



# *The Shepherd's Voice*

June 2021

Beloved Good Shepherd Members,

I am incredibly grateful for each and every one of you and for our congregation as a whole. As I reflect upon my first year of seminary and the Collaborative Learning program through Wartburg Theological Seminary, I wanted to share with you both my gratitude for Good Shepherd and an update on my progress.

Wartburg's Collaborative Learning program is a way for seminary students to gain experience in ministry while also working toward their Master's of Divinity degree and ordination in the ELCA. I am a full time Master's student that takes one less class than my peers who are not in the program. This allows a little more time to balance my about 20-hours a week commitment to my ministry sites. This program lasts for four years, with a formal internship in the middle. I have just completed my first year and will begin my formal internship in February.

Before the pandemic hit, the vision for my ministry site was a shared experience intended to build a partnership between Luther College and Good Shepherd. This vision is still fully present, but the pandemic prevented much of our initial dreaming and planning from happening this past year. Even still, we saw an increase of Luther students attending services at Good Shepherd, particularly when we had in-person options. I have been able to continue connecting with these students both at Good Shepherd and on Luther's campus. My work in College Ministries allows me to build relationships with students and form a presence on campus as Vicar, which also carries over to my work at Good Shepherd.

We look forward to continuing to bridge the partnership between Good Shepherd and Luther. We are happy and grateful for Luther student Marshall Laidlaw who will be directing Vacation Bible School this summer. This is one of many exciting ways that we will continue to plug Luther students into Good Shepherd over the course of the next few years.

This summer, as part of my pastoral training and the track to ordination in the ELCA, I am completing Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). CPE is a certified program that allows for a formal and intensive experience in chaplaincy. Initially, I had been accepted to do this program through Gundersen Lutheran Hospital in LaCrosse for a summer intensive of 12 weeks. However, during Holy Week I received a call that they had to cancel the program this summer due to a last-minute change with their certified educator. I was then accepted into an online program where I work with a certified instructor and a cohort of 4 other students to complete my supervision virtually for five hours each week. I then complete my clinical hours in the context of the ministry site - Good Shepherd.

I began my CPE on Tuesday, May 11th. Pastor Matt's accident occurred on Wednesday, May 12th, and I finished my first year of seminary on Thursday, May 13th. I could feel the presence of the Spirit at work to allow me to be available for service to Good Shepherd so immediately in this chain of events. I have been able to serve on call for Good Shepherd in the weeks following Matt's accident so Pastor Amy could attend to him and their family.

Over the course of the summer, I look forward to gaining more and more experience in lots of different areas of our ministry at Good Shepherd.

I must end by expressing again my deep gratitude for Good Shepherd's support of me during these important years of formation for public ministry in the ELCA. I am incredibly grateful to be able to serve the congregation that has, and continues, to so lovingly support me and my family. It is truly a gift, and it is also a testament to Good Shepherd's values of tending to each other as well as raising up future leaders of the church.

In gratitude and peace, Vicar Kathryn

## NEW WORSHIP AND MEETING GUIDELINES

Recommendations from the Good Shepherd Congregational Council - 5/25/21

- **Outdoor Worship** - will continue, masks and social distancing are optional.
- **Indoor Worship** - in the case of inclement weather, masks are required but no advance sign up needed as there is no limit on the number in attendance to gather for worship indoors. We hope to continue moving toward full and regular indoor worship over the course of the summer.
- **Online Worship** - a modified version will continue to be offered.
- **Small Group Meetings** - unmasked with the consent of those in attendance starting on June 1.
- More will be forthcoming as the task force, congregational council and staff continue conversations, review data and guidelines, and consider our context at Good Shepherd. Any changes will be posted on the website, in the weekly news and in the monthly newsletter.
- The decision and notification about a change to indoor worship will be made by 4:30 p.m. Saturday with a message sent to the email list; if there is an unexpected change after that, notification will be included in the Sunday morning email message.

## OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY CONNECTIONS

**Online Worship** click [here](#).

Sundays at 9:30am

Online worship premieres at 9:30 am with live chat.

Participate then or watch anytime later.

**Luther College KWLC Radio** will broadcast our Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.

**Decorah Public Access Channel** Our online worship services from the previous Sunday will be available each Friday at 6:30 p.m. on Mediacom Public Access Channels 15 and 79-2.

**Podcasts** of worship, music and sermons are now available. Click on the [buzzsprout icon](#), upper right on our website's homepage, for a shortcut to the Good Shepherd podcasts.

# INTERGENERATIONAL SUMMER FUN DAY

Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

**8:00 am -**

Join us for **fishing in the trout stream near the Fish Hatchery!** Participants under 16 years of age do not need a fishing permit. Participants 16 and over will need to purchase a trout license only - [Iowa Trout License](#). Bring your own equipment or we will have some equipment and bait available.

There will be coffee, juice and doughnuts at the hatchery at 8 am (either at the shelter or picnic tables). People are also welcome to walk up to the hatchery and explore the area if they don't want to fish.

**10:00 am -**

Join us for **bike riding!** We will gather at the fish hatchery and **ride Trout Run Trail**. The bike ride will take about 1 to 1 ½ hours and we will loop back to the hatchery. Please bring your own bikes and helmets.

**4:00 pm -**

Join us to **hike the Twin Springs Trail**. We will gather in the grassy area by the trail head. A Good Shepherd sign posted on Twin Springs Road will show participants where to meet for the hike.

**6:00 pm -**

Please join us for a **"Pack-Your-Own" picnic** at the **Will Baker Park** shelter. The shelter house is reserved for Good Shepherd and has 3 picnic tables that you are welcome to use. Also feel free to bring your own lawn chairs or blankets to spread out in the grassy area. We will have the ingredients to make s'mores to enjoy after dinner. You are welcome to bring your own s'mores ingredients.

Please contact [Bridget Parker](#) if you are interested in leading or helping lead any of the Fun Day activities or if you have any questions. The event is "come-and-go" as you please. Participate in as many activities as you would like. Participants are welcome to wear masks, but masks will not be required to participate. Because all the events will be held outdoors, risk of Covid 19 transmission is very low. Families are encouraged to keep a respectable distance from other families.

# Good Shepherd Announcements

Kathryn Thompson will be on call for Good Shepherd for pastoral care and emergencies while Pastor Amy tends to Matt and her family. Should a need arise, please call her cell phone (507) 319-4460 or her email ([thompson@luther.edu](mailto:thompson@luther.edu)) for non-emergencies.

**UPDATE ON PASTOR MATT:** Pastor Matt is now recovering at home. Prayers continue for Matt Larson as he moves through recovery. Prayers continue for Pastor Amy, their children Nate and Abby, and all those caring for them. The family has requested no visitors at this time. Get updates on Pastor Matt through his CaringBridge site <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/mattlarson3>



Congratulations to **Noah Tapscott** on his graduation from Decorah High School. He is the son of Matt and Denise Tapscott.

**The Good Shepherd Anti-Racism Task Force** has been meeting monthly since November 2020. In preparation for the Church Council's call to draft a congregational Racial Justice Statement, our group has focused on self-education through webinars and readings. We are currently reading and discussing the book *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla Saad in small groups. We plan to share a draft Racial Justice Statement with the congregation over the summer. As a group, we have found the process of exploring race and racism in our faith, our country's history, and our own lives to be challenging and deeply meaningful. We look forward to engaging with the congregation in upcoming conversations.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANCE NEEDED:** Please consider signing up for assisting in worship during the summer months. There are still many slots in all categories needing to be filled. Visit the [SUG Link](#) or connect through our website under the signup tab or call the church office for assistance in getting on the schedule.

**NEW TREES PLANTED AT GOOD SHEPHERD:** The Facilities and Grounds Committee with the Landscape Subcommittee have been meeting with Drew Stevenson to select new trees to replace the Sugar Maples and Linden that were recently removed from the Good Shepherd property. Four new trees have now been planted by Drew Stevenson's crew. From left to right looking out toward the backyard of the church yard are: One - Amur Maple, One - Exclamation Sycamore, Two - Fall Fiesta Sugar Maples. The trees were paid for by John Bale Memorial funds. Photos of the trees can be found on Flickr and the Good Shepherd Instagram and Facebook pages.

**JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JUNE 17**

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday-Wednesday, July 12-14, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Children will rotate between music, crafts, games and storytelling activity stations. A light, brown bag dinner will be provided.

Covid safety protocols will be in place. We will be outside as much as possible.

All youth and children ages 5 and older are welcome – please join us! The cost for VBS is \$10 per child or \$15 per family.

To register, call the church office at (563) 382-3963 or contact [Kathryn](#).

**The Northeast Iowa Synodical Women's Organization 33rd annual gathering will be held Saturday, June 19** at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly from 8:30 to 12:30. Interim Bishop Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl will lead the Bible Study and Pastor Kyle Barton from LSI will preach at our worship service. Registration forms are available from Bev Sheridan.

**Nordic Fest is fast approaching (July 22-24).** All Good Shepherd members will be needed as we prepare for our Krumkake demonstration and sale. Planned by WELCA, the Krumkake demonstration and sale is an **all-congregation event**. Although this project is a fundraising event we've found that it is a wonderful fellowship opportunity for all (families, men, women and children) working together baking, demonstrating and selling those little cone-shaped cookies. All ages are invited to participate and no experience is necessary. Sign-up sheets will be coming out soon. Volunteers are also needed to work the booth and for demonstration purposes. Look for further details in the weekly news.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated to our LWR kits: we completed 54 personal care kits, 35 baby care kits and 9 school kits that were sent to the LWR warehouse in St Paul. We will again collect items in the fall for the school kits (as supplies are often on sale then) . If you are a garage saler or Depot shopper, please keep our baby care kits in mind as we will assemble them in the fall also.

**Gather circle meeting** will be held on Tuesday June 22 at the church. Wanda Rueber will be our bible study leader. Welcome to the **"Just love part 2: Just L.I.F.E. (Liberation Is For Everyone!)"** Gather Bible study by Angela Khabeb. This three-session summer Bible study series is inspired, in part, by Jesus' proclamations: "If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36) and "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

Session 1, "Just Wisdom," delves into how God can open our hearts and minds to a spiritual understanding that is not bound by our human comprehension. Just Wisdom comes to us through reverence for our awesome God. Our key verse for the first session informs us: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10). Together we will consider our faithful response to Wisdom's invitation. (from Gather website)

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

June 19: NEIA Synodical Women's Organization 33<sup>rd</sup> annual gathering  
St Paul's Lutheran Church, Waverly 8:30 am -12:30pm

June 22: Gather Circle Meeting - 7pm at church

July 22-24: Nordic Fest activities

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful confirmation and baptism. Your support through my journey of faith means a lot. I hope to visit soon!

Love,  
Maggie

## Notes of Confirmation Thanks

Dear Good Shepard,

Thank you for being with me during my confirmation journey! Also, thank you so much for the prayer shawl and framed bible verse. Take care! -Brenna Parker

# June Prayer

Creator God, thank you for the gift of family, biological family and chosen family alike. Thank you for the blessing of being with others of all ages--toddlers and elders, youth and adults. Thank you for making each time of life a sacred time, for the challenges and joys each brings, for the ways your love blesses each time of life. Help us to behold your face in each generation. Bless the Good Shepherd Intergenerational Fun Day, all family gatherings, and all the ways we connect across generations this summer. Help us become aware of those left out and find ways to invite them so they, too, know the care and joy of family.

Redeeming God, thank you for your work throughout the world in this pandemic. Thank you for all who continue to act with courageous selflessness: caregivers and scientists, health care providers and essential workers, volunteers and employers. Thank you for helping us be compassionate toward those whose circumstances, understandings, and choices differ from our own. Help us remember that you are at work in all things, that the power of love is the strongest force at work in our world, and that you are the source of our hope and peace.

Spirit of Life, thank you for renewing our spirits through the gifts of summer. Thank you for opening our hearts to receive the blessings of each day. Thank you for giving us space to gather with loved ones, enjoy the bounty and opportunities of summer, and care for each other. Thank you for giving us time for life-giving leisure, especially outdoors in your glorious creation. Help us honor and care for the earth, our home and the source of all the physical things we need to sustain life. All these things we pray in the name of the Source and Giver of Life. Amen.

Offered by Jane Jakoubek

# June Scriptures

<b>June 6, 2021</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pent.	<b>Jesus and Beelzebul / True Kindred of Jesus</b>	1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) Psalm 138	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
<b>June 13, 2021</b> 3 <sup>th</sup> Pent.	<b>Parables – Growing Seed / Mustard Seed</b>	1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 Psalm 20	Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17	Mark 4:26-34
<b>June 20, 2021</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Pent.	<b>Jesus Stills a Storm</b>	1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 Psalm 9:9-20 <i>or</i> 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16 Psalm 133	Job 38:1-11  Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41
<b>June 27, 2021</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Pent.	<b>A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed</b>	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 Psalm 130	Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 <i>or</i> Lamentations 3:22-33 Psalm 30	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-43

# Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund

## *Scholarship and Grant Awards 2021-2022 Academic Year*



Hallie Johnson

Good Shepherd members Hallie Johnson and Ava Holland have been awarded \$1000 EPIC (Educational Partners in Covenant) scholarships; both will continue to attend Luther College. Hallie is a junior majoring in English and Nordic Studies. Ava is a sophomore and majoring in Global Health. Luther matches EPIC scholarships 100% so each student will receive a \$2000 award.



Ava Holland



Angie Sadler

Angie Sadler is the recipient of a \$500 grant for her diaconal studies program from the Lutheran Diaconal Association. Angie will be doing a year-long internship at Aase Haugen Senior Services as a part of her program, beginning in July.

## **2021 Mission Endowment Fund Gifts and Memorials**

### **MEMORIALS**

Donna Bahr, in memory of Don Berg  
Jerry & Ruth Bruce, in memory of Rylea Bruce  
Jerry & Ruth Bruce, in memory of Nathan Eckheart  
Judd & April Larson, in memory of Ben Larson  
Marv & Mickey Slind, in memory of Don Berg

### **GIFTS**

Anonymous  
Jim & Kathy Buzza  
Bill & Kathi Wild

***The Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund was established in 1994 and has the sole purpose of providing scholarships and grants to Good Shepherd members attending ELCA colleges or universities and Valparaiso University. Awards from the fund are bestowed annually. To make a contribution to the Mission Endowment Fund for EPIC scholarships, write a check to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with MEF in the memo line, or use Tithe.ly Online Giving and enter MEF in the note/memo box.***

SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Jun 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Pickup Handbells</li> <li>9:30am In-person Worship</li> <li>9:30am Online Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office closed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>7:30pm Antiracism Task Force</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycle</li> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>1:30pm Property and Management Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>3:30pm Recording in sanctuary</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Pickup Band</li> <li>9:30am In-person Worship</li> <li>9:30am Online Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>4:45pm Education Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>10:30am Aase Haugen Communion</li> <li>1pm Wellington Place Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jenny out</li> <li>7pm Council Agenda Planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jenny out</li> <li>3:30pm Recording in sanctuary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Synod Assembly</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedication of Kittelson benches</li> <li>9am Pickup choir</li> <li>9:30am In-person Worship</li> <li>9:30am Online Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>7:30pm Cong. Council Mtg.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prayer Shawl Ministry</li> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newsletter Deadline</li> <li>Recycle</li> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>3:30pm Recording in sanctuary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1pm Don Berg memorial outdoors</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baptism of Greta Thompson</li> <li>9am Pickup Handbells</li> <li>9:30am In-person Worship</li> <li>9:30am Online Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>7pm WELCA Circle Mtg. Gather Study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>3:30pm Recording in sanctuary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intergenerational Fun Day</li> <li>2pm Pedlar Recital</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Pickup Band</li> <li>9:30am In-person Worship</li> <li>9:30am Online Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycle</li> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>1:30pm Property and Management Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Office Hours</li> <li>3:30pm Recording in sanctuary</li> </ul>	

**Note:**

The minutes of the May 25 Council meeting are not available to be published at this time. Please call the office after June 6th to request a copy to be sent to you.

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

JUNE 2021

# *The Shepherd's Voice*

### **Pastor Amy Larson**

Music Director: Brooke Joyce  
Vicar of Children Youth & Family Ministry: Kathryn Thompson  
Administrative Assistant: Jenny Werner  
Email: [office@goodshepherddecorah.org](mailto:office@goodshepherddecorah.org)  
Website: <http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org>  
Church Office: 563-382-3963  
Office Hours: M-F; 8:30 a.m.-12:30pm

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GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

