

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)

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

Inside This Issue

- 2 Pastor's Note
- 3 Congregational News
- 4 Congregational Life/Youth
- 5 Education
- 4 Stewardship
- 6 Finance
- 7 Birthdays and Anniversaries

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On November 1st we celebrate All Saints Sunday. On this day we remember all those who have died and now live in the promise of the resurrection to eternal life. We especially remember those who have died this past year by lighting a candle as their name is read during our worship service. During our service, everyone has the opportunity to light a candle in memory of their loved ones.

NO CHILI COOK OFF FOOD SHELF FUNDRAISER

November is usually the time for our annual chili cook-off. Unfortunately, during this time of the pandemic, sampling over 30 different chili's and having 100+ people attending this event isn't wise. Even though we will not have a chili cook-off, we still want to support our local Food Shelf. 100% of the money that is donated for the chili cook-off always goes to the Food Shelf - usually \$1000+. This year we are asking you to give a donation to benefit the Food Shelf. You can send or bring your gift to Good Shepherd and designate it for the "Food Shelf" or you can go online to: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Fi1qiPL8kwX_Oe1AO50jRlc13OMDfYrcYQWnBiQGcY2hjXsUKRLlmI4vCU4-rZZZ2EvVVAEjqawDomKT1pbouQQzSr-IX74C4Vaq-bmhbnw=&ver=3 and designate your gift under the Food Shelf line item. Or go to: <https://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/give/> and then click on online giving on the right hand side and then designate your gift under the Food Shelf line item. Thank you!!!

NOISY OFFERING RESUMES

Starting in November there will be a pan available each Sunday (located next to the regular offering) for your loose change/noisy offering. For the months of November and December the noisy offering will go to the local Food Shelf.

PASTOR'S NOTE

One of my favorite Thanksgiving hymns is "Now Thank We All Our God."

*Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous things has done
In whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.*

While the words are certainly beautiful, what I find even more meaningful is the story behind the hymn. The words of the hymn were written by Martin Rinkart, a Lutheran pastor. Rinkart was living in Ellenburg, Saxony, Germany during the time of the Thirty Years' War. Armies overran the city where he lived three times. During this time, Rinkart's home was a refuge for victims. In the midst of a severe plague in 1637, Rinkart was the only surviving pastor in his town. He often conducted 50 funerals in a day, more than 4000 in that year, including the funeral of his wife.

I often think about singing this hymn in my home church growing up. In my memory, the church is full of people, and there is the beautiful music of the organ playing and people singing. However, this hymn was not originally sung in such a setting. Rinkart and his family would have sung this hymn as they faced famine, disease, and war. Most likely they did not sing it in a full church, but at home. Some people date the hymn to the year before Rinkart's wife died, but others date it to after she died. It amazes me that in midst of such adversity, Rinkart had a heart of gratitude. He found a way to see blessing and give thanks to God.

May the words of this hymn also inspire us.

Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us all in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all harm
in this world and the next.

In Christ,
Pastor Krista

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

ADVENT

It is not hard to believe that Advent is just around the corner with our October snow! Advent, the season of watching and waiting for our Savior's birth begins on **Sunday, November 29th**. Devotions will be available for families with children AND for adults.

COOKIE WALK: DECEMBER 5TH (7:30 – 11:00 A.M.)

COOKIES, COOKIES, AND MORE COOKIES!!

Do you know what you plan on baking for the cookie walk? If not, start planning now, as it is only about a month away.

We ask each family to donate between 12-15 dozen Christmas cookies. They can all be of one recipe or a variety of recipes. **Please concentrate on cookies.** Breads, candies, fudge and other treats don't seem to sell as well as cookies; however, we won't turn any of these items away.

Once cookies are baked, please use gloves and wear a mask while handling cookies. Gloves and masks are available at church if you need some.

If possible, have cookies on nice platters or decorative boxes (this helps in the cleanup). Also, please write the name of your cookies (or list flavors) so the buyers know what kind of cookies they are. Also, if they have nuts in them, please list what kind (walnuts, pecans, etc).

We need the cookies delivered between 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening, December 4th so we can have them all placed on the tables and ready to go by 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. The doors don't open until 7:30 a.m., but it seems like every year we have buyers waiting at the door by 7:00 a.m.

We also need a lot of helpers for this event. It is a very short time commitment and it is actually very fun. Youth (4th grade and up) are encouraged to help. We need helpers on Friday night and Saturday morning. Contact Franny Schwantz (876-2253 or frannyschwantz@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB

Meet on Thursday, November 12th at 7:00 pm at Good Shepherd to discuss *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews. Books are in Carole's office on the table. Pick one up to read any time—add your name to the check-out list before taking it.

The December book is *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg. A book bag will be available.

BLANKET MINISTRY

Join us for of a time of service, fellowship, laughter, and food as we make milestone blankets for graduates and baptisms. **Thursday, November 5th we will start at 9:00 am** and finish with soup and bread. Whether you have sewing experience or not, there will be something you can do to help. Come join us.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

Baptisms

Blessings to Evelyn Rebecca Odegard, who was baptized on October 10, 2020. Evelyn is the daughter of Sheldon Wendt & Taylor Odegard.

Blessings to Baylor Nola Cada, who was baptized on October 31, 2020. Baylor is the daughter of Matt & Taylor Cada.

Confirmation: Blessings to the following students who affirmed their faith on October 25, 2020: **Torin Edward Erickson, Gracelyn Grant, Kyle Jeffrey Hanson, Kadence Marie Ihrke, Lydia Louise Kreofsky, Ainsley Christine Schwantz and Aidan Lee Shones**

STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Thank you to all who participated in the God's Work-Our Hands service!

- We packed 31 LWR personal care kits for those experiencing disaster due to hurricane, earthquake, floods, and war.
- We created notes & pictures for veterans and active military members.
- Thanks to all who brought supplies and to Thrivent for the action team moneys which increased our outreach this year.

EDUCATION

NOVEMBER FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PHOTOS 9:45-10:15 AM

The first 4 weeks of November we will feature different characters in the Christmas story. You will get to dress up for outdoor photos, wonder about what each character was thinking, hear the story, and go home with something to help you remember. Some weeks we will have special animal friends to help us tell the story! Kids, be sure to bring an adult to help you.

November 1:	Mary & Joseph
November 8:	Angels
November 15:	Shepherds
November 22:	All God's Children, Animals & Wise men
November 29:	No Sunday School

Come every week or when you are healthy. Stories & activities will also be on Facebook for when you can't come. For inside activities we will be masked and distanced. Photos will be done outside so dress accordingly.

AND if you are not comfortable coming in person, there are other options. Let Carole Joyce know (carole35@charter.net) and she will give you some ideas.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL & PHOTO SHOOT HELPERS NEEDED

We need a few more helpers/guides from 9:45-10:15 am on Sundays in November -- one week or all of them. Sign up at:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h1CiqasKfWy1J3dpRkF9sQu81AUQdL8Ypw9sx64A8m0/edit?usp=sharing>

- 2-3 adult small group guides
- 2 photographers/videographers—using your cell phone is just fine
- 2-3 youth or adults to help with costumes

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Mark your calendar now for the Sunday school Christmas program. It will premiere on Sunday, December 13th at 9:00 am on Facebook and YouTube. This year's program is called *Who's at the Manger?* It will be filmed and photographed on the Sundays in November. You won't want to miss hearing the story of Jesus' birth as told by our Sunday school children!

FINANCE

Grateful Giving

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 ---9/30/20

General Account	\$	47,390 (Includes PPP funds)
Restricted Accounts	\$	29,501 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	\$	<u>161,965</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$	238,856

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

Mortgage Balance	\$	774,450
PPP Loan	\$	27,600 (This will become a grant)
Equity	\$	1,623,812

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	\$	47,390	Dec	\$

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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

11/01	Addy Kobler	11/10	Renee Hasleiet
11/02	Olivia Bianchi	11/11	Barb Petit
11/04	Tommy Weinrich		Rose Wolf
			Whitlee Flies
11/06	Gregg Luebke	11/14	Autumn Bartsh
	Pastor Krista	11/16	Mariah Henry
11/08	Isabel Appel	11/19	Kenny Hutchison
	Jack Johnson		Desirae Wehrs
	Jake Johnson	11/21	Clark Olstad
	Carter Weinrich		Alice Henderson
11/09	Donna Tesch	11/23	Penelope Weinrich
	Addison Nesler	11/27	Jill Kobler

*NOTE: Birthdays and anniversaries listed in the newsletters are now being limited to active 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

**Count all your blessings.
Sometimes the smallest ones are worth the most!**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

PO Box 355
Plainview, MN 55964

Address Service Requested
Issue 235, 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 December 2020 Newsletter is

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23.