



The Shepherd's Voice

September 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Beloved of God,

My letter this month contains excerpts from the sermon on August 19. Many of you said that you found it helpful and wanted to see the practices I described again. Others of you said you felt guilty about your spiritual diet. Please know that Jesus provides for you abundantly at the communion table. You have enough, you are enough. If you are hungry for guidance and support in practices of prayer and scripture reading, I would be honored to be of help.

These days, we spend a lot of time thinking about the food we eat. That's good, because our diets do significantly affect our lives and the planet. In many ways, we are what we eat. The scriptures also invite us to pay attention to our spiritual diets because those affect us even more. If we consume a steady stream of attack ads, other marketing, hateful speech, and violent entertainment, it's so easy for us to become angry, bitter and materialistic. In the spiritual sense, it's even more true - we are what we eat. We need to be mindful of all the content we're consuming.

Jesus Christ, and our life in Christ, provide what we need for a nourished life that can nurture others. In many ways, Jesus provides for us the way grandmothers used to feed large extended families - the way some grandmothers still do. (I don't mean to reinforce any gender stereotypes here - my husband is the main cook in our house - but I do love the image of Jesus as a grandmother!) With Jesus, and with grandma, there's one really big meal on Sunday and then you're sent home with food to last all week long.

On Sundays, Jesus really goes all out and puts on the spread. The entire family and all sorts of guests are invited to the table. We are drawn near to God and to all of God's beloved children - that is all people. Jesus pours himself into this feast; in fact, he gives his whole self. Jesus gives of his very flesh and blood so that we might be filled with his abundant, eternal life. We are fed with God's forgiveness and healing. That's Sunday. But then, like grandma's meal, it doesn't end there. We're sent home with good nourishment for the rest of the week.

We're sent with the wisdom, the peace, the challenges we've received at the dinner table so that we can chew on them throughout the week. We're sent with the Bible, God's Word, and the invitation to gnaw on it and let it get into us. We're sent with the Holy Spirit so that we will always be fed by God's presence with us. We're assured that through the power of prayer we can commune with God anywhere. And we're reminded, just like a grandma says, that we are part of a family. We are not alone; we have siblings in Christ. We're also charged to live out the values of this family - to live in ways that nourish and feed others and our world, as Jesus calls us to do.

(Continued on page 2)



Rally Day

September 9th, 2018

9:30 a.m. Kids lead Worship

10:45 a.m. Rally Day Games led by Kathryn Thompson to kick off the Sunday School Year.



WELCOME FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PICNIC SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16

5-6:30 p.m.

Good Shepherd will host its **9th Annual Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic** on Sunday, September 16, a chance to celebrate community and enjoy good food and conversation! As in the past, the picnic will include lots of great local food, live music including the Good Shepherd Band and a special performance by local musicians Mark Stumme, Erik Berg, Jody Koenig, Amalia Vagts and friends. As always, there will be games for kids and a marshmallow roast. This event is **free and open to all**. A large tent will provide shelter from sun or showers. The entire Decorah community is invited to the event, including Luther College students, faculty, and staff. Sign up sheets are available in the narthex for people to bring food for the picnic's potluck and to volunteer for various jobs at the picnic. You can also sign up online using SignUpGenius at www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c48abaf2ea2f49-9thannual or call the church office at 563-382-3963.

David Lester and Ingrid Callaghan are co-chairs.

Education

We are looking forward to starting the school year at Good Shepherd. Below you will find information (and lots of dates!) regarding activities and events sponsored by the Education Committee over the next few months. Also, we are seeking helpers for both Sunday School and Youth Forum. The teachers do all the prep and leadership. We are in need of other adults to be a second, supportive presence in the room.

Please sign up using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da5a72fa13-201819>

September 9th: RALLY SUNDAY

The children will be leading worship. Following worship, Kathryn Thompson will be leading the kickoff to our Sunday School and Youth Forum activities for 2018-19.

October 7th and October 14th: FAITH MILESTONE

Our 3rd-5th grade students will be given Bibles in worship on Sunday, Oct. 14th. Pr. Amy will lead a class for 3rd-5th grade students and parents on Exploring God's Word on Sunday, Oct. 7th, during the Sunday School hour.

October 5-7th: DIRTY FEET RETREAT FOR 6TH-9TH GRADERS AT CAMP EWALU

Enjoy two nights of lodging in cabins, relevant Bible studies, quality meals & snacks, energetic camp counselors, active praise music, the High Ropes Course, epic games, a crazy Talent Show, outdoor campfire worship, fun skits, and memorable adventures. Get your feet dirty as you follow Christ out into the world! Learn and practice living out your faith in spite of the world's pressures because of God's awesome love and grace. Cost is \$50 (funds are available to help kids attend if cost is an issue).

Registration due to the church office by Sunday, September 9th.

October 26-27th: REKINDLE RETREAT FOR 3RD-5TH GRADERS AT GOOD EARTH VILLAGE.

Retreat at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN. Join Kathryn Thompson and your friends at Good Shepherd for a fun and energy-filled retreat staffed by summer camp counselors where you have the opportunity to go on hikes, play games, and worship. Friday, October 26, 5:45 pm - Saturday, October 27, 6 pm. Cost \$40.

Registration due to the church office by Sunday, September 16.

Registration forms can be found on the GS website under the Children's or Youth *Ministry Tab* or at church on the counter outside the Sanctuary.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kathryn Thompson (kathryn.susann@gmail.com) or a member of the education committee (Anna Norris, Heather Cote or Bob Felde). Thanks!

Stewardship

Letters from Camp Ewalu

Dear Good Shepherd,

Thank you for letting us have this great opportunity to go to camp this year. My favorite part was meeting new friends. I also liked Ga Ga Ball. How you play is one person throws the ball, when the ball hits the ground, you say on each bounce "Ga Ga Ball". After that then ~~then~~ the game starts. Wait, I forgot to tell you that you are in a hexagon. The point of the game is you try to get people out by hitting the ball with your open hand and you try to hit the ball at somebody, but it has to hit them below the knee.

I also loved loved loved riding horses I groomed Blueberry and rode Carmel. I liked to hike that was so much fun we sang songs on the trails. And when we thought we heard another group but different know we would say "Ye ha" and if it was another group they would say "Ha ye" thank you so much.

Love,
Lulu

P.S. Carmel is really lazy

Dear Good Shepherd, ♥

I want to tell some of my favorite parts about CAMP EWALU. I loved Ga Ga ball a game ⁱⁿ you and at least three other people. I also liked the horses my favorites were Dusty, Cally, and Oreo. We rode the horses and groomed them and of course we learned about them. I also loved hiking. We would sing songs on the trails, have picnics, and take lots of pictures. There are so many other fun things I wish I could tell you, but I can't fit it on. Thank you Good Shepherd! Have a nice day.

I love, Poppy

Dear, Good Shepherd, Thank you for giving money for me to go to camp I Loved It! I Loved going to the pool, Hiking and going to the canteen. I also loved playing Gaga ball and Necum. I hiked a lot and I am really sore. Thanks again,
Abby Larson

Dear Good Shepherd Church - Thank you for supporting me with a scholarship to attend camp EWALU this summer. I was in the Mini Ranch Camp and I had a lot of fun! I got to meet new friends. Getting to ride horses was the best
Love Adeline

Stewardship

HOW FAR DOES YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD GIFT GO?

There have been many changes at Good Shepherd this year, with more in the works. As we prepare to contemplate the budget for the upcoming year, it might be helpful to reflect on the way your gifts toward refurbishment of our facility and grounds have been used this year.

A bid from a professional painter for exterior painting, including pressure washing, scraping and sanding, priming, caulking, and painting trim and siding came in at \$11,529. With an energetic and committed group of many volunteers, we were able to do all these things for under \$1,000 in the hottest part of the summer, and most days we had a good time doing it!

Our sanctuary interior is being redone professionally, but with help from members of the congregation that allowed us to hire a one person crew. Tim Round is charging us \$5,100 for refinishing the pews, for example, and as you know we have helped remove hymnals and have had to do without some of the pews for a while. However, the other bid we had was for \$9,000 and might have taken a bit less time but would have cost more. We had a bid for painting the sanctuary from a professional church painting company that came in at \$10,000, Tim did it for less than a third of that. We had a bid for redoing the beams for \$2,000 but instead this work was done by a volunteer, as was the cleaning of the hangings for the front of the sanctuary.

We have had 3 trees removed by volunteers so far this summer, and will pay to have two more removed. Our yard continues to be mowed by a volunteer crew, our mowers maintained by volunteers, volunteers maintain and harvest our garden for the benefit of all, and there are endless hours of quiet and often invisible volunteer service that go into additional forms of maintaining our buildings and property, allowing us the ability to use more of our financial resources for other things. The gift of Time and Talents is a very real part of our calling at Good Shepherd and I am deeply grateful for all who have contributed this year. I am grateful as well for Good Shepherd's focus on generosity with our financial gifts in ways that emphasize service to the congregation, the community, and the larger world.

Marty Steele, for Property and Management

September Adult Forums

September 9 - FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT - during Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall - The Facilities Improvement Committee, chaired by Lindsay Erdman, will present its proposal for building improvements and renovation and offer an opportunity for comments and questions.

September 16 - BERLIN: BEFORE AND AFTER THE WALL FELL

Based on photos taken 49 years apart – once in 1969 (eight years after the erection of the Berlin Wall) and then again in May/June of this year (almost 30 years after the Wall came down) – Russell Baldner explores, through comparative studies, the history and architecture of Germany’s re-united capital and how the experience of destruction and loss helped shape a new world. The recent trip was a Nordic Choir Companion Tour that included concerts in Berlin churches led by Russell Baldner.

September 23 - TBA

September 30 - FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HVAC RENOVATION -

The Facilities Improvement Committee will present recommendations about the heating and cooling system (HVAC). The Committee feels that one of the first improvement projects that needs to be completed is a complete renovation of the HVAC system for the Fellowship Hall and the Education Wing. Jim Fritz (FIC member) and Jim Martin-Schramm (Luther College) will discuss the systems being recommended, why they were selected, and how they fit the Good Shepherd mission of stewardship of our natural resources and our congregation's finances.

September Scriptures

September 2 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 God’s law: a sign of a great nation	Psalm 15 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?	James 1:17-27 Be doers of the word, not hearers only	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Authentic religion
September 9 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 35:4-7a Like streams in the desert, God comes with healing	Psalm 146 I will praise the Lord as long as I live.	James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17 Faith without works is dead	Mark 7:24-37 Christ healing a little girl and a deaf man
September 16 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 50:4-9a The servant is vindicated by God	Psalm 116:1-9 I will walk in the presence of the Lord.	James 3:1-12 Dangers of the unbridled tongue	Mark 8:27-38 Peter’s confession of faith
September 23 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 11:18-20 The prophet led like a lamb to slaughter	Psalm 54 God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.	James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a The wisdom from above	Mark 9:30-37 Prediction of the passion
September 30 19th Sunday after Pentecost	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 The Lord’s spirit comes upon seventy elders	Psalm 19:7-14 The commandment of the Lord gives light to the eyes.	James 5:13-20 Prayer and anointing in the community	Mark 9:38-50 Warnings to those who obstruct faith

September 2018 Ministry Teams

DATE	LITURGY	USHER * Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP *Coordinator (F) Food Only
Sunday, September 2 Broadcast 11 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Jane Jakoubek Reader: Harland Nelson Communion Server: Amalia Vagts Cantor: Reg Laursen	1.*Rachel Faldet 2. David Faldet Greeter: LaVerne Ramsey Acolyte:	1.*Joyce Epperly 2. Ann Naslund 3. Marilyn Rue 4. Lindy Moeller 5. Sharon Drew
Sunday, September 9 Broadcast 11 a.m. Rally Sunday	Sunday School Worship Leaders Cantor: Reg Laursen	1.*Russ Freerking 2. Richard Wuest Greeter: Don Berg Acolyte: Brenna & Bristol Parker	1.*Ingrid Callaghan 2. Marie Freerking 3. Diane Kruse 4. Glenda Wuest
Sunday, September 16 Broadcast 11 a.m. Welcome Friends & Neighbors Picnic 5 p.m.	Asst. Minister: Amalia Vagts Reader: Donna Bahr Communion Server: Don Berg Cantor: Jonathon Struve	1.*Russ Freerking 2. David Judisch Greeter: Amalia Vagts Acolyte: David Lester	1.*Doris Barnaal 2. Connie Buresh 3. Kelly Sharp 4. Kathy & Jim Buzza
Sunday, September 23 Broadcast 11 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Jane Kemp Reader: Robert Naslund Communion Server: Jerrine Jacobsen Cantor: Dan Raney	1.*Reg Laursen 2. Don Berg Greeter: Erik Berg Acolyte:	1.*Joyce Epperly 2. David Lester 3. Ann & Bob Naslund 4. Charilyn Hover
Sunday, September 30 Broadcast 11 a.m.	Asst. Minister: Tom Buresh Reader: Connie Buresh Communion Server: Carol Hasvold Cantor: Tom Buresh	1.*David Judisch 2. Jerry Auwles Greeter: Bev Nelson Acolyte:	1.*Carol Hasvold 2. Gail Judisch 3. JoAnn Auwles 4. Germano S. & Wanda D.

September Altar Guild: Carrie Solberg, Marie Freerking, Ann Naslund



End of Summer Report 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

As we wrap up our third summer of programming, we want to first and foremost thank all volunteers for their donations of time, money, and effort. We can confidently say this summer was yet another big success because of you. We met our financial goals again for the year, but we continue to accept donations for next year, which will help give us a jump-start to next summer's program. We look forward to continuing to serve the Decorah community.

As in the past, the students and families who found their way to our program genuinely needed it for a variety of reasons. There was a solid group of children who used the program every single day of the week, every week of the summer, rain or shine. We also had many parents send their children on bikes or walking, knowing they were getting a balanced meal and positive adult contact while they were away at work. Others sent their summer nannies or older siblings with their little ones which relieved the stress of families trusting teenagers to cook in the kitchen. Yet other families utilized the program to fit in a healthy lunch option between camps, lessons, and other summer activities.

This summer, we served a total of 1,141 lunches. We averaged 25.3 lunches per day for nine weeks of programming. We served daily from John Cline Elementary, as well as Freeport Park. We averaged four more lunches a day than last summer, and it should be noted that we had one week less of programming this summer, due to school getting out late. We also filled a total of 301 volunteer spots between packing and distribution. This is an increase of 109 more spots than last year!

We are thankful for the many churches and individuals that donated to the program with time or money. We are also impressed with the incredible outpouring of support from the community during the "Round-Up" campaign at Oneota Co-op, which raised over \$2,000 for KLC. We are also thankful to John Cline Elementary for building use, Rockweiler for use of a refrigerator, and Sogo Snacks led by Dan Bellrichard and Liza Hicken, who donated beef bites to be served twice a week for the entire summer.

Thanks for all you do, Decorah! To Lunch Club!

Sincerely,

Kids Lunch Club

Good Shepherd Announcements

SEEKING FEEDBACK FOR STAFF REVIEWS The Executive Committee (made up of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Congregation) is charged with overseeing personnel matters. Each fall this committee does a review of all staff and so are seeking feedback for staff reviews. Please share appreciations, concerns, and suggestions with Steve Holland by Sunday, September 30. You can talk with him directly, call him, email at steven.j.holland@gmail.com or leave a note in the Vice-President box in the church office.

GOOD SHEPHERD INFORMATION SESSION Anyone interested in learning more about Good Shepherd and how to be involved as a member or regular guest is invited to an information session on Sunday, September 23, at 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary. New Members will be welcomed in worship on Sunday, October 7. Talk to Pr. Amy if you are interested in membership and can't attend the September 23 session.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH FORUM CLASSES are continuing to grow, and we would love your help. Our lead teachers do all of the prep and classroom leadership. We need other adults to be a second, supportive presence in the room. This requires just 45 minutes of your time a few times a year and a very brief background check for new volunteers. Please sign up today! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da5a72fa13-201819>

PEW TO PULPIT will take a break during the month of September. P2P will start up again on the first and third Sundays of October.

ORDINATION CELEBRATION: On Sunday, September 9 we will celebrate the 55th anniversary of ordination of Good Shepherd member Rev. Brad Hanson, Professor Emeritus of Religion at Luther College. Thanks to be God for Brad's faithful ministry of teaching and service.

EWALU VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND SEPT. 21-23 All are invited to a free weekend at Camp Ewalu. Join other volunteers, families, and church groups for outdoor activities, fun fellowship, and service projects around camp. *Lodging and meals provided free of charge.* Please RSVP to camp@ewalu.org or call 563-933-4700.

MISSING - A Prized Flower Vase: It's usually stored in the Fellowship Hall Closet and frequently used year-round for centerpieces on the Fellowship Hour serving tables. It's large, rectangular in shape, with a crackled glass finish. If found, please put it in the Closet where the other vases are shelved. The 'Flower Girls' will be very happy!

THE THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will resume September 6.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
September 20



Community Announcements



HELPING SERVICES
for Youth & Families

Did you know that the **YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM AT HELPING SERVICES** currently has 82 youth enrolled in the program who are matched with a trusted adult mentor? Unfortunately, there are also 40 youth who are

waiting to be matched. Can you find the time to become a mentor to help youth in your community? Contact Ellen Krogmann (ekrogmann@helpingservices or 563-379-3454) for information about the Delaware County program, or Kathy Schwartzhoff (kathys@helpingservices.org or 563-387-1720) for information about the program in Allamakee, Howard and Winneshiek counties.

LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE is working with numerous partner agencies on the ground to assist in the efforts to reunite children and parents who have been separated at the border. Online: www.lirs.org click on the brown "Donate" icon; by Phone: 1-877-291-7061; By Mail: Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, PO Box 17467, Baltimore, MD 21297-1467.



**Decorah
Community
Food Pantry**

Unfortunately, summer's bounty isn't available to everyone and there are people in NE Iowa with various levels of food deprivation. The Decorah Community Food Pantry responds to these needs and in June 493 people visited the pantry. This is a duplicated count as people can visit once a week.

Currently monthly donations to the Pantry are not keeping up with monthly expenses and also more volunteers are always needed. If you are able, please help this essential cause by sending a contribution to PO Box 26, Decorah. To volunteer your time, please call Jud Barclay at 563 387 3826.

LIFE LINE SCREENING will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on Friday **9/8/2018** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church . Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **There are three ways to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979.**

*****There are two free screening vouchers for GS Members available through the church office. Please pick one up during church office hours.**

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN will be sponsoring a bus trip to Burnsville, Minnesota on Thursday, October 25 for the matinee performance of The Church Basement Ladies in "You Smell Barn?" at The Ames Center. Cost of the trip is \$78/person and includes bus transportation, ticket and a buffet luncheon. For more information or to sign up please contact Candace Arp at 382-5099 or Nancy Eichinger at 382-0030.





Thank you to all who helped with our Krumkake Project. It was another very successful project with a total net income of \$2,500. The committee is always evaluating ways to make this project more efficient. This year we started using the single krumkake irons and a smaller cookie scoop and found that the outcome was a more uniform cookie. Therefore we will be selling the remaining double irons and the larger cookie scoops. Please contact Bev Sheridan if you are interested in buying one of these.

Again this year we will be collecting items for LWR school kits and baby care kits. City-wide garage sales are this month and if you are a garage sale shopper and need a project, gently used baby items are needed for our kits-cotton t-shirts, baby gowns or sleepers, receiving blankets, jackets, sweaters, baby caps, socks. Last year we sent 25 school kits to LWR. This year our goal is 30 kits. We had a large amount of donations in August but can still use 70 sheet notebooks, crayons (12 or 24 count), rulers, pencil sharpeners and black or blue ballpoint pens to make our goal. Donation boxes will be set up in the Narthex.

The Upper Iowa Cluster D WELCA fall gathering will be held Saturday, September 29 at Decorah Lutheran beginning at 9 am. The program will be a LWR Extravaganza with different stations focusing on LWR kits and quilts. All are welcome to attend.

Repentance is the theme of *Gather's* fall Bible study (reprinted from Interchange Women of the ELCA) **Repentance** is one of the most powerful acts of a person or a church, making possible not only forgiveness but also reconciliation. This fall, *Gather* magazine (www.gathermagazine.org) will explore what repentance means for Lutheran Christians in a three-part Bible study. Written by Rev Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, this Bible study focuses on the role of repentance in our faith, our relationships and the church.

September--Time after time: Turning to God

"Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love." With these words, the prophet Joel reminds us that repentance is nothing to be afraid of--for when we turn to God, we find grace, What does it mean to (re)turn to God with all our hearts, and how do we do it?

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 29: Upper Iowa Cluster D fall gathering, Decorah Lutheran, 9 am.

November 3: LWR pickup, Olson explosives, 7:30 -10:30 am.

September Circle Schedule

9/2 - Mary Circle - 4:00 p.m. - Naomi Craft hosts

9/11 - Anna Circle - 9:30 a.m. - at Aase Haugen; all contribute

9/13 - Miriam Circle - 2:00 p.m. - Carrie Solberg hosts

9/25 - CLA Circle - 7:00 p.m. - Ann Naslund hosts



Music Schedule, Fall 2018

(always subject to change!)

9/9	Choir/Band	Gathering: American Hymn (Band) Offertory: "Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" (Choir/SS/Band) Postlude: When the Saints (Band)
9/16	Choir	Offertory: Carlson, "Listen! You Nations"
9/23	Handbells	Offertory: TBA
9/30	Choir	Offertory: Lovelace, "O Lord of Stars and Sunlight"
10/7	Handbells	Offertory: TBA
10/14	Choir	Offertory: Schubert, "Kyrie"
10/21	Band	Gathering: Bruckner, "Christus Factus Est" Offertory: Hassler, "Canite Tuba in Sion" Postlude: Sibelius, "Andante Festivo"
10/28	Choir	Offertory: Kvamme, "One Church, One Faith, One Lord"
11/4	Choir	Offertory: arr. Gibson, "Come Unto Me, Ye Weary"
11/11	Handbells	Offertory: TBA
11/18	Choir	Offertory: Vaughan Williams, "O Taste and See"
11/25	Band	Gathering: Svoboda, "Chorale" Offertory: Lassus, "Musica Dei donum optimi" Postlude: Svoboda, "Dance"
12/2	Choir	Offertory: Joyce, "I Sing of a Maiden"
12/9	Band	Gathering: Tchaikovsky, "Dance of the Tin Soldiers" Offertory: arr. Marlatt, "Catalonian Carol" Postlude: Tchaikovsky, "Trepak"
12/16	Choir	Offertory: Yannerella, "Sing, Jerusalem Sing"
12/23	Special Music	
12/24	Choir/Band	Band plays prelude music and some carols for service Choir sings "Still, Still, Still", arr. Wetzler
12/30	Special Music	

Choir rehearses weekly, Wednesdays 7-8 pm; on Sundays when choir sings, warm-up at 8:45

Band rehearses weekly, Wednesdays 8-9 pm; on Sundays when band plays, warm-up at 8:45

Handbell Choir rehearses at 8:45 on the morning we play

All members/friends/guests at Good Shepherd are welcome to join each of these groups. For more information, please contact our music director, Brooke Joyce: 382-4452, or wboyce3@gmail.com.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, August 21, 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, Jon Christy, Janeen Christy, Steve Holland and Jonathon Struve; Facilities Improvement Committee members Jim Fritz and Lindsay Erdman.

Devotions and Initial Actions: Steve Holland shared devotions. A motion was made by Marty Steele and seconded by Janeen Christy to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Approved.

Marty Steele proposed that the approval of an application for a Depot grant be added to New Business. Jon Christy moved and Germano Streese seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Passed.

New Business:

Facilities Improvement Proposal: Lindsay Erdman, on behalf of the Facilities Improvement Committee, presented a proposal for the renovation of our facility. Architect Gary Anderson has worked with the committee to address recommendations of the Space Exploration Task Force and the FIC, emphasizing three priorities: creating a more usable narthex/meeting space that can still accommodate overflow congregation seating when necessary, making the church office more visible and giving office personnel better security in knowing who is in the building, creating classroom and meeting space that uses space more efficiently and better meets our needs. In particular, the plan responds to a need for classroom spaces that are larger and more flexible. The proposed plan does not call for expanding the building, but reconfigures spaces within the current building footprint, particularly focusing on the Sunday School wing and the narthex area. This plan will be shared with the congregation on Sunday, September 9, to begin the process of getting feedback.

In addition to the proposed renovation project, Jim Fritz led a discussion of options for updating our mechanical/heating/cooling systems in the old part of the church, a project which would precede and/or be done in conjunction with the building renovation. Proposals include moving to a more efficient, more renewable source of heating and cooling. The committee is investigating the implementation of a VRF and/or geothermal system for the old part of the church, including the Sunday School wing and the Fellowship Hall. The current system is nearing the end of its useful life, and the ducts and structures currently used in the church are highly inefficient. The goal would be to have a system that better reflects the values of our congregation with regard to the stewardship of our resources. The Facilities Improvement Committee will present a proposal about the HVAC system to the council on September 18 and to the congregation on September 30.

Social Justice Subcommittee Candidate Forum Proposal: Marty Steele

Following the suggestion of ELCA Advocacy and the "ELCAVotes!" initiative, the social justice subcommittee is proposing three events. First, an adult forum will be held in the fall surrounding the theme of Faith and Politics, emphasizing how our faith can inform our engagement in politics. Then, on October 21, the subcommittee will host a voter information event during fellowship hour to help members with voter registration, obtaining absentee ballots, and organizing transportation to the polls. Finally, the subcommittee is exploring the possibility of cohosting a non-partisan candidate forum organized by the American Association of University Women. This organization already sets up this event, so the proposal is to offer our assistance and presence with this event rather than to try and plan an additional forum on our own. The council expressed support for pursuing these initiatives.

Privacy Policy from Communications Subcommittee:

The communications subcommittee shared a formal privacy policy regarding our web content, including our website, social media presence, and our church directory. The council supports this policy and indicated that members should be aware that they may communicate with the committee if they have preferences concerning their privacy, particularly with regard to Good Shepherd's social media presence.

Depot Grant Proposal:

Marty Steele noted that it is again time to apply for a Depot Grant. Given our current renovation projects, a motion was made that we apply for a grant to refurbish the pastor's chairs and to replace a table in the narthex. Jon Christy moved and Janeen Christy seconded this proposal. Motion passed.

Old Business: NONE

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

Youth Representative: No report.

(Continued on page 15)

Education Committee: Bob Felde

Vacation Bible School was successful. Thanks to all members who contributed to this program. Rally Sunday will be Sept. 9. Some opportunities for retreats will be offered in the coming year. There is a need for members to volunteer to help with Sunday School this fall.

Evangelism Committee: Janeen Christy

There continues to be interest in joining Good Shepherd. Prospective members will be sent an invitation for a Good Shepherd Information Session, which will be held on September 23. Some members have volunteered to be sponsor families for new members, but there continues to be a need for a few more sponsor families. New member Sunday will be October 7.

Property and Management Committee: Marty Steele

The committee will seek a bid to remove two dead trees and to grind stumps for other trees which have already been removed. The refurbishment of the Sanctuary is coming along. New carpet will be installed in September. Replacing the windows at the back of the sanctuary revealed a need to do some additional construction in order to prevent undermining the integrity of the flashing on the roof. Finally, Tim Round, who painted the interior of our Sanctuary, submitted a formal bid to the committee for what he would charge to paint the exterior of the church. This bid was \$11,500. Thanks to volunteer work on the outdoor painting project, this project cost just over \$1,000, saving us about \$10,000.

Stewardship Committee: Germano Streese

The fall stewardship campaign will have the theme Empower Good Shepherd: The Place and the People. The campaign will be focused on our building improvement projects, this time tied specifically to the updating of our mechanical/heating/cooling systems with a geothermal or VRF (Variable Refrigerant Flow) system.

Rather than a separate capital campaign which raises money for a specific project, the goal of the stewardship campaign is to include building improvements as a part of the regular budget and the regular giving of the congregation. The council charged the stewardship committee with ensuring that this strategy is clear.

The stewardship committee would like to form a task force of members who would learn about the Stewardship for All Seasons program and how it works so that we have a core group of people in the congregation who can continue implementing these giving strategies once we have completed our work with the consultant. Pete Reuss, our consultant, will be meeting with the stewardship committee and the congregational council in September.

Worship and Music Committee: Jon Christy

There will be a Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 26.

Rally Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, September 9. The kids will be involved in leading worship.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy Larson

Dawson Bliven, son of Dustin and Jen Bliven, will be baptized on September 9.

Members Menzi Nkambule and Joseph Tiegen are beginning study to serve as Ministers of Word and Sacrament (Pastor). Allie Grainger has decided not to pursue becoming a Minister of Word and Service.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Marion Pruitt Jefferson, update given by Marty Steele

In conjunction with the Decorah Area Faith Coalition, AMMPARO and our Social Justice Committee have been working to support immigrants and immigration issues. In August, a fundraising event was held at Pulpit Rock Brewing Co. called "Fiesta! An Immigration Celebration." Proceeds from this event went to support the work of Path to Citizenship. This event raised \$3600. Good Shepherd members make up about half of the Decorah Area Faith Coalition.

President's Report: Megan Buckingham

The executive committee will be working this fall on finalizing and implementing our new HR policy. The executive committee will also be completing staff evaluations. Finally, work is continuing on investigating alternative models for committee structures and church governance that may be implemented at Good Shepherd.

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: \$176,316.42, Total expense year to date: (\$153,389.67), Net income year to date: \$22,926.75

Janeen Christy moved and Germano Streese seconded to approve the treasurer's report, passed.

Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline: August 23, 2018, Next Council Meeting: September 18, 2018, 7:00 PM

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: Bob Felde moved, Streese seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm. Pr. Amy Larson led the council in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting. ---Submitted by Jonathon Struve, Congregational Secretary

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Pick up Band 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 5:00 PM Decorah Chorale potluck 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 5:30 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jenny out 5:00 PM Path to Citizenship 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"> 11:00 AM Communications Subcommittee meeting 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 PM Naslund picnic backup
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed Pr. Amy Day Off 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 PM Mary circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 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"> 7:30 AM Lifeline Screening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rally Sunday Dawson Bliven Baptism 8:45 AM choir/band 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:50 AM Youth Forum 10:50 AM Sunday School 10:50 AM Adult Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 10:30 AM M Anderson Tutoring 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM M Anderson Tutoring 9:30 AM Anna Circle 11:30 AM Pastors' Text Study 3:45 PM Education Committee 4:45 PM Facilities Improvement 5:30 PM Indivisible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Opportunity Homes 10:30 AM Aase Haugen Communion 2:00 PM Miriam/Ruth Circle 3:45 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 12:00 PM Stewardship Committee 1:00 PM Travel Club 5:00 PM Executive Committee 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 4:00 PM Evangelism Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM PEO brunch 3:00 PM Concert Across America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM choir warmup 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:50 AM Youth Forum 10:50 AM Sunday School 10:50 AM Adult Forum 5:00 PM Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jenny out Pr. Amy Day Off 10:30 AM M Anderson Tutoring 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM M Anderson Tutoring 10:00 AM Quilts of Valor 11:30 AM Pastors' Text Study 5:00 PM Social Justice 5:30 PM Facilities Improvement 7:00 PM Council Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter Deadline 10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 5:00 PM Decorah Community Meal 5:15 PM Worship and Music 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 Handbell Rehearsal 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:45 AM New member Info Session 10:50 AM Youth Forum 10:50 AM Sunday School 10:50 AM Adult Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 10:30 AM M Anderson Tutoring 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM M Anderson Tutoring 11:30 AM Pastors' Text Study 7:00 PM CLA Circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 5:30 PM Flute Masterclass (Sanctuary) - Brooke 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM choir warmup 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour 10:50 AM Youth Forum 10:50 AM Sunday School 10:50 AM Adult Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pr. Amy Day Off 10:30 AM M Anderson Tutoring 1:00 PM Friends of Recovery 6:00 PM AL/ANON 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM M Anderson Tutoring 11:30 AM Pastors' Text Study 4:00 PM Mary circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal 8:00 PM Band Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 1:30 PM Property and Management Committee Meeting 5:00 PM Community Meal 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dirty Feet Retreat at Ewalu 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

SEPTEMBER 2018

The Shepherd's Voice

Pastor Amy Larson

Assistant Pastor: Marion Pruitt-Jefferson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Children Youth and Family Director: Kathryn Thompson

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Werner

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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

