



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
June - July 2022

Pastor Amy Zalk Larson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Director of Children Youth & Family Ministry: Kelli Gapinski

Ministry Support Coordinator : Erica Yaneff

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PRAYER FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATION

Offered by Jane Jakoubek

Gracious God, thank you for all that summer brings, things we have looked forward to for so long. Bless those marking graduations and other transitions. Bless those beginning new marriages, jobs, or life in a new home and community. Bless us all as we seek rest and refreshment. Help us to care for all those around us, knowing that we need each other if we are to live as Jesus teaches.

God of Life, you created all that exists and have come down to dwell among us. Thank you for the ways you are making things new now, amidst all the suffering and brokenness in our own lives and all that we see around us. Help us to be part of your work of transforming, redeeming, renewing, and lifting up all that brings life, wholeness, and freedom to all your beloved people. Help us to trust your promise to be with us always.

God of Glory, you radiate love upon all you created. You are the One who never forsakes us. Lead us and guide us now, through all that these coming months will bring. Hold us in the peace that passes all understanding, now and always. Amen.

TRAVELING WITH THE SPIRIT A SUMMER TRAVELOGUE THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

When summer comes, we usually think about vacation and travel. Summer is a perfect time to explore the book of Acts because it is all about travel. "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The book of Acts begins with Jesus' Ascension and the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. The Spirit is the one in charge throughout the book, and the church is always struggling to catch up to what the Spirit is doing. In fact, we could call Acts the Fifth Gospel, the Gospel of the Holy Spirit! As the church travels, it learns and grows and changes in response to the Spirit's leading.

Someone has said that witnessing to God's love is not something we go
and do, but something we do as we go. Where will you travel
this summer? Who will you meet?

One thing for sure, when we travel with the Spirit, expect to be
surprised and changed.

SCRIPTURE DURING THE TRAVEL SUMMER SERIES

| | Psalm | St. Paul's Travel Tip | Gospel |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| June 5 Pentecost Sunday | Psalm 122 | 1 Corinthians 13:1-12 | Acts 2:1-21 "Travel As A Spiritual Act" |
| June 12 | Psalm 125 | Romans 12:8-19 | Acts 2:37-47 "Traveling with Generosity" |
| June 19 | Psalm 128 | Philippians 2:1-13 | Acts 3:1-10 "Traveling with Healing" |
| June 26 | Psalm 126 | Galatians 3:23-29 | Acts 8:26-40 "Oh, the People You'll Meet!" |
| July 3 | Psalm 123 | Galatians 1:11-24 | Acts 9:1-22 "Changing Directions" |
| July 10 | Psalm 130 | 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 20-31 | Acts 9:36-43 "Traveling to Heal" |
| July 17 | Psalm 127 | 2 Timothy 1:1-12 | Acts 10:1-48 "To Boldly Go Where No One Has Gone Before" |
| July 24 | Psalm 131 | Ephesians 3:1-12 | Acts 13:1-12 "God's Mission for the Life of the World" |
| July 31 | Psalm 132 | 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 | Acts 15:1-35 "Being Open to Change" |

Music Schedule, Summer 2022

| June | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 6/5 | Pick-up Handbells |
| 6/12 | Pick-up Choir |
| 6/19 | Pick-up Band |
| 6/26 | Solo/Chamber* |
| July | |
| 7/3 | Solo/Chamber* |
| 7/10 | Solo/Chamber* |
| 7/17 | Pick-up Handbells |
| 7/24 | Pick-up Choir |
| 7/31 | Pick-up Band |
| August | |
| 8/7 | VBS Choir |
| 8/14 | Pick-up Handbells |
| 8/21 | Pick-up Choir |
| 8/28 | Solo/Chamber* |

If you are interested in offering special music (a solo, duet, or something else?), please contact Good Shepherd Music Director Brooke Joyce, wbjoyce3@gmail.com

* Brooke is not available to accompany on these Sundays

"Pick-up" music Sundays: come at 8:45 on Sunday morning to learn a short piece of music. No need to RSVP, just show up. For band Sundays, all string, wind and brass instrumentalists welcome!

GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS AWARDED

The Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund Committee has announced recipients of MEF Scholarships and Grants for the 2022-2023 academic year.



HALLIE JOHNSON-Luther College

Hallie will be a senior majoring in Nordic Studies and English. She will be spending the 2022-2023 academic year studying at the University of Agder in Kristiansand, Norway. This is the fourth year Hallie has received financial assistance from the Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund.

AVA HOLLAND-Luther College

Ava will be a junior at Luther, majoring in Health Promotions, with a minor in Leadership. She is receiving a Mission Endowment Fund scholarship to assist with her studies for the third consecutive year.

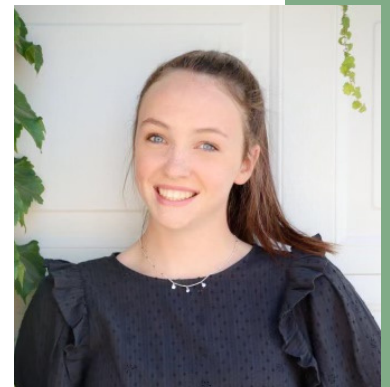


NATHAN LARSON-Wartburg College

Nate will be a freshman at Wartburg during the 2022-2023 academic year. He has not identified a major, but has a long-term goal of attending Wartburg Seminary. This is his first Mission Endowment Fund financial award.

MARA HOLLAND-Gustavus Adolphus College

Mara is attending Gustavus as a freshman in the 2022-2023 academic year; she is as yet undecided about a major study. This is her first Mission Endowment Fund scholarship.



The Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund has the purpose of providing financial support for members of the congregation attending ELCA colleges or universities. Awards from the Fund are bestowed annually.

YOUTH & FAMILY EVENTS

WANDERING SHEEP: Families when you are vacationing this summer, whether that be local at Dunning Springs or the cities, or elsewhere, take a family selfie with your sheep! Good Shepherd would love to see where all of our wandering sheep travel throughout the summer! Please email Kelli or the Church Office your pictures, and they will be printed out for display! (Kelli is setting up a display board soon)

OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT! Sunday, June 26th, 8pm. All families are invited to an outdoor movie night here at Good Shepherd! If it rains, the movie will be played in the fellowship hall. Bring a lawn chair and a snack to share. Movie popcorn will be provided. The family friendly movie will be announced later in an email.

FAMILY BIKE RIDE! Sunday, July 17th, 2pm. Bikers of all levels are invited to join for a Good Shepherd Community Bike Ride! We will begin at the trail entrance by the Whippy Dip and Dug Road. Two routes will be offered with snacks and fellowship at Pulpit campground playground.

MINNEAPOLIS YOUTH TRIP: Six students from Good Shepherd along with Kelli and Pastor Amy will be traveling with Decorah youth to Minneapolis from July 24th-July 27th. Please pray for safe travels, open minds and hearts, and for the community we will be serving and learning from.

SAVE THE DATES!

July 31st-Youth lead worship service. Students from the youth trip will lead worship and reflect on their experiences from their trip

August 2-4th- Vacation Bible School! 5:00pm-7:30pm. Dinner will be provided. \$10 per child. All students entering K-6th grade are invited to join Compassion Camp! Please register your child by July 15th. Registration found in your email or contact Kelli.

August 21st- Blessing of the Backpacks! All students and educators are invited for the blessing of the backpacks to kick off another academic year.

September 11th-Rally Sunday! Fun games for all children celebrating another year of children and youth ministry!



MAKING A SPLASH: YOUTH MINISTRY IN CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

How are we living out our faith in our personal lives, in our congregational life, and in the world as a whole? At Good Shepherd we're focusing on the promises of baptism, making a SPLASH:

- Serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- Live among God's faithful people
- Alleluia!
- Strive for justice and peace in all the earth
- Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper

Your Stewardship Committee spotlights Youth and Family Ministry this month. Good Shepherd has been blessed over the years with wonderful young people who have grown in faith in this congregation and gone on to serve others in remarkable ways. Our intergenerational engagement goes beyond traditional youth programming, as the youth themselves have led the congregation in social justice initiatives, community-building efforts, stewardship, and Christian discernment. It is fair to say that our church would not be as vibrant and growing as we are without the engagement of our members across generations and the leadership of our youth.

Just look at what's going on this summer! Recently, young members have led all of us in Faith Five conversations, helping us to start to reestablish our in-person Fellowship around faith. In June and July youth leaders are spearheading a congregational bike ride and movie nights, not to mention an online "selfie" campaign -- all building community around church. There will be a buzz of activity in the church in August with this year's vacation bible school on the theme of Compassion, which couldn't be more timely for congregational and daily life.

And this year youth will make a service and learning trip to the Twin Cities! This trip reminds us of the history of hands-on service projects and efforts at Good Shepherd, and stands as an inspiration to further extend our mission and faith-building outside the congregation and the church campus.

We are blessed as well to have strong ties to EWALU, through campers and counselors. With church support, EWALU remains a valuable asset to youth ministry in our region.

We all give thanks and shout alleluia to our Education Committee and to our Children, Youth and Families Minister, Kelli Gapinski, for good leadership and for recognizing that youth ministry is a ministry of the whole church. And thanks to younger and older people in our congregation for recognizing that we can all be gifts to each other in our faith journey together. Alleluia!

PROPOSAL PROCESS REPORT: MISSION GREEN CARBON NEUTRAL INITIATIVE

It has been the goal of Mission Green to be as transparent as possible with all information regarding the proposed initiative for Good Shepherd Church. We are also trying to keep costs low to Good Shepherd by securing low cost loans, outside donations and applying for grants.

As we move closer to the June 5th Congregational vote of the Mission Green Initiative we want to share some additional information about our process involving church leaders and committee members.

December 2021:

Mission Green first approached Pr. Amy with the proposal. You may read her opinions about the Initiative in her May monthly newsletter.

February 2022:

Mission Green presented the early proposal to the Facilities and Grounds committee. This committee has now unanimously endorsed the Mission Green Initiative.

March 2022:

- Mission Green presented their proposal to the Social Justice Committee. This committee has now unanimously endorsed the Mission Green Initiative.
- Mission Green presented the Carbon Neutral Initiative to the Council Executive Board and Pastor Amy.
- Mission Green sent 40 letters to congregation members introducing the Carbon Neutral Initiative.

April 2022:

Mission Green presented the Initiative to the Church Council. The Council voted to allow the Congregation to vote on the Initiative on June 5.

May 2022:

- Mission Green received unanimous endorsements from the Landscape Committee members.
- Mission Green presented two informational meetings at Fellowship Hour with guest speakers.
- Mission Green receives low interest loan (2%) from the Iowa Energy Development Authority. Available only if this project moves forward. This keeps costs to Good Shepherd low.

June 5 - Congregational Vote: In person and over Zoom

If project is accepted:

June 27 - Construction commences

December 31 - completion (hopefully much earlier)

Mission Green continues to provide private presentations for anyone wanting more information. Additionally, two YouTube videos were created to provide additional information and context. These videos are available on the church's YouTube channel as well as the www.missiongreen.llc website. It has been the goal of Mission Green to be as transparent as possible. We are very pleased with the support we have already received from many congregation members.

The Mission Green proposal is time-sensitive. We hope every member will take the opportunity to vote on June 5. The quorum needed is significant. We'll meet in the Sanctuary and also provide a Zoom Room (similar to what was done for the sound system/piano rebuild vote). We hope every member will make their voice heard.

Jim and Liz Fritz

Mission Green, LLC

Thank you to everyone who helped with the LWR kits (contributing items, dollars and Thrivent Action cards; assembling, packing boxes and cars, and transporting to the truck). We assembled 63 baby care kits and 47 personal care kits. Take a look at the GS website for pictures of the event.

Gather Bible Study

For summer 2022, participants will enjoy a three-session Bible study that uses the concept of quilting to explore rest, renewal and Christian community. We'll discuss Old and New Testament readings as we consider the patterns we follow and how the pieces of our lives and communities are bound together in Christ. While no actual sewing experience is required to complete the study, participants can opt to create a quilting project as a lasting reminder of their time together.

June 2022, Session 2: "Quilt cutting and piecing," explores how our lives and Christian communities come together into a cohesive whole, including people of all shapes and sizes, abilities and talents.

June 18: NEIA SWO Annual Gathering, St John Lutheran, Nashua, Iowa, 8 am
June 28: Gather Bible study, GS Gathering space, 7 pm, Ann Naslund Bible study, Sharon Drew refreshments
July 10: Krumkake Sunday
July 16-22: Krumkake baking
July 28-30: Nordic Fest



GOOD SHEPHERD'S KRUMKAKE DEMONSTRATION & SALE AT NORDIC FEST

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Decorah will soon be celebrating its Norwegian heritage with its 55th year of Nordic Fest. Good Shepherd will also be preparing for their annual Krumkake Fest! Did you know that Good Shepherd has been participating in this event all 55 years?

Our first project in 1966, and for several years thereafter, was a quilt display here at Good Shepherd along with a *Konditori* (coffee shop) that served sweet soup, a variety of Norwegian cookies and coffee. The quilt display later moved to the high school. Then we were given a booth in front of the Bank of the West and began making and selling *krumkaker* using a favorite recipe from one of our charter members (Doris Klocke).

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. This year we will be baking at church from July 16-21 plus a gluten free day on the 25th (see church calendar for schedule). We will also be preparing the batter on Friday afternoon July 15 at 1:00 pm.

Krumkake Sunday will be on July 10. We will have a baking demonstration and also give you an opportunity to try your hand at baking. Krumkake will also be available to taste on the table during fellowship hour. On this day we will also put Good Shepherd labels on the baggies that are used for packaging. This is another fun "all congregation" event as every table is given labels and baggies to prepare.



GOOD SHEPHERD'S KRUMKAKE DEMONSTRATION & SALE AT NORDIC FEST

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Preparing krumkake batter at church: In order to comply with health regulations, we will be making the krumkake batter at church. We will be asking for donations (ingredients or cash) for preparing the batter. Sign-up sheets will be available at the church. Please have the ingredients to the church by the morning of July 15.

Baking: 9 sessions are planned at **church**, or you may want to bake at **home** or with a friend. Recipes will be available if you wish to bake at home. Come when you can and work only as long as you want. Bakers and rollers can sit down while working. If you are new to the krumkake baking experience, we will teach you (very easy to learn).

Selling at the Booth

(3 hour shifts, stools available for sitting down)

Demonstrating during Fest

(2 ½ hour shifts in lobby)



The monies raised (over \$3000) from our Krumkake project are given to many organizations including Aase Haugen, Decorah Free Clinic, Decorah Community Food Pantry, EWALU, LWR, Helping Services, LSI, and YAGM. Plus we also supported the GS CNA program, GS Seminary support, GS mission support and GS Path to Citizenship. Last year we also gave to the GS youth program and the GS endowment fund. This project benefits many locally and globally.

As you can see, there are several volunteer opportunities to choose from. Look for sign-up sheets for the various tasks on the table in the Narthex and also on-line with the Sign-up Genius. We are also looking for individuals to serve on our planning committee. Currently we have members ranging from 71 to 84 years old with an average age of 77 years. So we are looking for some new members to carry on the tradition of Good Shepherd participation in the Nordic Fest. If you have questions, contact Doris Barnaal, Ann Naslund, Bev Sheridan or Carrie Solberg.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

All sign-ups can be found on the website under "Sign-Ups" tab and in the Gathering Space.

LAWN MOWING SCHEDULE: Spring is in the air! Volunteer to help mow the Good Shepherd lawn this growing season.

MINISTRY SUPPORT:

Assisting Minister: Read prayers and serves communion during service. Meet with Pastor 20 minutes before service to review.

Reader: read first and second scripture. Meet with Pastor 20 minutes before service to review.

Usher: Arrive @ 9:10 to greet worshippers. Pass and present offering plate. Guide flow to communion. Count offering & drop at bank deposit box following service.

Fellowship Hour: Provide simple offering of treats and make coffee for Fellowship Hour following Worship. Responsible for setting up and cleaning up. 1.5 hour commitment.

TRAVEL TESTIMONY: You are invited to share a brief reflection about how travel has impacted your faith during a summer Sunday service.

Guidelines for Sharing at Worship

- Thank you for agreeing to share your experience and insights during worship about the impact travel has had on your life. The following questions are meant to help guide you as you prepare your comments. We are budgeting 4-5 minutes in our worship service for this. Please write out or outline your sharing, and practice it so you know that it will stay within the budgeted time allowed. Try to be succinct and to the point.
1. Tell us briefly about your travels.
 2. What has been the most meaningful or impactful trip you have taken?
 3. How has travel changed you or changed the way you view the world?
 4. Have you felt closer to God as a result of your travels?
 5. Have your views of God changed as a result of your travels?

AUDIO/RECORDING WORSHIP SERVICES: Arrive ~9:15 and record once a month/every other month. We have the system here, please help us be able to use it to reach the community outside the church building. Contact the church office to get involved.

APRIL TREASURER'S REPORT

Our income for the year, as of April 30, was \$108,568 (last year at this time total income was \$103,387). Expenses, as of April 30, were \$102,117 (last year, due to some major projects early in the year, our expenses at this point, were \$114,635). That means we are running a surplus of approximately \$6,500, which compares with a deficit last year of about \$11,000.

Our statements of intent would predict offering income (envelope, auto pay, electronic deposits) of \$106,666 for the first third of the year. Our actual offering income as of April 30 was \$102,033. That means we are running a bit behind the projected offering income.

We have made the final payment for the sound system; the total, including sales tax, was \$26,411.05. We received donations for the project totalling \$25,025. We will draw from the contingency and facilities and grounds lines to make up the difference between the cost of the project and the donations received.

In short, one-third of the way through the year we are in good financial shape.

CARE FOR CREATION: WALK TO CHURCH DAY

Walk to Church Day offers a triple benefit: it's green, it's healthy, and it builds community. The benefit to the earth of leaving the car behind is obvious, and the benefits to physical health are well known. But walking is also good for the soul. In a small town, walking means running into neighbors. Designate a Walk to Church Day this summer. Or better yet, take the important step from symbolic action to new habit: encourage each other to walk at least a couple Sundays a month from June through October, and to figure out where commuting, errands and getting to school can also be done on foot. Remember the clear skies in cities when the pandemic shut down driving?

Walking makes a real difference.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022, following worship in the Sanctuary and on Zoom -
SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING TO VOTE ON CARBON NEUTRAL INITIATIVE

Following worship on June 5, there will be a congregation meeting to vote on Mission Green LLC's Carbon Neutral Initiative. A Zoom option will be available for those unable to attend in person. The Zoom link will be sent out in advance.

- 82 members are needed for a quorum. The vote will be by anonymous ballot both for those attending in person and on Zoom, with a Zoom Room set up similar to the vote on the sound system/piano rebuild.
- Created by Good Shepherd members Jim and Liz Fritz, the proposal provides a carbon-neutral solution to help the congregation eliminate fossil fuel use and create its own renewable energy.

In addition to the Adult Forum presentations on May 8 and 15, information about the Carbon Neutral Initiative for Good Shepherd is available through:

- Congregational emails sent out by Mission Green, LLC, highlighting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the project.
- Mission Green videos that include the information presented at the Adult Forums and statements by local experts:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCwOiVwCWNjHJLy-pcn1IZD
- Good Shepherd's website:
www.goodshepherddecorah.org/missiongreen/
- Jim and Liz's Mission Green website: www.missiongreen.llc
- Pastor Amy's Words in the May newsletter:
www.goodshepherddecorah.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/May-2022-Newsletter.pdf, pages 2 and 3.

The Social Justice Subcommittee, Facilities and Grounds Committee, and Landscape Subcommittee, have unanimously endorsed the Carbon Neutral Initiative.

Jim and Liz welcome in-person conversations and questions as well as email messages. Reach out to them at missiongreen@icloud.com.

GOOD SHEPHERD SAVE THE DATES

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June 12: Join us after worship for a showing of the video, "Why We Travel" produced by Rick Steves. Grab a cup of coffee and come to the Gathering Space. The video is 26 minutes long and explores all the ways we enjoy travel and how travel impacts our lives.

August 17: Summer Travel Series All Church Potluck. Sign-up for main dishes, side dishes and desserts will be available later this summer. We will be thanking Pr. Rolf and celebrating his time with us while Pr. Amy is on sabbatical. We will also be celebrating summer and any travels we have been on. The food theme is foods we have experienced on our summer travels or a favorite summer food.

September 11: Good Shepherd Welcome Friends & Neighbors Picnic: Invite friends, your neighborhood, family for delicious food and fellowship at our annual (that hasn't been annual!) Neighborhood picnic. Save the date and plan on joining us! More information available as the summer progresses.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECORAH LUTHERAN POTLUCK INVITATION:

- Faith & Fellowship Potluck on June 5th at 5:30 pm in the Decorah Lutheran Social Hall with guest speaker Officer Tim Felton talking about his trip to Ukraine in 2019 and the recent updates for service to support humanitarian relief efforts. Anyone is welcome to attend.
- July's Faith & Fellowship Potluck gathering will be in Phelps Park in shelter #2 at 5:30 pm on July 3rd. Ice Cream and toppings will be provided. Make sure to invite your family & friends. All are welcome to join us!

KIDS LUNCH CLUB RETURNS: Kids Lunch Club is a community collaboration to serve delicious, nutritious meals to kids throughout the summer, and is open to all children and youth ages 18 and under. It runs from Wednesday, June 1 - Friday, August 12. Volunteers are needed! Pack and distribute lunches, serve as lead volunteer, donate financially, and join the steering committee. Information is found in the weekly newsletter, on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall, and online: kidslunchclub.org

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATIONS NEEDED: The Guatemalan Basics initiative provides deliveries of staples - rice, black beans, MaSeCa (corn flour) Tortilla Mix - to local immigrant families, many of whom have migrated from Guatemala. Fun fact: One 25-pound bag of MaSeCa makes 45 pounds or over 720 tortillas! So far, the Guatemalan Basics Fund has raised \$16,664 and spent \$15,531, leaving a balance of \$1,132. Decorah Community Meal seeded the Fund to start; ever since, donors across the community have sustained the initiative through monetary gifts. The initiative continues to be managed by Decorah Community Meal. Decorah UCC serves as its fiscal sponsor.

- Monetary donations are currently needed, as many households in the Postville, Decorah, Ridgeway, and Hesper/Mabel areas have increased needs as they are accepting teens and other family members from detention centers around the nation.
- To make a donation, you can give online by credit/debit card or bank transfer on the Decorah United Church of Christ's web-based giving page. Select "Neighbors Helping Neighbors—Guatemalan Basics Fund" from the dropdown menu: decorahucc.breezechms.com/give/online.
- You can also write a check, payable to Decorah UCC with "Guatemalan Basics" in the memo line, and send it to Decorah UCC, PO Box 470, Decorah, IA 52101.



MENTORS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY YOUTH!

Being a mentor to a youth through Youth Mentoring at Helping Services is as simple as being a friend. Take 1 Simple Step, Become A



HELPING SERVICES
for Youth & Families

Mentor! When you spend a minimum of four hours per month with a youth, you are giving them opportunities and rewarding experiences. One mentored youth shares, "I love being with my mentor. We do fun stuff together and hangout." You are needed. There are currently 17 youth ages 6-16 waiting. Some of these kids have been waiting for over two years. Let's not make them wait any longer. NOW is the time to get involved! Make a difference in their life and yours! For more information, contact Kathy or Colinne at 563-387-1720, mentoring@helpingservices.org or go to: helpingservices.org/mentoring

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Red Cross blood drive **June 3, 12-6:00 pm.** Stone Ridge community church 1111 Montgomery ST. for appointment dial 1-800-733-2767

Sun

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

June

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|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 9:30am - In-person Worship & 11am - Adult Forum: Jim Fritz (?) | | 8:30am - Office Hours 10am - Kinderhaus Snack @ 1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS 1:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @ 4pm - Trumpet Lesson @ 6:30pm - ALANON @ GS | | 10am - Kinderhaus Snack @ 1:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @ | | 8:30am - Office Hours 10am - Kinderhaus Snack @ 1:30pm - ESL 1:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @ | | <div>Recycle</div> 8:30am - Office Hours 10am - Bible Study @ Library 10am - Kinderhaus Snack @ 1:30pm - Facilities & Grounds 1:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @ 4:30pm - Education Committee 4:30pm - Kelli's Office Hours | | 8am - Office Hours 10am - Kinderhaus Snack @ 1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS 1:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @ | | | |
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July

| Sun | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 26 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| <div>Brooke Off</div> | 7pm - WELCA Circle | 8:30am - Office Hours | <div>Recycle</div> | 8am - Office Hours | |
| 8:30am - Office Hours | | 1:30pm - ESL | 8:30am - Office Hours | 1pm - Friends of | |
| 9:30am - In-person | | | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | | |
| 8pm - Outdoor Family | | | | | |
| 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | | | | | |
| 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| <div>Brooke Off</div> | 8:30am - Office Hours | 1:30pm - ESL | 1:30pm - Facilities & | 8am - Office Hours | |
| 9:30am - In-person | 7pm - Social Justice | | 4:30pm - Education | 1pm - Council Agenda | |
| 7pm - Youth Summer | | | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | 1pm - Friends of | |
| 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | | | | | |
| 10 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| <div>Brooke Off</div> | 8:30am - Office Hours | 8:30am - Office Hours | <div>Erica Out of Office</div> | | |
| <div>Krumkake Sunday</div> | 1pm - Friends of | 10:30am - Aase Haugen | <div>Recycle</div> | 8am - Office Hours | 9am - Krumkake |
| 9:30am - In-person | 4pm - Trumpet Lesson | 1:30pm - ESL | 8:30am - Office Hours | 1pm - Friends of | 1pm - Krumkake |
| 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | | | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | 1pm - Krumkake Prep | |
| 17 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| <div>Erica Out of Office</div> | | | | 8am - Office Hours | |
| 9:30am - In-person | 8:30am - Office Hours | 9am - Krumkake baking | <div>Newsletter Deadline</div> | | |
| 2pm - Family Bike Ride | 9am - Krumkake baking | 10am - Arlin Falck | 9am - Krumkake baking | 1pm - Friends of | |
| 2pm - Krumkake | 1pm - Friends of | 10:45am - MEF | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | | |
| | 1pm - Krumkake | 11am - Eastern Star | 4:30pm - Stewardship | | |
| | 4pm - Trumpet Lesson | 1pm - Krumkake | | | |
| | 6pm - Anti-racism Task | 1:30pm - ESL | | | |
| | 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | | | | |
| 24 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| <div>Youth Trip</div> | | | <div>Nordic Fest</div> | | |
| 9:30am - In-person | 8:30am - Office Hours | 8:30am - Office Hours | <div>Recycle</div> | 8am - Office Hours | |
| | 9am - GF Krumkake | 9:30am - Worship and | 8:30am - Office Hours | 1pm - Friends of | |
| | 1pm - Friends of | 1:30pm - ESL | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | | |
| | 4pm - Trumpet Lesson | | | | |
| | 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | | | | |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9:30am - Youth Led | 8:30am - Office Hours | <div>VBS</div> | <div>VBS</div> | 8am - Office Hours | |
| | 1pm - Friends of | 8:30am - Office Hours | 1:30pm - Facilities & | 1pm - Friends of | |
| | 4pm - Trumpet Lesson | 5pm - VBS | 4:30pm - Education | | |
| | 6:30pm - AL/ANON @ | 7pm - Social Justice | 4:30pm - Kelli's Office | | |
| | | | 5pm - VBS | | |

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

19

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 - 7:00pm

Preparing Our Hearts and Minds to Serve

Present: Cynthia Ernst, Ann Naslund, Bob Naslund, Tim Lecander, John Moeller, Ingrid Callaghan, Jim Fritz, Tom Buresh, and Hayley Jackson were present. Jim Fritz was present as a guest. Chris Johnson was absent. Pr. Amy is on Sabbatical.

Devotions and Initial Actions: Tom Buresh led devotions.

Consent Agenda:

Items in the Consent Agenda are designed to be approved by consent of the council without discussion or formal vote. The items in the consent agenda are considered approved when the meeting agenda is approved. Before approving the meeting agenda, the chair asks if any member wishes to move an item from the consent agenda to the discussion agenda if the member feels a discussion is warranted.

1. Approval of the April 2022 Council meeting minutes.
2. Reception of committee reports as submitted.

The Consent Agenda was approved by the consent of the Council.

Discussion Agenda:

Kinderhaus Space-Sharing Agreement: Cynthia reviewed the new Kinderhaus space-sharing agreement, which has been signed by Pr. Amy. It lasts for three years (through the end of the 2024-2025 school year). The rent has been increased to \$650 per month, which includes their portion of the fire alarm monitoring system. Bob Naslund moved to accept the space-sharing agreement as signed by Pr. Amy, Tim Lecander seconded. Motion carried.

Prayer Shawl Proposal: Cynthia and John Moeller shared a proposal from Jeri Laursen, chair of the Prayer Shawl Ministry to transfer money from undesignated memorial funds (Tangen, Bolson, Rendack, and Kaasa) to the Judy Mikkelsen Fund account, which has traditionally been used to support this ministry's work (purchasing yarn, postage for sending shawls outside Decorah, bags/tissue for the gifting of shawls). This transfer, in addition to a \$270 grant from Thrivent supported by Pr. Amy, would bring the fund to \$600. Jeri additionally shared that when the 2023 budget is drafted, she will propose a new line item be added for the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and that it become a formal subcommittee of Outreach and Hospitality, similar to the Communications Subcommittee. Council was generally in favor of the proposal. John moved to use the specified memorial funds and Thrivent grant for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Hayley Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: John reviewed his report for the month. Questions from Council included how our annual giving compared to previous years. John shared that we are ahead, but it can be difficult to compare as not all giving is monthly - some give two times a year for example. He emphasized that we are in good shape, with the sound system and piano expenses covered and a decrease in spending. Tom Buresh moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ann seconded. Motion carried.

Maintenance/Custodial Position: Council discussed the resignation of Sharyl and Dave Haugen and hiring a replacement. John and Jim Fritz both shared that Erica Yaneff had expressed interest in the position in addition to her ministry coordination role. Council discussed salary, training, and time-reporting options.

Mission Green Proposal: Cynthia shared feedback she received from congregation members about the Mission Green proposal, including concerns about the timeline. Discussion included the format of the congregation meeting (in person after the service, with a Zoom option for those worshipping from home), how the project would be affected if we moved the timeline back (concerns about rising costs, heating in winter), and providing more information to answer congregational questions. John suggested creating a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) style document to be shared with the congregation to answer the most common questions received from members. Council agreed this was a good idea and compiled a list of questions.

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

The Committee Reports were received and accepted as submitted.

Education: Ann Naslund

Sunday School in person resumed April 24-May 15. The Lenten project raised funds for Afghan arrivals presented to LSI representatives - they met their goal of \$5,000. Donated funds above the goal were donated to Ukraine support efforts. Sunday School will resume on September 11, 2022 (Rally Day). They also discussed graduation, summer activities, and planning for Vacation Bible School.

Worship and Music: Tom Buresch

Royalties for Spirituals: Bobby Vrtis presented a draft proposal of reparation royalties for spirituals. The committee discussed it and how it fits with the goals of the Good Shepherd Racial Justice Statement. The committee intends to refine the proposal over the summer and present it to the Council in August. Traveling with the Spirit—A Summer Travelogue through the Book of Acts: Because only one person has signed up so far, the committee decided that each committee member would invite two people to participate. In addition, committee members will give a brief invitation (like a Temple Talk) during worship services in May. Involving more people in the worship services: It was reported that the Stewardship Committee is looking into setting up ministry teams to encourage more people to participate in worship assistance.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Total income for this year as of April 30 was \$108,566 and expenses were \$102,117, leaving us with a surplus of about \$6,500 (the income includes \$5,556, which is one-third of the total 2022 offerings paid by some individuals at the start of the year). At the same time last year, our income was \$103,387 and expenses were \$114,635, which left us at a deficit of about \$11,000. The budget is in good shape, although we are behind on projected offerings based on Statements of Intent, as we received \$102,033 and predicted \$106,666. The total cost of the sound system ended up at \$26,411.05 (including \$1,727.83 in sales tax). We received a one-time \$25,025 donation to cover it. The remaining \$1,400 will be made up from the budget - John will divide it between contingency funds and Facilities and Grounds.

Announcements:

Next Council Meeting: The next meeting will be June 21, 2022, 7:00 PM in person

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM. Cynthia led the council in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting. ---Submitted by Hayley Jackson, Congregation Secretary