

The Shepherd's Staff

June 2016

Issue 195

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DID YOU KNOW???
THERE IS CHURCH IN THE SUMMER!!!

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our summer worship schedule began on Sunday, May 22nd and will go through Labor Day weekend, September 4th. **We have one Sunday worship service at 9:00 a.m.**

Our 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening worship services will take place from Wednesday, June 22nd through August 31st.

The lessons and sermon will be first shared at the Wednesday evening worship, and will be shared again four days later at the Sunday worship. For example, if you knew you were going to be out of town on Sunday, June 26th, you could share in the same lessons and sermon at the Wednesday evening worship on June 22nd. Sunday morning worshipers will gather in the chairs in the rows in the sanctuary. Wednesday night worshipers will be gathered around round tables in groups of about 7 people.

Both worship opportunities will include "Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending", and follow a biblically based liturgy. Both worship services are about God's people coming together to worship, to show hospitality, to be fed with Word and Meal, and to be sent out in God's mission for the sake of the world. Let's continue to find times of Sabbath to be renewed, refreshed, and strengthened as children of God.

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

June 22nd at 7:00 PM

(Bicycle, motorcycle or whatever bike you ride)

Inside This Issue

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Join us for Worship on **Wednesday, June 22nd at 7:00 PM**. We will start inside and end outside with a special blessing of the bikes.

You are invited to wear your usual cycle clothing and ride (or bring) your bike to church. If you aren't able to bring your bike, feel free to bring your helmet. If you don't have a bike, join us as we bless those who do that they may be kept safe in all their rides.

PASTOR'S NOTE

And on the 7th Day God Rested

One of the many things we may love about summer is the idea of taking time to be renewed and refreshed. Maybe, we still dream of the days of summer vacation. After all, those 3 months of summer vacation as a kid were pretty great. Unfortunately, many of us will discover that the summer is just as busy (or maybe even more) as the rest of the year.

Yet, we still long to be refreshed and renewed.

In Exodus 31:17 we read,

“It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and *was refreshed*.”

The word “*refreshed*” comes from the word meaning “*self*.” God apparently takes time to recover God’s own self to be refreshed. The book of Exodus also states that God’s people should observe the Sabbath because the Lord brought them out of the land of Egypt where they were once slaves. In other words, for years God’s people never had the opportunity to keep the Sabbath because they were living as slaves, but now they are free to be refreshed, more specifically, they are free to be refreshed in God. Adam and Eve in Genesis and Moses in the book of Exodus, and all of creation are called upon to replicate God’s own Sabbath taking. It comes right from God that like God we are called upon to take a day of rest (a Sabbath). Taking time to be renewed and refreshed isn’t easy these days. There’s always something more to do: one more project, one more phone call, one more report. It’s hard to escape the phone calls, emails, text messages, etc. Yet, we are called to take a Sabbath. God even declares the Sabbath holy meaning that it belongs to God, and not to us. One of the many challenges that we face is that at times we are so in need of rest and renewal that we forget that the true rest and renewal that we need for our bodies and souls comes only by being rested and renewed in God.

According to Old Testament scholar, Walter Bruggemann, in scripture when God’s people neglect to observe a Sabbath, the day of the Lord, they start to become restless, and rely on a can-do, self-help attitude full of anxiety, marked by consuming more and more things and an urgency to control. Maybe part of the reason taking a Sabbath is so hard is because it means trusting God our Creator that the world can continue for a day (for a Sabbath) without our constant attentiveness and need to be in control. A Sabbath is more than a break from work. A Sabbath refreshes us by reminding us who we are and whose we are. We are God’s children, and everything does not depend on us. God is God. For many people worship has been a central part of keeping a Sabbath as a way to hear again the good news of who we are and who God is.

What can you do this summer to keep a Sabbath? What can you do to come to the self God has created you to be, to be refreshed in God, to hear God’s word for you?

Happy Sabbath keeping!

In Christ,

Pastor Krista

CONGREGATION NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL VOTE

On behalf of the Church Council, I would like to provide an update on the congregational vote that was held on Sunday May 22nd, 2016. The vote was to spend up to \$10,000 to finalize floor plan drawings of the current design and a rough estimate of building costs. These funds would come out of the Capital Appeal fund which are designated gifts from the capital campaign to be used for the purposes of building expansion. The outcome of the vote was 67 yes and 5 no. The Church Council will continue to keep you updated as we move forward with our building needs and we ask for your continued prayers and guidance!

Tina Wangen, President Church Council

MILESTONES MINISTRY

Affirmation of Baptism: We celebrate with the following students who affirmed their faith through Confirmation on May 1st: Carly Goettl, Xander Henderson, Kaelyn McCaleb, Wesley Ryan. May God bless and keep you!

Graduating Seniors: Blessings to the following seniors who graduated from high school this spring: McKenzie Bethke, Caleb Getschmann, Hunter Goergen, Tanner Goergen, Amber Kingsley, Ashton LaBare, Jayden Munsch, Anthony Rosckes, and Brady Sveen. You are wrapped in God's love and the prayers of your Good Shepherd faith family as you go out to serve in God's world!

Scholarships: Three students attending a Lutheran college are receiving scholarships this year: Brady Sveen, attending Carthage College and Skylar Thompson and Levi Folkert, attending Gustavus College. The scholarships are made possible by Thrivent funds given to Good Shepherd. Any Thrivent member can donate their choice dollars to this scholarship fund.

Loss of Loved Ones: Our sympathies go out to Kelsey Rahman and her family for the loss of Kelsey's grandmother, June Long, who passed away Thursday, May 12th.

SHOW YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD PRIDE WITH A T-SHIRT

We are excited to show off Good Shepherd t-shirts! Sign up to purchase one for yourself and your family. Cost is \$12 for child size and \$13 for adult size. Shirts will be ordered on June 13th. Sign up sheet is in the narthex or you can email carole35@charter.net to order yours.

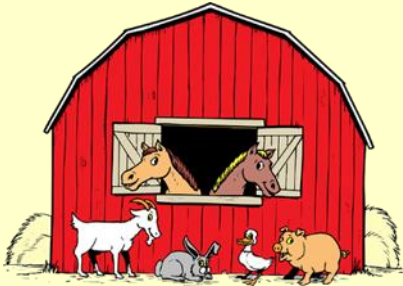
FAITH ON THE GO

We know that Jesus is present in every place we find ourselves this summer. As a reminder, we have "Faith on the Go" bags for you to make. Supplies will be located in the narthex at VBS and the Sunday following.

- Choose and decoarte a bag.
- Make a prayer die (wooden block) with six prayer prompts: Mountain highs, Valley lows, Creation, People, Travels, Thanks. Permanent marker works best.
- Decorate a flat Jesus. Take photos of Jesus with you on your summer adventures and send to Lynn at secretary@goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org
- Add other items to the bag—crayons, Bible apps...
- Use these items at home and on the road as you live out your faith all summer long!

EDUCATION

VBS 2016: Barnyard Blessings



When: June 13 - 16 (M, T, W, Th)

Time: 6:00 - 7:45 p.m.

Who: Children Age 3 - Current 3rd Graders

You will not want to miss the amazing zoo-riffic RAD Zoo program Thursday night!

VBS is finally here! We have a great week planned with lots of Bible stories, learning, fun and games. If you want to come but haven't registered yet, contact Erin Bluhm at 876-0141 or erinb@bluhmandgrow.com.

ON THE ROAD: GOOD EARTH VILLAGE AT GOOD SHEPHERD

July 11-14 for 3rd-6th graders

Open to the whole PEM community!

We are so excited to have Bible camp counselors coming to Good Shepherd to lead day camp from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Games, songs, skits, Bible study, and lots of fun are in store for you and your friends. Sign up at goodearthvillage.org under All Camps. Then find "On the Road Plainview". You will need to create an account to register. OR, you can pick up a form in the church narthex.

Please invite your friends and neighbors. Sign up now so we can plan!

GEV ADVENTURE DAY FOR KINDERGARTEN-4TH GRADE

Good Shepherd will again be taking a group to the Adventurers camp at Good Earth Village for any students completing grades K-4. This is a one day camp on **Thursday, July 28th**. The camp runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with lunch provided. You pay a deposit of \$30 and Good Shepherd will pay the rest because it is such a great experience! Pastor Krista will carpool to and from GEV in Spring Valley and join you for the day. If you would like to participate in this great opportunity, please sign up on-line at goodearthvillage.org and let us know in the office that you did. If you have any questions please contact Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net or 269-9374.

SUMMER

Stay connected to the Good Shepherd faith family when you travel this summer!

- See the latest news and activities at <http://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/>
- Watch sermons on the website: <http://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/video.html>
- Read weekly devotions: Walking with the Shepherd Facebook group OR request to be put on the email list
- Join the Good Shepherd Facebook page

FINANCE

FINANCE REPORT

During the summer months with weekend events and family vacations, we know church attendance tends to slip. If you would like to know how to continue contributing, please feel free to contact the church office or Tom Anderson directly (507-993-8326). We have both **Simply Giving and On-Line Giving systems** all set up for easy and free access – just let us know how we can assist you.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---- May 1, 2016

General Account	\$	28,570
Restricted Account	\$	18,946 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Building Fund Account	\$	111,211
Loan Receivable	\$	<u>6,994</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$	180,694
Fixed Assets	\$	891,357
Total Assets	\$	1,057,078

Mortgage Balance	\$	74,877
Equity	\$	982,201

MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP

NOISY OFFERING!!!!

Always, the second Sunday of the month

June's noisy offering will be going to the PEM Food Shelf. Just a few months ago, Good Shepherd members donated more than \$2,300.00 to help the Food Shelf raise funds during the March campaign. That was a great effort, but it won't get them through the year. In the summer kids are out of school and the Food Shelf sees an increase in the number of families utilizing their services. Let's step up to the plate, alleviate some stress, and help to feed our friends and neighbors in need by supporting our local Food Shelf again in June.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Blanket makers: Thank you to the women who gathered this winter to make blankets for the graduates and to pray for them.

We received a thank you from the Ronald McDonald house for the tie blankets and hats that the high school youth made and brought to them in May.

Thank you to all who helped move Don Brenteson from Plainview to his new home in Rochester. We pray for Don as he gets settled in a new community.

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE

Good Earth Village is planning their 3rd annual Good Gifts Gala. In the past two years, their Gala has welcomed and entertained more than 300 guests from all over SE Minnesota, raising more than \$120,000 in support of Good Earth Village's wonderful mission of raising up and empowering Christian leaders. The Live Auction Quilts have each been successfully auctioned and sold from \$600 to \$1200, creating a flurry of further generosity and excitement during our event's program. To all who have made this possible we thank you for your beautiful creations and generous hearts....and we invite you to participate once again.

The event will take place at the Rochester Country Club on Thursday evening, October 20th. The evening's festivities include Silent & Live Auctions, dinner and program in the Banquet Hall. Reservations are required (\$85 per person) and part of your ticket is a donation. Tables of 8-10 will be available for larger groups so we invite you to bring your friends and family. Tickets will be sold online or through the camp office closer to the date.

All quilts, crafts and other unique handmade items for the silent and live auctions should be submitted no later than September 1st so they have time to advertise and promote them. They most gratefully welcome your handmade donations and especially your quilts (baby, queen and king sized quilts sell best) as well as other handmade crafts. Quilts that receive the most attention are "quilted" (not tied) and made with contemporary colors. Themed, seasonal and children's items are also very popular. Knitted and crocheted pieces are also very popular and your one-of-a-kind, artisan pieces such as woodworking, pottery and jewelry receive lots of bids! Please invite others to join us with a variety displaying their lovely works of art.

If interested in donating a quilt/handmade items to the Good Gifts Gala, there are some guidelines to assist you in preparing your quilts. A copy of the guidelines can be gotten in the office. Also, a Quilt Information Form can be gotten in the office also.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

06/01	Alexis Chavarria	06/14	Kale Steffen
06/02	Steve Fenske		DJ Heppding
	Nolan Pfeilsticker	06/18	Alese Ihrke
06/04	Scott Rohlik	06/20	Claire Folkert
06/05	Jessica Schumacher		Caden Castle
06/06	Cindy Fuerstneau		Will Schumacher
06/09	Marshall Timm	06/22	Bob Sloan
06/10	Scot Engler	06/23	Jackie Arens
06/11	Mark Johnson		Shane Kingsley
06/12	Karla Appel	06/25	Carson Timm
	Kroy Steffen	06/27	Jack Schreiber
06/13	Bob Endres	06/28	Roger Arens
	Jordan Getschmann	06/30	Alicia Pfeilsticker

Anniversaries

06/09	John & Elaine Salek	06/19	Tyler & Sarah Niemeyer
06/10	Kevin & Michelle Gudmundson	06/20	Jake & Amy Thompson
06/14	Brent & Andrea Masee		Buzz & Marget Christison
06/16	Kit & Jan Sackreiter	06/24	Arvin & Corrine Hanson
06/17	Craig & Lisa Beck	06/25	Troy & Betsy Munsch
06/18	Bill & Bonnie McMillin	06/30	Arlo & Penny Simonson
	Mike & Sherry Tuxen		John & Tammy Wehrs
06/19	George & Elaine Tesmer		

*NOTE: Birthdays and anniversaries listed in the newsletters are now being limited to adult members and their college aged and under children. If you have questions and/or concerns with this, please contact the church office.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE LIST OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**Opportunity knocks once.
Temptation bangs forever.**

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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Address Service Requested
Issue 195, Published Monthly

Presorted Special
Standard Mail
US Postage Paid
Plainview, MN 55964
Permit No. 68

The Shepherd's Staff is a communication tool among our friends and members spreading the word of Jesus Christ with news of our church and related events. It is published monthly by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Plainview-Elgin.

VISION STATEMENT, GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Claimed by God through Word & Sacrament, we move forward with a NEW VIEW:

Notice the needs of our congregation, community, and world with eyes of faith.
Educate all from cradle to grave.
Worship in thankfulness and joy.

Value all generations in passing on the faith.
Identify and affirm the gifts of God's people.
Energize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.
Welcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

The submission deadline for the July 2016 Newsletter is

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22.