

Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Fifth Sunday of Easter) May 7, 2023

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



THE HOLY SPIRIT AS ADVOCATE

by Rev. Dr. Charles Gieschen

One of the most important biblical sources on the person and work of the Holy Spirit can be found in the Gospel of John, in what is known as the “farewell narrative” (John 13: 1 — 17: 26). This instruction of Jesus to His disciples on the evening before His death contains some of the most memorable and beloved texts in all of Scripture: “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14: 6); “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you” (John 14: 27); “I am the vine; you are the branches,” (John 15: 5); “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15: 12); “Take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16: 33). It is also punctuated with Christ’s teaching about the Holy Spirit — the *Paraclete*.

What is a ‘Paraclete’? There are times when translating a word from the Greek New Testament into English proves so difficult that scholars choose simply to transliterate the word instead. This is often the case with the Greek word *Paraclete* (*paráklētos*), an important title for the Holy Spirit in the farewell narrative.

When it is translated, *Paraclete* is usually rendered as “Helper” (ESV), “Comforter” (KJV), or “Counselor” (RSV). None of these options, however, adequately captures the intercessory role implied by Jesus’ use of the term. If I am pressed to translate *Paraclete* into English, I prefer to use the word “Advocate” (John 14:16; 14:26; 15:26; 16:7), which more fully takes into account the way John uses the same word in his first epistle: “But if anyone does sin, we have an *advocate* with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world” (I John 2: 1-2, emphasis mine).

A pair of paracletes What, then, does Jesus teach us in John about the *Paraclete*, our Advocate?

He first teaches us that there are two *paracletes*: “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another *paraclete*, to be with you forever” (John 14: 16). The Son is our advocate in the sense that He constantly puts before the Father the evidence of His universal atonement for sins (I John 2: 1). The Holy Spirit is another advocate, one who continually seeks to convince us of three important truths: “And when he comes, he will convince the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16: 8).

There is a very close relationship between these two *paracletes* in terms of their work within the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Jesus is teaching here about sending the Holy Spirit because He is about to finish His earthly ministry through His death, resurrection and ascension. Once Jesus' earthly work is finished, the Holy Spirit is sent by the Father and the Son to advocate for the Son among humanity by convincing us of our sin, Christ's righteousness and Satan's defeat.

Jesus further explains and emphasizes the importance of this three-fold work of the Holy Spirit: "concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged" (John 16: 9-11). First, the Spirit advocates for the truth that we are sinners who are spiritually dead and blind. Because we do not see our need and cannot come to believe in Jesus on our own due to our dire spiritual condition ("everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin" (John 8: 34), we need the divine help of the Holy Spirit to recognize and confess our sin. Second, He advocates for the truth that Jesus is the righteousness of God whose perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for all sin so that sinners may receive by faith the righteousness they need. Third, He advocates for the truth that Satan, the previous "ruler of the world," has been defeated and judged through Jesus' saving work. *(to be continued)*

taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) May 2019, pg. 21-22.

MAY MISSION PROJECT



In December of 2020 Women's Care Center opened in Lincoln, NE on S. 48th St. The center provides counselling, medical care, tangible support, adoption referrals, parenting classes and self-sufficiency training. It also offers free ultrasounds and pregnancy tests. Donations of \$84 support one mom and her precious baby through counselling and an ultrasound. Donations of **new** diaper bags, changing table pad covers, baby toys, baby monitors, baby clothes (sizes newborn—2T), sea bands (to help with morning sickness; available at Walgreens, CVS or on Amazon), and Peggie Pops (available at Walgreens and Walmart) are also accepted. Questions can be directed to the director, Sarah Kroner at (531) 500-4981. All donations are tax-deductible.

UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES

All families are invited to a park date on May 9, 2023 from 3-5 pm at Trendwood Park off of A Street & 77th St.. The public sidewalk entrance is near Davies Dr. & 77th St. From there, you walk on the path to the playground.

We will also be gathering for a park date on May 23, 2023 from 10 am—noon at Mahoney Park off of 70th & Fremont Street in Lincoln. We will meet at the playground equipment.

We plan to hold two park dates each month through the summer. Please keep an eye on the News & Notes for more information.

Contact Elizabeth Moline at (701) 640-7989 or Sarah Kaldahl at (660) 238-7327 with questions.





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 (6)
- **Joyce Thompson**, in rehab at The Cove, following surgery for a broken hip (2)
- **Leena Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, as she anticipates another procedure to try a cochlear implant on April 21 (5)
- **Maurice Lange**, currently receiving radiation and chemotherapy (4)
- **Jan Young**, daughter of Arlene Nelson, having medical issues following hip replacement surgery (6)
- **Lynda Mahloch**, recovering from eye surgery (6)
- **David Votaw**, father of the daughter-in-law of David & Lois Kirchhoff, recovering from triple bypass surgery (6).
- **Brianna Merriman**, great-granddaughter of Rich & Lorelee Novak, hospitalized following an accident (6)
- **Al Fox**, father of Nancy Stepp, for healing from health issues (4)
- **Linda Clark**, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery (4)
- **Sarah Stepp**, for a quick resolution to the cause of her eosinophilic esophagitis and that her dietary changes would give her relief from pain (4)
- **Donna Stepp**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, having dizzy spells. Pray that doctors would be able to find and treat the cause. (2)
- **Ken**, brother of Jimmy Stepp, dealing with low oxygen levels in his blood (2)
- **Lula Hinzemann**, 100 year old cousin of Barbara Kumm, who fractured her hip (3)
- **Char Large**, awaiting results of medical tests (1)
- **Joyce Aupperle**, in hospice care (1)

- **Tanya Schlamann**, former member of Good Shepherd, preparing for a possible lung transplant (4)
- **Rick**, brother of Jimmy Stepp, who will be having a hip replacement soon (2)
- **Pastor Albert & Gretyl Bader**, dealing with possible medical issues in pregnancy (1)
- **The family of Brian**, nephew of Wayne Gudgel, who was taken to his eternal home following an asthma attack (2)
- **The family of Leo**, brother of Leonard Pfeister, who was taken to his eternal home. (2)
- **Thanksgiving for the new birth of baptism for William and Arthur**, twin sons of Nathan & Cosette Kieser today. (1)

LINCOLN MARATHON

The annual Lincoln Marathon is scheduled for **Sun., May 7th**. Check out the route and be aware that you might need to leave home early and/or modify your route. Check out the route at www.lincolmarathon.org.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Thank you for your partnership and generous support for Lutherans for Life, Good Shepherd's January mission project. Good Shepherd was able to send \$ 2,051.00 to this pro-life ministry to change hearts and lives through the Gospel message of Jesus Christ providing spiritual care to families needing hope and grace.

LWML SCHOLARSHIPS

LWML South District is taking applications for students attending an LCMS University or Seminary with plans to enter a church worker vocation.

Scholarship applications are available at our website @lwmlnesouth.org

Applications must be **postmarked or received online by June 1, 2023**. Send to Eileen Zentner, 71565 648th Ave., Shubert, NE 68437 or ezentner515@gmail.com.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT—James 1: 17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” There are a great many passages in Scripture which echo this theme: everything good we have is from God. He loves to give. He loves to bless. He loves to show us generosity time and again, and He desires that we reflect His love and openhanded Kindness.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (May 7— May 13, 2023)

People celebrating birthdays are:

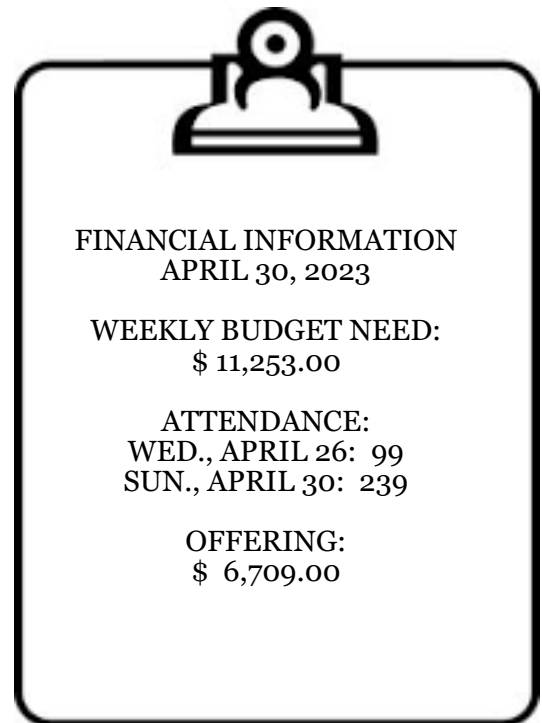
Lance von Rentzell	Rose Poppe
Leslie Graphenteen	Jon McNabb
Ruth Brisbois	Joel Kaldahl
Kylen Schnell	Pam Deines
Tim Schellenbach	Chad Renter
Tanya Wagner	

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Brent & Cherie Travis
Lance & Kim von Rentzell
Scott & Susan McKinney
Pastor Clint & Barb Poppe

SIGN UP FOR BUNCO

We had so much fun in February — we’re going to play Bunco again!!! You are invited to an afternoon of fellowship and fun on **May 20th at 3 pm** in the parish hall. We will be playing Bunco, an easy, fun dice game, no experience required. Anyone age 10-99 is welcome to play! The game requires even numbers of people, so please sign up in pairs, but don’t worry — you won’t be stuck with your partner for the entire game. (If you want to play and can’t find a partner, let Elizabeth Moline know or check out the sign-up sheet.) Limited babysitting will be provided for a freewill offering. Feel free to bring snacks — water and lemonade will be provided. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Contact Elizabeth Moline at 701-640-7989 with any questions.



LIFE MOMENT

"Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!

Deuteronomy 30: 19 NLT

Think about the eternal difference your choices will make.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Wed., May 3): Scott & Dee Indgjer
(Sun., May 7): 8 am: Alan Brodbeck
10:30 am: Jerry Sidlo

ELDER TODAY: (Wed., May 3): Ken Knaus
(Sun., May 7): Matt Phillips
(Wed., May 10): Rich Lichtenfeld

USHERS: (Wed., May 3): Von Busch (A & A), Von Busch (D & R)
(Sun., May 7): 8 am: Wilkens, Kaldahl, Indgjer
10:30 am: Perrin, Fitzgerald, Keller, Princ
(Wed., May 10): Huff, Kaldahl, Schmidt, Perrin

ACOLYTES: (Wed., May 3): Sawyer Shubkagel
(Sun., May 7): 8 am: Clark Ehrich
10:30 am: Nolan Keller
(Wed., May 10): Zach Von Busch

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Wed., May 3): Claire Moline
(Sun., May 7): Haidyn Shubkagel
(Wed., May 10): Ingrid Ehrich

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Wed., May 3): Arlene Nelson
(Sun., May 7): Marilyn Meyer
(Wed., May 10): Sue Stolcpart

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Wed., May 3): Arlene Nelson
(Sun., May 7): Sheila Turek
(Wed., May 10): Sue Stolcpart

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., April 30): Loraine Harnett, Sandy Langemeier

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. At the Call Day service in Ft. Wayne on Tuesday, April 25th, that call was confirmed. Details about his ordination and installation are pending. In addition, Good Shepherd submitted an application to receive a vicar for the August 2023 — July 2024 vicarage year. However, Good Shepherd was not assigned a vicar for the coming year. Please keep the congregations and the vicars and called pastors-elect 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.

MAIN STREET LIVING

On Sunday, May 7th Rev. Keith Burke, pastor at Faith of Our Fathers Lutheran Church in Roca, NE will be presenting a message entitled, "Jesus is THE Only Way to Heaven". This sermon is based on John 14: 1-14. For those who are unable to join us at Good Shepherd on May 7th, celebrate the season of Easter with Main Street Living, Pastor Burke and the Main Street Living choir.

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)
Arylss 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)

There are no birthdays or anniversaries until the beginning of June. 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

FLOWERS

Flowers for May 7, 2023 are given in honor and remembrance of Peg Olson's father Orville Holle by Don & Peg Olson. We thank the Olsons for adding beauty to the sanctuary during this special time of Easter celebration.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

The TOPS group meets at Good Shepherd every Thursday at 9 am. This group has an old-fashioned approach to the challenge of eating healthy and losing weight. The support of others who are also faced with this challenge is invaluable. Everyone is welcome.