

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*The Shepherd's Staff*



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**THIS IS A COMBINED JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER!**

**Your next newsletter will be August 2018.**

**2-sided calendar in this newsletter**

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***DID YOU KNOW???***

***THERE IS CHURCH IN THE SUMMER!!!***

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Our summer worship schedule began on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and will go through Labor Day weekend, September 1<sup>st</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, June 19<sup>th</sup> through August 28<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. Sunday morning worshipers will gather in the chairs in the rows in the sanctuary.

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. 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.

### **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Dedication of the new addition will be on **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at the service of worship at 10:30 am with a meal to follow.** This is our traditional Ebenezer Sunday. The building project is coming along and we look forward to moving in and getting settled over the summer months. As soon as we have completed the inspection for use of the new addition, we will send out word and celebrate on one of the following Sundays.

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

Using the example of Lewis and Clark's exploration of finding a way to the Pacific Ocean, Tod Bolsinger talks about the challenges that the church faces today. When Lewis and Clark reached the Continental Divide they expected that they would find a river and be able to paddle the rest of the way to the Pacific. They expected that they would find a large river, a water route because that's what they had already experienced. With that expectation they had climbed up the mountains to the Continental Divide dragging their canoes along with them. When they reached the Continental Divide, there was no river in sight. Instead they saw more mountains. They were face to face with a mountain range bigger than their expectations. Lewis and Clark had a decision to make: do we keep dragging these canoes?

Tod Bolsinger says that the church today is in the same type of position. We have to decide what can we let go of because the landscape before us is nothing like the landscape behind us? Lewis and Clark decided to leave the canoes behind. The canoes weren't doing them any good. If anything they had become a burden to keep dragging along. For Lewis and Clark it was more important to discover this new world than to keep dragging canoes. The canoes would hold them back and be a liability.

The Christian church today faces the challenge of a whole new world. It's no longer the case that everyone around us is a Christian. No longer do most people attend worship on a weekly basis. No longer do people have a church home, even if they aren't there every week. No longer are all weddings and all funerals held in a church. How will the church, how will we navigate this landscape? We may long for and miss the days when... everyone went to church and everyone was part of a church, etc., but that doesn't necessarily help us deal with where we are today and where we will be in the future. Sometimes I think Lewis and Clark had it easier because they could clearly see that there was no river and it would have taken a lot of physical strength to keep dragging the canoes. Of course, they needed to drop the canoes. For the church today and for us, there's a lot of uncertainty.

For Lewis and Clark, one of the best decisions they made along the way was to listen to and follow Sacagawea, a Native American, teenage mother. While Lewis and Clark, were not home in this new terrain, Sacagawea was home. The church today can also benefit from listening to and engaging with those who find themselves at home in this new landscape.

Sometimes I can get rather sad, thinking about how different Christianity looks today compared to when I was growing up, but then I remember that there will be many wonderful and incredible experiences of Christianity ahead. What Lewis and Clark found on the other side of the Continental Divide was beyond what they could have imagined. The same holds true for us as we faithfully follow God into the future. I look forward to making those discoveries together at Good Shepherd.

In Christ,

Pastor Krista

# CONGREGATION NEWS

## MILESTONES

**Confirmation:** Blessings to the following students who affirmed their faith on May 5<sup>th</sup>:  
**Skylar Jo Beckel, Cameron Joel Bluhm, Luke Kris Henning Ferkin,  
Dylon Alvin Michael Flattum, Caitlyn Jeanne Harlow. Claire Ava Henry,  
Tucker Bradley Johnson, Destiny Skye Kraemer, Benjamin Joseph Suntken**

**Graduating Seniors:** Blessings to the following seniors who graduated from high school this spring:  
**Olivia Amos, Rachel Ferkin, Jacob LaBare, Jacob Munsch, Taylor Nelson,  
Parker Ramthun, Grace Wangen and Christian Wangen.**

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.

## FAITH ON THE GO

Jesus is with us wherever we go. How exciting to remember God's presence wherever we are this summer! Bring Sunday's Bible reading with you.

- Sign up to receive "Walking with the Shepherd" devotions via email or Facebook or at <http://walkingwiththeshepherd.com>. The once a week message is easy to read on your cell phone or computer.
- See the latest news and activities at <http://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/>
- Join the Good Shepherd Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GSLCPLAINVIEW/>

Remember to take part in WOW Worship on Wednesday at 7:00 pm whenever you can. This informal worship is served up with cold drinks and treats as well as God's Word and prayer.

## SUMMER READING FUN

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Good Shepherd Book group will read the following books. If you are looking for some good summer reads, check out these books:

September	<i>Tattoo Artist of Auschwitz</i>	Heather Morris
October	<i>My Grandmother Asked Me to Say She's Sorry</i>	Fredrick Backman
November	<i>Plague of Doves</i>	Louise Erdrich
December	<i>We Are Displaced</i>	Malala Yousafzai
January	<i>Never Let Me Go</i>	Kazuo Ishiguro
February	<i>Bean Trees</i>	Barbara Kingsolver
March	<i>Life We Bury</i>	Allen Eskens
April	<i>Blue Notebook</i>	James Levine
May	<i>TBA</i>	

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Please pray for our seven Good Shepherd youth, plus adult leaders Larissa Jurgenson and Carole Joyce, as they experience urban life and serve in Chicago through CSM—City. Service. Mission <http://www.csm.org/> July 28<sup>th</sup> - August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We will serve with a children's program, serve at a soup kitchen, visit the elderly, and learn at a shelter for men experiencing homelessness. We will have the chance to experience different cultures as we dine in local ethnic restaurants. We will share our experiences with you in August. We go in Jesus name, but also as part of you and Good Shepherd's ministry!

### Collecting Health Items for Chicago Trip

Our high school youth traveling to Chicago to serve this summer are collecting health items to share with those experiencing homelessness. Please bring any of the following to church between now and July 21<sup>st</sup>: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap (travel size are fine), tampons and pads (especially needed for women), and new underwear and socks (especially needed for men), You are able to make an impact in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Chicago!

# EDUCATION

## GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOLARSHIPS

Students attending a Lutheran college are receiving a scholarship from Good Shepherd this year: Taylor Thompson and Rachel Ferkin. The scholarships are made possible by Thrivent funds given to Good Shepherd. Any Thrivent member can donate their choice dollars to this scholarship fund. Any young adult attending a Lutheran college can ask to receive a scholarship.

## PASSING ON THE FAITH

Sharing faith with children, youth, and each other is one of the most important things we do as a faith community!! Much of this happens at home, but we also learn Bible stories and God's love here at church. We need caring adults and high school youth to teach and help with Sunday school AND mentor with Confirmation on Wednesdays. Is God calling you to share your gifts? Please consider this call to be a caring adult in the lives of our children and youth.

Most grades already have one teacher, but most teachers prefer to team teach — allowing flexibility to be gone up to half of the time. Would you like to serve in the Preschool, K-1<sup>st</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade? We can always use Sunday school helpers and substitutes as well. Contact Carole Joyce at 269-9374 or [carole35@charter.net](mailto:carole35@charter.net) if you have questions or would like to serve. Remember, you will learn and grow as much as the kids! That's God's grace at work!

## EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

### **SUPER HERO SUMMER SERVICE FOR 6<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

**Wednesdays June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

For anyone who has completed 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (or 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup>** Painting bowls for Channel One. Library inventory. Projects at Good Shepherd.

**Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** Food Shelf. Family Promise -- set up, baking at Community Presbyterian for families experiencing homelessness, Community Clothesline. BINGO at Green Prairie

**Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>** Whitewater State Park (serve in the morning), trout fishing in the afternoon.

Please contact Carole Joyce at [carole35@charter.net](mailto:carole35@charter.net) if interested. Yes, your friends may come too. Are you a caring adult who can help drive on one of these days? Let Carole know!

### **VBS 2019: SHIPWRECKED RESCUED BY JESUS**

**Monday – Thursday, June 10-13 – VBS runs from 6:00 – 7:45 pm**  
**Meal served for all 5:20 – 5:45!**

For children currently age 3 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Come with a caring adult (if possible). Anyone older than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade may participate as a helper.

To make it easier for busy families, come between 5:20 and 5:45 for a simple meal before the VBS fun begins.

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 Carole Joyce at 507-269-9374 or [carole35@charter.net](mailto:carole35@charter.net) with questions or to volunteer.

### **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 **Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**. The camp runs from **9:00 am to 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! 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](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).

# FINANCE

## *Giving With Gratitude & Generosity*

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 ---- April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

General Account	\$ 34,162
Restricted Accounts	\$ 34,838 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	\$ 165,263
<b>Total Short Term Assets</b>	<b>\$ 234,263</b>
Fixed Assets (old Bldg etc.	\$ 905,479
New Bldg. to date	\$ 574,349
Total Assets	\$1,714,092
*****	
Mortgage Balance	\$ 221,442
<b>Equity</b>	<b>\$1,492,649</b>

### **Check Book Trends (General Fund- end of month)**

Jan \$ 19,783    Feb \$ 29,499    March \$ 32,081    April \$ 34,162

Closing on the MIF Loan will occur in July. At that time, we hope to be well within our goal (under \$1,000,000) of the total loan limit. We will keep you up to date via emails in June & July as we get the final building cost. Thank you for your continued contributions to the building fund! This has allowed us to pay cash for items in the amount of \$352,907 as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

# WORSHIP & MUSIC

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN

**Children's Choir Director:** Recruit, conduct practices and lead choir in worship. Open to new ideas and ways of holding practices, etc.

**Sunday School Music Director:** Lead music time for Sunday school children. Position could be shared with another person.

**Council Position for Worship and Music:** Attend monthly council meetings and help with the organization of worship and music activities.

For more information on any of the above positions, contact Pastor Krista or the church office.

# 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 pray for them.

The May noisy offering went to support our youth who are serving in Chicago this summer. Thank you for being a part of this ministry.

Sunday school offering this winter and spring went to help hungry kids in Plainview through the backpack program and lunch assist. Thanks kids for caring about other kids.

## SERVING FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Would you like to help make a difference in the lives of homeless families? Family Promise works with churches to provide housing for families experiencing homelessness. Community Presbyterian Church in Plainview is one of the host congregations. As a host church, they provide transportation, food, and housing for a two-week period for the guests in the Family Promise network.

Community Presbyterian Church is scheduled to be the host church for two weeks, beginning on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and ending on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

In order to make this happen, a lot of community volunteers are needed to serve in the following ways: van drivers (am and pm) – to drive the families from Plainview to the Day Center in the morning and bring them back to Plainview in the Evening; evening hosts – to provide a meal; overnight hosts – to sleep at the church.

In order to be a volunteer, you need to be trained, but Community Presbyterian Church is hosting a training session on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:15 – 12:00 noon. Please consider getting trained and help spread the word to your friends!

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

<b>06/02</b>	Steve Fenske		<b>06/18</b>	Alese Ihrke
	Nolan Pfeilsticker		<b>06/20</b>	Claire Folkert
<b>06/04</b>	Scott Rohlik			Caden Castle
<b>06/06</b>	Cindy Fuerstneau		<b>06/22</b>	Bob Sloan
<b>06/09</b>	Bryce Beckel			Rose Nienow
<b>06/10</b>	Scot Engler		<b>06/23</b>	Jackie Arens
<b>06/11</b>	Mark Johnson			Shane Kingsley
<b>06/12</b>	Karla Appel		<b>06/25</b>	Lydia Kreofsky
	Kroy Steffen			Colton Niemeyer
<b>06/13</b>	Bob Endres		<b>06/27</b>	Jack Schreiber
<b>06/14</b>	Kale Steffen		<b>06/28</b>	Roger Arens
<b>06/16</b>	Oliver Weinrich		<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>06/23</b>	Ryan & Brittany King
<b>06/17</b>	Craig & Lisa Beck		<b>06/24</b>	Arvin & Corrine Hanson
<b>06/18</b>	Bill & Bonnie McMillin		<b>06/25</b>	Troy & Betsy Munsch
	Mike & Sherry Tuxen		<b>06/30</b>	Arlo & Penny Simonson
<b>06/19</b>	George & Elaine Tesmer			John & Tammy Wehrs

\*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***

***Your mind is a garden,  
Your thoughts are the seeds,  
You can grow flowers***

***Or you can grow weeds.....Your choice!***

# JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

<b>07/03</b>	Cheryl Schneider		<b>07/17</b>	John Salek
<b>07/04</b>	Dave Haack			Brent Masee
	Tom Anderson			Alexis Yust
	Jason Bluhm		<b>07/19</b>	Colene Rau
<b>07/06</b>	Cheryl Endres		<b>07/21</b>	Aiden Engler
<b>07/09</b>	Jayden Ihrke			Collin LeVan
<b>07/10</b>	Karen Anderson		<b>07/22</b>	Chris Henderson
	Penny Simonson		<b>07/23</b>	Eric Hanson
	Gavin Folkert			Kai Fuerstneau
<b>07/11</b>	Stan Tesch			Keegan Fuerstneau
<b>07/12</b>	Sara Steele		<b>07/24</b>	Brandi Yust
	Scott Folkert		<b>07/25</b>	Al Ninas
	Ellie Kobler			Don Kuschel
	Marc Melcher			Waylon Flies
<b>07/13</b>	Steve Tradup		<b>07/26</b>	Paul Appel
<b>07/14</b>	Aiden Klennert		<b>07/27</b>	Carole Joyce
<b>07/15</b>	Ginny Mielke			Kali Jurgenson
	Wayne Wendt			Evelyn Pfeilsticker
	Brady Beckel		<b>07/28</b>	Caraline Crary
<b>07/16</b>	Paige Gudmundson		<b>07/29</b>	Todd Wangen
<b>07/17</b>	Matthew Hanson		<b>07/30</b>	Nora Henry

## Anniversaries

<b>07/03</b>	Bob & Cheryl Endres		<b>07/16</b>	Roger & Jackie Arens
	Chris & Alice Henderson		<b>07/18</b>	<b>Pastors Krista &amp; Kris Ferkin</b>
<b>07/07</b>	Justin & Jennifer Gusa		<b>07/19</b>	Joe & Sandy Ulwelling
<b>07/12</b>	Marty & Sarah Hassig		<b>07/26</b>	Jeff & Shelley Henry
<b>07/13</b>	Blaine & Misty Biers			

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### ***FOOD FOR THOUGHT***

*We can only appreciate the miracle of a sunrise  
if we have waited in darkness.*

**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 August 2018 Newsletter is**

***SUNDAY, JULY 22.***