

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff

May 2016

Issue 194

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

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- May 1** 8:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)
- May 8** 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Last day of Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Congregation Info Meeting
Mother's Day
- May 15** Pentecost Sunday (Wear Red!)
8:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Congregation Info Meeting
10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Baccalaureate
- May 22** 9:00 a.m. Worship (Summer schedule begins)
10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting with Vote
- May 29** Memorial Day Weekend
9:00 a.m. Worship Service

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The summer worship schedule begins on **Sunday, May 22nd** and goes 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 **Wednesdays, June 22nd through August 31st**.

Next month's newsletter will contain more information about our Wednesday evening worship services.

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PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear partners in ministry,

As I am writing this, I am enjoying a beautiful spring day. Most of the trees have leafed out. Tulips and daffodils are in bloom. Today is a sharp contrast to where I was a week ago. Last week I was at the YMCA of the Rockies outside of Estes Park in the Rocky Mountains. The first day we arrived was beautiful, temps in the 70's, no jacket needed. The next day it began to snow, and snow, and snow, snow some more. In fact by the time we left, there was over 2 feet of snow on the ground. The ranger from Rocky Mountain National Park greeted us with, "Welcome to spring in the Rockies."

Spring in the Rockies can mean sharp contrasts in temperatures and weather conditions. Spring, growing up in the country in Southwestern Minnesota, often meant some changes in weather, some beautiful days and some rainy days, and a lot of mud.

Spring seems to serve as a reminder that new life doesn't come on our schedule, in our time, or in the ways we might want or expect it to come. In fact, we discover that with God, that the new life of spring might come with fits and starts, and yet eventually new life comes. God does miraculous things, brings life out of snow covered ground, out of the must, the dust, and even a tomb. In the life of the church we continue our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and all we need to do is to look around us to be reminded of the new life God brings into the world.

The following is a poem by Jan Richardson that directs us to those unexpected ways God brings forth blessings and life.

Blessing of Mud

*Lest we think the blessing is not in the dirt.
Lest we think the blessing is not in the earth beneath our feet.
Lest we think the blessing is not in the dust
like the dust that God scooped up at the beginning and formed with God's two hands
and breathed into with God's own breath.
Lest we think the blessing is not in the spit.
Lest we think the blessing is not in the mud.
Lest we think the blessing is not in the mire, the grime, the muck.
Lest we think that God cannot reach deep into the things of earth,
cannot bring forth the blessing that shimmers within the sludge,
cannot anoint us with a tender and grimy grace.
Lest we think that God will not use the ground to create us once again,
to cleanse us of our unseeing, to open our eyes upon this ordinary and stunning world.*

God's blessings to you, even in the mud, as well as the green of new life.

In Christ,
Pastor Krista

CONGREGATION NEWS

AmazonSmile PROGRAM

The Church council was tipped off about a great program through Amazon called the **AmazonSmile Program**. We looked into this and would like to share the information we found out with you. Here's how it works: if/when you order certain products through AmazonSmile, Amazon will contribute 0.5% back to GSLC. An account has already been set up for us, so GSLC is listed as the beneficiary. The link here, [Amazon Smile](#), will take you to the informational page, and from there you can read all about the program and then register if you would like to. If you already have an account, you can use your existing account. What a great and easy way to give back to our own congregation!

IMPORTANT!!!

EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE AND BUILDING PROPOSALS

IMPORTANT!!!

The Exploratory Committee has been meeting over the last few months, taking a look at feedback from the fall Cottage Meetings, looking at the building needs, and developing ideas of how to best use the building to fulfill Good Shepherd's ministry and outreach.

The Exploratory Committee has some new ideas that were presented and received by the Council in April. Now the Exploratory Committee and Council would like to share these ideas with the congregation. Both the Committee and Council are excited about these new possibilities. **Please attend one of the informational meetings on May 8th or May 15th between the services of worship (it's that important – we're offering these meetings twice so you can attend at least one meeting).**

In order to proceed with these plans, which include a phased approach and work that congregational members could do, we will need a congregational vote so that formal plans can be developed by an architect. **Join us on Sunday, May 22nd at 10:00 am for the congregational vote (note that on May 22nd we go to one service at 9:00 am).**

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, MAY 15th

To honor our 2016 graduates, a special baccalaureate service will be held on **Sunday, May 15th at 10:30 a.m.** This baccalaureate service will be a time for us at Good Shepherd to show our love and support to these graduates, and to celebrate God's love that has brought them to this day and leads them into a bright tomorrow. God's blessings to all our seniors on their graduation, and we look forward to celebrating with them on May 15th!

BOOK GROUP IN MAY

Our May book is *The Cape Ann* by Faith Sullivan. A library book bag is available in the church office. We will discuss it on **May 18th** and celebrate another great year of reading. Bring book ideas for next year!

MILESTONES

Loss of Loved Ones

Our sympathies go out to Leanne Brevig and Erin Bluhm and her family for the loss of Leanne's step-dad and Erin's grandfather, Verne Ramsey, who passed away Tuesday, April 19th.

SENIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Wednesday Evenings

May 4th Bowling at Bowlocity

May 11th High School Cook Out

Celebrate the approaching end of the school year and welcome our newly confirmed 8th graders at a cook out on May 11th. Food and fun starts at 6:00 p.m. Come when your sports activities are done for the day! Friends are always welcome. Please bring some food to share and your favorite yard games. Watch for email to sign up for food.

We will have a short summer trip meeting at 7:45 p.m. for youth and adults.

High school Summer Service Trip

Eight youth, along with Carole Joyce, Tracy Goettl, and John Folkert, will be traveling to Chicago July 24-29 for a mission trip through Christian Student Missions. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare to serve in Jesus' name.

EDUCATION

END OF SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION

May 8th is the last day of Sunday school for the year. Come celebrate as the preschool – 2nd grade sing during the 8:00 a.m. worship service. We will recognize teachers at both services. During the education hour, adults will attend the congregation information meeting about how to meet our ministry and building needs. See page 3 for more information. We need YOUR voice —parents and all adults.

PARTY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND HELPERS MAY 25TH

Sunday school teachers and helpers are invited to a party at Pastor Krista's house (415 4th Street SW) on **Wednesday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m.** to celebrate the end of the Sunday school year and reflect on it. Dessert, drinks, laughter, and stories are on the menu!

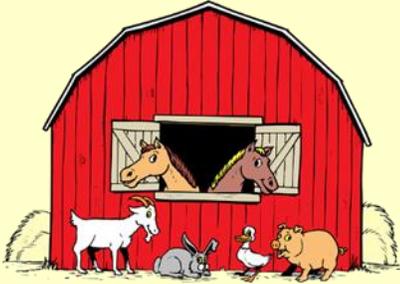
THANK YOU SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CONFIRMATION GUIDES!

The last day of Sunday school is May 8th! Good Shepherd has the most amazing team of people who pass on the faith by teaching and supporting the Sunday school and Confirmation ministry of this congregation! Thank you to the following people for the commitment they made to grow in faith and relationship with our children all year long. Parents, take time to thank these faithful leaders — especially your child's teachers.

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>	<u>Helper(s)</u>
Preschool 1	Katy Johnson	Brittany King
Preschool 2	Jill Kobler	Danika Bethke
Kindergarten	Nicole Engler Sherry Tuxen	Rachel Ferkin
1 st Grade	Shelley Henry Jessica Schumacher	Maria Henry William Dunn
2 nd Grade	Joanna Hansen	Sage Grover
3 rd /4 th Grades	Dawn Suntken	
5 th /-6 th Grades	Jenny Deyo	
Confirmation Mentors:	Tracy Goettl, Dawn Breuer Michelle Wendt Joanna Hansen Char Balcome	
High School Mentors:	Karen Jurgenson Lily Bartz	
Opening	Gloria Keseley	

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

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!

Registration is open now through Sunday, May 15th.

Please show your consideration to those planning and ordering supplies by having your registrations in on time.

Registration forms can be found on Good Shepherd's website www.goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org or in the church narthex. Please return them to the church office. One child per form please. A \$10 donation per child or \$20 per family is encouraged by not required.

Contact Erin Bluhm (erinb@bluhmandgrow.com or 876-0141) or Carole Joyce (carole35@charter.net or 269-9374) to volunteer or ask questions.

- Current 5th graders on up are encouraged to volunteer.
- Parents or grandparents of preschoolers are invited to attend with them—an opportunity to play and learn together.

Everyone is welcome, so invite a friend, neighbor, or family member

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.

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.

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

OVERNIGHTS AT GOOD EARTH VILLAGE BIBLE CAMP

A week (or several days) at Bible camp is a wonderful way to have lots of fun, explore God's amazing creation, and have great faith conversations. Because this can be such a meaningful experience, Good Shepherd would like to pay part of the cost for any student who would like to go to camp at Good Earth Village this summer! This offer is for any student Kindergarten - 9th grade. (Full scholarships are available for anyone with financial need. Just talk to Carole Joyce or Pastor Krista.)

- The easiest way is to register and pay deposit on-line at goodearthvillage.org
- Brochures are also available at church on the table in the narthex; then send your registration and deposit directly to GEV.
- Let Carole Joyce or the church office know you are going.
- GEV recommends you register early to get the times you want.

It would be fun to have a group go together, so we picked July 25-29 as Good Shepherd week. Pastor Krista will visit sometime that week. If July 25-29 doesn't work for you, choose any week that does.

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. Display and sign up will be in the narthex at church May 1st – 15th.

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Thank you Good Shepherd's video teams. Each week a team of three people creates a video of one of the worship services so it can be broadcast on cable TV. Joe Ulwelling then uploads the service so it can be shown on-line. Then our webmaster puts it on Good Shepherd's website. Now anyone can share in worship at Good Shepherd any time and any place at <http://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/video/> Thank you to the many hands who make this possible.

A special thank you to Good Shepherd's photographer, Joe Ulwelling. His photos of worship and special events are shared on Facebook and our website. Look for his work in the soon to be released church directory too!

Thank you in advance for the lawn mowing and gardening teams who are gearing up for spring and summer work.

FINANCE

ON-LINE GIVING

For **On-Line Giving**, go to our Web-site: goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org and click on "**Serve & Give**". From the website, you can make a single contribution or schedule a regular contribution from any bank account. You have full control and constant access to your historical giving. Please feel free to contact me with any questions relating to Simply Giving or On-Line Giving. Both methods are easy to use and provide full control by the contributor to alter at any time.

Tom Anderson, Finance Chair

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN FINANCIAL SUMMARY NOTES ---- APRIL 1, 2016

General Account	\$	31,673
Restricted Account	\$	16,406 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Building Fund Account	\$	106,796
Loan Receivable	\$	<u>7,300</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$	162,175
Fixed Assets	\$	891,357
Total Assets	\$	<u>1,053,532</u>

Mortgage Balance	\$	77,813
Equity	\$	975,719

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

05/06	Amy Thompson		05/16	Peyton Schumacher
	Wade Holst			Cassie Crary
	Addyson Schneider		05/17	Lisa Beck
	Alex Hanson		05/18	Tracy Goettl
05/07	Chelsea Dinsdale			Corbin King
	Kit Sackreiter		05/19	Karly Peter
05/08	Misty Biers		05/20	Carla Berning
05/09	Ron Fahrenz			Kelly Engler
	Lee Olson		05/21	Dawson Koepsell
05/10	Deb Ninas			Brittany King
	Hanna Sveen		05/22	Breckyn Schumann
05/11	Clint Schreiber			Kim Lyons
05/12	Justin Amos		05/24	Sheila Grover
	Danica Heppding			Kaylee Peter
	Sibyl Mason			Destiny Drenckhahn
	Easton King		05/28	Kristen Folkert
05/13	George Tesmer		05/29	Annaliese Tuxen
05/14	Renee Bergstrom			Blake Burkick
	Brady Melcher		05/30	Lennie Holst
05/15	Lucas Simonson			Jason Folkert
	Carly Goettl			Jackson Niemeyer
	Ryan Castle		05/31	Mark Timm
				Taylor Nelson

Anniversaries

05/01	Tim & MariClair Schneider		05/17	Nick & Cathe Hanson
05/02	Jay & Kari Schmidt		05/25	Joe & Brenda Crudele
05/08	Scot & Nicole Engler			Eric & Leanne Brevig
05/14	Ben & Alysha Mohs		05/31	Gary & Joanne Melbostad
05/16	Jon & Stephanie Amos			Ted & Shirley Lehmann
	Marc & Rachael Anderson			

*NOTE: Birthdays and anniversaries listed in the newsletters are now being limited to active members and their children (college age and under). 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

Smile – it increases your face value!

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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 June 2016 Newsletter is

MONDAY, MAY 23.