

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
118 E. Mason Street
Lena, Illinois 61048

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"When Peace Like a River"

also known as
It Is Well with My Soul

When the great Chicago fire consumed Chicago in 1871, Horatio G. Spafford, an attorney heavily invested in real estate, lost a fortune. About that time, his only son succumbed to scarlet fever. Horatio drowned his grief in work, pouring himself into rebuilding the city and assisting the 100,000 who had been left homeless.

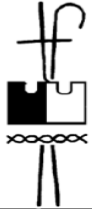
In November of 1873, he decided to take his wife and daughters to Europe. Horatio was close to D. L. Moody and Era Sankey, and he wanted to visit their evangelistic meetings in England, then enjoy a vacation.

When an urgent matter detained Horatio in New York, he decided to send his wife, Anna, and their four daughters on ahead. And he saw them settled into a cabin aboard the luxurious French liner *Ville du Havre*, an uneasiness filled his mind, and he moved them to a room closer to the bow of the ship. Then he said good-bye, promising to join them soon.

During the night of November 22, 1873, as the *SS Ville du Havre* glided over the smooth seas, the passengers were jolted from their bunks. The ship had collided with an iron sailing vessel, and water poured into the ship. The *SS Ville du Havre* tilted dangerously. Screams, prayers, and oaths merged into the nightmare of unmeasured terror. Passengers clung to posts, tumbled through darkness, and were swept away by powerful currents of icy ocean. Loved ones fell from each other's grasp and disappeared into foaming blackness. Within two hours, the mighty ship vanished beneath the waters. The 226 fatalities included Horatio's four daughters. Anna Spafford was found nearly unconscious, clinging to a piece of the wreckage. When the 47 survivors landed in Cardiff, Wales, she cabled her husband: "Saved Alone."

Horatio immediately booked passage to join his wife. En route, on a cold December night, the captain called him aside and said, "I believe we are now passing over the place where the *SS Ville du Havre* went down." Horatio Spafford went to his cabin but found it hard to sleep. He said to himself, "It is well; the will of God be done." He later wrote his famous hymn based on those words.

The melody for "It Is Well," titled *VILLE DU HAVRE*, was written by Philip Bliss who was himself soon to perish, along with his wife, in a terrible train wreck in Ashtabula, Ohio, when the bridge over a ravine collapsed on December 29, 1876.



September 2024 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 E. Mason, Lena, IL 61048 Phone # (815) 369-5552

Thoughts from the Pastor

And now the summer holidays are coming to their end. The gentle breezes of autumn will soon be catching us with their energies as life picks up its pace once again. School is beginning once again. The Lena Fall Festival is upon us, as well as our own celebration of our quilters and their quilts.

September is a funny month in the church year, though. In spite of all the activities going on around us, we remain in our green "ordinary" time. There are a couple of interesting celebrations this month, however. In addition to some worthwhile saint's days, such as Hildegard von Bingen (on the 17th) and the Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (on the 21st), we also have the opportunity to think about two holy, but non-human, aspects of our world: the Holy Cross on which our Saviour died on the 14th, and then Saint Michael and All Angels on the 29th (a Sunday this year, so we will be worshipping God with angels and archangels on that day).

So as the world swirls around us and the leaves of green turn to the browns, reds, and golds of autumn, we can join with all the creatures of our universe, visible and invisible, in praising our God who became a part of our world, died on the Cross to save us all, and then rose into the heavens to be worshipped by angels and archangels.

We are a part of this fantastic universe, and it is a part of us – created, redeemed, and sustained by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen and amen!

Blessings in Christ to you all,
Pastor Thomas

We are looking for volunteers

*at the Le-Win Food Pantry
from 8:20am-11:30am*



*We need 1 adult or 2 youth
volunteers for the next GS volunteer dates are October
26th and December 28th*

*If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry. Sign-up sheet is located in
hallway by Fellowship Hall or let the church office know.*



Choir and Chime Notes

Practice will resume on September 8th
after Worship Service.



Scholarship Committee

Will meet on September
15th at 10:30am after
worship service.



Friendship Club

COME- visit with friends.

Join us for Friendship Club on September 12th (Thursday)
at 12:30pm for potluck, music, devotion, fun, and fellowship!

No reservation needed. Just show up! Bring a friend!

Entertainment by Deb Leininger.



Sunday, September 22nd

Rally Day

At 10:30am we will have a family carnival with games, music, and
treats! We will gather for a hot dogs and chips with volunteers and
families at 11:00am.



Calling for volunteers

Saturday, October 5th at 9am.

Join in on Good Shepherd's Fall Clean Up Day by lending
a helping hand to
Clean the Church

Good Shepherd humbly asks members of the church to help
to be one of our cleaning volunteers. Your efforts will not
go unnoticed.

Highlights from August 8th Church Council Meeting

The complete Good Shepherd Council was present for the August 8th, 2024 meeting.

Secretary's Report: The July Secretary's Report was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jay Andrews presented the Treasurer's Report which included;

Gas Bill \$139.79 Electric Bill \$214.11

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Pastors Report: Pastor Thomas provided his monthly report which included comments that his efforts to join the Lena Ministerial Association meetings have not been successful. The meeting time of lunch hour the first Tuesday of every month is not workable with due to his full-time position in Dubuque. Pastor's report was approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Other Committee: Dale Gullickson requested Rally Day be added to the calendar to encourage growth of Sunday School program. The date of September 22nd was chosen.

Memorial Committee: Under the Memorial Committee, it was suggested that a quarterly report of funds in individual accounts, designated and general, be provided to the Council.

The full slate of committee reports was accepted following a motion.

Old Business:

Constitution: Coralyn Hudik reported the constitution has been submitted to Synod for approval. The committee is awaiting a response.

Property Committee: In another matter, Council received a proposal from the Property Committee regarding the hiring of a janitor. Minutes of the committee's meeting with the prospective new hire were provided to Council. Dale Gullickson made the motion to approve the Property Committee's proposal to hire Sandy Sanchez Cleaning, LLC for \$120 per time of service: Once in August; Once in September; Twice in October, November and December and to re-evaluate in January, 2025. Coralyn Hudik provided a second with the modification that Sanchez be paid after each service has been provided. Treasurer Jay Andrews requested that a paper invoice be submitted after each cleaning for record-keeping purposes. Sanchez is a Lena resident. Sanchez will be retained as a separate service and not hired as a staff employee. The motion passed unanimously. The Property Committee also obtained a quote from Monroe Glass to replace cracked outer windows on the west side of the building and a quote from Tri-State Gutters to replace a rotted gutter on the north side of the original part of the building. They will seek additional bids.

(Continued on next page)

Bible Trivia: What was Peter and Andrew doing when Jesus called them to follow him?

Answer on page 8

Continued from previous page.

Highlights from August 8th, 2024 Church Council Meeting

New Business:

Under New Business, Council learned that the payment for entering a float in the Lena Fall Festival Parade will offset the cost of a booth space, leaving only a \$10 balance. Both the parade entry and staffing a booth are planned. Festival dates are Sept. 6-7. It was decided to ask for congregational donations for candy to be tossed from the float. a sign-up sheet has been provided.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn which received a second. Meeting adjourned with recital of the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is set for Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Darci Meier,
Secretary

Treasurer's Report Jay Andrews

Incoming July 2024	\$4,517.81
Expenses July 2024	<u>\$8382.08</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(3,864.27)
Income, Year to Date 2023	\$81,308.99
Expenses, Year to Date 2023	<u>\$70,398.05</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$10,910.94

WELCA 2024 Annual Convention

All women in Northern Illinois Synod are welcome to attend the 2024 Annual Convention with the theme, "God is our Refuge," We are thankful for the Rev. Julie Monnard, Assistant to the Bishop, for our morning message and storytelling of the Book of Ruth.



Women ^{of the} ELCA 

2024 ANNUAL CONVENTION

GOD IS OUR REFUGE

*"God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble."*

Psalm 46:1

September 21, 2024 | 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church

250 East Street South, Kewanee

Morning Message: Rev. Julie Monnard,
Assistant to the Bishop, Northern Illinois Synod

Keynote Speakers:

Rev. Dr. Ruben Duran and Christine Moolo,
Members of the ELCA AMMPARO Executive
Committee



Cost is \$40, scholarships are available

We lift up our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, René, Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Brady Meier, Virgil Martin, Tena Rackow, Marilyn Fulfs, Richard Freitag, Todd Schlachter, Cyndy Schumacher, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan and her baby, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Tina, Joe, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Hanna, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman, Jeri, Allie, Al, Bruce Stewart, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Howard D., Christine, Madilyn Yeager, Jim DeMontigny Jr., Anita, Eric, Roger, Larry, Linda Kruger-Kleckler, Libby Wuethrich, Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Dennis Bokemeier and Susan Anderson. Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Jeannine Raders.

Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call the Church Office to submit your request at 815-369-5552. We are also looking for anyone who would like to join the prayer chain. We send prayer through phone chain and e-mail. You pray individually and pass it on to the next person in the prayer chain. God hears our prayers.

If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center

Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center. This is a ministry to share the love of Christ to the residents in the nursing home. **We are responsible for 10 cards each month.** If you would like to help with this ministry, just bring cards to church **by the 10th of each month.** Please sign and include short note and words of encouragement. Our hope is to make them smile! Questions? Contact the church office.

Thank you For all the little and big ways you've pitched in.

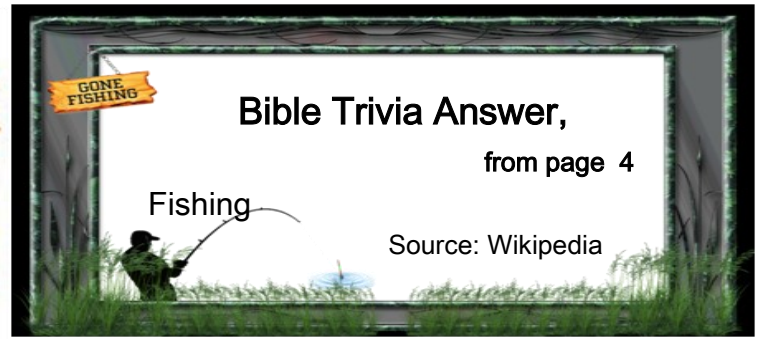
To all the Food Pantry Volunteers,

We appreciate your dedication to the Le-Win Food Pantry. Your support enables us to feed our hungry neighbors in the Lena-Winslow area.



September Birthdays

- 9-01 Tim Tessendorf
- 9-01 Marcy Schwartz
- 9-02 Marilyn Hardel
- 9-03 Joshua Proehl
- 9-04 Colton Brinker
- 9-10 Brianna Andrews
- 9-11 Nina Mueller
- 9-11 Michael Geiseman
- 9-14 Eric Runkle
- 9-15 Jennifer Huneke
- 9-16 Duane Fox
- 9-17 Alexis Martin
- 9-21 Sydney Fox
- 9/21 Anna Andersen
- 9-24 Sally Huber
- 9-27 Andrew Martin
- 9-28 Makenzie Meier
- 9-30 Cody Shumaker
- 9-30 Ryan Huttenlocher
- 9-30 Grayson Albright



Lena Fall Festival 2024 September 6th and 7th

Good Shepherd will be having a Hospitality Tent at the festival. We are looking for volunteers to greet folks in the hospitality tent.

This year Candy donations would be appreciated to toss candy from the truck in the parade

Sign up sheets for both are available by Fellowship Hall.

thank
you

A **BIG** thank you to the Men's Group for everything you do. Here's to the Men's Group, those dedicated generous men who give selflessly of their time, talent and treasurers.

Thank you for supplying the meat for the potluck after the outdoor service, you did an amazing job of cooking the meat and setting up tables, chairs and the piano for the outdoor service.

Thank you for making the out door worship a **BIG** success. The Worship Committee and members of the congregation.



Our Purpose Statement

“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote

Did you know there are Women of the ELCA units all over the United States and in the Caribbean? They gather for service, study, advocacy and fellowship.

There are four ways to be considered an “active unit”.

One: Meet together for study, support and mission. Gather magazine and Boldcafe.org are resources that are easy to use.

Two: Participate beyond Good Shepherd in the ministry of Women of the ELCA by attending our Synod Convention and/or a Triennial Gathering. The next Triennial in 2026 will be in Des Moines, Iowa!

Three: Provide financial support to the total program of Women of the ELCA. These offerings support ministries and resources that inspire and mobilize women around the world. Contact our unit treasurer, Sheila, for information about how to give.

Four: Designate leadership to communicate with the synodical and church-wide women’s organization. This allows Good Shepherd to be connected to news and various happenings throughout the organization.

Come be a part of the Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA excitement by attending the Hannah Circle 2024 kick-off event!

WHEN: Saturday, September 7 at 9:00 a.m. until approximately 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Good Shepherd Fellowship Hall

WHAT: We will gather for fellowship, a devotional, of course there will be food and then we will watch the Lena Fall Festival Parade starting at noon.

RSVP: By calling or texting Sheila at (815) 297-3044 no later than Thursday, September 5.

PLEASE NOTE: Parking near the church will not be available. There may be a spot available in the Village Hall parking lot. Otherwise, park in the far southeast corner of the Sullivan’s lot and contact Sheila at (815) 297-3044 by Thursday, September 5. She will pick you up at 9:00 and take you back to your car after the parade.

Holy Cross Day, September 14th

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.