

# Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Second Sunday of Easter) April 16, 2023

3825 Wildbriar Ln., Lincoln, NE 68516

Church Office: (402) 423-7639

E-mail: [info@goodshepherdlincoln.org](mailto:info@goodshepherdlincoln.org)

Website: [www.goodshepherdlincoln.org](http://www.goodshepherdlincoln.org)

KNNA radio: 95.7FM or [www.thecross957.org](http://www.thecross957.org)

Services broadcast live Sundays at 8 am & 10:30 am  
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



## COMMON QUESTIONS; ESSENTIAL ANSWERS

*by Pastor Matthew C. Harrison*

Thousands of Christian denominations cover the globe, including "non-denoms," which are themselves a kind of denomination. How can confessional Lutherans possibly claim that we have the correct teaching of Christ over against so many others? It's not quite as complex as it seems. Only a couple of questions help us get to the heart of the matter. Think of it like a flowchart.

**The first question is: "What is the highest authority in the church?"** If the answer is church, council or pope, then one has the choice between the Roman Catholic Church or Eastern Orthodoxy. If the answer is that Scripture is higher than popes or councils, it's a choice between so-called Protestant churches.

Rome places councils and popes above Scripture as seen in the promulgation of doctrines about Mary in 1854 and 1950. The first states, "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin." The second, in 1950, states, "Mary, Immaculate Mother of God ever Virgin, after finishing the course of her life on earth, was taken up in body and soul to heavenly glory." Both of these originated in the ancient eastern church but were never officially made doctrine. Rome asserts that there are "traditions" outside of Holy Scripture that must, if confirmed by the pope and church, be believed by all faithful Christians. There's only one problem: The Holy Scriptures say not a whisper about these teachings.

Our response is that no matter how significant and meaningful these traditions are to you, you cannot charge the church to believe anything that is not found in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures. Scripture alone determines doctrine. Lutherans have a positive view of tradition. Luther's was a conservative reformation. The Lutherans retained and purified traditions and practices that did not contradict the Gospel of free forgiveness in Christ's cross and resurrection. But tradition must always be subservient to and normed by Scripture alone. Just note the way Jesus rejected traditions not supported by the Bible: "In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrine the commandments of men" (Matt. 15: 9). (see page 2)

**The second question in the flowchart is, "What role do works play in salvation?"** Today, the question is often asked this way: "Does Scripture teach that you must make a decision to be saved? If yes, go to the churches that teach decision theology. If no, go to the churches that teach that salvation is by God's complete work alone.

The Gospel is exceedingly clear. Augsburg Confession IV lays it out, based upon Romans 3-4: "Our churches teach that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works. People are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By his death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight."

This confession draws a line over against any teaching or tradition that would turn the Gospel into Law (our doing, our decision, our action) and condemns such teachings. *(to be continued next week)*

*taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) October 2022, pg. 4-5.*

## **LINCOLN LUTHERAN CHOIR CONCERTS**

The Lincoln Lutheran Choir will be presenting the "Finding Extraordinary in the Ordinary" program in two different settings this year. Sharing the gift of salvation through music is an *extraordinary* experience. Consider joining them on Sunday, April 16th at 3 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church , 806 N Beaver, York, NE or on Sunday, April 23rd at 3 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 2225 Washington, Lincoln, NE. For more information, please visit [www.LincolnLutheranChoir.org](http://www.LincolnLutheranChoir.org) or find them on Facebook.

## **MISSION PROJECT: LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION**

For 15 years, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation has been receiving and answering calls from around the world to publish books with the truth of God's Word in many different languages. In more than 80 countries and 90 languages, LHF publishes and distributes translations of books like Luther's Small Catechism, the Book of Concord, and A Summary of Christian Doctrine. In Muslim strongholds like Somalia and Afghanistan these pamphlets and books are secret and prized possessions that sustain Christians, whose lives are threatened for their faith in Christ. The work of LHF will be Good Shepherd's mission project for the month of April.

## **EASTER LILIES**

We inadvertently omitted one of the donors of 2 Easter lilies for Easter Sunday. Tish Loomis was a donor of 2 lilies: one in memory of her husband, Stan, and the other in memory of her mother, Darlene Wiese. We thank Tish and all those who donated lilies to beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday.





## 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 (3)
- **Joyce Thompson**, in rehab at The Cove, following surgery for a broken hip (5)
- **Leena Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, as she anticipates another procedure to try a cochlear implant on April 21 (2)
- **Maurice Lange**, currently receiving radiation and chemotherapy (1)
- **Rev. John Schmidt**, recovering from surgery (4)
- **Jan Young**, daughter of Arlene Nelson, having medical issues following hip replacement surgery (3)
- **Lynda Mahloch**, recovering from eye surgery (3)
- **David Votaw**, father of the daughter-in-law of David & Lois Kirchhoff, recovering from triple bypass surgery (3).
- **Brianna Merriman**, great-granddaughter of Rich & Lorelee Novak, hospitalized following an accident (3)
- **Al Fox**, father of Nancy Stepp, for healing from health issues (1)
- **Dean Posner**, for healing from health issues (6)
- **Linda Clark**, having carpal tunnel surgery on April 13th (2)
- **Myron Baumfalk**, brother of Reva Von Busch, with health issues (2)
- **Sarah Stepp**, for a quick resolution to the cause of her eosinophilic esophagitis and that her dietary changes would give her relief from pain (1)

- **Shani Beeman**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from back surgery and efforts to clear up an infection. Please pray for healing. (6)
- **Don Crouch**, friend of Joe Roberts, who has had medical issues with his eye, had surgery, and may have to have more surgery(2)
- **Tanya Schlamann**, former member of Good Shepherd, preparing for a possible lung transplant (2)
- **Jared Atkins**, son of Rev. Mark & Katherine Williamson, in the aftermath of tornado damage (2)
- **Christopher Gerdes**, father of Good Shepherd member, Cedric Gerdes, for God's blessings as he is installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Netawada, KS on April 16th at 4 pm. (1)

## THANKS

Thanks to everyone who provided food, served, set up and cleaned up for our Easter breakfast. Thanks also to the musicians and vocalists who used their talents to enhance our worship services throughout Holy Week.

We also appreciate all the participation in the diaper drive for the expected twins of Nathan & Cosette Kieser.

## COME TO THE CARNIVAL

Little Learners Preschool will be having their annual carnival this Friday, April 14th from 6-8 pm in the lower level. They have invited anyone from Good Shepherd who is interested to join them. This year they are raising funds to purchase intruder safety equipment. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

# Good Shepherd News & Notes

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT—John 20: 19** “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” Jesus spent a lot of His time telling the disciples to not be afraid. Our fears constantly hem us in and prevent us from following the Lord’s will. But there is no need to fear. Jesus has conquered. No fear can keep us locked up. We have been set free by Jesus to live lives that declare His marvelous deeds.



## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** **(April 16— April 22, 2023)**

People celebrating birthdays are:

Linda Reigle            Joe Reinke  
Joe Roberts            Marvin Thompson  
Pastor Lawson Short  
Terry Fitzgerald    Paris Schultz  
Nicole Steinhauser  
Connie Swenson    Leon Burow  
Rod Toelle            Alex Luebbe  
Liz Luebbe            Kyson Schnell  
Matthew Richardson

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:


Ron & Candy Kimes  
Joe & Lindsey Reinke

## **LIFE MOMENT**

*Today we often find lines, divisions, and hate, but we hope to spread a little love and hope. Life is a valuable gift at all ages and all stages of life and it should be protected.*

## **RED CROSS BLOOD DRAW**

The next opportunity to give blood at Good Shepherd will be on Friday, April 21st from 8 am—2 pm. Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: Good Shepherd Lutheran to schedule an appointment to donate.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
APRIL 9, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:  
\$ 11,253.00

ATTENDANCE:

HOLY MON—WED: 156

MAUNDY THURS: 144

TRE ORE: 85

TENEBRAE: 172

EASTER VIGIL: 165

EASTER SUN., APRIL 9: 309

OFFERING: \$ 11,185.00

## **SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:**

**DOORKEEPERS:** (Wed., April 12): Scott & Dee Indgjen  
(Sun., April 16): 8 am: Loraine Harnett  
10:30 am: Lauren Georgeson  
(Wed., April 19): Ruth Cheek

**ELDER TODAY:** (Wed., April 12): Rich Lichtenfeld  
(Sun., April 16): Dale Meyer  
(Wed., April 19): Dale Meyer

**USHERS:** (Wed., April 12): A & A Von Busch, D & R Von Busch  
(Sun., April 16): 8 am: Stepp, Schnell, Wilkens  
10:30 am: Novak, Princ  
(Wed., April 19): Huff, Kaldaho, Schmidt, Perrin

**ACOLYTES:** (Wed., April 12): Gabe Moline  
(Sun., April 16): 8 am: Aaden Von Busch  
10:30 am: Sam Perrin  
(Wed., April 19): Kyler Cover

**ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT:** (Wed., April 12): Abigail Durr  
(Sun., April 16): Adelaide Ehrich  
(Wed., April 19): Adilyn Damme

**COMMUNION SET-UP:** (Wed., April 12): Karen Huff  
(Sun., April 16): Deb Burow  
(Wed., April 19): Marilyn Meyer

**COMMUNION CLEAN-UP:** (Wed., April 12): Karen Huff  
(Sun., April 16): Christine Brugger  
(Wed., April 19): Marilyn Meyer

**COFFEE SERVERS:** (Sun., April 16): Marilyn Meyer, Corie Christiansen

## **VICARAGE ASSIGNMENT/CALL DAY**

At the Special Voters Meeting on Jan. 24, 2023, the members in attendance voted to extend a designated call to our former vicar, Thomas Goodroad. We will find out if this will happen on Call Day at Ft. Wayne on April 25th. In addition, Good Shepherd has submitted an application to receive a vicar for the August 2023 — July 2024 vicarage year. The vicarage assignment service will be April 24th also at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne. Please keep these events and the congregations and the vicars and called pastor-elects in your prayers. If you have any questions about these events and what they mean for Good Shepherd, please contact one of the pastors or an elder.

## **GOOD SHEPHERD SHUT-IN MEMBERS:**

Several of our shut-in members have requested to be listed in the News & Notes in order that members might pray for them. Below is the beginning of an answer to this request. Further developments are in our thoughts.

Ron & Janet Amack (at home)  
Betty Bluhm (at The Grand Lodge)  
Joe & Sharon Burke (at home)  
Jim & Peggy Cather (at home)  
Elaine Egner (at home)  
Shirley Kalina (Pemberly Place)  
Janet Kniep (at home)  
Tish Loomis (at home)  
Bob McClellan (Gateway Vista)  
Cindi Olson (Country House)  
Dean Posner (Holmes Lake Rehab)  
Alice Urbach (at home)

Anita Armitstead (at home)  
Irma Brandt (Yankee Hill Village)  
Jim & Marilyn Carr (at home)  
Georgene Duer (at home)  
Verneda Gerdes (at home)  
Arlyss Ketelsen (Savannah Pines)  
Jerry Kohl (The Woodlands)  
Lynda Mahloch (Legacy Estates)  
Dorian Merritt (at home)  
Francine Poppe (Azria Health, Central City)  
Marvin & Joyce Thompson (The Landing)  
Don Wiese (Southlake Village)

On the table near the Stephen Ministry banner is a way for you to send birthday and anniversary greetings to our shut-in members. There are cards to sign or you may write a short note to those having birthdays and anniversaries in the current month. During the rest of the month of April: **Marvin Thompson, Georgene Duer, and Cindi Olson** will be celebrating birthdays. Cards will be available to sign **until April 19th**. Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.

## **ELDER GROUPS**

The households of Good Shepherd members are divided into groups alphabetically and each group is assigned to one of our elders. The Board of Elders concerns itself with the spiritual health and welfare of the congregation and its members individually. Elders are to encourage spiritual growth of the members through regular church attendance, study of the Word, frequent reception of the Lord's Supper, and an active prayer life. See below to find your assigned elder.

### **HOUSEHOLDS**

A — Ch  
Ci — Fi  
Fl — Ja  
Jo — Li  
Lo — Ni  
No — Pr  
Pu — Schr  
Schu — Th  
To — Z

### **ASSIGNED ELDER**

Mark Reinke  
Curt Christiansen  
Ken Knaus  
Wayne Gudgel  
Dale Meyer  
Rich Lichtenfeld  
Chad Renter  
Matt Phillips  
Joel Kaldahl