body receiving him as a gift, the divine presence refracted in him for us. To be held by a gaze—that's how we draw each other into God's loveliness.

" 'Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,' Jesus tells his disciples, 'and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' I want our congregation to be known as people who loose God's love into the world, who worship as the Holy Spirit binds heaven and earth together in us, our body revelations of incarnate wonders. We invite others into God's gaze, holding us with gentle care and tender affirmation of our lives. Each glance across the sanctuary glimmers with divine affirmation, eyes welling up with affection, glimpses into the depths of God's love for the world."

I give thanks for the gift of our sanctuary. I give thanks for your generous financial gifts this year that are allowing us to care for the sanctuary so that it can continue to help us to see one another and thus, to see God.

In Christ, Pastor Amy

Stewardship

Thanks to your generous financial gifts to Good Shepherd this year, Good Shepherd was able to help Nathan Larson to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering. The Stewardship Committee asked Nathan to tell us all about his experiences there.

A couple of weeks ago, I had the pleasure of attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. We arrived on June 26th, after a long bus ride. On Wednesday, we explored Houston, and attended opening worship, a mass gathering of 30,000 youth. From there on, our schedule was filled with various activities. We had a day at the beach in Galveston, Texas, a day involving activities with 600 other youth from the Northeastern Iowa synod, and service projects at the Bayou park in Houston helping them recover from Hurricane Harvey. Every night, we attended mass gatherings with 30,000 youth. We listened to powerful speakers, like Carson McCullar, a student at Archway Academy in Houston, who is recovering from drug and alcohol abuse, and Nadia Bolz-Weber, an ELCA Pastor and the founder of All Sinners and Saints church in Denver, Colorado. These speakers told us of times when their faith was challenged by hardship, and how when they turned to God, God's grace changed everything.

Probably the most powerful thing about the gathering for me, was the fact that I was surrounded by 30,000 Christian youth, all going through high school, all facing some, if not all, of the challenges I face on a daily basis. This simultaneously cemented my faith and challenged it in new and exciting ways.

I would have been unable to attend the gathering if it were not for very gracious gifts from my church family. I am very grateful to all of you for opening new doors in my faith life, and assisting me along my faith journey. The theme for the gathering was "This Changes Everything" and I can say in my life that my experiences in Houston, Texas truly changed everything. Thank you.

Nathan Larson

The Good Shepherd Mission Endowment committee has approved the following applicants to receive Endowment financial support for 2018:

Erik Johnson, EPIC Scholarship assistance at Luther College; fall semester 2018

Menzi Nkambule, who will attend Luther Seminary, St. Paul, for a Masters of Divinity (ordination track)

Joseph Tiegen, who will be attending Wartburg Seminary

River Needham, who is in the final year of a Masters of Divinity program

Allie Grainger, who will pursue Deaconal Ministry at Wartburg Seminary

August 2018 Ministry Teams

DATE	LITURGY	USHER * Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP *Coordinator (F) Food Only
Sunday, August 5 Live Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Chris Hick Reader: Jon Christy Communion Server: Linda Wolfs Cantor: Dennis Barnaal	1.*Lyle Otte 2. Lindsay Erdman Greeter: Erik Berg Acolyte: Karla Erdman	1.* Elizabeth Kaschins 2. Marilyn Rue 3. Karla Erdman 4. Ingrid Callaghan
Sunday, August 12 Live Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Reg Laursen Reader: Harland Nelson Communion Server: Jeri Laursen Cantor: Tom Buresh	1.*Reg Laursen 2. Don Berg Greeter: Jeri Laursen Acolyte:	1. * 2. Barb Berg 3. Harriet Hayes 4. Catherine and Gary Hildebrandt
Sunday, August 19 Live Broadcast	Asst. Minister: Jane Jakoubek Reader: Harland Nelson Communion Server: Sharon Drew Cantor: Kate Narveson	1.* Lyle Otte 2. Don Berg Greeter: Reg Laursen Acolyte:	1. *Joyce Epperly 2. Jeri Laursen 3. Barb Berg 4. Carolyn Solberg
Sunday, August 26	Asst. Minister: Jon Christy Reader: Jane Kemp Communion Server: Reg Laursen Cantor: Megan Buckingham	1.*David Faldet 2. Rachel Faldet Greeter: Don Berg Acolyte:	1.*Carolyn Solberg 2. Glenda Wuest 3. Trudy Peterson 4. Harriet Hayes

August Altar Guild: Elizabeth Kaschins, Kim Kavan

God so Loves the World



**Vacation Bible
School
2018**





— 90 —

Birthday Celebration

JANET GALL

Let's "Shower" Janet with Cards for her
90th Birthday, August 14, 2018

911 Ridgewood Drive
Decorah, Iowa 52101



SAVE THE DATE!

2018 Friends and Neighbors Picnic
September 16.

There will be local music, local hot dogs, locally made casseroles and desserts...so much local fun you won't know what to do with yourself! Look for an email in the coming weeks and a link to sign up for a position or dish you can make. See you there!

June Scriptures

Sunday, August 5 11th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Kings 4:42-44 Elisha feeding a hundred people	Psalm 145:10-18 You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.	Ephesians 3:14-21 Prayer for wisdom, strength, and Christ's indwelling	John 6:1-21 Christ feeding the five thousand
Sunday, August 12 12th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 The Lord gives manna in the wilderness	Psalm 78:23-29 God rained down manna from heaven	Ephesians 4:1-16 Maintain the unity of the faith	John 6:24-35 Christ the bread of life
Sunday, August 19 13th Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 19:4-8 Elijah given bread for his journey	Psalm 34:1-8 Taste and see that the Lord is good.	Ephesians 4:25--5:2 Put away evil, live in love	John 6:35, 41-51 Christ, the bread of life
Sunday, August 26 14th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 9:1-6 Invited to dine at wisdom's feast	Psalm 34:9-14 Those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.	Ephesians 5:15-20 Filled with the Spirit, sing thanks to God	John 6:51-58 Christ the true food and drink

Good Shepherd Announcements

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE: WEEKLY NEWS AND EVENTS will not be published during the first two weeks of August (August 2 and 9) while some members of the newsletter team are on vacation. Publication will resume on Thursday, August 16.

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE: Exterior painting is now complete except for two doors. Property and Management folks are profoundly thankful for everyone who helped. Interior painting began on Thursday, July 19 and the Sanctuary work is projected to go through August. We will move pews again when the new carpet comes!



FIRST LUTHERAN HOSTS EWALU DAY CAMP - Counselors from Camp Ewalu will be at FLC August 6-10th Day camp runs Monday - Thursday, 9am - 3pm. Friday programming goes from 9am - noon. Cost is \$52 per/student. Students will provide their own lunch each day. Please contact the GS church office for registration and scholarship information., Grades K- 5th.

THE EVANGELISM/HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE would like to establish a core group of people

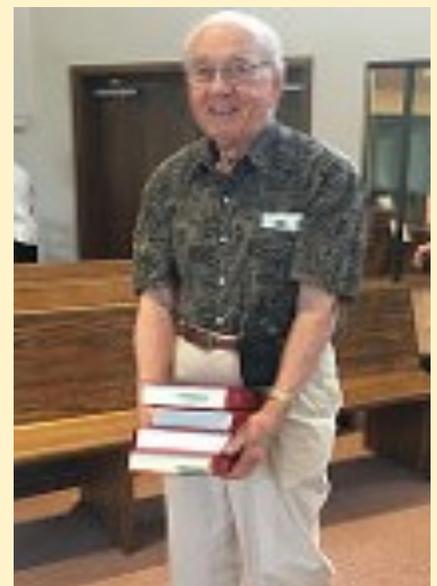
interested in being a sponsor for new members. This group would help provide a connection and offer support for those who have become new members of Good Shepherd. Sponsors are asked to provide a one-day commitment to attend the church service where new members are received and the meal that follows. (This will be on October 7th.) Please email or call the church office if you are interested.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will resume September 6.

A SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR HEALING will be held Thursday, August 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the GS Sanctuary. In this service, we will open ourselves to the healing presence of God through silence, singing, scripture and prayer. Individual anointing with oil, laying on of hands and personal prayer will be offered.

DIRECTORY UPDATES:
Ailabouni - New address
Thompson/Hanssen- New address
Gall - new email address
Bakke - new address
Zittergruen - new address
Suntken - new address

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
AUGUST 23



¡FIESTA!

AN IMMIGRATION CELEBRATION

Music by Raymundo Rosales

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15, 7-9 PM

PULPIT ROCK BREWING CO.
EVENT ROOM

207 College Dr, Decorah

Join us for an evening of music, refreshments,
stories and friends.

*All proceeds benefit Path to Citizenship Legal Aid and Microloan
Funds. Contribute through freewill donation or
by having a Pulpit Rock brew!
A portion of Pulpit Rock sales will benefit Path to Citizenship.*

Sponsored by Decorah Area Faith Coalition



THANK YOU to all who helped to make our Krumkake Demo and Sale a success. It takes many hands for this project and we are so happy to have everyone's help. It was a fun couple of weeks baking and getting to visit with members of the congregation.

Again this year, we will be collecting items for **LWR SCHOOL KITS**. School supplies are on sale right now so it is a good time to start stocking up. Items needed are 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, 30 cm ruler, pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, #2 unsharpened pencils, black or blue ballpoint pens, box of 16 or 24 count crayons, 2 ½ " eraser. A donation box will be set up in the Narthex.

"Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life" Proverbs 4:13

August Circle Schedule

8/28 - CLA Circle - 7:00 p.m. - Connie Buresh hosts

Mid-Year Treasurer's Report

Total income at the end of June was \$132,004.69 (compared to total income last year of \$110,512.46). If giving remains constant during the second half of the year, our income will be \$264,000.00. In addition, a number of individuals made one-time contributions last year designated for this year; that total was \$35,715.14. That means our income this year should be approximately \$300,000. We budgeted for expenses just under \$305,000, which included \$65,000.00 for facilities projects.

The two most important conclusions one can draw from these numbers are: (1) giving is up significantly over last year and (2) we are in good financial shape regarding not only our regular operations but also regarding our first set of significant facilities projects. It also is notable that giving has been relatively constant from month to month and thus far there has not been a significant decline in summer giving.

Submitted by John Moeller

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, July 17, 7:00 PM

Preparing Our Hearts and Minds to Serve

Present: Pr. Amy Zalk Larson, Megan Buckingham, John Moeller, Marty Steele, Bob Felde, Germano Streese, and Jonathon Struve.

Devotions and Initial Actions: Pr. Amy Zalk Larson shared devotions. A motion was made by Marty Steele and seconded by Germano Streese to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Approved.

Marty Steele brought a motion from the Social Justice Subcommittee to be added to the agenda asking the council to support placing an announcement for a special appeal by AMMPARO in the bulletin. The Facilities Improvement Committee will not have a proposal to bring forth until after another meeting with the architect, so this item was removed from the agenda. Marty Steele moved and Bob Felde seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Passed.

New Business:

Change to Mission Endowment Fund Continuing Resolution: The Mission Endowment Subcommittee brought forth a motion for the council to approve minor revisions to the revised continuing resolution which was approved by the congregational meeting in January. These minor changes specify that the applications for awards through the endowment are meant for members and student members of the congregation. This motion from subcommittee was seconded by Marty Steele. Motion passed. The council asked that the subcommittee submit the updated continuing resolution to the church office. Pr. Amy reported that the Mission Endowment Fund Committee provided awards based on applications received this year. The council suggested that these awards be published for the congregation.

Appointing Jon Ailabouni to the Worship and Music Committee: Due to Kathryn Thompson's new position as Director of Youth, Children and Family Ministry, she will step down from her position on the Worship and Music Committee. Jon Ailabouni has agreed to step into this committee vacancy. Marty Steele moved and Bob Felde seconded a motion to appoint Jon Ailabouni to the Worship and Music Committee. Motion Passed. Pr. Amy noted that Bob Larson will serve as chair and council representative for the committee next year.

Supporting a Future Special Appeal from AMMPARO regarding care for Immigrant Families: Marty Steele reported that AMMPARO and the Synod Office are considering how to support the missions, congregations and organizations that will be responsible for taking in asylum-seeking families who are being reunited at the border in late July. Reunited families will be released to the following organizations: Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest in Phoenix, Catholic Charities in San Antonio, Sacred Heart in Mc Allen, TX, and Annunciation House in El Paso. In addition, Peace Lutheran Church in Las Cruces, NM is working to offer hospitality for 20 guests each week. Steele reported that the AMMPARO network's appeal will involve direct support to one or more of these organizations rather than a church-wide effort. The subcommittee sought approval of a motion to publish an announcement for a special appeal to support this effort that could be printed in the bulletin and newsletters. As of the council meeting, the details of the announcement were not yet available. This motion from the subcommittee was seconded by Germano Streese, passed.

Focus for Fall Stewardship Campaign: Germano Streese reported that the committee had met with the consultant from GSB regarding the fall campaign. The appeal will focus on continuing efforts in two areas: 1. Facility improvements and 2. ministry. The committee will meet again to specify the language and goals for the campaign. In order to fund our facilities improvements, the goal is to have a sustained campaign over the next few years rather than undertaking a separate capital campaign. The stewardship committee is working on developing a vision and narrative for the fall campaign, which will occur once the Facilities Improvement Committee meets with the architect in August. The campaign will support the recommended improvement projects.

Old Business: NONE

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

Youth Representative: No official report.

Pr. Amy Zalk Larson noted that Nathan Larson attended the National Youth Gathering in Houston on June 27-July 1 thanks to support from the congregation.

Education Committee: Bob Felde

VBS will be held from 5-7:30 pm Monday, July 23rd through Wednesday, July 25th. There will be a short program open to the public on Wednesday, July 25th. The theme is "God so Loves the World."

Three children will start confirmation this fall: Mason Cote, Maggie Norris, and Brenna Parker. The confirmation class will be oriented towards involving the family, and Pr. Amy is working with the families to find a time that will allow the children to meet with a parent for these classes. Kathryn Thompson will be the lead teacher for Sunday School this fall on most Sundays; there will be opportunities for members to serve as helpers for Sunday School and Youth Forum. Sara Hanssen and Amalia Vagts will lead the Youth Forum this year, and Amalia will adapt the curriculum to our context as part of her seminary studies. Members will be asked to serve as helpers.

Evangelism Committee: Report prepared by Janeen Christy, given by Megan Buckingham

David Lester and Ingrid Callaghan are the co-coordinators for the Welcome Neighbors Picnic scheduled for September 16th.

A new member information session is scheduled for September 23, and the next new member Sunday will be October 7.

New members will be supported by sponsor families when they are received on October 7. A partially catered potluck will take place after the new member Sunday for new members and their sponsor families. The sponsor families will not have any prescribed duties other than their presence at the new member Sunday and an intention for the sponsors to be a connecting point for the new members as they are welcomed into the congregation.

Property and Management Committee: Marty Steele

The exterior painting project is nearly complete, thanks to the efforts of many volunteers within the congregation. Trim around the doors and other detail work as well as clean-up remain to be completed. Marty reports that using volunteer labor saved between \$8,000 and \$12,000 over hiring a professional crew.

Painting of the interior of the sanctuary has begun with the ceiling. The light-fixtures have also been cleaned, repaired, and replaced. Thanks to the congregation for assisting with moving the pews on July 8 and July 15. There will be some need for volunteers to assist the contractors as the interior painting of the sanctuary continues.

Erik Berg is creating and installing new signs for the two main entrances, they will be similar to but smaller than the Kinderhaus sign and will blend well with our "Good Shepherd" sign out front.

Stewardship Committee: Germano Streese

Thanks to the congregation for making the spring campaign a success. The stewardship committee will work with the Facilities Improvement Committee and their recommendations in developing a vision for the fall campaign.

Worship and Music Committee: Report prepared by Jon Christy, given by Pr. Amy Zalk Larson

Brooke Joyce has begun contacting individuals to cover his music director responsibilities while he is away for the 2019 spring semester. A Global Church Sunday in conjunction with the Vacation Bible School theme will be celebrated on July 29.

A healing service is scheduled for Thursday, August 16, at 5:30 pm.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy Larson

Daniel Gary Schroeder was baptized on July 1, 2018. Dawson Blivens will be baptized on September 9, 2018.

Nathan Wicks will preach on August 12th.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Marion Pruitt Jefferson - No Report

President's Report: Megan Buckingham - No Report

Vice President's Report: Steve Holland - No Report

Secretary's Report: Jonathon Struve - No Report

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Total income year to date: \$132,004.69

Total expense year to date: (\$121,282.31)

Net income year to date: \$10,722.38

Bob Felde moved and Germano Streese seconded to approve the treasurer's report, passed.

Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline: July 19, 2018

Next Council Meeting: August 21, 2018, 7:00 PM

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: Struve moved, Streese seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Pr. Amy Larson led the council in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting. ---Submitted by Jonathon Struve, Congregational Secretary

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Church Sunday 8:45 AM VBS Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Kids Lunch Club UCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 10:00 AM NO Bible Study 1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting 5:00 PM Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evalu Day Camp at FLC Pr. Amy Day Off Kinderhaus Camp until noon 10:00 AM CNA Orientation Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 2:00 PM Head Start Orientation 7:00 PM Facilities Improvement Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 10:30 AM Aase Haugen Communion 1:00 PM Wellington Pl. Communion 5:00 PM Kids Lunch Club UCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 10:00 AM NO Bible Study 12:00 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Pick up Handbells 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 8:30 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 8:30 AM CNA Class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon Recycle 10:00 AM No Bible Study 2:00 PM Stewardship Committee 4:00 PM Worship and Music Committee 5:00 PM Decorch Commu- 5:30 PM Healing Service 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kinderhaus Camp until noon 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Pick up Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 3:00 PM Pew to Pulpit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 8:30 AM CNA Class 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Council Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM CNA Class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter Deadline 10:00 AM No Bible Study 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Pick up Band 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM CLA Circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Opportunity Homes 11:00 AM Eastern Star Communion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 10:00 AM No Bible Study 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

AUGUST 2018

The Shepherd's Voice

Pastor Amy Larson

Assistant Pastor: Marion Pruitt-Jefferson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Children Youth and Family Director: Kathryn Thompson

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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

