

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## *The Shepherd's Staff*



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### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> IS EBENEZER SUNDAY!

10:30 a.m. One Worship Service of Thanksgiving  
12:00 p.m. Share a meal together on the Front Lawn

**This will be a time of giving thanks for what God has done.  
(See article on page 4 of this newsletter.)**

### SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Mark your calendars NOW for the following September events!

<b>Confirmation Orientation</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> grade students and parents)	<b>Wed. Sept. 7 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Ebenezer Sunday Worship</b>	<b>Sun. Sept. 11 10:30 am</b>
<b>Ebenezer Meal and Fellowship</b>	<b>Sun. Sept. 11 12:00 pm</b>
<b>Bedtime Bible Stories</b> (for 3-year olds and parents)	<b>Wed. Sept. 14 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday School Teacher Meeting</b>	<b>Wed. Sept. 14 7:00 pm</b>
<b>First Day of Sunday School and Parents Meeting</b>	<b>Sun. Sept. 18 9:15 am</b>
<b>Third Graders Receive Bibles</b>	<b>Sun. Sept. 18 10:30 am</b>
<b>Senior High Youth &amp; Parent Cook-Out</b>	<b>Wed. Sept. 21 6:30 pm</b>

### SECOND ANNUAL "BISHOP'S 5K

Join with other Lutherans in the Southeastern Minnesota Synod to fight food insecurity in our neighborhoods by running the Bishop's 5K on **September 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** at Soldier's Field in Rochester. There will be a 3.1 mile run and a 1 mile walk, so whether you run or walk or volunteer, you can join the fun and fight hunger. All are welcome. Invite your family and friends. Funds raised will benefit Channel One and Echo Food Shelf.

Online registration and additional details are available at:  
<http://www.semnsynod.org/bishops5k>.

### **Inside This Issue**

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear partners in ministry,

Schools are starting. Athletic games for football, volleyball, soccer, and everything else are getting underway. At church, we are almost at Ebenezer Sunday and the kick off for another year of Sunday school and confirmation classes. All of these events and many more include many of the children and youth around us, as well as the whole community.

Whether it's in the area of education or sports, practice and the support of the community makes a difference. The same is true when it comes to living a life of faith.

Moses in the book of Deuteronomy gives the following instructions to the people of God:

*"Hear O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home, and when you are away, when you lie down, and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:4-6:9).*

These words remind us of the importance of living out our faith and sharing our faith at all times: when we are at home, and when are away, when we lie down and when we rise. In other words, we need practice in living our faith and that practice happens anytime and anywhere.

Also, these words of instruction are not just for parents. It takes all of us to equip children, and each other, with the one thing that transcends the time and the place where children may end up some day. Together we need to equip children, and each other, with faith, the value of relationships, and the understanding that there is more to life than the latest gadget of technology or whatever the world would tell us we need to have in order to live life to the fullest.

The old proverb that "it takes a village" is true, perhaps even more so when it comes to living a life of faith. All of us have a role in raising-up people of faith. All of us are needed in the village of the church.

There are so many things we can do, including teaching Sunday School, helping a child understand what is happening in worship, being involved with confirmation or youth group, volunteering to help with a project, mentoring a young person, talking openly and honestly with children, listening to the joys and concerns of children, and most of all coming together as a community to worship, pray, and be nurtured in the never ending love of God. Faith is nurtured and nourished by the Holy Spirit as all of us, regardless of our age, come together. It's great to be a part of the community of Good Shepherd as together we practice the faith.

In Christ,  
Pastor Krista

# GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

## UPDATE ON RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PLANS:

The western wall of the Gathering Space and Office has sustained considerable water damage and is rotting from the inside out. If you look closely you can see water stains on the ceiling and walls of the Gathering Space. Our renovation and expansion plans will completely replace the rotting ceiling and wall, improve the insulation, and gives us the opportunity to expand our space to do ministry.

Following the May 2016 congregation vote to proceed with obtaining design plans for renovation and expansion, the Exploratory Committee met and reviewed the comments and suggestions offered by congregational members. The following recommendations were passed on to the architect for the design plans:

- Keep the A/V equipment out of the sanctuary.
- Rotate kitchen 90 degrees and make kitchen at least the same size as the current kitchen and include a door directly into the Fellowship Center.
- Want an open flow into the Fellowship Center and the storage room on the North side.

Once the plans are received and finalized by the Council, a date will be set to share the plans with the congregation. Based on the information we have received from the architect, a plan for congregational review should be ready in November.

## MILESTONES MINISTRY

### **Weddings**

Blessings to Chelsea Dinsdale and Tommy Weinrich, who were married on August 6<sup>th</sup> at Good Shepherd Church.

### **Loss of Loved Ones:**

Our sympathies go out to Ginny Mielke and her family for the loss of Ginny's mother, Betty Ask, who passed away on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

We mourn the loss of Don Brenteson, who was a member here at Good Shepherd Church. Don passed away on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>.

## GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

Thanks for the amazing response for school supplies for kids who need them in the PEM district. We are still collecting until September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Jordyn Anderson organized Pons, Pads, and Purses to fill purses with toiletries and tampons for women experiencing homelessness. She and Sage Grover spent hours filling the 80+ purses donated by the congregation and community members. We brought 5 giant garbage bags full to Chicago where some were distributed in person, but most were given to the Cornerstone Community Center and overnight shelter for women and children.

Nine high school youth along with Tracy Goettl and Carole Joyce spent a week in Chicago learning about life in the city. We served at the South Side YMCA and fell in love with the children we met. We prepared and served a meal at Cornerstone Community Center. Yes we mixed up 117 boxes of macaroni and cheese and washed hundreds of dishes. One night we visited Epworth Men's shelter. The children and adults we met on this service trip have changed our lives.

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> IS EBENEZER SUNDAY!** (in other words "God is our Stone of Help")

**10:30 a.m. -- One Worship Service of Thanksgiving**  
**12:00 p.m. -- Share a meal together on the Front Lawn**

Ebenezer Sunday is a day Good Shepherd has set aside to look back over the past year and remember all the ways God has helped us to grow in our ministry. We have many things to be thankful for and on September 11<sup>th</sup> we will name those things and recognize that our ministry isn't finished yet but we have come this far because the Lord has helped us. **Since Ebenezer Sunday falls on September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will also include a special thank you to all who serve as first responders, in law enforcement, and fire departments. Truly these people are God's hands in our world.** Join us and invite your family, neighbors, and friends as we raise our "Ebenezer" or "stone of help" and give thanks to God who is our "help" not only in times of trouble but always.

### **Ebenezer Sunday Checklist:**

- ✓ Take time to reflect on what God has done in your life and at Good Shepherd.
- ✓ Bring a stone as a symbol of what God has done for you.
- ✓ Come ready to give thanks to God at the 10:30 a.m. worship!
- ✓ Continue the celebration with a noon meal under the big tent on the front lawn.

Following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, there will be a potluck meal on the front lawn. In the case of rain, the meal will be served indoors. The Church will provide the grilled meat, coffee and lemonade.

Just like we did for our Wednesday night Lenten services, there is a link to the "Ebenezer Sunday" spreadsheet file. Just click on that link to sign up to bring potato or vegetable salads, fruit or fruit salads, white or chocolate milk or desserts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sibyl Mason, Lynn or Pastor Krista. We will be glad to assist you.

### **Click on this link:**

Ebenezer Sunday -

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1un0tKMLNQteBoj2yaiREqeLsBpQ8CoXfBETQJpwXBn8/edit?usp=sharing>

## **THANK YOU CARPET CLEANERS**

Thank you to everyone who showed up and helped clean the carpets in August. With over 12 people and 5 carpet cleaners, all carpets throughout the building were cleaned in about two hours. THANK YOU!!

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH CONTINUED ...

## GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK GROUP

Calling all book lovers. You are invited to join the Good Shepherd Book Group as we read, discuss, laugh, and grow! We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. New people are always welcome! These are the books we will be reading during the 2016-2017 school year in case you can't wait to get started!

Our first meeting will be at Good Shepherd on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss *Eve's Daughters* by Lynn Austin. If you haven't read it yet, beg, borrow or buy a copy and show up on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BOOK TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>
September 21	<i>Eve's Daughters</i>	Lynn Austin
October 19	* <i>State of Wonder</i>	Ann Patchett
November 16	* <i>Plain Truth</i>	Jodi Picoult
December 21	* <i>Me Before You</i>	JoJo Moyes
January 18	* <i>The Rosie Project</i>	Graeme Simsion
February 15	* <i>The Boy from Baby House 10</i>	Alan Philips
March 15 (Lenten time change)	* <i>Let's Pretend this Never Happened</i>	Jenny Lawson
April 19	* <i>If You Leave this Farm</i>	Amanda Farmer
May 17	* <i>A Man Called Ove</i>	Fredrik Backman

\*Library book bag.

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

### Senior High Youth Ministry – A good thing growing! (Grades 9-12)

All high school students are invited to a cook out on **September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Come enjoy food and fellowship. Watch for an email sign up to volunteer to bring food to share.

## PERSONAL CARE KIT COLLECTION

We are collecting items for Lutheran World Relief personal care kits. Each kit will contain:

- 1 light-weight bath size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27'), dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult size toothbrush in original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb
- 1 metal nail clippers

Kits will be assembled on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> during the education hour. Items can be dropped off at church at any time.

# EDUCATION

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

The Thursday afternoon Bible Study Group is looking forward to start meeting again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m., which will be September 8<sup>th</sup>. This year they will be using the book "*Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*". These books are available at Amazon for \$8.62. Anyone who is interested in joining the Bible Study group is certainly welcome to do so. If you have any questions, you can contact Donna Tesch at donna.tesch@gmail.com.

## BEDTIME BIBLE STORIES

Beginning Sunday school at age three is an important milestone in a child's life! Parents and three year olds (who turn three by September 1<sup>st</sup>) are invited to Bedtime Bible Stories on **Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** Children receive their own Beginner's Bible, meet their Sunday school teachers, and get a tour of the church. Parents will join in the activities, meet other parents, and think more about their role in their child's faith journey. All three year olds are welcome! Come in your pajamas and bring a favorite stuffed animal.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

We give thanks to God for the awesome leaders who will be teaching Sunday school this year! Please keep them in your prayers as they commit to sharing stories of God's love with our children and youth. We still need partners to work with teachers already committed to the Kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes. (Team teachers share the job so they don't teach every week.) Talk to Carole Joyce to volunteer or find out more!

Do you know anyone who would like to be a helper? High school youth and adults are welcome. Talk to Carole Joyce to find out where helpers are needed.

All Sunday school teachers and helpers will meet on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This is an important time to learn about students, curriculum, and the year. Most important, we will pray for our children. Please plan to attend this meeting. Contact Carole Joyce at 269-9374 if you have questions.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Hopefully all children age 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are now registered to participate in Sunday school here at Good Shepherd. However, if you have not yet registered your child/children, please do so as soon as possible. Sunday school starts on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. You can register them in one of the following ways:

- Register on-line at <http://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/sunday.html>
- Or pick up a registration in the church narthex.
- Or complete a form emailed to parents with a valid email address on file.

New students are always welcome! Invite a friend or neighbor and invite their children to participate too.

# EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

## **GET READY TO KICK OFF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR:** **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.**

- Start in the sanctuary to meet your Sunday school teacher and class!
- Important parents meeting for ALL parents!
- All are welcome.

Please join us on **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.** for the Sunday School Kick-off event. Parents will start out in the sanctuary for information and fellowship. Kids will start out in the sanctuary too, but will be dismissed by grade to their Sunday school classes.

## **SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN**

Good Shepherd is committed to faith growth for all ages. Children and youth go to Sunday School. Adults are invited and encouraged to join the conversation in adult studies. All are welcome to the sanctuary Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

- September 18: Sunday School Kick Off for All Parents
- September 25: Start of adult education classes. Through the month of October, we will be studying the religion of Islam.

## **7TH & 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION MINISTRY**

All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to be a part of Confirmation. We meet on Wednesdays for food and faith from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. After a simple meal provided by parents, the youth meet in large groups to study the Small Catechism and small groups to talk about faith in everyday life.

Confirmation Kick-Off will be Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. All students AND parents will gather at 6:00 p.m. for a potluck meal. Plan to contribute \$4 per person for the main dish. If you would like, bring a salad or dessert to share. We will look ahead at our year together. A few parents are needed to help with set up. Contact Carole Joyce at [carole35@charter.net](mailto:carole35@charter.net)

# 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 ---- August 1, 2016

General Account	\$ 27,843
Restricted Accounts	\$ 13,553 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Building Fund Account	\$ 154,606
Loan Receivable	\$ 6,076
<b>Total Short Term Assets</b>	<b>\$ 202,078</b>
Fixed Assets	\$ 900,308
Total Assets	\$1,102,384
*****	
Mortgage Balance	\$ 65,647
<b>Equity</b>	<b>\$1,036,737</b>

# WORSHIP & MUSIC

## ADULT CHOIR

Anyone (junior high students or older) interested in joining adult choir this fall are asked to fill out contact information, and any questions you may have about choir, on the "Count Me In" form. Place it in the offering plate, or call/email your information or questions to Lynn in the church office. We are hoping to have schedules in place and to start practices in October.

## PASSING ON THE FAITH! THIRD GRADE BIBLES

During worship on **September 18<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate the milestones of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders receiving Bibles from their parents. The Bibles are a gift from Good Shepherd, and are presented by parents to children. This is one step of fulfilling the promises we made at baptism. Third graders and their parents will take part in **two special class sessions on September 25<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup>** to help them get more familiar with their Bibles.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## PLAINVIEW COMMUNITY CHOIR BEGINS

The Plainview Community Choir starts rehearsals **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> in the high school choir room at 7:00 p.m.** The concert will be Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. So gather yourself, friends and relatives, and bring the talent to a good choir and share your God given talent with the community. If you have questions, call Jan 507-534-2747.

## GOOD EARTH VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

**Thursdays September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup>: The Launch Project:** This is a series of one-day gatherings (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) designed for Christian leaders: pastors, council members, congregants – anyone interested in the future of the church. Each gathering consists of a large session led by the presenter, small group conversation with each presenter, and a wrap-up Q&A. Lunch and refreshments will be served.

**Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Good Gifts Gala:** This is an evening of dinner and entertainment supporting Christian leadership. Live and silent auctions will take place throughout the evening. This year the event is sponsored by media partner Fox 47. This event starts at 5:30 p.m. Visit their website to register: [www.goodearthvillage.org](http://www.goodearthvillage.org).

## OLDE FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

Planning is starting to take place for the Olde Fashioned Christmas event that is held in Plainview each year during the first weekend in December. Marty Hassig is one of those planning people. As of now, he is looking for someone who would like to help set up for the Brass Band and also to help set up all the luminaries. If you would be interested in helping out in these areas, or with any other area for this event, Marty would be more than happy to have you “on board”. Just contact Marty at [hassigplc@yahoo.com](mailto:hassigplc@yahoo.com) or give him a call at 507-421-3797.

## AL-ANON MEETINGS

AL-ANON meetings are held every Tuesday evenings @ 6:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ (205 First Street NE) in Plainview. You can call (507)273-9316 or email [plainviewnalanon@aol.com](mailto:plainviewnalanon@aol.com) for more information.

**What is Al-Anon?** Al-Anon is a mutual support group of peers who share their experience in applying the Al-Anon principles to problems related to the effects of a problem drinker in their lives. It is not group therapy and is not led by a counselor or therapist; This support network complements and supports professional treatment.

Adults attending Al-Anon meetings respectively are relieved to find that they are not alone. Even if uncertain that a relative or friend's drinking is causing them stress and despair, people attending Al-Anon meetings will acquire information about alcoholism or alcohol abuse as an illness and its impact on the nondrinker. They will also learn about the importance of family treatment and recovery **whether the alcoholic or problem drinker continues to drink or not.** They will usually be able to identify with and meet others who have had similar experiences and hear first-hand how members are utilizing the Al-Anon program for hope, support, and to improve their lives.



# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

09/01	William Dunn	09/15	Pat Hanson-Haack
09/03	Allen Breuer		Parker Shanks
	Dave LaBare	09/17	Rich Harwood
09/05	Jennifer Matti	09/18	Kaylee Hutchison
	Adam Lyons	09/19	Jason Engler
09/06	Tina Erickson		Sage Grover
09/07	Tony Crudele	09/20	Mike Kobler
	Tim Rahman	09/21	Jay Schmidt
09/08	Cameron Bluhm		Amber Kingsley
	Kyle Hanson		Joseph Sackreiter
09/09	Les Berning	09/22	Kelly Nesler
	Joanne Melbostad	09/23	Adalyn Castle
09/11	Tami Sawyer	09/24	Levi Folkert
	Conner Ramthun		Owen Wilhelmson
	Tygh Madsen	09/25	Mindy Drenckhahn
09/12	Nathen Nesler		Nicole Engler
	Raelin Ellinghuysen	09/26	Dawn Breuer
	Addison Grant	09/29	Dar Weaver
09/13	Jennifer Gusa	09/30	Mike Hutchison
	Andrea Fick		Blake Hassig
09/14	Jason Patzer		Rebecca Hassig
09/15	Ava LeVan		

## Anniversaries

09/03	Cheryl & Steve Schneider	09/16	Nate & Alicia Pfeilsticker
09/07	Scott & Kathy Rohlik	09/17	Gary & Linda Tesmer
	Mike & Kathy Sveen	09/18	Stan & Donna Tesch
09/08	Neil & Dar Weaver	09/20	Les & Carla Berning
09/09	Kurt & Trisha Schumacher		Ryan & Andrea Castle
	Jason & Kelly Engler	09/21	Terry & Lonnie Yust
09/10	Dan & Linda Schmitz		Wayne & Michelle Wendt
09/13	Jason & Erin Bluhm	09/23	Bob & Barb Petit
	Quintin & Sarah Wilhelmson	09/26	Dave & Pat Haack
09/15	Lynn & Eugene Eversman		John & Jane Potter
	Nate & Kelly Nesler		Mark & Laurie Timm

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

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**Faith doesn't exempt you from problems.  
It gives you the strength to get through them.**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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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:

**N**otice the needs of our congregation, community, and world with eyes of faith.  
**E**ducate all from cradle to grave.  
**W**orship in thankfulness and joy.

**V**alue all generations in passing on the faith.  
**I**dentify and affirm the gifts of God's people.  
**E**nergize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.  
**W**elcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

**The submission deadline for the October 2016 Newsletter is**

***THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.***