

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff



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MAY HIGHLIGHTS

- May 7 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service**
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Adult Education
- May 14 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service**
9:15 a.m. Last Day of Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Adult Education
MOTHER'S DAY!
- May 21 8:00 a.m. Worship Service**
10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Baccalaureate
- May 28 Memorial Day Weekend – Start of Summer Schedule**
9:00 a.m. Worship Service

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The summer worship schedule begins on **Sunday, May 28th** and goes **through Labor Day weekend, September 3rd**. 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, May 31st through August 30th**.

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

Thank you...

So many people at Good Shepherd are at work behind the scenes making everything come together. Thank you to all who helped with Palm Sunday breakfast and children's activities. Thank you to all who helped with Lenten worship, Holy Week, and Easter by taking on leadership roles, preparing and decorating the sanctuary, and setting up chairs. Thank you to all who have been busy working outside the building by making the parking lot better, picking up sticks and debris, and planting and beautifying the flower plots. Thank you to all of these volunteers and all of our volunteers! What you do is greatly appreciated!

Pastor Krista

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PASTOR'S NOTE

“While it was still dark...”

Reading the story of the resurrection this year, I was struck by the phrase “while it was still dark.” The Gospel of John tells us that on that first Easter morning, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb “while it was still dark.”

I have read the story many, many times, and in my mind when I picture Mary arriving at the tomb, the sun is just starting to rise. Maybe it's because that's how I have seen it in paintings. Maybe it's because I like the imagery of the sun rising and the son of God rising from the dead. Whatever the reason, I really heard it this time, Mary went to the tomb “while it was still dark.”

Now if Mary went to the tomb while it was still dark (and that's what the Gospel of John tell us), and as we continue reading we discover that Jesus is not there, and as we keep reading we discover that this is because Jesus has risen, then the resurrection must have taken place some time during the night, during the dark.

The resurrection happening in the dark has significance. Times of darkness in the Gospel of John are often times of chaos, confusion, and even evil. For example, Nicodemus goes to Jesus when it's dark, and Judas betrays Jesus at night, when it's dark. The first chapter of John gives away the ending “The light shine sin the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it” (John 1:5).

The light prevails, but not only that we discover that God is at work in the darkness. Even when we don't see the light, even when it's completely dark, God is at work. In fact, the work that God is doing is resurrection work: bringing light out of darkness, bringing life out of death.

What are those times in our lives where we feel as if we're walking in the dark? When do we experience chaos and confusion? Where do we see and feel evil in the world? These are the places and times where the resurrection work of God is needed, and this is exactly what God is up to.

Nobody knows exactly what the resurrection of Jesus looked like or exactly how long it took, but we have the witness of Mary and the others to know it happened. We may not know exactly what the resurrection work of God will look like in our lives or how long it take to bring light into our areas of darkness, but God is at work.

While it is still dark... the resurrection power of God in Jesus Christ is at work.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

In Christ,
Pastor Krista

INTERN PASTOR'S NOTES

FOOD FOR ALL

(Helping to provide a warm meal)

For more than one in ten Minnesota households, getting enough healthy food is sometimes a problem. Some people skip meals so their kids can eat; some go to extreme lengths to consume enough food. Many turn to cheap calories, and most experience the anxiety that comes with not always knowing where they will find their next meal. (MPR NEWS April of 2017)

YOU CAN HELP!

We will be starting a program here at Good Shepherd soon that hopes to prepare and bring a warm meal to families in need.

Right now we are looking for people. We need to see who would be interested in helping with this program. We also are looking for those who could use a warm meal.

Please fill out the information below and let us know. Thank you so much!

Head of the household's NAME: _____

How many total people in the household unit? _____

How many children under the age of 5? _____

Any Dietary needs/restrictions? _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

I WOULD LOVE TO HELP!! Contact me:

NAME: _____

Preferred Contact info: _____

**Please turn in form to church office
c/o Vicar Nicole**

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, MAY 21st

To honor our 2017 graduates, a special baccalaureate service will be held on **Sunday, May 21st 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 21st!

BOOK GROUP IN MAY

Our May book is called *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. This popular book bag was hard to get so you will definitely want to read this one. **Discussion will be May 17th** at 6:00 p.m. We will meet at Kim's restaurant in Plainview to eat and discuss the book.

MILESTONES

First Communion

The following students recently studied Holy Communion and had their first communion. Many helped to bake the communion bread for Maundy Thursday. Welcome to the Lord's Table; there is a place for you!

Jesalynn Bluhm, Alexis Deyo, Autumn Deyo, Torin Erickson, Gracelyn Grant, Kyle Hanson, Gavin Ihrke, Parker Matti, Carson Rahman, Addyson Schneider, Abigayle Schumacher, Ainsley Schwantz, Jayda Schwantz, Anika Steele, and Annaliese Tuxen

Confirmation

Blessings to the following students who affirmed their faith on April 30th.

Carter Balcome, Mitchell Breuer, Rose Grover, Eric Hanson, Mariah Henry, Kaylee Hutchison, Joshua LaBare, Alex Rahman, Conner Ramthun, Conner Schumacher, and Riley Wendt.

SENIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Seven youth will be traveling to the Boundary Waters from **July 23rd – 28th** through our Lutheran Bible Camp Wilderness Canoe Base. Keep them in your prayers as they experience the wonder of God's creation.

Wednesday Night Youth Group Schedule for the Rest of the Year

May 3 rd	Blanket/hat making (games if done)
May 10 th	To Ronald McDonald House to donate blankets & hats Stop for ice cream – bring \$ for ice cream WE WILL NEED ADULT DRIVERS!
May 17 th	End of year cookout

Celebrate the approaching end of the school year and welcome our newly confirmed 8th graders at a cookout on May 17th. 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.

EDUCATION

ADULT EDUCATION

Join us May 7th and May 14th as we complete our study of Money, Possessions, God and Me. Grab a cup of coffee and meet in the Youth Room at 9:30 a.m.

Also we will do some planning and brain storming for next year.

END OF SUNDAY SEHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION

May 14th is the last day of Sunday school for the year. Come celebrate as the children in grades preschool - 2nd grade sing during the 8:00 a.m. worship service. We will recognize teachers at both services. During the education hour, we will have a special visit from the Elgin ambulance crew. The Sunday school offering for the year is going for a new hydrolic lift for the ambulance!

THANK YOU SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CONFIRMATION GUIDES!

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>	<u>Helper(s)</u>
PreK	Katy Johnson Jill Kobler	Danika Bethke
Kindergarten	Karla Appel Alicia Pfeilsticker	Rachel Ferkin
1 st Grade	Nicole Engler Becky Wehrs	William Dunn
2 nd Grade	Joanna Hansen	Christian Dunn
3 rd Grade	Shelley Henry Jessica Schumacher	
4 th Grade	Dawn Suntken	
5 th /-6 th Grades	Jenny Deyo	
Sunday School Opening	Gloria Keseley	
Confirmation Mentors:	Dawn Breuer Michelle Wendt Joanna Hansen Char Balcome Gina Ihrke	
High School Mentor	Karen Jurgenson	

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

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 – 3rd Grade**

Children currently ages 3 years through 3rd grade are invited to attend with a caring adult. Anyone older than 3rd grade may participate as a helper.



**Registration is open now through Sunday, May 14th.
Everyone is welcome, so invite a friend, neighbor, or family member.**

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

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

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

SUPER HERO SERVICE

We would like to hold some Super Hero Service days with the 6th - 9th grade youth. We have tons of great ideas—BINGO at the nursing home, a project at the schools, painting or gardening, making bowls for Channel One, working at the food shelf, free car wash...We will add in other fun things too. Times would be from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tentative dates are Wednesdays June 14th, 21st, and 28th.

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

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 **Tuesday, June 27th**. 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 part of the fees. Carole Joyce 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.

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE BIBLE CAMP—LAST CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

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 in grades Kind - 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 now available at church on the table in the narthex (and on-line); then send your registration and deposit directly to GEV.
- Let Carole Joyce or the church office know you are going!
- GEV recommends you register by early to guarantee the week you want.

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE NEWS

Spring Work Day: Saturday, May 13th

Current Projects: Staining Buildings, Trail Maintenance & Tree Clearing. Woodsplitting & Stocking

- Lunch and refreshments provided
- You're invited to bring chainsaws, tree clippers, paint brushes, and gloves if available
- Cleaning projects also available!

Perfect occasion to bring a friend, your small group, or a youth & mentor

Please RSVP 507-346-2494 or info@goodearthvillage.org

The Search is On

Our team is coming together with impressive young people from around the region. **Will you help us fill our last few spaces on our Summer Team?** Camp counseling is a life-changing experience and a chance to build leadership, communication, problem-solving and team-building skills. Often these young people need someone to point out to them that they would be a good counselor. Will you reach out to the young people in your life and encourage them to apply?

Summer At A Glance:

Team of 35 Young People

Typical Weekend Fri 5 PM – Sun Noon

Staff Training May 29 - June 9

Campers arrive June 11

Camp season ends August 13

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. A special thanks for taking Confirmation photos and making videos of youth.

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

Through our Lenten offerings and our March noisy offering, a check for approximately \$2200 was given to the Plainview-Elgin Area Food Shelf. THANK YOU to everyone who donated towards this good cause.

FINANCE

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. Please feel free to contact the church office or Tom Anderson directly (507-993-8326).

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---- March 31, 2017

General Account	\$ 12,575
Restricted Accounts	\$ 23,427 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	\$ 187,397
Loan Receivable	\$ <u>3,629</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$ 226,848

Fixed Assets	\$ 903,494
Total Assets	\$1,130,402

Mortgage Balance	\$ 44,319
Equity	\$ 1,086,083

Check Book Trends (General Fund & Restricted Fund W/O Capital Campaign Fund)

Jan	\$ 35,135
Feb	\$ 34,547
Mar	\$ 35,882



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

05/06	Amy Thompson		0/16	Cassie Crary
	Wade Holst		05/17	Lisa Beck
	Addyson Schneider		05/18	Tracy Goettl
	Alex Hanson			Corbin King
05/07	Chelsea Weinrich		05/19	Karly Peter
	Kit Sackreiter		05/20	Carla Berning
05/08	Misty Biers			Kelly Engler
05/09	Ron Fahrenz		05/21	Dawson Koepsell
	Lee Olson			Brittany King
05/10	Deb Ninas		05/22	Breckyn Schumann
	Hanna Sveen			Kim Lyons
05/11	Clint Schreiber		05/24	Sheila Grover
05/12	Justin Amos			Kaylee Peter
	Danica Heppding			Destiny Drenckhahn
	Sibyl Mason		05/28	Kristen Folkert
	Easton King		05/29	Annaliese Tuxen
05/13	George Tesmer			Blake Burkick
05/14	Brady Melcher		05/30	Lennie Holst
05/15	Lucas Simonson			Jason Folkert
	Carly Goettl			Jackson Niemeyer
	Ryan Castle		05/31	Mark Timm
05/16	Peyton Schumacher			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

***The only person you should try to be better than
Is the person you were yesterday.***

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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 2017 Newsletter is

MONDAY, MAY 22.