



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
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### **Favorite Hymn History**

*Thomas A. Dorsey July 1, 1899-January 23, 1993*

If you happen to look at the bottom left corner of hymn ELW #773 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" in the hymnal you will find that the text to the hymn was written by Thomas A. Dorsey. You might think this is the Tommy Dorsey who played trombone and was the leader of a Big Band. Thomas Andrew Dorsey was the son of a black revivalist preacher.

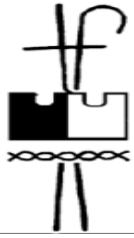
Thomas was born in Georgia in 1899. When he was 11 the family moved to Atlanta where Thomas was introduced to the blues and began playing piano at vaudeville theaters. Later the family moved to Chicago where Thomas attended the College of Composition and Arranging. Soon he was on stage under the name of "Georgia Tom" and playing the piano in some of the speakeasies and leading jazz bands.

Thomas was converted at the National Baptist Convention in Chicago in 1921, and began writing gospel songs. He tried to publish his work with little success. He tried for three years and was thinking of going back to playing the blues when he finally sold his first song. His reputation began to grow and his work was being recognized by others.

While leading music in St. Louis in 1932, he received news that his wife, Nettie, had died. Rushing home, he was also learned that his baby boy had also died. The grief was overwhelming and he lost his passion to write gospel music. But while Thomas was alone in a friend's music room, he had a strange feeling inside. A sudden calm came over him and his fingers started going over the keys of the piano. As he played the music, the words came "Precious Lord, take my hand".

Today Thomas A. Dorsey is remembered as the "Father of Gospel Music" and the author of hundreds of gospel songs including his equally famous, "Peace in the Valley."

Source: Then Sings My Soul by Robert J. Morgan Hymn History Book and Wikipedia



June 2024 Newsletter

## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Friends in Christ and friends in music,

We hope these May days have been full of celebration for you and your church as you finish your program year and enjoy the season of Pentecost.

As you start summer, we invite you and members of your congregation to tune in to the 2024 season of **Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival**, virtually or in person at Valparaiso University's Chapel of the Resurrection and Center for the Arts.

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is the nation's premier faith-based music academy for high school students (grades 8-12), and it is a wonderful experience for your youth to grow musically, socially, and spiritually. Students from across the country are supported by their churches to attend, and they return home to share their gifts and experiences with their home congregations. You and your students can peek into LSM now and imagine LSM as an opportunity for the future!

Lutheran Summer Music announces its 42<sup>nd</sup> season, offering over 30 free and open-to-the-public concerts and recitals. All events take place this July at Valparaiso University, and most will be live streamed. Performances and services are shared by over 250 students, faculty, fellows, worship staff, and guest artists who come together to create a vibrant community of music-makers. The LSM 2024 season will culminate during Festival Week (July 21-28), featuring the LSM Festival Band, Choir, and Orchestra, a Festival of Hymns, and closing each day with sung Evening Prayer. Of special note, the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) will join the LSM community and offer an intergenerational performance of J.S. Bach's St. John Passion. Visit [LSMacademy.org/2024](https://LSMacademy.org/2024) for a full list of events and to access the live stream.

Feel free to reply with questions or to learn more about Lutheran Summer Music. I hope you and your congregation might enjoy tuning in for our concerts and services in LSM 2024.

God's blessings this summer!

MaryLynn Mennicke

Dean and Director of Admissions

Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival

CALL: 612-879-9555 ext. 5 | TEXT: 612-879-9555

[LSMacademy.org](https://LSMacademy.org)



*Give me a song, I stick to the note and play it like it is, you won't pay much attention to it. In fact it won't go anywhere. You got to always have something: a little trick, a little embellishment or something. I don't go and take it just straight; I got to put something in it to get over.*

*Quote from Tommy A. Dorsey*

## **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Highlights May 9, 2024 Council Meeting**

The May 9, 2024 regular monthly meeting of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council was held. All council members were present.

- **Agenda:** Following corrections and additions, the Agenda was approved.
- **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's report was approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Jay Andrews provided the Treasurer's Report which reflected a gas bill of \$872.91 and electric bill of \$209.93. Treasurer Andrews stated that he found an error in gas billing after discovering the church had been double billed – once by carrier Santanna Energy Services and again by Nicor. Only the correct amount has been paid. The Treasurer's report was approved.
- **Pastors Report:** Pastor Mosbo report was approved.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Worship and Music:** Minutes included discussion on the Spring and Summer Liturgy, Graduate Recognition Sunday, presentation of Bibles to third grade students, an upcoming baptism, a Bible Study to be led by Pastor Mosbo and the Outside Summer Service.
- **Stewardship Committee:** Notes included discussion of Good Shepherd signage on the four main entrances of the village. Members also discussed cleaning of the church now that there is no longer a janitor. A congregational volunteer plan was mentioned as a possible solution. Another solution was hire an outside cleaning service rather than keeping a janitor as a church employee.
- **Property Committee:** Discussed updating the present janitorial requirements at its last meeting. The job description was presented to the Council for review. The janitorial issue was also brought up under new business. A motion was presented that two Council members meet with the Property Committee to prepare a job description and present the form to the Council asking how to move forward. Dale Gullickson and Michelle Andrews were named to represent the Council on this matter.  
Another topic under discussion with the Property Committee was the replacement of the carpet for the entryway and stairs at the Mason Street entrance. Two bids were received and the lower bid of \$4,000 from Carpets by Kuniej was selected over Vanderhyden's bid for \$4983.89. The work is to be paid for with Memorial gifts. Currently \$3,000 is available for the project leaving the need for \$1,000 additional funds. A motion was presented to have the Property Committee resubmit the carpet replacement request to the Council when a sufficient amount of Memorial gifts have been secured.

*Continued on next page.*

## Highlights from May 9, 2024 Council Meeting

*Continued from previous page.*

### Included under new business:

- \*Council agreed to request a quarterly statement on Memorial funds, both designated and un-designated.
- \*Will accept the donation of a personal computer from the family of Lynn Lyvers.
- \*A motion to was made the \$600 May rent payment for the food pantry with funds from the Lucille Baker Trust. The motion passed. Good Shepherd pays \$1200 per year toward the pantry's rent with two equal payments, the second due in December.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made Motion carried and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Darci Meier  
Church Council Secretary

### Treasurer's Report

#### Jay Andrews

Incoming April 2024	\$ 4,162.25
Expenses April 2024	<u>\$11,419.13</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(7,256.88)
Income, Year to Date 2024	\$35,820.90
Expenses, Year to Date 2024	<u>\$46,091.73</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(10,270.86)

### Le-Win Food Pantry We are in need of volunteers

Good Shepherd will be at the Le-Win Food Pantry every 4th Saturday of even numbered months from 8:20am-11:30am. Needs are high and we are looking for Volunteers. Upcoming months are: August 27<sup>th</sup>, October 26<sup>th</sup> and December 28<sup>th</sup> If you are interested, put your name on the sign up sheet at the ramp or contact the church office.

### Riddle Me This...

What is Greater than God, worse than evil, the poor have it, the rich require it and if you eat it you die? Answer on page 7.

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Join us on June 13 (Thursday) at 12:30pm for potluck at 1pm for music by Pleasant Hope, devotion, fun, and fellowship! No reservation needed. Have a wonderful afternoon with old friends and meet new friends.

*One smile can start a friendship.*

*One word can end a fight.*

*One look can save a relationship.*

*One person can change your life.*



### **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 healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”*

The annual retreat of the Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA was held Saturday, April 27 at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC). The presenter and worship leader was Pastor Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez from St. John’s Lutheran Church in Rock Island. The music leaders were Ron and Carla Vanatta from Sycamore. Carla is also a member of our synod’s Creation Care Subcommittee.

Pastor Ohman-Rodriguez has an interesting story of her life experiences but expressed that the program was not about her but rather for everyone there to discern how to create their own calm in a world full of chaos. The theme verse was Genesis 1:1-2, In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

There were over 80 women of various ages in attendance. We practiced guided breathing and an easy stretching technique because as Pastor Ohman-Rodriguez said, “our body keeps score when we encounter trauma of any kind.” We were reminded that God had hope and love with purpose when he created the world which God called good but not perfect. After a simple Communion Service we departed with full hearts, tips for dealing with our emotional health and well-being and faith that God has dealt with chaos before.

### **Did you know? Barnabas, Apostle?**

Barnabas was not numbered among the twelve apostles, but the book of Acts gives him that title. After Paul was converted to Christianity, Barnabas welcomed him to Jerusalem, and later the two traveled together on missionary journeys.

*Also, per Farmers Almanac weather lore;  
Rain on St. Barnabas’ Day (June 11) is good for grapes.*

*We lift our prayers for...*

*Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Brady Meier, Virgil Martin, Tena Rackow, Marilyn Fulfs, 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, Michelle, Maci Diffenderfer, Marilyn Yeager, Jim DeMontigny Jr., Anita, Eric, Roger and Larry. Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the families and friends of Leona Block,*

**Leona Block**

**November 22, 1924 - May 17, 2024**

*For those whose lives were touched by Leona, a celebration of Life to honor her memory will be held on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 12:30-2:30pm, in Fellowship Hall, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.*

**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 prayers through the phone chain and e-mail. You pray your own and pass on to the next person in the prayer chain. God hears our prayers.



# Youth Corner



## Christian Word Search Puzzle

### Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center

Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center. This is a simple yet profound way 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 encouraging words. Our hope is to make them smile!

Z G Z N O I T A V L A S Z U  
 L E L U W E V W F G Y N P N  
 B A L W S P W F Y G P X Z J  
 Q Y K I S A C R I F I C E S  
 V S M N J X K G J Y I A J O  
 D A V I D A E N E X L L F X  
 Q M G N P G H J R N O A H A  
 Q S J U E S A R U L T F W B  
 Q O P O R Q D L S R U I Q D  
 J N W Z S K L E A F G O L D  
 E T Y I E H T Z L T S R K E  
 S A U G C C U I E G I Y A U  
 U I V A U F M A M M O A V P  
 S T S K T D M H X C I Z N V  
 M D A R E P D I E I L L F S  
 H O N B A B E L N A K H W J  
 G N P A V E D L Y I V J J C  
 F D H P P L L Q J O S E P H  
 F A I T H X J Q V Z J T N A  
 T E L I V A B R A H A M R B  
 I M E Z T X C X B L K C G Y  
 T A M E B T C Q I K O J E E  
 H S O J P H A N L V T H X Z  
 E Z N K M Z M S P W S T G T

Abraham  
 David  
 Jesus  
 Elijah  
 Joshua  
 Samson  
 Noah  
 Joseph  
 Philemon  
 Galatians  
 Babel  
 Heaven  
 Israel  
 Jerusalem  
 Salvation  
 Sacrifice  
 Baptize  
 Gentile  
 Faith  
 Persecute  
 Tithe  
 Ministry

COOL2BKIDS

### Flag Day, June 14th

Bernard Cigrand, a small-town Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual flag day, to be celebrated across the country every June 14, in 1885. That year, he led his school in the first formal observance of the holiday. Cigrand, who later changed careers and practiced dentistry in Illinois, continued to promote his concept and advocate respect for the flag throughout his life.

### Answer from Riddle Me This...

Nothing, nothing is better than God nothing is worse than evil the poor have nothing the rich don't have anything they have everything If you eat nothing you die



## June Birthdays

06/02 Aaron Smith  
06/03 Jay Andrews  
06/06 Kevin Huttenlocher  
06/06 Madi Diddens  
06/06 Jerry Cross  
06/09 Sarah Andrews  
06/10 Sue Holtz  
06/12 Maci Diffenderfer  
06/13 Richard Rutter  
06/14 Seth Cory  
06/19 Corey Wybourn  
06/20 Darlene Aurand  
06/20 Karen Niemeier  
06/21 Sue Kraft  
06/25 Deb Mammoser  
06/25 Kelsey Albrecht  
06/25 Jessica Koning  
06/29 Kelly Derr  
06/29 Jacob Runkle  
06/29 Jared Runkle  
06/29 Darci Meier  
06/29 Katie Jo Huber



Dear friends,

Severe storms across the Midwestern and Southern United States have brought deadly tornadoes and flash flooding to millions of people. With your support our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors as they rebuild.

**[Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response ensure that survivors don't have to face the road to recovery alone.](#)**

Through these disasters and others across the United States and around the world, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies communities for as long as the recovery process takes. Together we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

**With Gratitude  
Daniel Rift**

Director, ELCA Service and Justice Giving  
ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response



## Favorite Hymns

During the month of April a request was sent out requests in the monthly newsletter asking for suggestions to have favorite hymns sung during the summer months. These are the requested hymns for the month of June.

June 16<sup>th</sup>—“For the Fruit of All Creation” a favorite of Tena Rackow.

June 23<sup>rd</sup>—“Jesus Savior Pilot Me” a favorite of Sue Diddens.

“Peace Like a River” a favorite of Sue Diddens.

“Precious Lord Take My Hand, a favorite of Cindy Fahr and Sue Diddens.

June 30<sup>th</sup>—“Praise to the Lord Almighty” a favorite of Wayne Kurth.

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” a favorite of Sue Rush.