

Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Easter VI) May 9, 2021

3825 Wildbriar Ln., Lincoln, NE 68516
Church Office: (402) 423-7639
E-mail: info@goodshepherdlincoln.org
Website: www.goodshepherdlincoln.org

KNNA radio: 95.7FM or www.thecross957.org
Services broadcast live Sundays at 8 am & 10:30 am
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



EFFECTUAL, FERVENT PRAYER:

(Continued from last week)

Prayer with Wisdom

At the very beginning of his Letter, James urges us to pray for wisdom. Wisdom from God provides insight and perspective. Wisdom allows us to understand how God is working and how to benefit from what He is doing. Most people have heard that God makes all things work together for good to those who love Him (Rom. 8: 28). Few people actually recognize why or how these things are working together. If we have wisdom to know how God is working, then we can also know what to pray for in accordance with His will. We can avoid coveting and asking with the wrong motives (Jas 4: 2-3), since wisdom from God allows us to distinguish between what we need and what we do not need.

What we need most is the forgiveness of sins. Therefore, James's final words about prayer focus on forgiveness (5: 13-18).

Suffering has a way of stirring one's conscience. Many a sick person wonders what wrong he or she has done to deserve this suffering. Many conclude it is punishment from God. Sometimes a person knows very well that the situa-

tion is in fact a specific result from sin in his or her life. Sometimes, though, suffering has nothing to do with a person's own sin. In either case, God wants to provide restoration. Regarding someone who is sick, James urges that the elders be called, that confession be made, and that prayers be offered up to God, who will grant forgiveness. God may provide temporal healing. He will certainly provide eternal healing for those who pray in faith and thank Him for His mercy.

Request granted!

The Mayo Clinic study that showed no evidence for the effectiveness of prayer should not surprise you. You may have had a similar experience or know someone who also thinks that prayer does not work. But James explains what kind of prayer is ineffective and why. "You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions" (4: 2-3). God has no interest in answering requests that would only lead you further away from Him.

Before you conclude that God is not listening to you or answering your prayers, ask yourself "Why am I asking for this?" *(continued on pg. 2)*

(continued from page 1)

Or “Why would God grant my request?” Fallen human nature thinks of itself and its comfort. So people often ask for the desires of their human nature. But material things hold the potential of taking over our lives. Human nature will always be disappointed in a God who refuses to grant requests that do not promote their idea of real life.

What a blessing it is to know that God wants us to pray and will surely answer. God answers the prayer of faith, offered up by a person made righteous by faith. Faith and righteousness teach us what is needful and what is contrary to our life as a Christian.. The prayer of faith is in agreement with the Word, which inspired that faith.

Faith teaches you to recognize what is needful. Faith teaches you how to understand experiences of suffering in a world broken by sin. Your inability provides a reason to turn your attention to God’s great ability. He has not failed and will not fail you. In the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, He has provided you with a life that endures all things. Recognizing this truth allows you to thank God in times of difficulty and to seek His wisdom and grace to thrive as His child.

Taken from the Lutheran Study Bible (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) 2009, pg. 2144.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thanks to all who arranged to have their “Choice Dollars” sent to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Because of your action, Good Shepherd has received \$ 1,942.00.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Doorkeeper Team is in need of additional volunteers to spread out the workload of checking in members and visitors. If you are willing to serve 1 Sunday and/or Wednesday per month (or less), please see an elder or Tim Higgins for additional information.

The Altar Guild is also in need of volunteers to set up and clean up communion for Wednesday night services and also to clean up after the 10:30 am services on Sundays. Someone will train you on how to do this. If you are interested in serving in this way, contact anyone on the Altar Guild Committee or call Sondra Rathjen at (402) 423-0563.

PERENNIAL PLANTS

If you have some sun-loving perennials that you need to thin out or separate and would like to donate to our landscaping here at Good Shepherd, please contact Linda Reigle at (402) 423-7953 (home) or (402) 580-4691 (cell). She is willing to come and get them or you can dig them on a Saturday and bring them to church to give to Linda. Thanks for your help!

We would also like to thank Sandy Langemeier for donating over 60 hosta plants for other areas that were planted on Saturday, May 1 during the spring clean-up.





PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

If you have a prayer request, please contact the church office at (402) 423-7639. Your request will appear for 6 weeks. If you would

like to keep it on the prayer list, you may call during the 6th week to renew it.

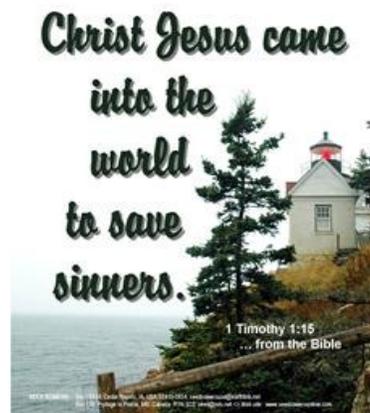
- **Barb Poppe**, with short-term memory issues.(4)
- **Marlene Smith**, grandmother of Beth Huff, for recovery from a stroke (2)
- **Renos Kunz**, recovering from a heart valve replacement(6)
- **Joyce Thompson**, recovering from a blood infection (6)
- **Jim Baumann**, beginning treatment for leukemia (5)
- **Jon Novacek**, father of Jack, Alaina, & Nolan Novacek, having serious medical issues (6)
- **Shanon Roblyer**, for healing from multiple health issues (5)
- **Jimmy Liebsch**, friend of Jimmy Stepp, who needs a kidney transplant ASAP. He is also hospitalized with pneumonia.(5)
- **Chris**, son of Elaine Egner, recovering from a stroke. (5)
- **Ron Kimes**, recovering from a knee replacement (5)
- **Suzie Van Valkenburg**, daughter-in-law of Bob & Elaine, beginning chemotherapy (4)
- **David Kirchhoff**, beginning radiation treatments(4)
- **Bob McClellan**, recovering at the heart hospital (3)
- **Ray Merriman**, son-in-law of the Novaks with a worsening cardiac condition. (2)
- **Adam Mankin**, beginning immunotherapy following the removal of a melanoma (4)
- **Sarah Wright**, daughter of a friend of the Novaks with pregnancy complications (2)
- **Dean Posner**, hospitalized. (3)
- **Dennis Linam**, father of Brooks Linam, healing from the aftereffects of a surgery (4)
- **Melanie Walker**, friend of Bob & Elaine and Ron Van Valkenburg, who is continuing treatment for cancer. (1)
- **Mildred Humphrey**, with health issues including heart failure. (1)
- **Thanksgiving for the birth of Timothy Dewaine Steele III** to Vicar Timothy & Amy Steele on Sat. 4/17 at about 10 pm. (3)
- **Thanksgiving for all mothers and mothers-to-be on this Mothers' Day**
- **Thomas & Marlyse Goodroad**. Thomas is assigned to Good Shepherd as a vicar for the Aug. 2021—July 2022 year. (2)
- **Isaiah & Audrey Armbrecht**. Isaiah will serve his vicarage at St. John Lutheran Church in Decatur, IN (2)
- **Dan Golden and family**, as he has received his first call to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Parkersburg, WV (2)
- **For the family of Carol Renken**, who was taken to her eternal home on Tuesday. (1)



If I were to wait until I felt like forgiving, for example, would I ever forgive? Emotions are unstable and untrustworthy and depend on outward circumstances. A decision . . . A commitment to God's will brings stability.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT I Timothy 2: 5-6— “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all.” To be ransomed is to be bought back, to be purchased. We belong to God, fair and square. This is not only because He created us, but this is doubly so in that we are ransomed. We belong to God. That’s the beginning of thankfulness and generosity.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEK (May 9–15)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Ruth Brisbois	Laura Buresh
Rose Poppe	Kylen Schnell
Joel Kaldahl	Jon McNabb
Pam Deines	Chad Renter
Tim Schellenbach	
Tanya Wagner	Dee Indgjer
Brittani Jackson	Kevin Cheek

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Victor & Loree Kirilloff
Brent & Cherie Travis
Scott & Susan McKinney
Pastor Clint & Barb Poppe
Chris & Paulette Luebbe

SIGN UP TO DONATE GOODIES

Goodies have returned to the Bible Study hour through your donations. Sign up in the fellowship hall for a Sunday to donate that week’s goodies. You can donate the goodie of your choice (about 7-8 dozen servings.) Alternatively, you can donate money for goodies to be purchased. Goodies will be served with tongs by the coffee volunteers. Please have goodies in the church kitchen by 9 am that Sunday morning. Call/text Sarah Kaldahl with questions at 660.238.7327.



LIFE MOMENT: May 9 (Mothers’ Day): “My body, my choice,” says a sinful world. “You did not choose me, but I chose you” (John 15: 16), answers a loving God. Motherhood comes about by His gift, not because of our will. Choice forces us to look out only for number one, but grace invites us to “love one another as I have loved you” (John 15: 12). Praise the Lord for mothers’ love!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION
MAY 2, 2021

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED
\$ 11,253.00

ATTENDANCE:
SUNDAY, MAY 2: 259
WED, APRIL 28: 64
TOTAL: 323

OFFERING:
\$ 8,257.00

APRIL VANCO:
\$ 4,445.00

APRIL PAYPAL:
\$ 470.00

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN MASK POLICY

Our pastors and elders have been constantly monitoring the Directed Health Measures that have been issued from the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. All practices and procedures at Good Shepherd fall well within the Health Department rules without requiring masks. Masks are encouraged but not required; let your conscience be your guide. Masks are available at the sign-in table and hand sanitizer is available there and several other places throughout the church.

Please be respectful of others and follow common sense social distancing and communicate with others regarding your personal comfort level. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. We are working hard to ease back to normal, as the DHMs allow. As of March 14, hymnals have returned to the pews, tape has been removed, extra sanitation during distribution has ended.

We are thankful that we have had over 130 Divine Services since corporate worship resumed last May with no health issues or concerns. Sunday Bible Study for families in the Fellowship Hall will continue until further notice. Tables have been spaced out and overflow seating is available in Room 109.

***DOORKEEPERS TODAY: (May 9) 8:00 am: Tim Higgins
10:30 am: Jerry Sidlo***

ELDER TODAY: (May 9) : Wayne Gudgel

***USHERS TODAY: 8:00 am: Alan Brodbeck, Scott McKinney
10:30 am: Scott McKinney, David Perrin***

***ACOLYTES TODAY: 8:00 am: Ella Moline
10:30 am: Cade Cover***

COMMUNION SET-UP: Kacy Meyer

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: Gayleen Potter

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS . . . Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: Justification, The Means of Grace, The Theology of the Cross, Christology, Vocation, Living in Two Kingdoms and Worship. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.



LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

MISSION PROJECT FOR MAY 2021

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation will be the mission project for the month of May. LHF translates, publishes, distributes and introduces Lutheran materials for the church around the world. Imagine trying

to understand Scripture in all its richness without the benefit of *Luther's Small Catechism*. LHF is at work in more than 80 countries, providing pastors and teachers with the Lutheran materials they need to teach and evangelize those who do not yet know God's plan for our salvation. To check out some of the current projects of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, go to www.lhfmissions.org.

TENTH ANNUAL ACELC CONFERENCE

This ACELC Conference for 2021 will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Eagle, NE from July 27-29. The theme of this event is *Christ For Us: Ecclesiastical Supervision*. Speakers for these sessions are as follows:

- **Rev. Phillip Hale**, Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Omaha, Nebraska - "*Headship: Christ is Lord Over His Church & All Things*"
- **Rev. Dan Freeman**, Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church, Chehalis, Washington - "*Biblical Basis for Ecclesiastical Supervision*"
- **Rev. Roberto Rojas**, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Winter Garden, Florida - "*Office of the Keys*"
- **Rev. Dr. Martin Noland**, Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, San Mateo, California - "*History of Ecclesiastical Supervision in the LCMS*"
- **Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders**, President, Iowa East District, Cedar Falls, Iowa - "*Ecclesiastical Supervision 101: A Walk Through the Handbook*"
- **Rev. Rolf Preus**, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Sidney, Montana - "*Ecclesiastical Supervision in the ELS: The Good, the Bad, the Ugly*"
- **Rev. Brent Kuhlman**, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Murdock, Nebraska - "*Ecclesiastical Supervision According to Luther and the Confessions*"
- **Rev. Andrew Preus**, Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church, Guttenberg, Iowa - Banquet Speaker



The registration cost is \$75/person or \$100 with spouse before July 13, 2021. After July 13 add \$10. These prices include the banquet on Tuesday evening. If registering after July 16, 2021 email at information@acelc.net to see if banquet tickets are available.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. David McMinn, ACELC Conference Chairman, at pastor@sothlutheran.org.

COFFEE AND GOODIE SERVERS NEEDED

Volunteer a little bit of your Sunday morning time to serve coffee and goodies during the Bible Study. By increasing the teams in rotation, your team will be serving only 3-4 times per year. Contact John Reigle at 402.304.4023 for more information and to sign up.