

Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Seventh Sunday of Easter) May 21, 2023

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

WE CONFESS: THE BIG THREE

Historically, the Christian Church has recognized three Ecumenical Creeds: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. Creed is from the Latin word *credo*, "I believe"; a summary of what the Church believes. An ecumenical creed is a creed that is accepted by the Christian Church *as a whole*. In other words, it doesn't matter if you are Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Methodist, or Presbyterian. If you are a Christian, you can joyfully confess the Ecumenical Creeds.

APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed is the shortest and simplest of the "big three" creeds, and finds its origin in the writings of the first- and second-century Church Fathers. For instance, Ignatius of Antioch writes this around AD 107:

"Be deaf, therefore, whenever anyone speaks to you apart from Jesus Christ, who is of the stock of David, who is of Mary, who was truly born, ate and drank, was truly persecuted under Pontius Pilate, was truly crucified and died in the sight of beings of heaven, of earth and the underworld, who was also truly raised from the dead." (John Leith, *Creeds of the Churches*, 3rd ed. [Louisville: John Knox Press, 1982], 16-17.)

These words are an almost verbatim repetition of what Christians around the world confess even today in the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed. Thus, the Apostles' Creed is nearly as ancient as the Church itself.

NICENE CREED

The origins of the Nicene Creed go back to AD 325 during the Church's Council of Nicea. It was during this period that Arius attacked the teaching that the Father and Son were both coeternally and coequally God. Hence, the Nicene Creed confesses that Christ is "God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God . . . being of one substance with the Father" (*LSB*, p. 158). This creed, then, is largely devoted to defending Christ's divinity.

ATHANASIAN CREED

The longest of the "big three" creeds is the Athanasian Creed, containing some 656 words. Although its composition is traditionally attributed to Athanasius, who lived in Alexandria in the fourth century, its author is technically anonymous. Nevertheless, this creed carefully addresses and defends the doctrine of the Trinity in a highly technical and in-depth way. (*see page 2*)

BACK TO THE BASICS

In the sixteenth century, as Martin Luther led a reformation of the Christian Church, he took painstaking precautions to assure others that he had no aspirations of starting a new religion or sect. Rather, he maintained, he was simply seeking to return the Church to its orthodox roots. This is why the Augsburg Confession, a statement of what Lutherans believe, opens: "Our churches teach with common consent that the decree of the Council of Nicea about the unity of the divine essence and the three persons is true. . . God is one divine essence" (AC 11, 2). In order to make its case that Lutherans are part of the universal Christian Church, the Augsburg Confession appeals to the universal Christian creeds. The reformers are thus arguing that they are only teaching what has always been taught in the creeds. They are simply going "back to the basics" of credal Christianity.

Martin Luther himself used the Apostles' Creed as a "back to the basics" teaching tool when he wrote his Small Catechism. He begins his comments on this creed by explaining, "[This is how] the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household" (SC, The Creed). Luther believed that every Christian should know the creeds because they contain elementary and vital teachings of the Christian faith.

taken from Lutheranism 101 (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) pgs. 237-239.

LETTER FROM PASTOR-ELECT, THOMAS GOODROAD

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am writing to acknowledge that I have received the call to become your pastor. This will be on the forefront of my mind as I continue to diligently study in order to complete my academic work here at the seminary, upon completion of which I will be able to joyfully notify you of my official acceptance of your call. You will all be in my prayers, and I likewise ask for your continued prayers.

May the Lord of the Church bless and keep you in the one true faith.

Yours in Christ,
Thomas Goodroad



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 Williams at (531) 500-4981. All donations are tax-deductible.

FLOWERS

The flowers on Sunday, May 20th are provided by Connie Swenson, in honor of and in memory of her parents, Lester & Adeline Swenson. We thank Connie for reminding us of the saints in heaven at this time of Easter celebration.





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 (2)
- **Joyce Thompson**, in rehab at The Cove, following surgery for a broken hip (4)
- **Leena Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, as she recovers from surgery for a cochlear implant (2)
- **Maurice Lange**, currently receiving radiation and chemotherapy (6)
- **Al Fox**, father of Nancy Stepp, for healing from health issues (6)
- **Linda Clark**, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery (6)
- **Sarah Stepp**, for a quick resolution to the cause of her eosinophilic esophagitis and that her dietary changes would give her relief from pain (6)
- **Donna Stepp**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, having dizzy spells. Pray that doctors would be able to find and treat the cause. (4)
- **Ken**, brother of Jimmy Stepp, dealing with low oxygen levels in his blood (4)
- **Lula Hinzemann**, 100 year old cousin of Barbara Kumm, who fractured her hip (5)
- **Char Large**, moved to Savannah Pines following a hospitalization (2)
- **Joyce Aupperle**, in hospice care at home (3)
- **Loraine Harnett**, recovering from knee surgery on May 11th (2)
- **Tanya Schlamann**, former member of Good Shepherd, preparing for a possible lung transplant (6)
- **Rick**, brother of Jimmy Stepp, who will be having a hip replacement soon (4)
- **Patricia Ann Baxter-Nuner**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from a knee replacement and following infection (1)

- **The son-in-law of Lynda Mahloch**, recently diagnosed with cancer (1)
- **Lowell Clifford**, grandfather of Ashley Ehrich, dealing with broken ribs following a fall. (1)
- **Thanksgiving for the birth of Ellie Rhyse Mackey**, daughter of Chris & Carla Mackey. (1)

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.

LUTHERANS IN AFRICA

On Sunday, May 21st, Pastor James May will be visiting Good Shepherd to preach at both services and lead the Family Bible Study between services. Pastor May is a graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne and is currently the director of Lutherans in Africa. LIA equips Africans to be teachers of the saving faith in Christ Jesus. This is done through training pastors, evangelists, deaconesses, and Sunday school teachers and translating key doctrinal resources into African languages. Lutherans in Africa will be Good Shepherd's mission project in July 2023.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT—I Peter 4: 10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." God's grace is His undeserved mercy toward us. What do we have that is not a gift flowing from God's grace? He means for us to use all these gifts in service of our neighbor. The chief way we serve one another is by supporting the church's work: bringing more of God's grace to more of God's people. That's what it means to be a steward!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (May 21— May 27, 2023)

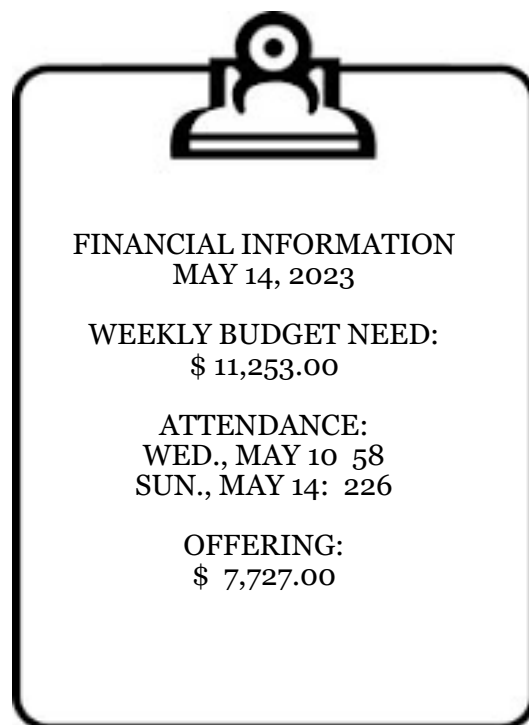
People celebrating birthdays are:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Joseph Klutz | Grace Macklin |
| Greg Kurtzer | Lori Reinke |
| Corby Stolcpart | Daren Turek |
| Abby Hostetler | Chris Peters |
| Gail Stachura | |

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:
Rich & Megan Lichtenfeld

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

"This, dear friends, is why Christ's ascension is a good goodbye. Jesus leaves you with everything! He has done it all. The grave is empty. Death is defeated. Life is yours. So, people of God, 'Why do you stand here looking into the sky?' You have an ascension victory to celebrate and an ascended Savior to proclaim!"

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Wed., May 17): Peg Olson
(Sun., May 21): 8 am: Peg Olson
10:30 am: Terry Fitzgerald

ELDER TODAY: (Wed., May 17): Joel Kaldahl
(Sun., May 21): Curt Christiansen
(Wed., May 24): Curt Christiansen

USHERS: (Wed., May 17): Pfeister, Eckhoff, Klutzes
(Sun., May 21): 8 am: Von Busch (A & A), Schnell, Wilkens
10:30 am: Klutzes, Princes
(Wed., May 24): Von Busches A, A, D, & R)

ACOLYTES: (Wed., May 17): Aaden Von Busch
(Sun., May 21): 8 am: Job Ehrich
10:30 am: Rhett Bauer
(Wed., May 24): Braxton Beed

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Wed., May 17): Mayah Stolcpart
(Sun., May 21): Raiya von Rentzell
(Wed., May 24): Ruby Lichtenfeld

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Wed., May 17): Karen Huff
(Sun., May 21): Sondra Rathjen
(Wed., May 24): Marilyn Meyer

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Wed., May 17): Karen Huff
(Sun., May 21): Gayleen Potter
(Wed., May 24): Marilyn Meyer

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., May 21): Lavern & Beverly Obermeier

MAIN STREET LIVING

On Sunday, May 21st Rev. Maynard Toensing, pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Crete, NE will be presenting a message entitled, "Giving Jesus is God's Glory". This sermon is based on John 17: 1-11. For those who are unable to join us at Good Shepherd on May 21st, celebrate the last Sunday of Easter with Main Street Living, Pastor Toensing and the Main Street Living choir.

THANKS

We thank Tim Pobanz for his willingness to lead us in hymns and liturgy with the organ in the absence of Connie on May 21st, 24th and 28th. We appreciate your sharing with Good Shepherd.

SOUNDBOARD VOLUNTEERS

Additional volunteers are needed to operate the soundboard during services on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Please contact the church office at (402) 423-7639 if you are interested. There will be a training session for volunteers later in the summer.

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)
Joyce Aupperle (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 tall table next to the pro-life display 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 early days of June **Alice Urbach will be celebrating her 92nd birthday, Janet Kniep will be celebrating her 75th, and Nancy Velasquez will be 76 years old.** Cards for these people will be available to sign **until May 28th.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.

UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES

All families are invited to 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.



ATTENTION IRIS LOVERS

I would like to invite you to stop by at my house anytime to see all my beautiful irises. I have over 160 different named ones, and they are absolutely beautiful this year. Not all will be blooming because some of them were just planted last year, and some bloom earlier or later than others.



Directions to my house are: Turn from Old Cheney onto 27th St. going north. The first stoplight is Jameson North. Turn west and go down Jameson North. When the street starts to curve to the left, take a right up into the cul de sac. Our house is a gray and brick 2 story with arches. We share a fence with Hill School and there are 2 rows of 100 plus feet of irises along that fence. I would love to share their beauty with you. Stop by soon because the blooms don't last for a long time.

Linda Reigle