



The Shepherd's Voice

October 2020

Beloved of God,

I want to encourage us all to start, deepen or continue our involvement in the political process as a way to live out our baptismal vocations in this time. Our church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has just issued a new social message on Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy. This statement calls us to action. "Lutherans confess that we are complicit when we do not participate actively enough in the civic arena to strengthen and support [good government]... Lutherans have learned that energetic civic engagement is part of their baptismal vocation, both as individuals and through the church's corporate witness. Such civic participation is not simply voluntary, idealistic, or altruistic. The ELCA holds to the biblical idea that God calls God's people to be active citizens and to ensure that everyone benefits from the good of government (Jeremiah 29:7, Romans 13:1-7).¹

I also want to share a reflection by Dr. Diana Butler Bass that I found so very helpful for this time. She writes "I invite you to consider this election season to be like Lent, a time of prayer and practice." She then encourages ways to pray and act:

1) Pray daily for some specific issue or candidate. Prayer takes many forms - I often think of Anne Lamott's triad: help, thanks, wow. This is a time for all three sorts of prayers.

Ask God for *help* if you are angry, afraid, despairing. Ask for help on behalf of others, intercede for specific issues and candidates. Honestly, the nation and the world are in a desperate state right now - don't hesitate to pray "help, help, help" on behalf of yourself, for all those who are fearful and suffering, and for the healing of the planet.

Find *gratitude* in the midst of it all - for truth tellers, activists, courageous voters, politicians who care about the common good, for those willing to take risks. For exhausted campaign workers, brave preachers, overworked parents. Say thank you to God, to the universe, to your friends and neighbors. Remember these words of Maya Angelou: '*Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.*'

Open yourself to *awe* - you're going to need the 'wow' of birdsong and blue skies, of starry nights or laughing on zoom. Even now, especially now, praise is possible, and it is the song of life. Give yourself moments of wonder.

2) Take action every day. Donate money, make calls, vote early, write postcards, encourage others, go to a Zoom rally, distribute signs. Light candles. Join a protest or vigil (safely, of course). Help others understand new voting procedures. Volunteer if you are able to assist at the polls. Post smart, reliable information and important news stories on social media. Correct rumors and gossip. Be loud."²

Beloved of God, let's be politically engaged together for the sake of our democracy and for the sake of our neighbor. **Let's join in an adult form on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 10:45am (via Zoom) to encourage and uphold one another in being a hopeful, healing presence in our democracy this fall.** Also note the updated guidance for voting during a pandemic shared in this newsletter.

Peace, Pastor Amy

1) A Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy

As adopted unanimously by the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on June 24, 2020.

2) "Forty Days: Pray. Act. Think of this as Lent. by Diana Butler Bass <https://dianabutlerbass.substack.com/p/forty-days>

Stewardship

You Are Not Alone

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is With You!

Our Stewardship campaign for 2021 is entering its final stages. Our signs for you to display in your yard or home will be available this month. Be sure to sign up on this [Sign Up Genius](#) link by October 11th or call the church office to insure you receive yours. Thank you to all of you who have helped with this new and unique campaign. It has been so rewarding to see your videos on the online worship services, with many more to come! There is so much happening at Good Shepherd and your financial contributions make it all work. Our goal this year is to match last year's giving. For some, this may be difficult to do, but we pray for the best we can do. God works in amazing ways in our lives and in our church. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

In November you will be receiving the document describing all the ministries happening at Good Shepherd. Thank you again, to all those who contributed their input on this! The next week our committee will be calling all members to remind them of Intent Sunday. November 15 will be Intent Sunday, for you to return your intent forms to the church. May God be with you and guide you as you make your giving plans for next year. You Are Not Alone, Good Shepherd is With You.

Connie Buresh, Stewardship Chair

You Are Not Alone



**GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Is With You!

goodshepherddecorah.org

STAY CONNECTED WHILE WE ARE APART

SUNDAYS AT GOOD SHEPHERD – FALL 2020

All the info you need can be found here:

<https://www.goodshepherddecorah.org/sundays-at-good-shepherd-fall-2020/>

Online Worship on YouTube – [Online Worship Link](#) online worship premieres at 9:30am with live chat. Participate then or anytime later.

Outdoor Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays) – [Outdoor Worship Sign-up](#)

This month, October 11 and 25, in the Good Shepherd backyard (note new location for October)

Zoom Coffee Hour – [Zoom Coffee Hour](#)- every week 10:30 am

Zoom Adult Forum – [Zoom Coffee Hour](#)- same link - October 4 and 18 10:45 am.

Youth Forum (2nd and 4th Sundays-10:30 am) – Good Shepherd backyard, bring a mask

Zoom Sunday School – (1st and 3rd Sundays) [YouTube.com](#)

Luther College KWLC will broadcast our Sunday Service at 9:30 am.

STUDY & DEVOTIONALS

- **Zoom Bible Study Thursdays 10 a.m.** Join in by clicking here: [Zoom Bible Study](#)
- **Podcasts** of music, prayers and prayer practices are now available. Click on the [buzzsprout icon](#), upper right on our website's homepage, for a shortcut to the Good Shepherd podcasts. 
- **Listen to PR Amy's Sermon online** through the [GS website](#) or contact the church office if you would like a copy mailed to you.
- **Sign up for daily devotions that can be sent to your email. To sign up go to:** d365.org or <https://go.augsburgfortress.org/christ-in-our-home-email-subscription>

GIVING

- Send your check or offering envelope through the mail - 701 Iowa Ave. Decorah IA 52101.
- Give online through your own bank or continue your auto withdrawal through the church.
- Give online at our website under the Giving tab through [tithe.ly](#).
- Text to give: # **833-751-0260**
- In addition to giving to the work of the congregation, please consider gifts to the local **Mutual Aid Network** fund to help those impacted financially in this time.

Adult Education

We will have coffee hour on Zoom at 10:30. Zoom adult forums will happen on the same Zoom links starting at 10:45am. (join anytime between 10:30-10:45am)

Oct. 4 Discipleship in a Democracy led by Pr. Amy

We will consider the ELCA Social Message "Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy." You can read the message [here](#) but you can join the discussion even if you haven't had a chance to read the social message.

Oct. 18 Travels with the Not-So-Grim-Reaper led by Lori Erickson

Lori, daughter of the late Good Shepherd member Grace Erickson, will lead us in a discussion about living well with the reality of death. Lori is a deacon in the Episcopal church and a travel writer specializing in spiritual journeys. Her most recent book is *Near the Exit: Travels with the Not-So-Grim-Reaper*.

September 16, 2020

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus, God who is with us through the Holy Spirit! Thank you so much for your continued encouragement, generosity, and commitment to me on this wild journey of seminary. I love to tell the story of how God is working through Good Shepherd in the places I go. And I especially love to talk about how Good Shepherd is investing in future rostered ministers.

I finished my yearlong pastoral internship at Luther College, Bethany Lutheran (Elkader), and Emanuel Lutheran (Strawberry Point) on Friday, July 31. All of us have been finding new ways of living through the coronavirus pandemic, and it certainly added layers of challenge and opportunity during internship year. My sense of call has been strengthened and widened by the experience of internship. I was exceedingly fortunate to have two strong supervisors, two nurturing and honest internship committees, wonderful staff and lay ministers at all three congregations, and amazing people from Bethany, Emanuel & Luther who supported me all year. In addition, I carried many of the joys and strengths from our church family with me on internship.

I've been especially grateful for your additional prayers, notes, support, meals, and Sugar Bowl gift certificates while I've healed from a broken leg (fibula) this last six weeks. David and I have also welcomed care from you as we said goodbye to our dog, Lennie, a very treasured and central part of our family. I wrote in my approval essay that the learning of my internship continued in new ways as I received love and care from the Body of Christ during the month following my internship.

I'm so happy to be back in community with you this year.

May you feel the Divine Love that is God,

Amalia Vagts

Music Ministry

MUSICIANS NEEDED!

- **Music Director Brooke Joyce** invites students and singers and instrumentalists **of all ages** to be part of **Choir, Band, and Handbell Choir** this fall.
- The **Band and Choir** exist **virtually**, with members recording themselves individually and Brooke mixing the recordings to create musical offerings for online worship.
- **Handbell rehearsals/recording sessions** will be **in-person in the Good Shepherd Sanctuary** once a month in **October** and **November**.

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS! Brooke has a lovely **anthem** and **hymn** for you to record for the **October 4** online worship service. Please visit <https://www.goodshepherddecorah.org/music/> for further details. Your deadline for submissions is **Saturday, October 3 at 10 a.m.** Contact Brooke wbrojce3@gmail.com with any questions!

If you'd like to join any of these musical groups but haven't participated before, email Brooke at wbrojce3@gmail.com.

***** You are also welcome to offer music during communion at outdoor services. Just indicate that on the signup genius when you sign up for worship.**

October Scriptures

Sunday, October 4 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 5:1-7 The song of the vineyard	Psalms 80:7-15 Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine	Philippians 3:4b-14 Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ	Matthew 21:33-46 The parable of the vineyard owner's son
Sunday, October 11 19th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25:1-9 The feast of victory	Psalms 23 You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over	Philippians 4:1-9 Rejoice in the Lord always	Matthew 22:1-14 The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast
Sunday, October 18 20th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45:1-7 An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will	Psalms 96:1-9 [10-13] Ascribe to the Lord honor and power	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica	Matthew 22:15-22 A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God
Sunday, October 25 Reformation Sunday	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 Holiness revealed in acts of justice	Psalms 1 Their delight is in the law of the Lord	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 The apostle's tender care for the Thessalonians	Matthew 22:34-46 Two great commandments: love for God and neighbor

READY - SET - VOTE

DECORAH AREA FAITH COALITION

MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE

Go to vote.org to check your registration and check to see if information is correct: address, date of birth etc. If not, you can correct it or even register right there online. Ben Steines (our Co. Auditor) supports vote.org

YOU CAN REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

Every registered voter, by now, should have received an absentee ballot request form in the mail. You may have received more than one, but *you only need one*.

Absentee ballots will be sent out on October 5. If you do not receive your ballot within that week (remember, our mail goes from Decorah to Waterloo and back again), call the Co. Auditor's office at 563.382.5085 or email at auditor@co.winneshiek.ia.us

UNDERSTAND THE ABSENTEE VOTING PROCESS

Think of the Stevie Wonder song: "Signed, Sealed, Delivered"

- As soon as you get the Absentee Ballot, complete it and get it in the mail ASAP or deliver to Court House or Drop Box at Court House entrance.
- Signature on voter registration must match what is on the ballot. If you have a hyphenated last name but sure you put in the hyphen...stuff like that.
- Date of birth must have all four digits – not just two.
- Fill in the ovals, do not use an "X"
- Sign the ballot!
- Do not damage the ballot in any way or the mail in envelope. If you tear it, don't try to fix it with Scotch Tape, it will be thrown out. Request another ballot from the Co. Auditor's Office.
- Put the marked and signed ballot into the enclosed ballot sleeve/envelope and then place that in the postage-paid return envelope.
- Once you put your ballot in the mail, you can track it online by going to: sos.iowa.gov/elections/absenteeballotstatus/absentee/search



Continued on next page

DECORAH AREA FAITH COALITION
Voting continued

YOU CAN CHOOSE TO VOTE EARLY IN-PERSON AT THE COURT HOUSE BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 5

If you have already received an absentee ballot but decide you want to vote in person, you must take that absentee ballot with you to the Court House. It will be destroyed and then you can fill out a regular ballot and hand it over to Co. Auditor personnel.

There will be only 2 voting stations in the Co. Auditor's Office. To avoid standing in line for an extended period, voters should wait for a few days to go in to vote. *You may vote at the courthouse through November 2.*

Bring your own blue or black pen to mark ballots. Face coverings and physical distancing (6 feet) will be encouraged.

VOTE IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 3

Know your polling place if you decide to vote in person on Election Day.

You need to know your precinct number. If not, call the County Auditor.

Because of anticipated absentee voting, the number of polling places has been reduced by combining some precincts.

There will be 8 Winneshiek County Polling Places on November 3.

Precincts 1,4 and 11 will vote at the Court House

Precincts 5 and 6 will vote at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Precinct 2 at First Lutheran Church

Precinct 3 at Decorah City Hall

Precinct 7 at Calmar Lutheran Church

Precinct 8 at Ossian Community Center

Precinct 9 at Ridgeway Community Center

Precinct 10 at Fort Atkinson Community Center

ELCA Social Message "**Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy.**" You can read the message [here](#) and participate in discussion during the Zoom Adult Forum on October 4th, at 10:45 am.

Note: **The Good Shepherd Office will be closed on November 3rd** to offer the west end of our building as a polling location.

Good Shepherd Announcements

NEW PAPER DIRECTORY!

A new edition of the Good Shepherd directory **in paper** is planned to be printed in October 2020. Updated photos have been taken of most congregation members and posted in the online directory, from which the paper one is created. If you wish to receive a paper directory, please notify the church office by calling 563-382- 3963 or emailing decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com. Paper directories will be mailed or delivered to those who have no e-mail addresses or who request them.

Communications Subcommittee: Kathy Buzza, Elizabeth Kaschins, Jane Kemp;

Principal Photographers: Jane Jakoubek, Jane Kemp, Jeri Laursen



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 - CHARTER MEMBER VERNE KOENIG'S 99th BIRTHDAY

A Card Shower is planned to help celebrate Verne and his life, as he turns 99 on October 1! Please celebrate with him by sending a card to his address: 110 Elm Court, Decorah, IA 52101.

NEW ZOOM COFFEE HOURS NEED HOSTS!

Zoom Coffee Hours are planned each week after online worship so we can see each other's unmasked faces and help us stay connected as a community.

Pastor Amy will host the Zoom Coffee Hours except on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month when she's involved with the in-person outdoor communion services. On these Sundays, people are needed to host the Zoom Coffee Hour.

Hosting a Zoom Coffee Hour requires:

1. Basic familiarity with Zoom.
2. Joining the Zoom meeting at 10 a.m. so Pastor Amy can make you the host before she gets ready for in person worship. (She can't make you a host in advance because we aren't in a shared domain.)
3. Admitting people from the waiting room into the coffee hour.

If you can host, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C48ABAF2EA2F49-zoom>

RACIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE SEEKS MEMBERS

Jon Ailabouni and Megan Buckingham will co-chair the Racial Justice Task Force, which will work on a racial justice statement for the congregation and look at policies and procedures to help us become an anti-racist congregation. Please prayerfully consider serving on the Task Force. If you are interested, contact Jon Ailabouni at ailajo01@luther.edu. Task Force meetings will be via Zoom.



**RACIAL JUSTICE
TASK FORCE**

Good Shepherd Announcements

BELL RINGING CONTINUES TO MOURN DEATHS CAUSED BY THE PANDEMIC AND RACISM



11:00 a.m., Good Shepherd's Backyard

All are invited to pause, reflect, and pray outside at Good Shepherd or at your home as church bells around Decorah ring out on Monday mornings this fall.

Volunteers are still needed to ring Good Shepherd's bell on October 5, 19 & 26. If you are interested, please contact Dave Judisch at judiscda@luther.edu.

Masks and physical distancing are required in Good Shepherd's backyard.

CANOE RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL HARVEST SUPPER FOR 2020 will be a drive-through only supper to go. Wednesday, October 14. SAME GREAT MENU: Mike Reick's chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, homemade dressing, cranberry salad, corn, rolls, lefse, cookies/bars. Tickets are \$14 for 11 & over; \$6.00 under 10; preschool free. Tickets are sold in advance and available the day of the supper - but to help us plan please call and have your tickets held for pickup. Tickets can be purchased at Ladybug Landscapes and Decorah Rental or by calling Virginia Hanson at 382-9414 or 419-6005. We are offering time slots for picking up your takeouts; serving begins at 4:30 pm.

LUTHER COLLEGE AND GOOD SHEPHERD PARTNER

Luther College and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will share a staff member; Wartburg Seminary student Vicar Kathryn Thompson. The two entities are now considered Collaborative Learning sites for Wartburg Seminary Students, including Vicar Kathryn, who will work with both for the next four years. The Collaborative Learning option at Wartburg Seminary is a four-year program in which students are embedded in a ministry site for all four years while taking most of their coursework online. It is a joint venture between Wartburg Seminary, the Northeastern Iowa Synod and individual ministry sites.



At Luther, she will lead Monday chapel, work with the Multifaith House, and help connect interested students with area congregations. At Good Shepherd, she will continue her responsibilities to the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. Her email at Luther is thompson@luther.edu



Centenarians Richard Dinger and Marion "Jo" Brannan

Aase Haugen Senior Services celebrated two 101-year-old residents--Marion "Jo" Brannan and **Richard Dinger**. Aase Haugen Administrator, Orson Bauder: "They are icons at Aase Haugen and we enjoy the opportunity to be enriched by their wisdom. They are both amazing examples of longevity in America and both are important people to our Aase Haugen family."

(Richard's birthday was in June)

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - October 22.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the LWR kits. Our final count was 38 school kits, 27 personal care kits and 53 baby care kits. Pastor Amy did a blessing for the kits before we delivered them to the truck to be shipped to the warehouse in St Paul. Hopefully we will be able to return to a May & November schedule in 2021.

We will again meet via Zoom on October 27 at 7 pm for our circle meeting. Kathy Buzza will lead the discussion. Please contact Bev Sheridan or Pastor Amy for information to join the meeting. All are welcome. Join Zoom Circle by clicking here: [Zoom Circle Meeting](#)

GATHER BIBLE STUDY

In this three-session Bible study, the Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni invites us to remember the past, recognize the present and reimagine the future.

Session 2: The holy “now”-recognizing and responding to God’s *Kairos* time

This month we explore how the Scriptures speak to us about the holy now: how we recognize and respond to God’s grace and calling in the present moment.

October Circle Schedule

10/27- 7 p.m. WELCA Zoom Circle Mtg. Gather Study

Join Zoom Circle by clicking here: [Zoom Circle Meeting](#)

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 - 7:30 pm

Preparing Our Hearts and Minds to Serve

Present: Pr. Amy Zalk Larson, Jonathon Struve, Kerry Johnson, Linda Donoghue, Robert Fitton, Ann Naslund, Connie Buresh, John Moeller, Jon Ailabouni, and Hayley Jackson.

Devotions and Initial Actions: Kerry Johnson led devotions. Motion to approve the agenda seconded and passed.

Consent Agenda:

Items in the Consent Agenda are designed to be approved by consent of the council without discussion or formal vote. The chair asks for objections to the items in the consent agenda. If there are no objections, these agenda items are then considered passed by consent. The council may choose to move an item from the consent agenda to the discussion agenda if council members feel a discussion is warranted.

1. Approve August 2020 council minutes.

Accept committee reports.

The Consent Agenda was approved by consent of the council.

Discussion Agenda:

Implicit Association Test (IAT) Results: After discussing reactions to their results, Council members were interested to determine how we could use what we learned moving forward. Suggestions included having the test be an annual activity so we can judge our progress, and implementing a procedure where, when making a decision, Council takes time to ask "Is there implicit bias in this decision we are about to make? How is this affecting other people in a way we haven't thought about yet?" Since implicit biases thrive as long as they are hidden, this "placeholder" practice will help us work on rooting it out as well as making this conscious reflection part of our ethos and culture at Good Shepherd.

Outdoor Bench Memorial Update: Pr. Amy shared that many families with memorial funds would like to use their undesignated memorial funds to support purchasing new benches for Good Shepherd. This funding will be enough to purchase two benches without adding costs to the sidewalk project. The Bud Bahr bench is still being chewed up by squirrels, so the current thought is to move that bench to a spot on the property with fewer squirrels and place two new metal benches selected by the landscaping committee along the sidewalk parallel to Iowa Ave. This plan has been okay'ed by Donna Bahr.

New Sidewalk and Special Appeal Update: Robert Fitton shared that drawings for the sidewalk project have been redone to incorporate the 2-bench design as opposed to the earlier 6-bench design. He also drafted a letter of appeal to the congregation to raise funds for the sidewalk project. This brought up concerns that given the proximity to the annual stewardship campaign and the financial difficulties many are experiencing due to COVID-19 that now is not an ideal time to make two separate appeals. One member suggested that we consider using the surplus funds saved by the PPP loan be used to pay for the sidewalk project while another suggested that additional undesignated memorial funds could be used to offset costs. Robert Fitton moved to fund the sidewalk project with remaining PPP funds and undesignated memorial funds. Connie Buresh seconded. Passed unanimously. There will be no special appeal for the sidewalk project.

Mission Endowment Motion: The Mission Endowment Committee requested that the Council consider the following motion: "That the Congregational Council supports the efforts of the Mission Endowment Committee to actively increase the mission endowment fund by preparing a brochure to explain the purpose, goals and functions of the Mission Endowment Fund." After conversation, the Council opted to table the motion and add it as a discussion item at a future meeting. The Council would like to discuss how to envision the future of the fund – do we want to actively grow it and make it a significant priority, do we want to change or narrow the focus of the fund? These questions are broader than the scope of this motion and require broader discussion about the future of the fund before making this decision. Linda Donoghue and Pr. Amy will initiate a conversation with the Mission Endowment Committee.

Stewardship: Connie shared a brief update from the Stewardship Committee. Yard signs with this year's stewardship theme (You Are Not Alone) have been ordered, and a SignUp Genius is available for those who would like a sign. Those interested also can call the church office. The signs will be available in October. The official appeal will be sent out to members in October and the official Appeal Sunday will be in November.

(Continued on page 12)

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

The Committee Reports were received and accepted as submitted.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy

Jon Ailabouni will be chairing the racial justice task force. They will begin creating invitations for people to join and will share the list as soon as possible. Zoom Fellowship Hours will begin on September 20. Pr. Amy is working to with Luther College to secure some parental leave for Kathryn Thompson once the baby, due in November, arrives. Additionally, Pr. Amy is working on options for recent memorial gifts given to Good Shepherd; she will bring these to Council. Report on Time Away - Continuing Education: 3 weekdays for Festival of Homiletics- May 18, 20, 22 & 1 Sunday, May 24, continuing education class via Zoom in May and June, 1.5 hours per week for 6 weeks. (10 weekdays & 2 Sundays allowed in letter of call) Vacation: 3 weekdays January 1-3, 1 weekday- May 21; 3 weekdays- June 3-5, 5 weekdays- July 27-31 and 1 Sunday, 1 weekday and 1 Sunday- September 4-6. (20 weekdays & 4 Sundays allowed in letter of call)

Outreach: Kerry Johnson

New members were officially received by the church council in early September. They are Sue Blom, Sean, Anne, Walter, and Sally Edison-Albright, and Alex Smith. Sue Blom, Alex Smith, Jim and Laurie Biedermann, Darrell and Janis Blackmore, and Mike and Laurie Tallman were welcomed into the congregation on September 13, at the outdoor communion service. The Edison-Albright family will be welcomed on September 20, via Zoom. Each new member household received/will receive a welcome bag and prayer shawl.

Current plan is for these new members, along with the Pfile family, to be formally welcomed this spring. (The Biedermanns, Blackmores, Tallmans, and Pfiles were officially received by the council last spring.)

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Total income to date is \$198,706.75 and total expenses to date are \$200,443.14. The difference between the two is a slight deficit of -\$1,736.39, but since the youth director's salary (\$5,446.78) has a separate income source, we are operating at a \$3,710.39. The inclusion of the PPP loan adds an additional \$25,840.56 to that surplus. **Current Giving: Current Giving is at \$190,955.23, which is comparable to the expected \$200,000.00 from the Statements of Intent.**

Worship and Music: Jon Ailabouni

W&M committee discussed reactions to the August 23 service, which went well. The committee plans to review "Communion in the Time of COVID" given the low numbers of people requesting communion in their yard and attending outdoor worship. The confirmed schedule of upcoming outdoor worship services is as follows: September 13, September 27, October 11, October 25, November 8, November 22. W&M continues to review what safe indoor worship might look like, options for worship in the colder seasons, and understanding what congregants need at this point in time, particularly for those with limited or no technology access.

Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline: September 17, 2020

Next Council Meeting: The next meeting will be October 20, 2020, 7:30 PM via Zoom

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Pr. Amy Larson led the council in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting. ---Submitted by Hayley Jackson, Congregation Secretary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am - Online Worship @ 10:30am - Zoom Coffee 10:45am - Sunday School 10:45am - Zoom Adult	28 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 11am - Bell ringing	29 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office	30 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 5pm - Education	1 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 10am - Bible Study via 1:30pm - Property and	2 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 4:30pm - Recording for	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:30am - Online Worship @ 10:30am - Youth Forum @ 10:30am - Zoom Coffee 11am - Communion Service 11:30am - Yard Sign	12 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 11am - Bell ringing	13 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office	14 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office	15 Newletter Deadline 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 10am - Bible Study via	16 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 5pm - Recording for	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am - Online Worship @ 10:30am - Zoom Coffee 10:45am - Sunday School 10:45am - Zoom Adult	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 11am - Bell ringing	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 7:30pm - Cong. Council	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office	Recycle 8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 10am - Bible Study via	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 4:30pm - Recording for	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Jazz Worship Online Reformation Sunday 9:30am - Online Worship @ 10:30am - Youth Forum @ 10:30am - Zoom Coffee 11am - Communion Service	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 11am - Bell ringing	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 7pm - WELCA Zoom Circle	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 10am - Bible Study via	8:30am - Office Hours- 9am - Pastor's Home Office 4:30pm - Recording for	

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

701 Iowa Avenue

Decorah IA 52101

OCTOBER 2020

The Shepherd's Voice

Contents:

Pastor Amy Larson

Visitation Pastor: Marian Pruitt-Jefferson

Vicar of Children Youth and Family Ministry:

Kathryn Thompson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Werner

Email: decorahgoodshepherd@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org>

Church Office: 563-382-3963

Office Hours: M-F; 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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