

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
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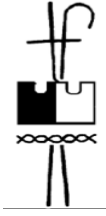
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" *"Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott,"* is one of, if not the most recognized hymns around; at least in the Lutheran Church. It was written by Martin Luther and based on Psalm 46, it reflects Luther's awareness on our intense struggle with Satan. In difficulty and danger, Luther would often resort to this song, saying to his associate, "Come, Philipp, Let us sing the 46th Psalm."

Martin Luther is thought of as the great reformer, Bible translator, political leader, fiery preacher, and theologian. Be he was also a musician, having been born in an area of Germany known for its music. There in his little Thuringian village, young Martin grew up listening to his mother sing. He joined a boys' choir that sang at weddings and funerals. He became proficient with the flute (recorder), and his volcanic emotions often erupted in song.

In the forward of a book, Luther once wrote: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world. It controls our thoughts, minds, hearts, and spirits....A person who....does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God...does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of the asses and the grunting of hogs."

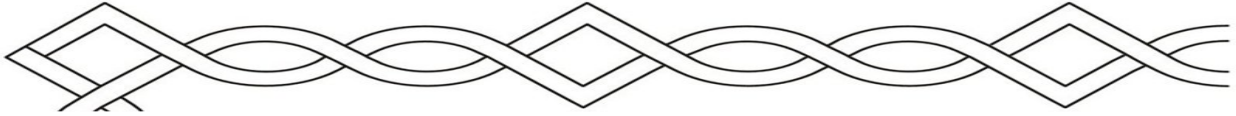
A Might Fortress Is Our God is a difficult hymn to translate because the original German is so vivid. At least 80 English versions are available. The most popular in America is done by Frederic Henry Hedge.



October 2024 Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



A Quilter's Prayer by Patricia Hauze

Guide my hands to work as Your hand work, to know the power of Your love in every stitch I make, in every thread I knot. May my hands be guided by the same love and care with every quilt I make, knowing that this love and care was and is and will continue to be a gift of blessing to the one it is intended for.

May the works of my hands be pleasing in Your sight, O, God.

Lord, bless my work today.

As I choose materials and patterns, may I be reminded of the uniqueness You blessed us all with.

As I cut each length of thread, may I be reminded of the doors that must be closed in our lives so that a new and stronger door may be opened.

As I twist each knot, may I be reminded of a bond of love so strong, nothing will break it.

As I run the thread between my fingers, may I be reminded of the times You have touched my life, my heart, my soul.

As I sew each stitch, may I be reminded of the healing power of Your grace in each of us.

As I concentrate on my craft, may I be reminded of the love and care You put into each of our lives.

As I add my last stitch, tie my last knot, cut the final cord, may I be reminded of the completeness with which You commanded in each of us before we were ever given to this life.

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom." (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

October Birthday's

10-03 Chase Huneke	10-18 Sherry Freitag
10-04 Doug Wybourn	10-18 Jennifer Gile
10-05 Vivian Hesselbacher	10-22 Dennis Bergman
10-05 Jim Doyle	10-24 Greg Andrews
10-06 Beth Fahr	10-25 Taryon Cornwell
10-06 Cindy Fahr	10-26 Fern Harnish
10-07 Rene' Johnson	10-26 Joanne Martin
10-08 Brice Swift	10-26 Duane Torkelson
10-08 Lisa Schlichting	10-26 Kyle Albrecht
10-09 Krista Keene	10-27 Jonathan Hudik
10-13 Stacy (Lones) Johnson	10-27 Danielle Koning
10-15 Steve Wybourn	10-28 Kurt Schlichting
10-15 Troy Keene	10-29 Mike Meyers
10-16 Jeff Raders	10-30 Jason Huneke
10-17 Dustin Drye	10-30 Lance Mueller
10-17 Leesa Gerke	10-31 Sean Cory

If we missed your birthday (or someone in your family) please call the office so that we may update our records!

Good Shepherd Fall Clean Up Day Saturday, October 5th at 9:30am.

Join in on Good Shepherd's Fall Clean-Up Day by lending a helping hand.

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

A few of the project to be tackled; windows/screens, hallways/corners/baseboards, sort and match plastic containers with lids, snack plates and cups, kitchen cupboards.



All Saint's Sunday, November 3, 2024

*We will remember each "Saint" or loved one who has died since November 2023. We will remember them with a carnation on the altar and also by lifting their names during prayer of the people. If you would like your loved ones who died 2023-2024 to be included this year's All Saints Sunday, please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 by **October 28th**.*

Devotion Books

October-December issues of Christ in Our Homes and The Word in Season are available now. These devotion books are helpful way to keep growing our faith. Take one home today and enjoy.

REFORMATION DAY QUIZ

As an adult, Martin Luther wrote dozens of hymns. His love for music dated back to his early school days when music was his favorite subject. Although he was particularly fond of playing this instrument, he gave it wasy before entering the monastery at 21. Was the instrument: A) the violin, B) the harpsichord, C) the lute, or D) the French horn? Answer on page 8.

A Quilt Ministry

Piece Corps—Good Shepherd Quilt Ministry-Thank You

*To all the angels of Good Shepherd and the Piece Corps
When we needed you most you were all here to lend a helping hand.*

Thank you to those quilters who loaded and delivered over 650 quilts to Monroe on September 13th. This is a large mission and all came together as a team. A BIG shout out to; Duame and Genise Tessororf, Troy and Cindy Doubler, Beth and Allie Martin, Donna Gullickson, Vivian and Deb Hesselbacher for taking the quilts to Grace Lutheran in Monroe for delivery to Lutheran World Relief. Thank you to Wayne Kurth for helping load the quilts.

Thanks to those that have helped to get the items from the motels. We hope to continue this great mission. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated.

The Piece Corps meets every Wednesday from 8-11:30am , stop by any Wednesday, we would love to see you.

*Shirley Fox
Piece Corps Quilters*



*A heartfelt expression of gratitude to
Shirley Fox for her blessings and message
on our Quilt Sunday, September 8th. Thank
you Shirley for all that you do!*

*Many Thanks,
Good Shepherd and the Piece Corps*



Where did our quilts go??

This year the Piece Corps made 600+quilts. Most quilts go to Lutheran World Relief, some quilts are donated locally;. Quilts have beendonated to Rockford, Freeport and area veterans, Salvation Army, Lutherdale , SSM Health E.R in Monroe, WI, families who have been displaced. Several have been purchased and 2 were raffled off during Lena Fall Festival.



Piece Corps

The Piece Corps Quilters we would like to thank all of our angels who have donated material, yarn, or thread for our cause. Your all wonderful.



*Winners of the 2024
Lena Fall Festival Quilt Raffle
Mark Schubert of Lanark
Eliza Maize of Freeport
Congratulations to the winners*

Fall Festival Thank You

Big Thank You to everyone helped with the hospitality tent during the weekend, for the candy donations and decorating the truck for Fall Festival Parade. An added thanks to Wayne Kurth and Troy Doubler, for setting up and taking down the Hospitality Booth Fall Festival was a great success.

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, Richard Frietag, Todd Schlachter, Cyndy Schumacher, Shirley Fox, 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.

Make-A-Smile cards for Lena Living Center

Each month we will send cards to the Lena Living Center, 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 of encouraging words. Our hope is to make them smile!

Questions? Contact the church office, 815-369-5552.

Thank you to all who help make cards.

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.

Highlights
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Minutes Sept. 12, 2024

Good Shepherd's Council met September 12 with all members present. Seated were Kristy Patterson, Coralyn Hudik, Virgil Gordon, Donna Gullickson, Michelle Andrews, Dale Gullickson and Darci Meier. Also attending was Pastor Thomas Mosbo and Treasurer Jay Andrews. Devotion and snacks were provided by Darci Meier.

Agenda Approval: Following the addition of several items, the agenda was approved with a motion from Hudik and second by M. Andrews.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's report was approved following confirmation that the date for Rally Sunday will be Sept. 22. Donna Gullickson moved to accept and Hudik provided the second. All agreed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Andrews reviewed the August financial statistics which included a gas payment of \$246 and electric bill of \$233.01. Full approval was received follow a motion by Gordon and second from Dale Gullickson.

Guest, Sue Diddens: Council welcomed Sue Diddens, co-chair of the Worship and Music Committee, who presented a plan to offer contemporary services in 2025 on months that have five Sundays. Diddens outlined tentative plans to provide a more modern worship setting that may appeal to younger adults, families and children. Hopes are that the services could encourage growth in the congregation. Diddens said the idea had been presented to a large number of members prior to the meeting. Pastor Thomas requested that the services be respectful of seasons of the year, such as Lent. A motion by Hudik to approve the contemporary services on the fifth Sunday of March, June, August and November in 2025, as presented by Sue Diddens, received a second by Gordon. Full Council approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Thomas reviewed his August report of activity and it was fully approved following a motion by M. Andrews and second by Donna Gullickson.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship Committee: V. Gordon stated a second Ice Cream Sundae Sunday will be held October 13.

Dale Gullickson reported on **Rally Sunday** which will be Sept. 22. Sunday School will open the following Sunday. It will be held during normal worship time and it will be staffed by five teachers on a rotation basis. All youth are invited to attend.

Continued on next page.

Weather Lore

Gnats in October are a sign of long, fair weather.

Continued from previous page.

Highlights from August 24th Church Council Meeting

Property Committee: Tim Gordon, president of the Property Committee, submitted a report which outlined plans and a bid to repair gutters and fascia on the sanctuary. Dale Gullickson moved to withdraw \$1600 out of the BMI Trust Account to pay Tristate Gutter for replacing the rotted out gutter on the north side of the sanctuary. This includes repairing the fascia and covering it with aluminum. A second was provided by Hudik and the motion passed unanimously. All Committee reports were approved with a motion by Hudik and second by M. Andrews. Council fully approved.

Old Business: Hudik provided an update on progress with the constitution. She stated that a zoom meeting with Synod will be held at Good Shepherd Sept. 16. The constitution committee has received the Synod's list of requested concessions.

New Business: Council fully approved Pastor's insurance with a Gold+ program with Portico as has been done in the past. The premium will cost \$17 more than the current plan. Hudik made the motion to approve the Gold+ plan followed by a second from Dale Gullickson.

Clean Up Day will be Oct. 5 beginning at 9:30 am. All volunteers are encouraged to sign up on the sheet posted in the hallway. Projects will be divided among several areas in the church building and possibly some outdoor work.

In another matter, M. Andrews motioned to move \$5,000 from the Special Funds BMI Interest Account to the Current Account as Pastor's housing allowance. Dale Gullickson seconded the motion and it received full Council approval.

The next Council meeting will be Oct. 10, 2024. Gordon made a motion to adjourn followed by a second by Donna Gullickson. Council ended the meeting by reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Darci Meier
Church Council Secretary

Thank You

*To all the angels from Good Shepherd,
Thank you for all the cards, calls and
texts since my mishap. I am grateful to everyone
for your friendship and for the great words of
encouragement you have given me. You
knocked me off my feet!*

*I am so happy your all are in my life,
you are all a blessing.*

*Thank you,
Shirley Fox*

Treasurer's Report

Jay Andrews

Income August 2024	\$2,926.10
Expenses August 2024	<u>\$7222.98</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(4296.88)
Income, Year to Date 2024	\$84,235.09
Expenses, Year to Date 2024	<u>\$77,621.03</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 6,614.06

LE-WIN FOOD PANTRY

**Good Shepherd will be at Lena-
Winslow Food Pantry on October 26th.
We are still in need of one additional
volunteer.**

*Thank you
for supporting the feeding ministry.*



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 35th Annual Convention of the Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA was held on September 21, 2024 at Zion Lutheran in Kewanee. More details will be in next month’s newsletter.

Hannah Circle will meet after worship on Sunday, October 6. We will use the “Hospitality” resource from the Women Of The ELCA website. Revitalizing the Circle is a work in progress so if you have any questions and/or suggestions, please get in touch with Sheila.

In November we will be collecting and blessing our **Thankofferings**. As stated on the WELCA website, “Thankofferings are a long-standing custom among Lutheran women. We give in thanksgiving for blessings received—and we do receive so many blessings, don’t we? And we are so grateful. That’s why we give Thankofferings.”



Answer from “Reformation Day Quiz” page 3

Martin Luther gave away his lute before he entered St. Augustine's Monastery in Erfurt on 17 July 1505. One friend blamed the decision on Luther's sadness over the deaths of two friends. Luther himself seemed saddened by the move. Those who attended a farewell supper walked him to the door of the Black Cloister. "This day you see me, and then, not ever again," he said. His father was furious over what he saw as a waste of Luther's education.

Source: Wikipedia, Martin Luther. Flanders Family Info.com.

Martin Luther; when he refused to renounce his writing he became a wanted man!

Luther soon became a thorn in the papacy’s side. In 1520 Pope Leo X sent a papal bull threatening him with excommunication should he refuse to recant his views – Luther responded by publicly setting it alight, and the following year was indeed excommunicated from the Church on 3 January 1521. Following this he was summoned to the city of Worms to attend a Diet – a general assembly of the Holy Roman Empire’s estates – where it was again demanded that he renounce his writing. Luther stood by his work however, delivering a rousing speech where he exclaimed:

“I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience.”

He was immediately branded a heretic and outlaw by Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. His arrest was ordered, his literature was banned, it became illegal to shelter him, and killing him in broad daylight would bring no consequences.

Source: Lily Johnson, Social Media Executive @ History Hit.com