

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff



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PLAN FOR OCTOBER WORSHIP CONTINUING WITH 9:00 AM WORSHIP

Since Sunday school is waiting to start up (parents have asked for at least a few weeks to get school under their belts before making a decision about Sunday school), we are going to continue with a 9:00 AM service rather than going to 2 services at 8 am and 10:30 am. The 9:00 AM service will continue to be open to everyone in the church building as well as online on Facebook and Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=good+shepherd+lutheran+church%2C+Plainview%2C+Mn.

There will be a special confirmation service on **October 25th at 10:30 am** for our 9th graders as they affirm their faith.

SUNDAY/FUNDAY FOR EVERYONE Sunday, October 18th Starting at 10:00 am

If the weather permits we will meet outside for the following (otherwise we will spread out in the church):

- Start with a devotion
- Pumpkin carving station – bring your own pumpkin
- Pack personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. These kits go around the world to where people are suffering from natural disasters or violence. See article below for the list of what we need. A collection box is located in the Gathering Space.
- Write letters, make cards, color pictures for veterans and active military members.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 1st is All Saints Sunday. Is there someone who has died in the last year that you would like remembered on All Saints Sunday? If so, turn in their names to the church office by October 26th.

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PASTOR'S NOTE

"It's not fair!" I'm pretty sure every child has uttered those words and every parent has heard those words and every adult has more than one occasion to say those words. We even teach a Together in Faith class on that very theme.

I'm pretty sure that my kids never like my response to their complaint "it's not fair." My response was usually something like: "Life is not fair." And on my better days I followed it up with something like "but you are called to be generous."

We would often like life to be fair and for people to get what they deserve. After all that might be a force to motivate people to be better and do better, but time and again this isn't how things play out. And this isn't how things work with God either. God isn't concerned about fairness. Instead God is concerned about justice.

Justice, however, is complicated. There are many, many different answers to what justice is and justice often becomes equated with our own personal desires of how people should be treated and what rights and privileges people should have or not have. We can all agree there should be justice, but what does that look like?

For God, justice is treating others like God would treat them (that's the definition I give in confirmation class). Treating others like God would treat them is not the justice of our court system or laws, but it is the call of God to all who follow Jesus. In fact treating others like God would treat them is often what ended up getting Jesus in trouble. Jesus treated foreigners, widows, orphans and other considered "low-lives" of society by meeting their needs and extending to them the love of God. Jesus practiced forgiveness toward those that others could not and would not forgive, including the thief on the cross.

In Matthew 20:1-16 Jesus tells the parable of a landowner who hires laborers at different times during the day and pays them all a day's wage. Those who worked all day grumble that "it's not fair" but it is exactly what the landowner had promised and it is exactly what was needed for each to be able to put food on their table and take care of their family. The parable ends with the landowner asking, "Are you envious because I am generous?" or more literally "Do you have an evil eye because I am generous." Do we see it as evil when others get what they need to live or do we see the generosity of God at work? Are we focused on fairness or generosity?

Justice is complicated in today's world, and there are no easy answers to these questions. But God's call leads us to continue to wrestle with these questions and live into the justice that God's desires.

"Justice, justice you shall pursue," Deuteronomy 16:20.

In Christ,
Pastor Krista

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

BLANKET MINISTRY

Come for a morning of service, fellowship and laughter as we make milestone blankets for graduates and baptisms. **Monday, October 12th, we will start at 8:30 am** and work until lunch. Whether you have sewing experience or not, there will be something you can do to help. Can you cut with a scissors, or tie a knot? Then you have the skills needed. Come join this fun group of people.

BOOK GROUP -- 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

You are invited to Good Shepherd's Book Group. We will meet on **October 8th from 7:00 - 7:45 pm** to discuss *Goodbye Vitamin* by Rachel Khong. Copies are available to check out in Carole Joyce's office. Check out the book now and return that evening.

The November 10th book is *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews. You may pick up library books at the October meeting or after in Carole's office.

GERTENS HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS/WREATHS/SWAGS/SPRUCE TIP ARRANGEMENTS

I know this probably appears "out of place" so early in the year, but **ALL ORDERS** for Gertens holiday plants **MUST be turned in by October 14th**. Once again this year, the Plainview/Elgin Food Shelf is sponsoring this sale. Because they are nonprofit, sales tax does not need to be paid on these plants. **All plants ordered will be delivered to the Plainview American Legion on Monday, November 23rd. They should be ready for pickup by 5:00 p.m.** If you wish to place an order, you can contact the church office – I have order forms available in the office. Money **MUST** be collected at the time your order is place. Checks should be made out to the Plainview/Elgin Food Shelf.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

Baptism

Blessings to Luke Patrick Folkert, who was baptized on September 26th. Luke is the son of Jason and Kristen Folkert.

Wedding

Blessings to Dillon Beck and Brianna Shones, who were united in marriage on Saturday, September 26th, at Good Shepherd Church.

EDUCATION

4TH GRADE MILESTONE LEARNING FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Sunday, October 11th at 10:00 am — 4th Graders and Parents:

What do we believe? Learn the parts of the creed and what it means. We will record it to lead in worship too!

9th GRADE STUDENTS AFFIRMING THEIR FAITH

On **Sunday, October 25th**, the following 9th grade students will be confirmed:

**Torin Erickson, Gracelyn Grant, Kyle Hanson, Kadence Ihrke,
Lydia Kreofsky, Ainsley Schwantz, and Aiden Shones.**

Congratulations to these students and their families.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY – (GRADES 9-12)

On **Wednesday, October 28th at 7:45 pm**, all high school students and their parents will meet to plan activities for the year. Come with your calendar and ideas of things you would like to do. We will get creative and come up with some safe options.

- Talk about our summer trip options now that the sports schedule has changed again.
- Pick some activities for fall & winter months.
- Check in to see how everyone is doing.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have a tentative start date for November 1st. Look for more information to come later this month. If you can help us by teaching or assisting, please let Carole or Pastor Krista know.

FINANCE

Giving With Gratitude & Generosity

If you have not signed up for On-line Giving – please consider. If you have any questions, please contact me – Tom Anderson at 507-993-8326 or the church office.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---8/31/20

General Account	\$	47,631 (Includes PPP funds)
Restricted Accounts	\$	29,419 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	\$	<u>157,278</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$	234,328

Fixed Assets (old Bldg etc.)	\$	905,479
New Bldg. to date	\$	<u>1,280,645</u>
Total Assets	\$	2,425,862

Mortgage Balance	\$	776,070
PPP Loan	\$	27,600 (This will become a grant)
Equity	\$	1,616,781

Check Book Trends (General Fund- end of month) 2020

Jan \$ 39,021	April \$ 56,322*	July \$ 51,285*	Oct \$
Feb \$ 31,100	May \$ 54,710*	Aug \$47,631*	Nov \$
Mar \$ 29,502	June \$ 52,068*	Sep \$	Dec \$

*Includes - \$27,600 PPP Loan – will be forgiven by the government as soon as they develop required forgiveness paperwork.

Deviation from 2020 Budget

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Net from Budget</u>
Jan – Aug Giving	\$ 158,440	\$ 134,407	\$ - 24,033 (Not Incl PPP)
Building Fund	\$ 33,600	\$ 53,259	\$ + 19,659

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

One of Good Shepherd's traditions is giving our 3 year olds and 3rd graders Bibles as they start Sunday school in the fall. This year parents of 20 children placed the Bible in their child's hands. Please pray for these children and parents as they read the Bible together.

A huge thank you to those making videos for Faith at Home Sunday school. Everyone young and old can watch these lessons on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GSLCPLAINVIEW>. They are posted every weekend. Our guest leaders for September and October are Jill Kobler, Gracelyn Grant, Ainsley Schwantz, Lydia Kreofsky, Kadence Ihrke, Ava and Anika Steele, Jess Bluhm, and Gavin Ihrke. If you want to tell a Bible story, Let Carole Joyce know and you can be added to the team!

Thank you to Thrivent for the action teams which purchased supplies for the fall Faith at Home kits, food for Ebenezer Sunday, and fabric for graduate blankets!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Ginny Mielke informed me that she has enough things to pack 75 boxes, which is what we usually send to Operation Christmas Child. Also, Ginny has collected enough money to pay for shipping 45 of those 75 boxes. If you would like to help with shipping, the cost per box is \$9.00. Checks can be made out to Operation Christmas Child.

HOPE THROUGH SOAP

(Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits)

Personal Care Kits are shared with people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence. Give hope through a bar of soap. Put any items from the list below in the box in the narthex. **Deadline is October 18th at 10:00 am!**

WE WILL SORT AND PACK THESE ON OCTOBER 18TH DURING THE EDUCATION HOUR.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*
- ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* *Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

10/01	Thor Erickson		10/14	Gavin Ihrke
10/04	Michael Tuxen		10/15	Jeff Henry
	Troy Munsch			Andrea Castle
	Angie LaBare			Jim Mason
10/05	Arlo Simonson			Mason Schneider
	Shelley Henry			John Folkert
	James Bigalk			Quinlan Holst
	Lila Bigalk		10/16	Brook Schwantz
	Jonathan Klug		10/18	Ainsley Schwantz
10/07	Susan Shanks			Landon Klennert
	Sarah Niemeyer		10/19	Todd Rau
10/08	Brynn Koepsell		10/21	Tyler Niemeyer
10/09	Taylor Thompson		10/22	Andy Yust
	Levi Schreiber		10/23	Terry Yust
10/10	Jacob LaBare			Bob Tangen
	Kevin Larson			Tammy Wehrs
10/11	Caly Liebl		10/24	Claire Rahman
	Andrew Ausman		10/26	Lillian Hansen
10/12	Eric Grover		10/29	Mike Sveen
	Evelyn Appel			Cathe Hanson
10/13	Bryce Hanson		10/30	Mikayla Hansen
10/14	Alex Rahman		10/31	Torin Erickson

Anniversaries

10/02	Tim & Kelsey Rahman		10/13	Mark & Karen Jurgenson
10/03	Todd & Colene Rau		10/14	Bernie & Michelle Klennert
	Steve & Tami Sawyer		10/16	Kent & Barb Kingsley
10/04	Adam & Kim Lyons		10/17	Bob & Susan Shanks
10/05	Todd & Brook Schwantz			Mike & Jill Kobler
	Matt & Sarah Dick		10/19	Ben & Jen Peter
10/06	Kenny & Stacy Hutchison		10/27	Kirk & Lily Bartz
	Craig & Sara Steele			Tom & Jackie Welti
10/07	Jennifer & Nick Matti			

*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

**We are not saved by faith and works,
but by faith that works!**

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Address Service Requested
Issue 234, 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 November 2020 Newsletter is

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22.