

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff



Contact Information

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 355
Plainview MN, 55964
(507) 534-3675
www.goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org

Pastor: Krista Henning-Ferkin
Office Hours: Vary
Email: Krista.goodshepherd@gmail.com
Phone: (507)534-3675 (office)
(605)480-2325 (cell)

Intern: Vicar Nicole Rockne
Office Hours: Vary
Email: nrockne001@luthersem.edu
Phone: 507-398-7710

Cong. Administrator: Lynn Eversman
Office Hours: Vary
Email: secretary@goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org
Phone: (507)534-3675

Passing on Faith Facilitator: Carole Joyce
Office Hours: Vary
Email: carole35@charter.net
Home Phone: (507) 288-0551
Cell Phone: (507) 269-9374
Office Hours: Vary
Email: carole35@charter.net

FINANCIAL QUARTERLY UPDATE – APRIL 2018

Year to Date Actual Income	\$58,022.86
Year to Date Actual Expenses:	\$57, 243.30
Year to Date Budgeted Income:	\$58,665.00
Year to Date Budgeted Expenses:	\$52,569.00

There's some good news in these numbers. We are only about \$600 off in budgeted to actual income. Also, our overall actual year to date expenses are less than our overall actual year to date income.

As you can see from the above numbers, our actual year-to-date expenses are higher than our budgeted year to date expenses. This can occur occasionally when certain bills are paid annually or quarterly, etc., along with a few unexpected expenses. While this is not an overall concern at this time, what is concerning is the amount of money we have in the checking account (unrestricted cash on hand).

The **URGENT** need is to **INCREASE** our **General CHECKING ACCOUNT FUNDS**.

Amount in the checking account as of March 2018 = \$7,455.

This is only adequate funding for a partial month without dipping into our restricted accounts. Please help us build up our general account fund balance.

See further information on the Financial Page in this newsletter on how you can help!

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT BUILDING RENOVATION AND EXPANSION

April 29th -- following the 10:30 a.m. service
May 6th -- following the 8:00 a.m. service

Inside This Issue

- 2 Pastor's Note
- 3 Intern Pastor's Note
- 4-5 Congregational Life/Youth
- 6-8 Education
- 9 Missions & Stewardship
- 10 Finance
- 11 Birthdays and Anniversaries

PASTOR'S NOTE

This Changes Everything!

The theme for the ELCA National Youth Gathering is "This Changes Everything." As Christians we realize that Jesus' life, death and resurrection changes everything, including us.

The last week of June, 10 of our teenagers and 2 adults will journey by bus to Houston, TX for this once in a lifetime experience. The ELCA National Youth Gathering only happens once every three years, so most high school students only have one opportunity to attend. The ELCA Youth Gathering seeks to make a difference in our young people's faith lives. Our youth join a group that totals about 30,000. Every evening this large group of 30,000 gathers together for a dynamic worship experience that includes modern Christian music from different bands and Christian music artists. Messages (sermons) are delivered by teenagers, well known Christians, and other Christians who are making a difference in the world by living out their faith. Worship with 30,000 sometimes feels like attending a concert by a popular musician. One of the incredible take aways from this experience is that all of those gathered together in the stadium are Lutherans and all of them value their faith. Attending this event helps our young people realize that they are not alone in their faith. In addition, they also discover that worship doesn't always have to look like it does when you come to church at Good Shepherd or any other church that they may have attended.

Along with this incredible worship experience, youth also spend a day in service in the Houston community. These are opportunities to learn from people and organizations that provide ministry and assistance to the people of the area. Each day 10,000 youth are sent out into the city to learn from others and discover some of the different ways God is at work.

Another benefit that comes from attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering is the relationships that develop with others. Our youth (and adults) will be bussing their way to Houston along with other youth groups from across the Synod. Good Earth Village (one of our Lutheran camps) is putting this together. There's nothing like a long bus ride to get to know someone. In addition, one of the days is a Synod day where we will be with the bishop and youth from our Synod, talking, discussing and learning from one another. Also, the youth from our Synod are placed together in the same two hotels to further help develop and foster those relationships.

This incredible experience is made possible by you. Your help and support with soup suppers, coffee houses, noisy offering and more has been helping to raise the funds necessary for our youth to attend. Thank you! Thank you for all the ways you support our youth and help them grow in their faith!

In Christ,
Pastor Krista

Thank you to everyone for your support, love and care with the death of my mother. It means so much to know that you are being held in the prayers of others. Your kind words and actions have provided comfort and hope in the midst of sorrow and grief. Thank you!

Pastor Krista and family

INTERN PASTOR'S NOTES

I know it doesn't feel like May, but May is coming. What comes for me in May is a long-awaited graduation. I will graduate from seminary on May 20th. I have waited for this day since I started in 2012, and in fact, some days I have thought it may never happen. It actually looks like it will happen. I thought this would be a good opportunity to tell you a bit about the whole "call" process and my part in it.

I have always felt a call, since as long as I can remember. I married and started a family and my thoughts on ministry seemed to be impossible. Then I learned of the distributive learning program through Luther Seminary. This program allows you to be a part-time student, take many classes online and be on campus in January & June. This program was one that could fit into my family's life. I applied to Luther Seminary for the MDIV program. Master's in Divinity – it seems such a silly title, for who in the world can master the art of divinity.

Once accepted, I had to make a call to the Synod office. It is our **entrance** interview and we must be accepted into the program before attending any schooling at Luther Seminary. This is the start of the candidacy process. I was accepted, and for me I was accepted knowing that due to my family's situation I would be restricted to this Synod. It indeed makes it harder for me and the Synod, but this was the only way I could go into ministry.

Around mid-point in my seminary education, and after you have completed CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education- for many, as it was for me, it means to serve as a chaplain at a hospital/medical facility) you will need to seek **endorsement** from the Synod to continue on the journey of candidacy. Specifically, to move on to internship. I was restricted for this portion as well. You, the good people of Good Shepherd, took me in when I was misplaced and without an internship site. Now, as internship is nearing completion more must happen. I am eligible to graduate (my diploma will not be signed until internship is completed, but I will be able to walk through the ceremony). The graduation is set for May 20th but the wheels were started at the beginning of the year. An approval essay was written and reviewed by both faculty and Synod. I sought faculty approval and was awarded it on March 27th. The next step is to gain the Synod's approval, this interview will happen in August.

My internship will officially end on Sunday, September 30th. Two years' have gone by way too quickly! Geesh! We won't talk about that right now. If approved in August, I will await a call and pray.

I hope that helps to see what the process is. Prayers and good thoughts welcomed along the way.

Thanks for all your kindness!

Vicar Nicole

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, MAY 20th

To honor our 2018 graduates, a special baccalaureate service will be held on **Sunday, May 20th 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 20th!

BOOK GROUP IN MAY

Our May book is called *We are Going to Pick Potatoes* by Irene Berman, We do not have a book bag, but a couple of copies are available to be checked out in the church office. Discussion will be **May 16th**. Bring ideas of books we should put on our reading list for next fall!

40 YEARS FOR GOOD SHEPHERD

Everyone loves a party. And we have a great reason for a party. Good Shepherd was established 40 years ago!

This is a call going out to ANYONE who would be interested in helping to plan and organize our 40th Anniversary party. **The celebration would be held Ebenezer Sunday, September 9th.** Ebenezer is a time of celebration and being thankful, so how appropriate.

If you are interested, please contact Sibyl Mason at 651-764-0194 or sibylm12@gmail.com.

MILESTONES

First Communion: The following students recently studied Holy Communion and had their first communion. They baked the communion bread for Maundy Thursday. Welcome to the Lord's Table; there is a place for you.

Caden Castle, Austin Engler, Tayla Erickson, Alex Hanson, Kadence Ihrke, Reid Ihrke, Owen Johnson, Landon Klennert, Ellie Kobler, Dawson Koepsell, Calen Kraemer, Brady Melcher, Addison Nesler, Karly Peter, Jacob Suntken, and Brady Wehrs

Welcome New Members:

Welcome to **Braeden McEvoy**, who was received into the Good Shepherd family on Sunday, April 15th:

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH CONTINUED ...

MILESTONES (Continued)

Baptisms

Blessings to **Quinlan Noel Holst**, who was baptized on April 8th. Quinlan is the daughter of Shane and Stephanie Holst.

Blessings to **Juniper Ann Holst**, who was baptized on April 8th. Juniper is the daughter of Shane and Stephanie Holst.

Blessings to **Ashtin Lee McEvoy**, who was baptized on April 15th. Ashtin is the son of McKenzie Bethke and Braeden McEvoy.

SENIOR HIGH MINISTRY

ELCA Youth Gathering

Ten youth will be traveling to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX June 25-July 2, along with Franny Schwantz and Carole Joyce. Keep them in your prayers as they experience the chance to get to know, support and help the community of Houston, learn more about their faith, and worship with 30,000 people. This experience will widen our understanding of the body of Christ and how we work together. Amazing speakers and musicians will also be highlights. Thanks to Good Earth Village who has organized our bus transportation!

Coffee Shop Sunday, May 20th

The last coffee shop of the school year will be May 20th. Thanks for your support of the youth!

Learning Night "Called for a Purpose"

Learning Night will be held on **Wednesday, May 9th at 7:30 pm**. High school students, as well as ALL summer trip participants (with at least one parent), will meet to think about our passions and purpose. We will end with important trip information and paperwork, so parents are needed!

EDUCATION

ADULT EDUCATION

There will be no class on May 6th due to confirmation.

Last class will be on May 13th -- Join us for a short Bible study and time to talk about what we would like to study in the 2018-2019 year.

END OF SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION

May 13th 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, we will celebrate Pentecost with roasted marshmallows, wind socks, and bubbles. Ask your kids what that has to do with Pentecost.

THANK YOU SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CONFIRMATION GUIDES!

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. Our last day of classes for this program year is May 13th.

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>	<u>Helper</u>
PreK	Jill Kobler	Evan Kobler
Kindergarten	Kaitlyn Weinrich Becky Wehrs	Tucker Johnson
1 st Grade	Kelly Nesler Karla Appel	
2 nd Grade	Alicia Pfeilsticker Joanna Hansen	
3 rd Grade	Sherry Tuxen	
4 th Grade	Dawn Suntken Nicole Engler	
5 th -6 th Grades	Tara Ellinghuysen	
Sunday School Opening	Gloria Keseley	
Confirmation Mentors:	Gina Ihrke Kim Ihrke Erin Bluhm Franny Schwantz	

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

VBS 2018: MAKER FUN FACTORY

Monday – Thursday

June 11-14

Meal served for all 5:25 - 5:50!

VBS runs: 6:00 - 7:45 pm

For children currently age 3 through 4th grade.
Come with a caring adult (if possible). Anyone older than 4th grade may participate as a helper.



Registration is open now through Sunday, May 13th. Everyone is welcome, so share the news and invite a friend, neighbor, or family member. We will have a blast exploring how wonderfully God created us and what we can create!

Registration forms can be found on Good Shepherd's website www.goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org or in the church narthex and 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.

Contact Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net or 507-269-9374 with questions or to volunteer.

- 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 SUMMER SERVICE FOR 6TH – 9TH GRADERS

Last summer our 6th-9th graders had a blast serving in the Plainview community. We will again hold Super Hero days on the Wednesdays in June: June 6th, 13th, and 20th from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Our adventures may include service and fishing at Carly State Park, helping at the Food Shelf, BINGO at the nursing home, helping at the library, building faith chests... Your suggestions are welcome too.

We need 2 things to make this happen.

1. Most Important—awesome youth to participate (You can participate around sports and appointments.) Registration forms are in the church narthex.
2. A few caring adults to spend a day driving OR help finalize project ideas.

Please contact Carole Joyce or Pastor Krista if interested.

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 **Wednesday, July 25th**. The camp runs from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm 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.

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.

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

The Service of "Affirmation of Baptism", also known as "**Confirmation**", will take place on **Sunday, May 6th at the 10:30 a.m. worship service**. **Confirmation pictures** will be taken in the sanctuary that morning from **9:15 - 10:15 a.m.**

Confirmands will share their faith statements with their parents, peers, and other caring adults at the **confirmation banquet on Wednesday, May 2nd**. We will have a **meal together at 6:00 p.m.** The evening is always a highlight of the Confirmation year. Council leaders, family and all who want to support them are encouraged to come too.

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Thank you to all who shoveled and plowed the church parking lot this winter—especially Joe Suntken, Mark Jurgenson, and Bob Sloan. They dug us out way too many times this year!

Thank you in advance for the lawn mowing and gardening teams who are gearing up for spring and summer work. It's not too late to sign up! Talk to Joe Suntken if interested.

Thank you to Sue Tangen and Donna Tesch who beautify the sanctuary for the different seasons of the church year. A special thanks to all who donated flowers for Easter.

Through our Lenten offerings and our March noisy offering, a check for a little over \$1900 was given to the Plainview-Elgin Area Food Shelf. THANK YOU to everyone who donated towards this good cause.

FINANCE

Continued Update on our Financials – Why is our General Account Short?

How did this happen? While we are doing relatively well in terms of budget this year, this has not always been the case. If you have been following the financial reports in the newsletter over the last year or so, you can notice that this amount of unrestricted cash on hand has been declining. This happens when we don't bring in enough income to cover the expenses.

What will we do? Our mortgage will be paid off in May. That lowers our expenses by about \$3000/month. This will help us with our cash flow. However, summer is coming and summer is often a time when cash flow is tight. The best financial practices are to keep a balance in checking to cover three months of expenses, and at the minimum having adequate funds to cover at least one month of expenses. This ensures that the bills are paid. In addition, we realize a good financial position is the basis for doing a building project.

How much does it cost to run the church each month? Our monthly expenses are budgeted at \$17,523. This includes money for heat, keeping the lights on, plowing the lot, Sunday School materials, weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters, janitorial services, music at worship, staff who preach, teach, visit and counsel, prepare what happens on Sunday and more.

What can I (my family) do? We are doing ministry here at Good Shepherd and out into our communities and out into the world. God has called us to be here, and God has a plan and purpose for us. Each of us, each family is part of that plan and purpose and ministry. Spend time in prayer for our church and our community and consider how God may be calling you to use your time, talents, and treasures.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

05/04	Nate Pfeilsticker		05/17	Lisa Beck
05/06	Amy Thompson			Corbin King
	Wade Holst		05/19	Karly Peter
	Addyson Schneider		05/20	Carla Berning
	Alex Hanson			Kelly Engler
05/07	Chelsea Weinrich		05/21	Dawson Koepsell
	Kit Sackreiter			Brittany King
05/08	Misty Biers		05/22	Breckyn Schumann
05/09	Ron Fahrenz			Kim Lyons
	Lee Olson		05/24	Sheila Grover
05/10	Deb Ninas			Kaylee Peter
	Hanna Sveen			Destiny Drenckhahn
05/11	Clint Schreiber		05/26	Juniper Holst
05/12	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
	Ryan Castle			Jackson Niemeyer
05/16	Peyton Schumacher		05/31	Mark Timm
	Cassie Crary			Taylor Nelson

Anniversaries

05/01	Tim & MariClair Schneider		05/16	Marc & Rachael Anderson
05/08	Scot & Nicole Engler		05/25	Joe & Brenda Crudele
05/14	Ben & Alysha Mohs			Eric & Leanne Brevig
05/16	Jon & Stephanie Amos		05/31	Gary & Joanne Melbostad

*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

***Life is like a camera.
Focus on what's important,
and if things don't work out, take another shot!***

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

PO Box 355
Plainview, MN 55964

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 June 2018 Newsletter is

TUESDAY, MAY 22.