

# Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Fourth Sunday After Trinity) July 2, 2023

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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

## **EVANGELISM: THIRD ARTICLE WITNESSES, TELLING THE SECOND ARTICLE STORY, USING THEIR FIRST ARTICLE GIFTS**

*by Mark A Wood*

### **THIRD ARTICLE WITNESSES: I CANNOT**

There are two words in Luther's explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed that give each of us as God's witnesses great clarity and comfort: "I cannot." I cannot come to faith in Jesus by my own reason and strength. What I cannot do for myself, I cannot do for others. As a Third Article witness, I recognize that only the Holy Spirit can work faith. It is not up to me to convince people to believe in Jesus, to get them to pray a certain prayer or, to put it crassly, "to close the sale." I cannot.

What I *do* is share God's Word with people. In the words of I Corinthians 3, I plant and water. Only the Holy Spirit creates faith. Only He "calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth." He alone, in the words of the Augsburg Confession, "works faith when and where He wills in those who hear the Gospel." I cannot.

What a relief! I am free to share God's Word with people and not be anxious about the results. The Holy Spirit is at work. He will bring forth what God purposes in the sowing of His Word. (Isaiah 55: 10-11). I cannot. He can — and He does. Praise His holy name!

### **SECOND ARTICLE STORY: IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS**

In a world that relentlessly bombards us with the message that everything is about us, the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed tells us the truth. The Gospel is not *about us*; it is *for us*. It's all about Jesus. It is His story.

Our witness is not centered in "my story." Sometimes "my story" can be a good way to share Jesus' story. Other times, "my story" gets in the way of His story. But "my story" can never bring someone to faith in Jesus. "My story" is not a Means of Grace. Jesus' story is. And His story is precisely what the Holy Spirit uses to bring people to faith.

You may have a personal testimony that is very engaging and impactful. Or you may have one that most people find dull and uninteresting. Either way, in Jesus' story you have the one story that touches the life of every human being. His story is always relevant. His story is always true. (see next page)

His story and only His story, brings life and salvation through the forgiveness of sins.

You know the one story that brings hope to those who are hopeless, freedom to those who are captive to sin, life to those who are spiritually dead, peace to those who have troubled hearts, light to those lost in darkness, and joy to those who are mired in the brokenness of our fallen world. Tell His story. *(to be continued)*

*taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) January 2019, pgs. 11-12.*

## **JULY MISSION PROJECT: LUTHERANS IN AFRICA**

Good Shepherd's mission project for the month of July is Lutherans in Africa. There are many who call themselves Lutheran in Africa but have never heard of Luther's Small Catechism or the Lutheran Confessions. Rev. James May, founder of Lutherans in Africa, has been invited by many of the Bishops to teach their pastors and catechists historic Lutheranism. One of the best ways to educate them is to provide good Lutheran materials. And so, translating the Small Catechism, the Book of Concord, Good News magazine, etc. into the various languages spoken in Africa has become a substantial part of the work of LIA. They also do evangelism and mission work among people who have never heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and salvation by grace through faith. Your donations to the July mission project will be used to teach and to produce translations of above materials.



## **UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES**

We had a blast at the park dates in June, and we are looking forward to more park dates in July!



All families are invited to a park date on **July 11, 2023 from 10 am—noon at Trago Park off of 22nd & U Streets**. We will meet at the sprayground area. The sprayground is free, so be sure to bring swimsuits for some water play. There are picnic tables at this park as well. Please feel free to bring your own picnic and stick around for lunch.

We will also be gathering for a park date **on July 25, 2023 from 10 am—noon at the Bennet City Park located at 605**

**Monroe St. in Bennet**. There is a free sprayground at this park as well, so this will be another opportunity to cool off from the summer heat. There is also a shelter with picnic tables. Please feel free to bring your own picnic and stick around for lunch.

Contact Elizabeth Moline at (701) 640-7989 or Sarah Kaldahl at (660) 238-7327 or Amanda Civic at (402) 304-6620 with questions.

## **ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION INFORMATION**

Pastor-elect Thomas Goodroad was ordained at his home congregation, **Trinity Lutheran Church, Kearney, MO on Sunday, June 25th**. Pastor Goodroad will be installed here at Good Shepherd on **Sunday, July 9th at 4:30 pm with a pot-luck supper to follow the service. Please bring a main dish and a side dish. Cake and drinks will be provided.**

## **HIGHER THINGS: REFLECTIONS**

The Reflections devotional booklets for June 25—July 29, 2023 are available at the information center and on the bulletin table in the narthex.



## 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**, recovering from a hospitalization (3)
- **Tanya Schlamann**, former member of Good Shepherd, preparing for a possible lung transplant (5)
- **Patricia Ann Baxter-Nuner**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from a knee replacement and following infection (6)
- **Ray & June**, parents of Deb Burow, for success in upcoming surgeries (6)
- **Michael**, cousin of Barbara Kumm, whose son was born at 30 wks. due to pre-eclampsia. Please pray for Dominique's recovery (6)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, recovering from surgery (3)
- **Clarice Mackey**, mother of Chris Mackey, hospitalized in Washington following surgery (4)
- **Mark Tallman**, former boss of Linda Clark, in treatment for pancreatic cancer. (4)
- **Stella Nuckels**, sister of Marc Huff, having back issues (4)
- **Jerry Alm**, father of Dee Chrisler, recovering from a fall (4)
- **Alan**, son-in-law of Arlene Nelson, dealing with cancer in his thyroid (3)
- **Gary**, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please pray for God to strengthen his faith (2)
- **Rita Lichtenfeld**, mother of Rich, having surgery on Wed., June 28 (1)
- **Lucy Roberts**, anticipating surgery for her broken right arm (1)
- **Char Large**, having a lung scan. Please pray for her and the medical personnel that interpret and treat the underlying condition (1)

- **Ron Graphenteen**, recovering from surgery (5)
- **Janet Kniep**, dealing with swelling in her legs. (5)
- **Elaine Egner**, having selective eye surgery for glaucoma (1)
- **Dawn & Tom Vontz**, sister & brother-in-law to Dee Indgjer. Tom is on a kidney transplant list at UNMC & Mayo. Dawn is giving a kidney through a paired donation. (5)
- **Ruth Brisbois**, recovering from eye surgery (5)
- **Teri Firestone**, friend of Holly Herrod, recovering from foot surgery (2)
- **Sarah Stepp**, for healing from her celiac disease. Prayers that her new medication will promote healing where it is needed. (3)
- **Bob McClellan**, dealing with health issues (3)
- **The family of Joyce Aupperle**, who was taken to her eternal home this week. (1)

## SAVE THE DATE!

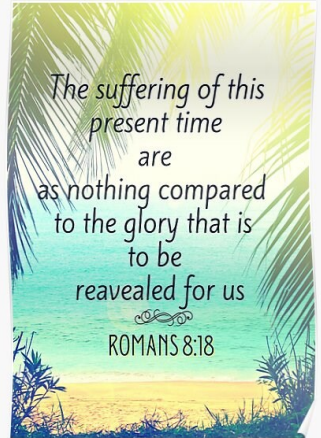
Save the date for Pastor Poppe's Retirement Party on Sunday, August 6, 2023. We will be celebrating his 26 years of faithful service to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and to His Lord and Savior, Jesus. E-mail invitations have been sent out with full details for you to RSVP. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Kaldahl at 660.238.7327.

## VICAR FAREWELL POTLUCK

Join us as we bid farewell to Vicar Kerstein on Sunday, July 23rd with a potluck meal in the fellowship hall following the second service (approximately 12 pm). Those with the last name beginning with A-K please bring a main dish and a side dish. Those with L-Z please bring a main dish and a dessert. Contact Sarah Kaldahl to help with set up, trays, drinks, and clean up.

## Good Shepherd News & Notes

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT—Romans 8: 18—**  
“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” It is very easy to get caught up in the present and lose track of our ultimate destiny in the kingdom of God. St. Paul encourages us to keep eternity in mind. This certainly applies to our support for the Gospel — if we keep our focus on “the glory to be revealed” we will see our tithes and offerings in a new light.



### **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (July 2 thru July 9)**

People celebrating birthdays are:

Emma Roblyer	Elle Stolcpart
Aaron Williamson	Luke Walker
Nolan Novacek	Sara Sidlo
Joyce Thompson	Paul Keeney

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

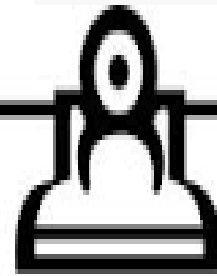
Adam & Angela Von Busch  
Rev. Jack & Jo Kirk (50 years)

### **LIFE MOMENT**

We may think our prayers are small in relation to the magnitude of the problem of abortion. Not so! Educate yourself, your children, and the people you know. Support leaders who embrace these words, “All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness” We have the most hopeful message the world has ever heard. You know it. God does big things with small stuff.

### **RETIREMENT PARTY DISPLAY**

Photos with or of Pastor Poppe will be included in a display for his retirement party in August. Please e-mail any photos you may wish to submit to [fellowship@goodshepherdlincoln.org](mailto:fellowship@goodshepherdlincoln.org). The more pictures, the merrier! Questions? Contact Sarah Kaldahl at (660) 238-7327.



#### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION JUNE 25, 2023**

**WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:**  
\$ 11,253.00

**ATTENDANCE:**  
WED., JUNE 21: 56  
SUN., JUNE 25: 200

**OFFERING:**  
\$ 5,494.00

**MAY VANCO:**  
\$ 4,675.00

**OUR OUTSTANDING  
MORTGAGE: \$ 1,741,589**

Our goal is to pay off the mortgage by 2030

We need \$2,300 per week donated in principal only payments to accomplish this.

Last week we received  
\$ 240.00  
in principal only gifts.

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

**DOORKEEPERS:** (Wed., June 28): David Perrin  
(Sun., July 2): 8 am:  
10:30 am:  
(Wed., July 5):

**ELDER TODAY:** (Wed., June 28): Matt Phillips  
(Sun., July 2): Ken Knaus  
(Wed., July 5): Ken Knaus

**USHERS:** (Wed., June 28): Indgjers, Klutzes  
(Sun., July 2): 8 am: Brodbeck, Sidlo, Stepps  
10:30 am: Von Busch (Dennis & Reva), Eckhoff  
(Wed., July 5): Von Busches (D, R, A & A)

**ACOLYTES:** (Wed., June 28): Job Ehrich  
(Sun., July 2): 8 am: Aaden Von Busch  
10:30 am: Sawyer Shubkagel  
(Wed., July 5): Kyler Cover

**ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT:** (Wed., June 28): Haidyn Shubkagel  
(Sun., July 2): Ingrid Ehrich  
(Wed., July 5): Khloe Bauer

**COMMUNION SET-UP:** (Wed., June 28): Karen Huff  
(Sun., July 2): Corie Christiansen  
(Wed., July 5): Reva & Dennis Von Busch

**COMMUNION CLEAN-UP:** (Wed., June 28): Karen Huff  
(Sun., July 2): Marilyn Meyer  
(Wed., July 5): Reva & Dennis Von Busch

**COFFEE SERVERS:** (Sun., July 2): Sharon Wilkens, Connie Swenson



### **DEBT-FREE BY 2030**

Good Shepherd is embarking on a project to pay off our mortgage by 2030. There is a letter on the bulletin table written by Pastor Moline on how this could be accomplished. It is entitled, "Be Ready For A Favorable Wind." There has been some confusion about how to contribute to this effort. We have created a label to attach to some plain white envelopes to be used for donations to this project. The envelopes are labelled "Principal Only Mortgage Reduction Fund" and are located in a basket on the bulletin table. You are encouraged to use these envelopes and to put your name or envelope number on the line at the top of the envelope so that your donation will appear on your contribution statement at the end of the year. Funds in the green-bordered envelopes that are labelled "Mortgage Fund" will be used to make our monthly mortgage payments. Please also include your name or envelope number on these.

## 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)  
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)

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. **We currently remember Joyce Thompson who will celebrate her 90th birthday on July 8th. A card will be available to sign until Sunday, July 2nd.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TUITION GRANT

The Christian education grant funds are available annually upon application to eligible and approved members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to financially support the Christian education of its children through homeschool or LCMS education. Further explanation and the application for reimbursement of expenses are available on the bulletin table in the narthex. Questions may be directed to [gslincoln-treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:gslincoln-treasurer@gmail.com) or to Pastor or another member of the finance committee. Applications can be submitted to Ken Knaus, church treasurer by July 15th.

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN RESPITE CARE

Are you caring for someone with dementia and needing a break? We are here to help! Our mission is to provide a caregiving break for you, the caregiver, while providing engaging activities for your loved one and ongoing support options for you. This service is free, however, pre-registration is appreciated. Services are provided on Saturdays from 10 am — noon. The next scheduled dates are July 29th and August 26th. Go to <https://messiah.us/our-ministries> and click on the Respite Care Project to pre-register. For questions contact [mol-george@unomaha.edu](mailto:mol-george@unomaha.edu).

***"God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?"***

*~ Thomas Jefferson ~*

***"The history of Liberty is a history of limitations of governmental power, not the increase of it."***

*~ Woodrow Wilson ~*