

July 2020 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Shepherd's Voice

The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a habitable land; they ate manna, until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. (Exodus 16:35)

Dear God's beloved,

May God shower you with abundance of grace this day.

Question! When were Amity and Immanuel (predecessor congregations of Good Shepherd) founded? Answer: 1857. It means that we have been sharing the love of Christ for 163 years! That's a long time! Our congregation lived through the Civil War (1861-1865), the Depression era (1930s), two world wars (1914-1918, 1941-1945), the Spanish flu pandemic (1918), the Civil Rights movement (1960s), the first Moon landing (1969), the Vietnam War (1960s-1973), the fall of the Berlin Wall (1991), and the Chicago Cubs winning the World Series (1907, 1908, 2016). God has protected our ancestors for 163 years, and God continues to take care of us today. God never stops loving God's children.

We have been in this COVID-19 pandemic for almost 3 months. How are you doing? Frankly speaking, I was exhausted for the first two months. Adjusting to a new lifestyle was stressful, and I missed not seeing my church family. Worries of uncertainty consumed me week after week. I felt overwhelmed. Entering the third month I began to encounter God in odd places. God's angels appeared when I was not sure how to start the worship videos. God's messengers spoke to me when I was weary and afraid. Mysteriously God has kept showing up.

"When you feel stuck and nothing is working out, remember that God's angels show up." Marion told me before. She is right. God's angels show up, and God shows deep care for us. As God took care of the Israelites in their journey to the promised land, God takes care of us.

We may be still in the wilderness, and God is caring for us because God loves us. The love of God be with you, Pr. Miho

Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jay Andrews

Incoming May 2020	\$ 9,893.00
Expenses May 2020	\$ 8,417.93
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 1,475.07
Income, Year to Date 2020	\$46,645.74
Expenses, Year to Date 2020	\$ 49,160.11
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (2,514.37)

Thank You

To Church Family
To Drivers
To Volunteers
To Card Senders
To those who pray for others
To Quilt Makers
To God who loves us every day.

Thank You

This year's VBS is

CANCELLED

We will have a one-day family fun event at Lena UMC Parking Lot on Saturday August 1 (rain day will be August 8) from 1pm-4pm. More information in August newsletter.

Worship Service Update

Our church council has discussed, and here are some updates on worship.

-We will continue providing online worship service.

-We will start parking lot worship in July

This way we have multiple worship opportunities. For the parking lot service we are working on details. So far we are planning to make the service short and simple. There will be music, but no singing (you are welcome to hum along). No hand shaking to share the peace, but you can share the peace by mailing Sharing Christ's Peace postcards. We may be able to have communion at service. Everything is still a work in progress, and we will learn and adjust as we go.

If you have any ideas or questions, please contact the council members.

Thank you.

Our first parking lot service will be in Sunday, July 5th at 9:30am. Come to church and park in your spot and stay in your car. We'll deliver bulletin bags to you.

To all our family and friends at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we would like to take this time to say, Thank You, for all your prayers for Marlene.

The Family of Marlene Pearson

Devotion Books

July-September daily devotion books, Christ in Our Home and The Word in Season are available at the rack.

Pick up your copy.

July Birthdays

7/1 Billie Jo Runkle

7/2 Connie Kraft, Joe Green

7/4 Craig Raders

7/6 Lori Timms, Linda Heidenreich, Ben Huber, Shane Becker, Sondra Winters

7/7 Alan Esker

7/8 Brenda Pathmann

7/9 Alicia Tessendorf

7/11 Jace Schlichting, Joanna Esker

7/12 Austin Andrews

7/13 Tana Herman

7/14 Danica Balbach, Andrew Drye

7/20 Shirley Fox, Bob Roettger

7/25 Dale Gullickson

7/27 Tara Wolfrom, Heather Clifton

If we missed your birthday (or someone in your family), please call or send e-mail to the office so that we may update our records!

Birthday Prayer

O God, our times are in your hand. Look with favor, we pray, on your children born in July as *they* begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *them* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: Pastoral Care in Sundays and Seasons

We lift in our prayers

Abiding God, care for all who are in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick or oppressed, especially Bob and Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Delbert Scheider, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Gene Hesselbacher, Lois Paulsen, Fern Harnish, Kelsey, Taylor B, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Jon Forsythe, Brooke, Diane, Deb Lindeman Harder, Cindy Tessendorf, Randy, Brian, the Heimann family, Dave Heinkel, Janet, Paul Heller, Lori, J.T., Dan and Sue White, Irene, Jeff and Deb, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr., Nicole, Meghan, Hailey Bettenhauser, Kelly Thurman and Kyle, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Jerred, Bronwein, Matt and Julie, and Susan Andersen. Pray for love, peace, comfort and resurrection hope for family and friends of Marlene Pearson. Receive our prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remember our ministry partners in your prayer.

Le-Win Food Pantry/LACC; Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center; NIU Grace Place Campus Ministry; LOMC; Rockford Rescue Mission; Lena Living Center; Lutheran Social Services of Illinois; Lutheran World Relief; Northern Illinois Synod; ELCA World Hunger/God's Global Barnyard.

We need your help with CHRISTMAS season!!!!!!

Christmas is only 5 months away. We need your help with start preparing for Christmas season. There are 2 ways you can help:

1. Make God's eye craft

We are thinking to decorate the hallway with God's eye craft. It's easy to make. Supplies are available at church.

2. Adopt a room to decorate

We have 5 rooms for you to adopt for Christmas decoration. If you are interested, contact Kristy.

Thank you!

*July Friendship Club
meeting is cancelled.
Stay safe!*

News from Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center

Pastor Kay sent a letter to Good Shepherd thanking us for our partnership in ministry. Here is excerpt from her letter. (If you would like to read her letter, it is posted in the bulletin board at church).

The Lutheran/Lakota Job Corps has become an integral part of every aspect of their ministry. The children and youth programming is thriving. The Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church is serving as a space for children and youth to gather and a faith community is beginning to take shape. Pastor Kay ends her service at Pine Ridge at the end of July, and Pastor Dan Johnson will join PRRC. We are raising funds to support the Lakota people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please designate financial contributions to "COVID Relief." Thank YOU for your faithful support that has blessed the ministry of PRRC.

The kingdom heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened (Matthew 13:33)

*Basic Homemade Bread
From "Taste of Home" Magazine*

Ingredients

- 1 package (1/4 ounce) active dry yeast*
- 2-1/4 cups warm water*
- 3 Tablespoons sugar plus 1/2 teaspoon sugar*
- 1 Tablespoon salt*
- 2 Tablespoons canola oil*
- 6-1/4 to 6-3/4 cups bread flour*

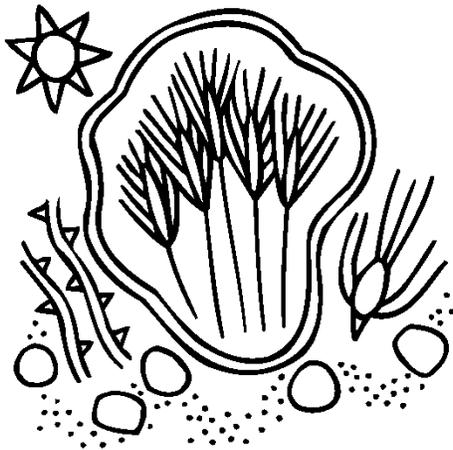
In a large bowl, dissolve yeast and 1/2 teaspoon sugar in warm water; let stand until bubbles form on surface. Whisk together remaining 3 Tablespoons sugar, salt and 3 cups flour. Stir oil into yeast mixture; pour into flour mixture and beat until smooth. Stir in enough remaining flour, 1/2 cup at a time, to form a soft dough.

Turn onto floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic, 8-10 minutes. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease the top. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, 1-1/2 to 2 hours.

Punch dough down. Turn onto a lightly floured surface; divide dough in half. Shape each into a loaf. Place in 2 greased 9x5 inch loaf pans. Cover and let rise until doubled, 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Bake at 375° until golden brown and bread sound hollow when tapped or has reached in internal temperature of 200°, 30-35 minutes. Remove from pans to wire rack to cool.

FUN page

Art Bible quiz



This art work tells us about Jesus' parable. Can you guess which story? (hint: Matthew 13)

Let's memorize a verse from the Bible!

Be Still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth. Psalm 46:10

Meet God's people in the Bible—Paul the apostle

Paul lived long time ago. He loved God and studied about God. He did not like Christians at first, but when Jesus showed up and talked to him, he became a follower of Jesus. He traveled a lot and wrote many letters, telling people about Jesus and about God's love. One of these letters is called Romans. In Romans, Paul wrote that God loves us all the time, no matter what! He wrote that nothing anywhere can separate us from the love of God. That is very good news!

Source: [Kid's Celebrate](#), children's bulletin in Sundays and Seasons



☺ Thank you, God, for loving me no matter what. I love you, too. Amen



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*The Good Shepherd cares for us.
He gives His Life for us and to us.
We give and use our lives in love,
care and service of one another.*

Luther's Morning Blessing

In the morning, as soon as you get out of bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say: "God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then, kneeling or standing, say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer as well:

"I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

After singing a hymn perhaps (for example, one on the Ten Commandments) or whatever else may serve your devotion, you are to go to your work joyfully.

Source: Small Catechism of Martin Luther ELW page 1166