

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*The Shepherd's Staff*



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

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Our summer worship schedule began on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and will go through Labor Day weekend, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. **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, May 31<sup>st</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>. Due to Vacation Bible School, there will not be Wednesday worship on Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.**

Wednesday evening worship services are about 30-40 minutes in length. During the service, we sit around round tables and enjoy refreshments while we worship.

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 25<sup>th</sup>, you could share in the same lessons and sermon at the Wednesday evening worship on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Sunday morning worshipers will gather in the chairs in the rows in the sanctuary.

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.

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

Leadership in the church takes many different forms. At the local congregational level there is usually an ordained pastoral leader, but the reality is that we are all called to serve and lead in Christ's church. We are called to live out our faith and take part in the leadership of Christ's church through our time, talents and treasures. Some of the leadership that happens occurs behind the scenes. When we show up on a Sunday, someone has mowed the lawn (or shoveled the snow), another has set up communion, and someone has started the coffee. We realize of course our wonderful 'CS' has provided us with bulletins and people help in the service with music, reading lessons, ushering, and serving communion. These are just a few of the things happening around worship on a Sunday morning and the leadership that makes them happen.

Then of course there's council, Sunday School, confirmation, and youth leaders, as well as other areas of leadership. Paul describes the church as the body of Christ and each one of us as a member of that body and each one of us is an important, vital, and needed member of the body. God values each of us and the unique way we serve the body. One of the themes I hear from people is that by serving and leading they discover that even though they are giving of themselves, they end up receiving more. Some talk about a greater awareness of God and the church, deepening their own relationship with God. Others talk about the relationships that are formed and the people they get to know by serving.

Beyond the congregational level, church leadership happens at a regional level (called a synod) and national level (often referred to as church-wide). We have a synodical bishop, Steven Delzer and national church-wide bishop, Elizabeth Eaton. There are also synod and national church councils and committees. Recently four of us attended our Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly. During the Synod Assembly the bishop lifted up the shortage of pastoral leadership. In the next three years, 35 pastors will be retiring. At the same time each year our synod is only receiving 2 new pastoral candidates who have recently finished the seminary and internship process. In the larger national church, in the next five years, there will be 9000 congregations in need of pastoral leadership. It is expected that only 6000 of those 9000 congregations will be able to afford a full time pastor. Based on current seminary students and pastors, there will be only 5000 pastors available for call to a congregation. On average there will be about 400 pastors retiring each year and about 200 pastoral candidates coming out of seminary. In fact in the spring of 2016 there were only 92 pastoral candidates coming out of seminary who were looking to serve a congregation. All of these statistics indicate that the church is facing a pastoral shortage. Here at Good Shepherd we are participating in the leadership of the national church by being part of the internship process and helping to prepare a future pastor for service in the church.

Thank you for all the ways you lead in Christ's church. As we end this academic year, and start preparing for next fall, consider ways that God may be calling you to lead. If you're looking for some ideas, feel free to contact Carole Joyce, Vicar Nicole or myself. We would love to talk about how God may be calling you.

In Christ,

Pastor Krista

## INTERN PASTOR'S NOTE

### **Internship Committee meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30/following worship.**

June. How in the world is it June already? Sometimes I think I just arrived here yesterday, yet when I look around at all the wonderful faces, I feel like I have known you for a lifetime. I thank God for all of the people I have met and I look forward to knowing so many more in the time I have here.

I recently attended Luther Seminary's graduation. Luther Seminary is going through a tough transition that isn't pretty. It is due to many reasons, but an overwhelming one is the shortage of leaders willing to be pastors. This was also addressed at the Synod Assembly in May. In fact, our Synod voted to put action behind this prayer for leaders and will probably be visiting all the churches looking for people within our communities who would be willing to consider this ministry.

First, I have met many of you and I know that among you are individuals that would make awesome leaders in a church. I would be thrilled to see you consider such a career. If this is something you have thought about, see me or Pastor Krista or Carole for guidance. I also will warn you that I may ask you if you have considered such a career and if we can send your name on to the synod as a potential leader (whatever your age).

Finally, I will say this. What is happening at Luther is not isolated there, it is everywhere as we see the church at large in decline. Many have asked me if this is scary to me, as I am just beginning my journey in ministry. My answer is NO! I am full of hope. I know that the church we know today will look different in 10 years, but I am so excited for that change. I am excited to be a part of it and see first hand the Holy Spirit at work.

At Luther Seminary's commencement, the student representative spoke and he seemed to so eloquently put into words what I have felt. His sentiment was that we may be living in a time where there are more un-churched than churched, but everywhere we look there are still people needing relationships. My take on this is that, church or un-churched we have people who need to be seen, heard and cared for – and if there are still such people in the world then there is still a need for leaders to be called and sent to love as He first loved us.

All of you do this naturally. I have seen it and felt it. Martin Luther puts it best in "Priesthood of All Believers." He essentially says, whether you are called into the life of clergy or into farming, nursing, administration, teaching, chiropractic work, etc... we are all called into ministry and can do ministry from our calling. Go out and be the love He has shown in whatever profession you are called.

Go and do likewise!

Vicar Nicole

# CONGREGATION NEWS

## LEGOS FOR MINISTRY

Do you have a million Lego pieces stored somewhere in your house? Would you like to share some of them? Good Shepherd is building a Lego collection for telling Bible stories. Thanks to Thrivent, we have bases and people!

**\*\*Still needed are basic blocks and interesting pieces. Place in box at church or contact Carole Joyce for pick up.**

## MILESTONES

**Graduating Seniors:** Blessings to the following seniors who graduated from high school this spring:

Max Breuer, Raelin Ellinghuysen, Gavin Folkert, Joe Goettl, Austin Hippe, Paige Gudmundson, Kali Jurgenson, Shane Kingsley, Shelby Ramthun, Tysen Schmidt, Hannah Schneider, Taylor Thompson, and Randy Wendt.

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

Two students attending a Lutheran college are receiving a scholarship this year: Schuyler and Taylor Thompson, both 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.

## SUMMER

Stay connected to the Good Shepherd faith family when you travel this summer! You can worship on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm or Sundays at 9:00 am.

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

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

### 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering

**Where:** Houston, TX

**When:** June 26 - July 2, 2018

**Who's invited:** All students in grades 8-12 during the 2017-2018 academic year

The National Youth Gathering has often been a highlight of many people's faith journey. It's an incredible experience to gather with 30,000 other youth, worship, hear incredible inspiring national speakers and bands and musicians, and spend time serving God and others. The National Youth Gathering only occurs once every three years.

How much will the trip cost? Total trip costs will include registration, hotels, and transportation. At this time we don't have exact costs for hotel or transportation but would estimate that the trip would cost at least \$1200/person. For past National Youth Gatherings, the youth have fundraised half of the amount needed per person and families have contributed the other half. Good Shepherd has also committed to providing scholarship funds for those needing financial assistance.

For more information:

- Website: [www.elca.org/gathering](http://www.elca.org/gathering)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/youthgathering](http://www.facebook.com/youthgathering)
- Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter: @elcagathering
- Talk to Carole Joyce or Pastor Krista

Next steps:

- Informational Meeting on **Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**
- Register by submitting a **\$150 non-refundable deposit**, plus registration form by Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

# EDUCATION

## VBS 2017: SUPER HEROES OF THE BIBLE

**When: Monday - Thursday, June 12-15**

**Time: 6:00 - 7:45 PM**

**Who: Children currently in grades  
Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

VBS kicks off with a FREE pool party on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 pm at the Plainview pool!

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 (erinb@bluhmandgrow.com or 876-0141).



## GEV ADVENTURE DAY FOR KINDERGARTEN-4<sup>TH</sup> 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 **Tuesday, June 27**.

The camp runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with lunch provided. Carole Joyce will carpool to and from GEV in Spring Valley and join you for the day. Carpool will leave Good Shepherd at 8:00 am and return at 5:00 pm.

If you would like to participate in this great opportunity, please sign up on-line at [goodearthvillage.org](http://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](mailto:carole35@charter.net) or 269-9374.

## SUPER HERO SERVICE DAYS

**Wednesdays June 14, 21, and 28.**

**8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

For anyone who has completed 6th, 7th, 8th grade (or 9th-12 graders as leaders/mentors) -- be a super hero in the community by helping others. Sign up for one or all depending on your summer schedule.

Transportation will be provided. (We can even get you from home if needed and you can leave when you need for late afternoon sports.) Bring your own sack lunch. Other treats will be provided.

- June 14 -- Elgin food shelf. Paint bowls at Color Me Mine for the Channel One Bowls fundraiser. Bake cookies to share (and eat). Set up VBS obstacle course.
- June 21 -- Plainview Library. Games at St. Isidore's and/or give free car washes.
- June 28 -- Volunteer at Carly State Park and go trout fishing.



## FINANCE

During the summer months with weekend events and family vacations, we know church attendance tends to slip. Even if you are unable to make it to church, you can still help us meet our monthly expenses through your continued giving. Offerings can always be mailed to the church or dropped off during the week. In addition, 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. 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).

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE - GROWING TO SERVE, GROUNDED IN FAITH

Have you checked out the thermometer in the Gathering Space? The thermometer records the amount that has been pledged toward the capital campaign and the thermometer is rising! Thank you to everyone who has sent in a pledge! We are excited about how God is at work here at Good Shepherd and how we can use our building to provide ministry both to our families and the community. We have received over \$320,000 in pledges and pledges continue to come in each week. If you have not turned in your pledge, please go to the Good Shepherd webpage for the information or stop in or call the church office for a packet of information. God has placed before us a building that must be renovated and opportunities for us to use our building for ministry. Let's join together growing to serve and grounded in faith.

*Creator God,  
Life is your gift to me.  
Through Baptism, you invite me  
to share the gift of my life in service to others.  
Be with me as I choose each day to show Your Presence in our world.  
Give me the courage and generosity to respond to Your love, to Your call.  
I pray especially that I may trust in you to give with a generous heart.  
Be with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.  
May we bear the "Good News" to those in need.  
Keep us close to you.  
Open the minds and hearts of your people  
that we may all accept Your challenge  
to build the Kingdom in our church, our community and our world.  
For if not us, who? If not here, where? If not now, when?  
If not for Your Kingdom, why?  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*



# 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 \$2,200.00 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 prayed for them.

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

William Dunn was a presenter at the "Future of the Church" workshops at the SE MN synod assembly. He was on a panel of high school youth who shared their perspectives and passions about faith and the church. William had some great insights. I wish you all could have heard it!

## GOOD EARTH VILLAGE

**Preschool Play Day at Good Earth Village:** Preschool Play Day is the perfect time for little legs to run and jump and for big hearts to grow and share. Camp songs and games, a light lunch and a splash in the creek all come together for the perfect day for parent and child at camp. **Saturday, June 17 or Saturday, July 15, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.** Ages 3-5 with an adult. [www.goodearthvillage.org/preschool](http://www.goodearthvillage.org/preschool)

**Good Earth Village - Camper's Choice for Teens:** Camper's Choice allows young people, grades 7-12, to create their own experience and grow in independence. This tight group of campers has the inside scoop, and shares the greatest hits of Good Earth Village. Join us, **July 5-7**, over the MN sports blackout, and choose your own adventure! Visit our website at [www.goodearthvillage.org/camperschoice](http://www.goodearthvillage.org/camperschoice).

# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

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

## Anniversaries

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

**Live life not to make your presence noticed,  
but to make your absence felt.**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

PO Box 355  
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Address Service Requested  
Issue 207, 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 2017 Newsletter is**

***THURSDAY, JUNE 22.***