

The SHEPHERD'S VOICE

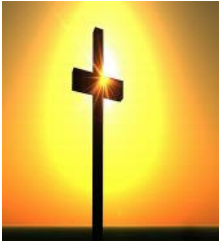
March 2016

Audrey and I hosted a Mari Gras Party and in the days following it was gratifying to get thank-you notes in the mail. That's certainly an appreciated gesture. It doesn't happen as much as it used to. But to go out to the mailbox and weed a personal note out of all the junk you receive is quite a treat.

I was reminded of that this week at the church when three nice "thank-yous" arrived. One from the ELCA Division for Global Mission thanking us for our support of \$2,000 for the Stubbs family, their missionary work in Tanzania. (The letter encouraged us to consider raising our annual gift by 20% next year!) Another was from Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center, acknowledging and thanking us for our gift of \$1,500. anyone who has been to LOMC knows what a great place that is. The other was from Lutheran Social Services, a thank-you for our contribution of \$1,000. We have all heard on the news about the plight of LSSI while the leaders in Springfield fumble around without a budget. LSSI is \$6 million behind in payments from the State of Illinois and had to cut their staff in half!

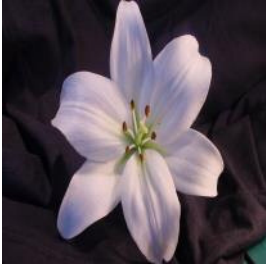
But just as I am thankful when I receive a note about a party we gave, so are the men and women of these vital missions of the church thankful of Good Shepherd's support.

Pastor Stees



Wednesdays During Lent **GOD'S LOVE BREAKS THROUGH**

That's the title of the series that will be the theme of our mid-week Lenten services following Ash Wednesday. Each Wednesday evening will begin with a light supper at 5:30 pm followed by worship at 6:30 pm. Pastor Stees and Denny Luke will be worship leaders while members of the confirmation class will assist in various capacities. We think "God's Love Breaks Through" will be an interesting series for our Lenten devotions



It is time to order Easter Lilies

Lilies will be \$10.00 per plant and can be ordered by using the envelopes provided in the pews. Please place them in the offering plate or you can drop them off at the church office. Orders must be in by March 13th. Lilies may be picked up after 9:30 am Easter Sunday Service.

Prayer Chain: If you have a request for the Prayer Chain: Please call the Church Office at 815-369-5552. We lift up the following loved ones in assisted-living facilities/ nursing homes, homebound, etc. in prayer: Dorothy Weimer, Gladys Staderman, Verl Price, Steve Fahr, Dorothy Wagner, Lois Paulsen, Laura Derr, Gerry Harnish and Ray Stamm. They would love to hear from you, consider visiting, calling, or sending them a note. Please call the church office if you are in need of an address.

March Meetings at Good Shepherd

PIECE CORPS QUILTERS will meet Wednesday March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will be announced

FAITH CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, March 1st at 1:00 pm at LLC.

HANNAH CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, March 3rd at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall at Good Shepherd. This is a potluck meeting, so there is no hostess. Rene' Johnson is the Bible Study leader.

LEARNING COMMITTEE meets on Monday March 7th at 6:30 pm.

HYMN SING at the Lena Living Center will be Tuesday, March 8th at 9:45 am

CHURCH COUNCIL meets on Tuesday March 8th at 6:00 pm.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB will meet Thursday March 10th for a Potluck & Entertainment from "Take Two" at 12:00pm.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE meets Monday March 14th at 6:30 pm

LENTEN SUPPER Wednesday March 2nd, March 9th, March 16th, at 5:30 pm. **LENTEN WORSHIP** Wednesday March 2nd, March 9th, March 16th, at 5:30 pm.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP with Procession of Palms March 20th at 9:30 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE Thursday March 24th at 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE FRIDAY March 25th at 7:00 pm

PREPARATION FOR EASTER BREAKFAST Saturday March 26th for all children and youth at 4:00 pm.

MEN'S GROUP MEETING Saturday March 26th at 4:30 pm.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES March 27th

Sunrise Service 7:00 am

Easter Breakfast 8:00 am

Easter Festival Service 9:30 am

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the April 2016 Newsletter is March 15th, 2016. Thank You!

Happy Birthday

March Birthdays

- 3/1 Cheryl Torkelson
- 3/1 Chloe Flack
- 3/3 Cindy Tessendorf
- 3/3 Duane Christen
- 3/3 Jessica Anderson
- 3/4 Jessica Tessendorf
- 3/5 Jarret Winder
- 3/6 Ryan Hastings
- 3/8 Raeger Sullivan
- 3/9 Michelle Andrews
- 3/11 Lois Paulsen
- 3/13 Bob Schlachter
- 3/13 Ella Wolfrom
- 3/15 Larynn Shumaker
- 3/18 Connie DeWilde
- 3/19 Barbara Hermann
- 3/20 Pastor Sarah Schaffner
- 3/24 Chuck Kraft
- 3/25 Verl Price
- 3/26 Dorothy Weimer
- 3/28 Matthew Huber
- 3/30 Carol Wybourn
- 3/31 Caroline Jam

If we miss your birthday (or someone in your family) please call the office to update our records!



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Volunteer Schedule for Lena Food Pantry
Open 8:30 to 11:30 Saturdays**

Good Shepherd works the 4th Saturday of each month

January 23, 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
February 27, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
March 26, 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
April 23, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
May 28, 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
June 25, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
July 23, 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
August 27, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
September 24 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
October 22, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
November 26, 2016	Donna Gullickson Karen Niemeier	
December 24, 2016	Jean Wenzel Maxine Dittmar	
Maxine Dittmar	369-4366	
Donna Gullickson	369-4780	Cell 815-541-7249
Karen Niemeier	369-2366	Cell 815-990-7520
Jean Wenzel	369-2777	



Exciting Updates and Info
for our children and youth!



Sunday School:

Fun, learning, and worship for Preschool-6th Grades! The Preschoolers and Kindergarteners gather for their small group Sunday School time during worship following the Children's Message. Following worship all children gather in the Sanctuary for Opening at 10:45am, and the children in 1st-6th grades will gather with their teachers following the opening. **1st-6th Graders are using a fun new curriculum called Holy Moly that helps kids ignite a biblical imagination for a lifetime!**



Confirmation Ministry
for 7th -8th Graders

6:30-8:00 PM Wednesday nights

Learning, Prayer, Fun, and Friendship! This year we are studying the Bible using Echo the Story, where youth experience the biblical narrative through storytelling, creative reflection, and dialogue.





God's Global Barnyard

Sunday School offerings this fall will go towards ELCA's God's Global Barnyard.

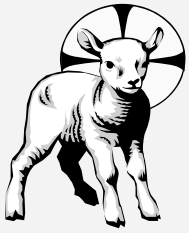
All of the animals in God's Global Barnyard help families who are poor and hungry throughout the world. Sunday School children are also gathering coins and bills in their "barns" throughout the week. If you want to join in the fun with your own barn or ELCA World Hunger coin bank, contact the church office at 815-369-5552.

God's Global Barnyard is a part of ELCA World Hunger.



The Learning Committee is looking for volunteers to coordinate VBS 2016.

We will look into partnering with the Methodist Church in Lena. A Barnyard theme was suggested. It would be held from Sunday, July 31 to Thursday, August 4 with a pool party at the Lena pool on Thursday evening. The participants would take part in the Outdoor Worship at Dodd's Park on Sunday, August 7. The park is being reserved for Good Shepherd for that Sunday.



All Youth and Children of Good Shepherd

We will be meeting on

**Saturday, March 26th at 4:00 pm
to prepare for the Easter Breakfast.**

There will be Pizza after the set-up

**Also, Sunday, March 27th
will meet at 7:30 am to
serve the Easter Breakfast together.**



A BIG THANK YOU!

to all who donated to the
Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday,

February 7!!! We collected \$162.60

to help the hungry in our town and in our world.

Praise God for your generosity!

After School Program:

For 4th-8th Graders at The Hangout in downtown Lena Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm. Games, Fun, Christian message, homework help, fun worship songs, food, cool challenges, and friends!

Celebrate Easter

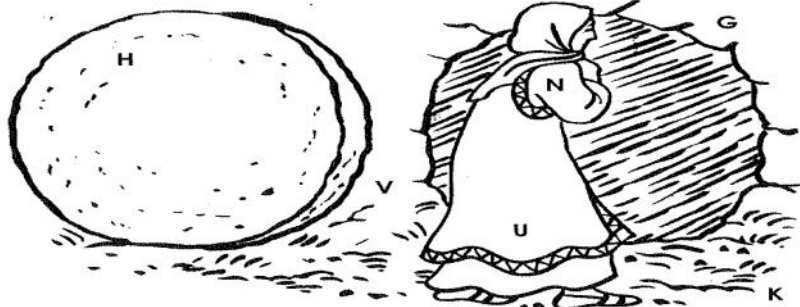
He is Risen



Today's memory verse is about looking for Jesus. Look for the missing letters in the tomb below to complete today's verse. You can use each letter more than once.

Memory Verse

"W__Y DO YO__ LOO__ FOR T__E LI__ING
AMO__ T__E DEAD? __E IS __OT HERE, B__T
__AS RISE__." -L__E 24:5B



In Bible times, people were buried in a specific way. The body was washed and people put perfumes and spices on it. They wrapped the body in cloth. Then it was moved to a cave, not buried in the ground.

Did You Know?

A note from the Choir Director

As we move through the season of Lent on to Holy Week and finally the triumph of Easter Sunday, our hymns take us through a very trying time for Jesus Christ.

The choir anthem for March 13 will be “Who can wash away my sin?” also known as “Nothing but the blood.” This hymn was written by Robert Lowry who was a popular Baptist minister.

“Nothing but the blood” has all the earmarks of a classic gospel song. It focuses on a single theme and drives that theme home. If all four stanzas are sung, the singer will sing “nothing but the blood” a total of twelve times. To reinforce this even more, the original hymn had a total of six stanzas which means the theme would be repeated eighteen times. Robert Lowry was definitely trying to drive his point home.

Lowry has adopted a call and response pattern to this hymn. Each stanza asks a question or makes a statement to which the response is “nothing but the blood of Jesus”. This call and response pattern, along with the sturdy, almost martial rhythms of the music, gives the effect of cheerleading. The remaining stanzas of the talk of pardon, cleansing, atonement, and righteousness.

It is perhaps this hymn, along with others that offends the sensibilities of many twenty-first-century singers and listeners and, as a result, causes them to reject any hymn that mentions blood. As an example, “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” includes the phrase in the first stanza, “let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed ...” This is a description of a biblical event, the crucifixion.

Though many might put “Nothing but the Blood” into the category of an old outdated hymn of the past, it lives on in modern renditions, especially in evangelical contexts. Contemporary Christian artist Matt Redman incorporates this hymn into his song, “Nothing but the Blood.” The popular Australian group, Hillsong United, has a well-known rendition that may easily be found on YouTube.

We hope you enjoy the choir’s rendition of this old, yet still meaningful hymn for today.

Sources: Wickapedia.com, umdiscipleship.org, and Then Sings My Sour by Robert J. Morgan

Newsletter

Thank You! to Joyce Tessendorf, Beth Martin, Donna Gullickson, Joanne Martin, Cindy Doubler, Darlene Aurand, Kelsey Albrecht and Shirley Fox for helping with the February Newsletter



NEEDED MATERIAL

Piece Corp is in need of material for quilting any kind, any size.



Need of a ride to church on Sunday?

Call:

Troy Doubler	369-5117
Donna Gullickson	369-4708
Jean Wenzel	369-2777
Leland Wenzel	369-4337

We love worshipping with you, and we want to help make sure you can get here to join us! If you are interested in being added to this list of available drivers, please contact the church office at 369-5552



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

can be picked up at the church office starting

April 1st

Applications must be filled out and returned by

April 30th

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, March 27, 2016 at 8 am

The Good Shepherd youth group
will be serving Easter Breakfast
in the Fellowship Hall to raise funds for the youth.

Menu includes: Scrambled Eggs, Ham,
Rolls, Juice, Milk & Coffee.

Make your RESERVATION by
Monday, March 21st

by placing this reservation slip in the offering plate
or turning it in to the Church office.



Easter Breakfast Reservation

Name _____

Phone # _____

Number of People Attending _____

Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jay Andrews

Incoming January 2016	\$11,676.60
Expenses January 2016	\$ 8,075.73
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 3,600.87
Income, Year to Date 2016	\$11,676.60
Expenses, Year to Date 2016	\$ 8,075.73
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 3,600.87

Council Members for 2016

Wayne Kurth—President

Coralyn Hudik—Vice President

Secretary/Youth Representative—Colton Brinker

Council Members: Shirley Fox, Karen Niemeier, Tim Gordon, Jon Hudik, Troy Keene, Troy Doubler, Eugene Hesselbacher.

- Highlights from March Council Meeting

Appointment of Calling Committee

Jean Engel, Sue Diddens, Kristy Patterson, Austin Andrews, Virgil Gordon, Denny Luke

Thank You to out going Council Members Michelle Andrews, Nick Baker and Mary Lloyd for your time ,dedication and hard work towards the goals of Good Shepherd.

Men's Group

The Men's Group met on February 27th Devotions were given by Troy Doubler. The Group has finish two more bluebird house to be installed at Museum grounds. Dates were set for upcoming events for spring and summer

“Save the Date”

- Men's group will be serving Lenten meal March 16, 2016 at 5:30 pm at Good Shepherd
- Fund raiser at AJ'S Meats Saturday June 11th and July 9th
- A church cookout/potluck Sunday sometime in June.

Faith Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 1:00 pm at LLC.



Hannah Circle will meet on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 9:00 am at church in Fellowship Hall. This is a potluck meeting, so there is no hostess. Rene' Johnson is the Bible Study leader. We continue our 4-part Bible study "Christian Citizenship 101 -- Paul's letter to the Philippians" written by Phyllis Kersten and E. Louise Williams. Session three - "Being of One Mind" is in the March 2016 issue of "Gather" magazine. Please call Rene' Johnson (815)369-2818 if you would like more information, or to get a copy of the Bible study material and "Gather" magazine.

Northwest Conference Spring Assembly is Saturday, March 5, 2016 from 9:00 am to noon at Trinity Lutheran Church in Milledgeville, IL. The cost is \$8.00 per person and includes brunch and program. Program - Clear Dome Ministry/A Holocaust Experience,

Speaker - Dr. Rose Binns

Please call Rene' Johnson (815)369-2818 if you would like to go or need more information.

Reservations need to be made by February 26, 2016. We will provide transportation.

Please see WELCA bulletin board for a flyer and more information.

All women of the church and their guests are welcome to attend all circle functions.

NISWO - WELCA 2016 Spring Retreat is Saturday, April 9, 2016 at LOMC. Program: "Created in God's Image - Restoring the Circle" presented by Inez Torres Davis, Director for Justice, Women of the ELCA. Registration and Coffee from 8:15-9:00am. Cost is \$35.00 which includes morning coffee, lunch, snacks, and materials (please bring a Bible). Registration Deadline is March 20, 2016. Pre-reading materials at nisynod.org/women.

Information Flyer, Registration and Scholarship forms on WELCA bulletin board.

Thank you to all who helped with the February 17, 2016 - Wednesday Noon Lenten Lunch hosted by Good Shepherd.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 am

Pre-K & K Sunday School after Children's Message

Fellowship Hour 10:30 am

Sunday School 10:45 am

CHURCH OFFICE 815-369-5552

Interim Pastor Pastor Art Stees

Church Secretary Darlene Barr

Month's Highlights!

March 1 Faith Circle at Lena Living Center 1:00pm

March 3 Hannah Circle at Good Shepherd 9:00am

March 8 Hymn Sing at LLC 9:45am

March 10 Friendship Club 12:00pm

March 2 Lenten Worship Service at 6:30pm (with dinner at 5:30pm)

March 9 Lenten Worship Service at 6:30pm (with dinner at 5:30pm)

March 16 Lenten Worship Service at 6:30pm (with dinner at 5:30pm)

March 20 Palm Sunday Worship Service with Procession of Palms 9:30am

March 24 Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:00pm

March 25 Good Friday Worship Service 7:00pm

March 27 Easter Sunrise Service 7:00am

Easter Breakfast 8:00am

Easter Festival Worship Service 9:30am

March 2016

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 1:00 pm Faith Circle at Lena Living Center</p>	<p>2 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 5:30 Lenten Dinner 6:30 Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>3 9:00 am Hannah Circle Meeting/Potluck at Good Shepherd</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 Choir Practice 5:00 Chime Practice</p>	<p>7 6:30 Learning Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8 9:45am Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center 6:00pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>9 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 5:30 Lenten Dinner 6:30 Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>10 12:00 pm Friendship Club Potluck/Entertainment Take Two</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 Choir Practice 5:00 Chime Practice</p>	<p>14 6:30 Worship Committee Meeting</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 5:30 Lenten Dinner 6:30 Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:30 am Worship Service with Procession of Palms 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Sunday School Opening 11:00 Choir Practice 5:00 Chime Practice</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout</p>	<p>24 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service</p>	<p>25 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship Service</p>	<p>26 4:00 pm All children and Youth help with Preparations for Easter Breakfast 4:30 Men's Groups</p>
<p>27 Easter Sunday 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Worship Service 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:30 am Easter Festival Worship Service</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 8:00-11:30 am Piece Corps Quilters 3:30-5:00pm After School Program for 4th-8th graders at the Hangout 6:30-8:00 Confirmation</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Communion Set-up/Clean up Bob and Sharon Schlachter</p>	

March Worship Volunteers

March 6

Lector	Sheila Keene
Acolyte	Kayla Runkle
Assisting Minister	Taylor Bastian
Worship Assistant	Vivian Hesselbacher
Communion Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel
Communion Assistant	Jay Andrews, Austin Andrews
Welcome Visitor	Bob Schlachter
Sound System	Wayne Kurth, Braden Diddens
Greeters	Jeremy and Cara Schriener, Paul and Shirley Fox
Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel, Jerry and Beth Martin
Elevator Operator	Donna Gullickson

March 13

Lector	Wayne Kurth
Acolyte	Taylor Patterson
Assisting Minister	Austin Andrews
Worship Assistant	Sondra Winters
Communion Ushers	Virgil Gordon, Tim Gordon
Communion Assistant	Tony and Jackie Jordan
Welcome Visitor	Sharon Schlachter
Sound System	Troy Doubler, Taylor Bastian
Greeters	Willie Kayser, Jean Wenzel
Ushers	Virgil Gordon, Tim Gordon, Claire and Helen Cross
Elevator Operator	Coltin Coonts, Jeremy and Cara Schriener,

March 20

Lector	Brianna Andrews
Acolyte	Hanna Brinker, Krista Keene
Assisting Minister	Colton Brinker
Worship Assistant	Denny Luke
Communion Ushers	Gary and Cynthia Boeke
Communion Assistant	Beth Martin, Shirley Fox
Welcome Visitor	Sue Diddens
Sound System	Jay Andrews, Austin Andrews
Greeters	Eugene and Vivian Hesselbacher, Tony and Jackie Jordan
Ushers	Gary and Cynthia Boeke, Bob and Sharon Schlachter
Elevator Operator	Kristy Patterson, Taylor Patterson

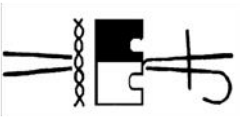
March 27 7:00am Service

Lector	Michelle Andrews
Acolyte	Hanna Brinker, Ashtyn Brinker
Assisting Minister	Wayne Kurth
Worship Assistant	Tena Rackow
Communion Ushers	Troy Keene, Krista Keene
Communion Assistant	Colton Brinker, Sheila Keene
Welcome Visitor	Donna Gullickson
Sound System	Troy Doubler, Taylor Bastian
Greeters	Darlene Aurand, Denny Luke
Ushers	Troy Keene, Krsita Keene, Jay and Michelle Andrews
Elevator Operator	Jean Engel

March 27 9:30am Service

Lector	Taylor Bastian
Acolyte	Coltin Coonts, Braden Diddens
Assisting Minister	Denny Luke
Worship Assistant	Sue Diddens
Communion Ushers	Paul and Shirley Fox
Communion Assistant	Marybeth Brinker, Eugene Hesselbacher
Welcome Visitor	Wayne Kurth
Sound System	Troy Doubler, Austin Andrews
Greeters	Neal and Cyndy Shumaker, Curt and Sue Diddens
Ushers	Paul and Shirley Fox, Dana Diddens, Jim Swain
Elevator Operator	Willie Kayser

Please mark your calendars for the dates that you have been assigned, if you cannot serve on the day that you have been assigned please switch with someone and call the church office with the change by Wednesday AM of the week that you have been assigned. If you cannot switch with anyone please call the church office by Tuesday of the week that you are to volunteer so that arrangements can be made. Office Hours-Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00am-2:00pm Telephone: 815-369-5552



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
118 East Mason St.
Lena, IL 61048
GoodSheperdLena@outlook.com

*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.*

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