

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH – EBENEZER SUNDAY MEAL RSVP: YES/NO/MAYBE

- 9:00 AM** – Worship in Sanctuary, Online Facebook and YouTube Worship
- 9:30 – 10:30 AM** – Joe Suntken available for questions regarding Sanctuary Roof
- 10:30 AM** – Outdoor Worship
Prayer/Holy Communion/Blessing of Backpacks and Electronic Devices Worship Service
- 11:00 AM** – Lunch is served (no potluck): hamburgers, brats, pork chops, pasta salad, garlic mashed potatoes, chips, dessert, water
Organized Kick Ball for Kids
- 12 Noon** – Head home and watch the Vikings/NFL

Masks: Food servers will wear masks; otherwise masks are optional. Bring your own chair (but we'll have some if you forget)
We will practice social distancing.

PLEASE RSVP for the lunch so we have an approximate number for the amount of food.

PLAN FOR SEPTEMBER 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. On Sunday, Sept. 13th we will do both the 9:00 am service as usual and we will offer the 10:30 am outdoor opportunity (see above plans for Sunday, Sept. 13th).

CONGREGATION MEETING

September 20 @ 10:00 am – Voting meeting for sanctuary roof
(Vote in person, by email, or drive up. More info coming.

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PASTOR'S NOTE

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change...

- Psalm 46:1-2

Since March we have all been faced with an incredible amount of changes and innumerable challenges in our lives and in the world around us. Changes that we want are great, and when we make it through a challenge we are often able to see the value, but when we are in midst of so much change and challenge it's easy to become weary and even depressed or irritable.

Recently Bishop Regina Hassanally, our ELCA Bishop of the Southeastern MN Synod, offered a framework that may be helpful as we face what sometimes feels like impossible decisions and grow tired from the stress and anxiety of so much change. Bishop Hassanally recommends focusing on the *reason* rather than the *way*: *"If we can adjust our expectations around the ways we do things and instead focus on the reasons we do things we might find space to continue living in this pandemic reality with a bit more freedom and grace."*

Bishop Hassanally offers the following example: "In your congregation there is likely a particular *way* confirmation classes happen. Perhaps you meet in the youth room on Wednesday evenings for an hour with thirteen kids. The pastor teaches a lesson. Everyone eats ice cream. It is lovely. These are the *ways* you are used to having confirmation in your congregation. The *reason* you have confirmation is to teach the faith to the children of your congregation. The *reason* you have confirmation is so students know they are loved by God. The *reason* you serve ice cream at confirmation is so kids have time to connect and build a community of faith in a social setting." When we are faced with the need to do things in new ways, remembering the reasons we do what do helps us see that there are perhaps numerous ways something can be accomplished.

Many things are being done in new and different ways right now. We have new ways of doing school, new ways of shopping, new ways of worship, new ways of doing gathering of people, new ways of handling doctor visits, etc. All these changes in the way we do things are exhausting to everyone. I haven't met one person yet who has told me that they love to wear a mask and just can't wait to get up in the morning to put a mask on. Personally, as I have worked on planning for this next academic year, too often I find myself staring at a blank computer screen because I loved the way we did confirmation (that would be one example) pre-pandemic and I don't know if I really want to change. It's then that I take a breath and say a prayer for God to help me see new ways that help us do confirmation (or whatever it might be) for the reasons that are important. These changes in the way we do things are hard for all of us especially since we aren't able to see the ultimate outcome. But together we can show grace to one another, move forward and try new ways.

While the world around us changes, while we make changes in the ways we do things, the steadfast love and grace of God made known to us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord does not change and is with always. The grace and love of God is our reason for hope because God will be with us. The grace and love of God is our reason for patience and why we seek to love one another because God has first loved us and shown us patience and grace. The grace and love of God is our reason to try new ways of doing things because God continues to call us to make the grace and love of God known to all people.

PASTOR'S NOTE CONTINUED ...

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*
- Lamentations 3:22-23

In this with you, in Christ,
Pastor Krista

CONGREGATION NEWS

HOLY COMMUNION – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Holy Communion will be celebrated **Sunday, September 13th**, during the service of worship in the sanctuary at **9:00 am** and on line (have some bread and grape juice/wine available if watching at home). Also, on **September 13th there will be a 10:30 outdoor prayer service of worship with Holy Communion**. If these opportunities do not work for you, let the church office or Pastor know and Pastor can come to you or you can come to church at another time.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FALL

We are looking for Greeters, Guides, Offering Counters, Singers, Communion Prep, A/V help, etc. Contact the church office if you can help.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

Baptism

Blessings to: **Dalton Case Sawyer**, who was baptized on August 9th.

Dalton is the son of Ryan and Caroline Sawyer.

Rowen Dale Prestegard, who was baptized on August 23rd.

Rowen is the son of Amy Lyons-Prestegard and Zachary Prestegard.

Graduating Seniors: Blessings to the following seniors who graduated from high school this spring: Carly Goettl, Kaelyn McComb and Xander Henderson,

Loss of Loved One

Our sympathies go out to Susan Shanks and her family for the loss of Susan's mother, Bernice Caspers, who passed away on Wednesday, July 29th.

Wedding

Blessings to: **Kristin Melbostad and Kevin Fiedler**, who were united in marriage on Saturday, August 22nd, at Good Shepherd Church.

Haley Gudmundson and Elijah Breuer, who were united in marriage on Saturday, August 29th, at Good Shepherd Church.

EDUCATION

PASSING ON THE FAITH! 3 YEAR OLD BEGINNER BIBLES

We want to recognize and equip our new 3 year olds on their faith journey. Parents and three year olds (who turn three by September 1st) are invited to Bedtime Bible stories on **Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30 pm**. We will meet in the parking lot to receive a Beginner's Bible, have some fun, and take a mini church tour. 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 and any new 4 year olds too! Come in your pajamas and bring a favorite stuffed animal if you want.

SIGN UP NOW FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

All children age 3 through 6th grade are invited and encouraged to participate in ministry at Good Shepherd. We are starting the year with Faith at Home kits and video Bible stories & activities. In person Sunday school classes will start as we are able. You may also let us know if you prefer a virtual or Zoom class. Register on-line at:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegYJpKZyHECwQzYkp5XvZIMOKUiWFNohUFsiL0S6pOqS3hVg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&fbclid=IwAR0tvxM9JzO6XXBKcBLF9n08LPKx63xl9F92R11WMfj3yNn6qDOmr9QntHY>

It is especially important that we have current addresses and email. So sign up today. New students are always welcome! Invite a friend or neighbor and invite their children to participate too.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Most families are hoping to have some kind of Sunday school classes. Some would like in-person and others are hoping for virtual and Zoom options. In order for these to happen, we need teachers! If you are willing to hang out with young people and share our faith—either on-line or in person--please contact Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net or the church office. Classes will be around ½ hour long. Materials and simple lesson plans will be provided.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Bring your backpack, phone, or computer... We will bless the school year and the things you need to learn on **Sunday, September 13th at 10:30 am** for a "Blessing of the Backpacks & Electronic Devices." We will worship outside with a prayer and communion service.

EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

PASSING ON THE FAITH! THIRD GRADE BIBLES

We are excited to present our 3rd graders with Bible this fall! Parents and 3rd graders will meet on **Thursday, September 17th and 24th at 7:00 pm** in the gathering area at church. We will be distanced for safety, but will take lots of photos so the whole congregation can join in the celebration! Parents will present the Bibles and dig into them with their students. The Bibles are a gift from Good Shepherd as a step in fulfilling the promises we made at baptism.

7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

All 7th and 8th graders are invited to be a part of Confirmation! It is a time to learn and grow in faith as we study the Small Catechism, Bible, and think about faith in our daily life. We meet on **Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 pm.**

- 7th graders and parents will meet in person on **September 9th from 6:30 - 7:30 pm** at church/masked/distanced.
- 8th graders and parents will meet in person on **September 16th from 6:30 - 7:30 pm** at church/masked/distanced.
- Because of numbers, the grades will not start out meeting together. Come to the parent/student meeting to learn the details.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Last year's backpacking trip to Rainbow Trails in CO was cancelled due to Covid-19. Good Shepherd has reserved the week of August 1 - 7, 2021 so we can have that adventure. All 9th-12 grade students are welcome to sign up! Contact Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net to find out more and to reserve your spot. They will need a deposit in September, so express your interest and ask questions NOW.

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK GROUP—STARTS SEPTEMBER 10 AT 7:00 PM

You are invited to join the Good Shepherd Book Group as we read, discuss, laugh, and grow! Maybe you have more time to read now that other groups are cancelled! How fun to meet in person! We will wear masks and spread out in the gathering area for safety. On **September 10th**, you will get the first book and together we will make a list for the rest of the year.

FINANCE

Grateful Giving

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---7/31/20

General Account	\$	51,285 (Includes PPP funds)
Restricted Accounts	\$	29,413 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	\$	<u>154,040</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$	239,378

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

Mortgage Balance	\$	777,684
PPP Loan	\$	27,600 (This will become a grant)
Equity	\$	1,620,578

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	\$	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 – July Giving	\$138,635	\$117,936	\$ - 20,699 (Not Incl PPP)
Building Fund	\$ 29,400	\$ 50,055	\$ + 20,655

CONGREGATIONAL VOTING MEETING ON THE SANCTUARY ROOF **SUNDAY, SEPT. 20TH FOLLOWING THE 9 AM SERVICE** **VOTING BETWEEN 9:45 AM-10:15 AM**

Congregational meetings during this time of COVID are being done a little differently to allow for those who are not comfortable entering the church building to have the opportunity to vote. We plan to begin the meeting by 9:45 AM. Call the meeting to order and then have a voting time between 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM. The meeting will be on YouTube live for those not in the building. Voting can be done by ballot in the building, by driving up and voting by ballot or by responding to an email that will be sent out at 9:45 AM and the return email vote must be sent between 9:45 AM-10:15 AM. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is not in quarantine! We will be collecting supplies as usual to fill shoe boxes. The boxes are sent in November, but with school supplies on sale now, it is the time to buy. I checked my supplies to see what we need for this year. Here are the items we are short on: crayons (boxes of 24 are best), pencil sharpeners, composition books, pencils, scissors (I have plenty of small – **need larger sizes**), glue sticks, pencil pouches (**not boxes**), washcloths, and calculators (if you can find inexpensive ones). Also, save up any **large shoe boxes** you might have. The list is long, but any supplies are appreciated. If you want to donate items not on this needs list, we will gladly take them and store them for next year. If you have questions, contact Ginny Mielke at 534-3357.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits.

The need for Lutheran World Relief personal care kits is greater than ever! Good Shepherd has sent an amazing number of kits the past few years. Let's keep sharing our gifts with those in need. Start gathering the following items. Deliver them to church in September and any time before October 11th. Items needed: bath towels (light-weight and dark colors), bars of soap (8-9 oz in original packaging), toothbrushes (in original packaging), sturdy comb (remove wrapping), metal nail clippers (remove wrapping)

Free Community Meal – Peace United Methodist Church

Everyone is invited the last Monday of every month for a free community meal. If you are unable to attend, Pastor Cheryl will deliver the meal to you – just let her know (or let our church office know and we will let her know).

PROPERTY

PROPERTY REPORT - SANCTUARY ROOF

The council is recommending that the sanctuary roof be replaced this year. Merit Roofing Company's plan includes a new synthetic rubber roof, 8 roof vents, and adding a new vapor barrier to address the current venting and roof problems. The council recommends using \$75,000 from the Capital fund for this project. There is currently \$156,000 in the capital fund. As discussed at the annual meeting in January, in the summer of 2019 the council set aside funds in the capital fund to cover this project.

PROPERTY CONTINUED ...

Why we need to replace the roof at this time:

- There are visible rotten spots on the roof.
- The worst section (basically the area over where the pastor sits) has enlarged even more over the last month. From the outside you can visibly see the depression which is about 2 to 3 inches deep at this time along with several other soft/rotten spots in numerous areas along the roof edge.
- All the shingles are deteriorating and curling because of improper ventilation causing the shingles to wear out at half their life expectancy.
- The grit on all the shingles is coming off and after a rain the down spouts are full of the grit from the shingles.
- To fix the worst spots would basically be throwing money away since the whole roof needs to be replaced and properly vented.

What are the ventilation problems and why do they need to be fixed?

- The upper, older portion of the roof (basically the very original sanctuary) is currently not vented at all. Any ventilation that was originally present was eliminated when the chancel/altar area addition was done. There is an air space between the shingles and the insulation that needs to be vented.
- The lack of ventilation is causing the shingles to last 15 years or less from overheating. The last re-roofing took place in 2006. At that time there were 2 layers of shingles on the sanctuary roof and the roof would have been 14 years old at that time. The current shingles are 25-30 year shingles (as the previous ones were most likely as well). According to the contractors who have been out to look at the roof, we are not getting the full life out of the shingles because there is no ventilation on the roof.
- The lack of ventilation has caused ice dams which have caused water damage and leakage into the sanctuary chancel/altar area.

Why go with a synthetic rubber roof (EPDM) roof?

- Shingles without venting will go bad very quickly and cause ice dams to form. Even with new shingles, ice dams will form because of the lack of venting thereby causing more damage to the existing roof structure.
- EPDM roof provides the best and most water tight roofing material that we can use with the proposed roofing system.
- EPDM roof works best for how the different roofs meet.
- EPDM roof while more costly than shingles is less than a steel roof.
- EPDM roofs done by Merit are what we have on the other portions of the building and carry a 20-30 year life expectancy when properly maintained.
- The EPDM roof by Merit has a 20 year warranty.

Approving \$75,000 to be spent from the Capital Fund on the sanctuary roof

- This cover the \$67,941 bid from Merit
- Plus extra funds in case there would be additional issues we aren't aware of. However, Merit spent over 15 hours on site and in the office to figure out what is going on with the roof and to give us the most accurate bid possible.
- These funds would come from the capital fund. Currently there is \$--- in this fund and a year ago we set aside \$--- for the roof project. We still have approximately \$--- coming in per month for the mortgage along with what is in the capital fund.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

09/07	Scott & Kathy Rohlik	09/16	Nate & Alicia Pfeilsticker
	Mike & Kathy Sveen	09/18	Stan & Donna Tesch
09/08	Neil & Dar Weaver	09/20	Ryan & Andrea Castle
09/09	Kurt & Trisha Schumacher	09/21	Terry & Lonnie Yust
	Jason & Kelly Engler		Wayne & Michelle Wendt
09/10	Dan & Linda Schmitz	09/23	Bob & Barb Petit
09/12	Keith & Kayla Fuerstneau		
09/13	Jason & Erin Bluhm	09/26	Dave & Pat Haack
09/15	Lynn & Eugene Eversman		Mark & Laurie Timm
	Nate & Kelly Nesler		

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

*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.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Conscience is what hurts when everything else feels so good.

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:

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 October 2020 Newsletter is

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.