



The Shepherd's Voice

August 2021

Beloved of God,

The need is great. There's a large crowd, thousands of people coming toward Jesus. They are poor and hungry and hurting. Jesus wants to feed them. He poses the question to the disciples: How are we going to get these folks fed? Jesus' disciple Andrew is aware of some resources, five loaves and two fish. "But," he asks, "what are they among so many people?" In the face of great need, what Andrew has to offer seems so lacking. (See the full story in John 6:1-15).

It's so easy to feel the same way about what we have to give - thinking it's just not enough, just not worthy of the great need. There are so many voices in our culture telling us we have to do more and be more - more, more, more. There are so many voices telling us we will never have enough to give, never be able to make a difference in the face of so much need. With all these loud voices clamoring we diminish and deny the gifts God has given us. We get paralyzed by all the hurting, hungry people in our own lives, in the world.

Yet Jesus is not deterred. Jesus persists in using what we have to feed and heal this hurting world. Just as he did that day on the Sea of Galilee, Jesus takes what we have, gives thanks and distributes it. He uses what we offer to share nourishment and abundance widely, extravagantly for everyone.

A wonderful example of this is the Krumkake ministry of this congregation. People give what they can. Some bring eggs, some butter or milk or sugar, some give money for ingredients. The body of Christ here receives this all with gratitude. Then everything gets combined into batter that fills tub after tub. And then more people show up to bake. Some give two hours of time. Others return day after day. Then the Krumkake is sold at Nordic Fest, bringing joy and connection. And then all the proceeds from the sales are given away. Well over \$2000 each year is given to help others. This is such a vivid example of how Jesus takes our gifts and multiplies them.

This is what Jesus does. This is what we can trust that Jesus will do that with the big challenges we face, including antiracism work. Addressing and healing the racism that plagues us can feel so overwhelming. We can get paralyzed by the need and our limitations. Yet God has given this congregation much more than five loaves and two fish for the essential work of antiracism. We can share our willingness to listen, our experiences, our hopes, our prayers, our advocacy, our longing for healing, our human compassion. We can trust that Jesus will receive our meager, broken offerings and will work in and through them to heal and feed. We can show up for the work trusting Jesus to use what we have.

This summer our Antiracism Task Force is working to create ways for this congregation to offer our gifts as we do the work of adopting a racial justice statement and committing to action together. We will have two gatherings this September and further opportunities for conversation about antiracism in different aspects of our ministry. See more information in this newsletter on page two of this newsletter and watch for more details to come. I hope you will join me in showing up for this work. God has given us all that we need. God will use what we have to feed and heal us and our world.

Peace to you, Pastor Amy

"Save the Date"

RALLY SUNDAY - September 12th

Choir, Band and Handbells will offer special music in worship.

Youth Forum and Sunday School will start up again with fun activities.

The younger kids will be outdoors.

Save the Dates!

Two Upcoming Events Hosted by Good Shepherd's Anti-Racism Task Force

Sept. 19, immediately following worship

Congregational Conversation about Racial Justice

Join us for a congregational conversation about race, racial justice, and the church. We'll hear personal stories from several members and begin talking about the role that race plays in our congregational life.

Sept. 26, Adult Forum

Introduction of Good Shepherd's Racial Justice Statement

A draft of the Good Shepherd Racial Justice Statement will be shared and discussed. We look forward to sharing this document with the congregation and hearing your thoughts.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY CONNECTIONS

Online Worship click [here](#).

Online worship premieres at 9:30 am 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.

Listen to Good Shepherd Sermons online through the [GS website](#), watch just the sermon on YouTube or contact the church office if you would like a copy mailed to you.

Jazz in Phelps Park

with the Jon Ailabouni Quintet

Friday, August 27 - 7 pm



The Jon Ailabouni Quintet will offer an evening length concert from the Phelps Park Gazebo on Friday, August 27 at 7:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Good Shepherd members will provide hospitality and water for concert-goers. In the event of rain, the performance will move to the Good Shepherd sanctuary.

With the rise nationally in delta variant cases, *Good Shepherd will be offering this concert in place of the annual Friends and Neighbors Picnic.* The vision for this concert is to provide an opportunity for us to gather safely, both as a congregation and with our wider community in the spirit of joy, hospitality, and connection.

In this year that has brought unprecedented challenges in the form of fragmentation, loneliness, fear, and illness the need for connection, hope, healing and joy is profound! This concert aims to address that need as we gather safely, extend a broad and inclusive welcome to attend, and walk in support of justice for those who are marginalized in our society.

The performance will also serve as a fundraiser - through free will donation - for the Decorah-based charity Path To Citizenship, which supports the work of immigration lawyers to help families navigate the United States citizenship process. As a congregation, we strive to walk with those who are most in need in our community.

Musically, the program will feature debut performances of Jon Ailabouni's original music composed during the pandemic while reflecting on the themes of loneliness, resilience, and hope.

Some of the best musicians in Iowa will be featured for this performance: Simon Harding (tenor sax), Mike Conrad (piano), Emiliano Lasansky (bass), and Tim Crumley (drums).

We look forward to gathering with you for this event!

August Scriptures

10 th Pent. August 1, 2021	Jesus the Bread of Life	2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a	Psalm 78:23-29	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35
11 th Pent. August 8, 2021	Jesus the Bread of Life	2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33	Psalm 34:1-8	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51
12 th Pent. August 15, 2021	Jesus the Bread of Life	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14	Psalm 34:9-14	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58
13 th Pent. August 22, 2021	Jesus the Bread of Life	1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43	Psalm 34:15-22	Ephesians 6:10-20	John 6:56-69
14 th Pent. August 29, 2021	The Tradition of the Elders	Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Psalm 15	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

August Prayer

God, you reveal yourself to us in creation; in each leaf and each animal; in each unique ecosystem; in each star and each grain of sand. God of creation, we rejoice and give thanks.

God, you reveal yourself to us in Jesus; born, crucified, and risen; revealed to us now in the Body of Christ--all who work together to feed, heal, and share the Good News with those you give us to love and serve, each one your beloved child. God of welcome and freedom, we rejoice and give thanks.

God, you revealed yourself at Pentecost and you reveal yourself now in our lives, inviting us and equipping us with all we need to participate in the Body of Christ. God of Spirit--life, light, and love--we rejoice and give thanks. Amen.

Offered by Jane Jakoubek

August 2021 Ministry Team

DATE	LITURGY	USHER * Head Usher	FELLOWSHIP
Sunday, August 1	Asst. Minister: Jane Jakoubek Reader: Harland Nelson Cantor: Reg Laursen	1.* Karl Jacobsen 2. Tom Buresh	1. Sharon Drew 2. Gary & Catherine Hildebrandt 3. Dale & Wanda Rueber
Sunday, August 8	Asst. Minister: Harland Nelson Reader: Cindy Bellrichard Cantor: Andrew Last	1.* Brian Caton 2.	1. Ingrid Callaghan 2. Kathy & Jim Buzza 3. Kathi Wild
Sunday, August 15	Asst. Minister: Pam Torresdal Reader: Brian Caton Cantor:	1.* 2.	1. Bev Nelson 2. 3.
Sunday, August 22	Asst. Minister: Reader: Jane Borelli Cantor: Jonathon Struve	1.* 2.	1. Ingrid Callaghan 2. Harriet Hayes 3.
Sunday, August 29	Asst. Minister: Reader: Harland Nelson Cantor:	1. Krista Holland 2. Steve Holland	1. 2. 3.
Sunday, September 5	Asst. Minister: Reader: Cantor:	1.* 2. Christy Tomlinson	1. 2. 3.

As you can see we have a need to fill many spots for worship and fellowship assistance in August

As a reminder, all members are asked to serve four times a year in any way they are called.

Please signup on [SignupGenius](#), at church on the board outside of Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. If you are new to Good Shepherd, please call Jenny at the office for counsel on ways you may serve.

Good Shepherd Announcements

OUTREACH AND HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

As we've welcomed each other back at worship inside our sanctuary, we hope you've also noticed some new faces. Some may be vacation visitors but others are guests who may be looking for a church home. Pastor Amy and ushers try to welcome everyone. However, if you see someone or a family looking around, please introduce yourself, welcome them to worship and invite them to fellowship and to worship with us again. After their church visit, we would like to drop off a little treat bag at their home with some information about Good Shepherd. We are looking for volunteers willing to help with this so that guests get to know more people from the congregation. With a list of volunteers she could possibly choose someone from the same neighborhood or workplace as a first follow-up connection to Good Shepherd. This involves just a few minutes of your time to drop off the pre-packaged treat bag and offer a simple welcome. If you can help, let Pr. Amy know. You can email her at pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org.

SCAM EMAILS: There has been a new rash of fraudulent emails sent to members of the congregation this past week. This time the email address is very similar to Pastor Amy's new email and even contained a picture of her. Do not open or respond to any email from pastor or the church that does not have the goodshepherddecorah.org address. Always report these emails as spam and delete them.

As with all emails, be very wary about any email with a title or content that implies *a sense of urgency or asks for a favor or monetary request*. Pastor would never do that.

Jaci Wilkinson and Ian Carstens welcomed their first child ***Dorothy Carstens Wilkinson*** into the world May 21st, 2021 at their home in Bloomington, IN. Dorothy will be baptized at Good Shepherd directly after the August 22nd service; the Good Shepherd community is invited to join in for this joyous event!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

This ad has been posted on Decorahnow.com and **will be in the newspaper this week:** *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, a vibrant, growing congregation in Decorah, has an immediate opening for a Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry. This position is 10 hours/week with Sunday morning availability required and flexibility at other times. Salary is negotiable based on experience. This position reports directly to the pastor of the congregation. A background check will be required. Please contact office@goodshepherddecorah.org for inquiry of the job description and to apply.*

We have had good interest in this position and Pr. Amy is confident we'll have a good servant leader in this role soon.

GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Memorials were given in memory of Don Berg by Marjorie Wharton, Leland and Donna Volden & Rhonda Storlie

FRIENDS OF RECOVERY would like to invite adult members to join them Mondays and Fridays each week (1- 4pm) for crafting and conversation. They meet in the GS Library. Also, if anyone has old calendars, postcards or greeting cards they would like to contribute to the group, please leave them in the church library.

You are never alone--Good Shepherd is with you" came true to Ed, Rebecca, Russ and me a couple of Sundays ago. God, assisted by Brent Parker, many EMTs, nurses and doctors, brought me to St. Mary's ICU relative intact. Something they described as a frayed "drop chord" was replaced by a peanut-sized pace maker, and I was home by Tuesday supper time. Since then, the care, support and love shown by the many gifts, calls, expressions of concern, notes and thoughts and prayers has been overwhelming. Pastor Amy and Good Shepherd do not leave its members alone and we feel privileged to be part of it.

Joyce & Ed Epperly



THANK YOU to all who helped to make our Krumkake Demo and Sale a success. We all worked many hours - buying ingredients, labeling baggies and making signs, retrieving popcorn tins from the annex, mixing batter, baking and packaging krumkake, transporting everything downtown, demonstrating and selling at the Fest and then cleaning up and bringing everything back to the church - **wow!** It certainly takes a village (Good Shepherd) to have an amazing Krumkake booth.

We applied for a Thrivent Action card and a Walmart grant and along with monetary donations were able to purchase paper products and baggies, water for our volunteers, extra ingredients and cookie scoops/ kitchen supplies.

We took in over \$3400 from our sales. 10% of this will be given back to the Nordic Fest Board.

Thank you again for all your help.

This fall we will be collecting items for **LWR school kits**. School supplies are on sale right now so it is a good time to start stocking up. Items needed are 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, 30 cm ruler, pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, #2 unsharpened pencils, black or blue ballpoint pens, box of 16 or 24 count crayons, 2 ½ " eraser. A Thrivent Action card was used to purchase drawstring backpacks. A donation box will be set up in the church entry.

LWR ingathering will be held Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 7:30 am to 10:30 am at Olson's Explosives 1837 Trout Run Rd, Decorah, IA 52101

Gather Bible Study
Tuesday August 24 at the church at 6 pm

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 2 explores "Just Truth." We will travel with Paul on the road to Damascus and experience his life-changing transformation. We will also take a closer look at how our Savior chose to share difficult truths with God's people, and we will witness his boldness in speaking truth to power.

Session 3, "Just Hope," looks at our role as the body of Christ. How are we called to be co-creators with God in transforming our communities into a more just society? Filled with resurrection hope, we'll look to the prophet Ezekiel and his miraculous encounter in the valley of dry bones, and we'll share how God's amazing activity continues to unfold in our own lives. (from *Gather* magazine)

All are welcome.



**A HUGE THANKS
to all the hands
making Nordic
Fest Krumkake
another success
this year!**



Good Shepherd Stewardship in Action Growing for Decorah Food Pantry

For several years now, Good Shepherd volunteers have faithfully tended and nurtured a small produce garden on Church property that ends up benefiting the Decorah Food Pantry in an interesting way.

After all the seeding, sprouting, planting, weeding, and harvesting are finished, the delicious vegetables make their way into the Good Shepherd fellowship hall, where they are available for anyone to take home in exchange for a free-will donation. Beautiful and healthy cucumbers, zucchini, peppers and much more regularly grace the veggie table throughout the growing season.

The money collected goes to the Decorah Food Pantry in support of its mission of providing food and other basic necessities to our neighbors who live with food insecurity. So all year long (not just in the growing season) area residents can go to the food pantry and leave with a shopping cart full of the food items that work best for their households.

The Food Pantry is grateful for this unique partnership. Good Shepherd member and Food Pantry Vice-President Steven Zittergruen enthused: “I love taking home tasty looking vegetables after fellowship hour to complete my Sunday lunch plans or to make some salads for the week ahead. But what makes it better is knowing that my donation goes to support the Pantry, where we are good at stretching every dollar to positively impact our clients as much as possible. What’s more delicious than fresh veggies that are one link in a chain towards ending hunger in northeast Iowa? The Food Pantry is so thankful to the garden volunteers at Good Shepherd who make this possible!”

Second Quarter Treasurer’s Report

Total income at the end of the second quarter was \$151,638.81, and our total expenses were \$162,927.15. That deficit of \$11,288.34 is not as concerning as it might seem because we still have \$36,525.49 I have not yet recorded in the General Fund (this is a combination of surplus from 2020 and 2021 contributions made in 2020). Our total income for this year is approximately \$4,000 more than our income at the point last year, but expenses are up. We have spent almost \$12,000.00 more this year than at this point last year. Our statements of intent for 2021 projected a total of \$293,404.00; were we exactly on track our offering income at the end of June would be \$146,702.00. In fact, our offerings have totaled \$139,917, which means we are slightly behind our projected giving.

Submitted by John Moeller



Dear Good Shepherd,

How grateful is my heart for love and support from this congregation! As I continue to be formed and transformed for ministry in the church, I give thanks for the commitment of the Good Shepherd community to accompany me on the journey.

I particularly give thanks for my time in ministry with Children, Youth, and Family at Good Shepherd. It has been a great joy to serve in this capacity over the past few years. It has been an incredible privilege to be part of the faith journeys of our children, youth, and families; witnessing growth, both personally and spiritually, is a gift.

I am grateful that Good Shepherd continues to support my family and me on the journey through seminary education and the path toward ordination. I give thanks for the continued monetary support that Good Shepherd provides, which makes a key difference in the life of my family. I give thanks for support through prayer and conversation.

To close, I'd like to offer a classic repeat-after-me prayer for us to say together for the life and ministry of this place:

Dear God, thank you for the community of this church, which builds one another up. Help us remember to be your love and to give your love for the whole, wide, world. Amen.

Thanks be to God!
Peace, Kathryn Thompson

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 2021



Jazz in Phelps Park

with the Jon Ailabouni Quintet

Friday, August 27

7 pm

Some of the best musicians in Iowa will be featured for this performance

**Simon Harding (tenor sax), Mike Conrad (piano)
Emiliano Lasansky (bass) and Tim Crumley (drums)**

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND ALL ARE WELCOME!

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

offers this concert in place of the annual Friends and Neighbors Picnic

The vision for this concert is to provide an opportunity to gather safely with our wider community in the spirit of joy, hospitality, and connection

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will provide hospitality and water at the concert

A free will donation will be collected for

Path To Citizenship (a Decorah-based charity)

In the event of rain, the performance will move to the Good Shepherd sanctuary.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am - In-person 9:30am - Online 11am - GS Summer Get	2 9am - Kinderhaus 9:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ 7pm - GS Summer Get	3 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 4:30pm - Stewardship	4 Pastor Amy out 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus	5 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 1:30pm - Property and	6 Jenny out 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 1pm - Friends of 1pm - Town & Country 3:30pm - Recording in	7 8am - Town & Country
8 Jazz Worship @ Good 9:30am - In-person 9:30am - Online 11am - GS Summer Get	9 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 1pm - Friends of 6:30pm - AL/ANON @	10 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 4:45pm - Education	11 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 10:30am - Aase Haugen 1pm - Wellington Place	12 Recycle 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 7pm - Council Agenda	13 8:30am - Office Hours 9am - Kinderhaus 1pm - Friends of 3:30pm - Recording in	14
15 9:30am - In-person 9:30am - Online	16 8:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ 7:30pm - Antiracism	17 8:30am - Office Hours 7:30pm - Cong. Council	18 Pastor Amy out Prayer Shawl Ministry 8:30am - Office Hours	19 Newsletter Deadline 8:30am - Office Hours	20 8:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 3:30pm - Recording in	21
22 9:30am - In-person 9:30am - Online 10:30am - Baptism of	23 8:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 6:30pm - AL/ANON @	24 8:30am - Office Hours 7pm - WELCA Circle	25 8:30am - Office Hours 11am - Eastern Star 7:30pm - ELCA Youth	26 Recycle 8:30am - Office Hours	27 8:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 3:30pm - Recording in 7pm - Jazz in Phelps	28 1pm - Memorial for
29 9:30am - In-person 9:30am - Online	30 8:30am - Office Hours 1pm - Friends of 6:30pm - AL/ANON @	31 8:30am - Office Hours	1	2	3	4

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

AUGUST 2021

The Shepherd's Voice

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Pastor Amy Larson

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

GOOD SHEPHERD IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

