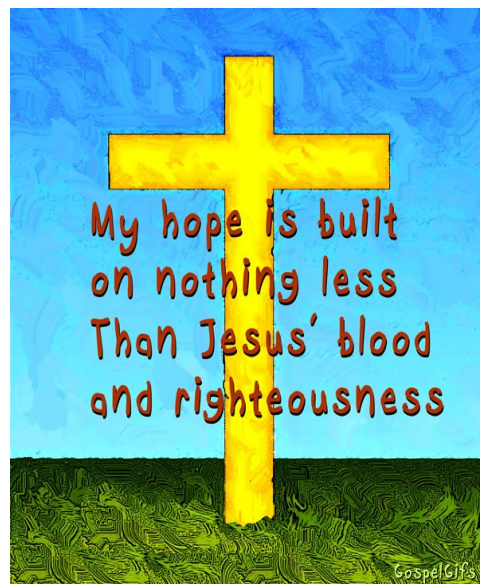


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Seventh Sunday After Trinity) July 23, 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 'GENIUS' OF LUTHER'S THINKING

by Robert A Kolb & Charles Arand

Two Important Insights

Two insights in particular permeated Luther's thinking about God and guided his reading of Scripture. One of the insights into what it meant for God to be God and what it meant to be a human creature came to be called the "two kinds of righteousness," or two dimensions of being human. The other insight concerned how those two dimensions of a human being were established and guided. Here Luther contended that God engages His human creatures in conversation as He comes to talk with us through the Word made flesh, Jesus of Nazareth, and through His Word as it addresses us in oral, written, and sacramental forms.

The distinction between the two kinds of righteousness arose as Luther grappled with the question, "What does God think of me?" For a long time, he gravely doubted whether he could find haven in the identity of being God's beloved child. Why? Most Christians in his day believed that our identity rests on how well we carry out God's will in daily life. They knew that in some sense we are sinners, but they also believed that God gives grace (like spiritual steroids) so that we can lay aside our former sins and then live in such a way as to please Him with the good we do. God regards His people as His people because they behave like His people.

Luther's instructors taught him that God gives grace only to those who do their best by their own effort (in other words, God helps those who help themselves). His focus on how well he performed placed a crushing burden on Luther. That burden destroyed his hope and his joy, his ability to love God, and his ability to serve other people for their sake. Instead, he was always calculating how his helping others might make him look good to God. He could not trust his own efforts at becoming right, or righteous, in God's sight. His attempts at doing God's will always fell short. That sent him into terror and panic.

God spoke to Luther from Scripture's pages with a message in sharp contrast to what he had learned at the university. As a typical medieval monk, Luther had a lot of contact with the Bible. The monks daily recited the psalms and heard passages from other books read in worship and at mealtime. Light dawned for Luther, as on the first morning, when his reading of Scripture revealed that God creates and redeems His human creatures without condition or requirement, simply because He is gracious and loves them. (see page 2)

Luther interpreted that Gospel message in such a way that drove him to distinguish two dimensions of human life. In his relationship to the Creator, he could only receive the gift of identity as a beloved child from his Heavenly Father. In his relationship to the rest of creation, he was called by God to act like a brother.

He called that gift of identity as God's child *passive righteousness*, "the righteousness given by someone else." God gives us a new identity as His children when He loves us in Christ Jesus and we trust in Him because of that love. Luther called the performance that God expects from His children *active righteousness*, "the righteousness that I do myself." God guides our life within creation by giving us instructions about how we should deal with His creaturely gifts within the callings or places where He wants us to serve. (*continued next week*)



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!

We will 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 ques-

tions.

LIMITED TIME OFFER FROM LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) currently has two limited time offers available for both individuals and congregations. LCEF has served as the financial extension of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (LCMS) since 1978, offering funding and resources in support of the church. If you are not already investing funds with LCEF, now may be a great time to join alongside nearly 60,000 investors across the Lutheran Church body. If you are currently investing, one of the limited-time term note offers shown below may be an attractive way for you to invest further. Visit <https://lcef.org/get-started/startinvesting/today> to learn more or open your account online. For more information on either offer, visit lcef.org.

LCEF is a non-profit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks. Rates as of July 2023. Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details.

4% One Year Fixed Rate Term Note

- Minimum \$500 investment
- Available to LCMS Congregations, as well as Individuals
- Limited Time Offer

4.5% Six-Month Fixed Rate Term Note

- Minimum \$500 investment
- New Money Only
- Available to LCMS Congregations, as well as individuals
- Limited Time Offer



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 (5)
- **Joyce Thompson**, recovering from a hospitalization (6)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, recovering from surgery (6)
- **Alan**, son-in-law of Arlene Nelson, dealing with cancer in his thyroid (6)
- **Gary**, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please pray for God to strengthen his faith (5)
- **Rita Lichtenfeld**, mother of Rich, recovering from surgery (4)
- **Marlene Smith**, grandmother of Beth Huff, hospitalized (3)
- **Ted Von Kampen**, friend of the Obermeiers, dealing with cancer and other health issues (3)
- **Monique Grotrian**, friend of the Bauers, battling cancer for the second time (3)
- **Elaine Egner**, recovering from eye surgery for glaucoma (4)
- **Ruth Brisbois**, needing further treatment for eye issues (2)
- **Teri Firestone**, friend of Holly Herrod, recovering from foot surgery (5)
- **Bob McClellan**, dealing with health issues (6)
- **Karen Huff**, recovering from aortic valve replacement. (2)
- **Maureen Marshall**, recovering from shoulder surgery on 7/18/23 (2)
- **Peg Dolphens**, sister-in-law of Corie Christiansen, struggling with her faith (2)
- **Hayden Higgins**, friend of the Knauses grandson, struggling with complications of muscular dystrophy (1)
- **Thomas Carr**, son of Jim & Marilyn Carr, recovering from a stroke (1)
- **Tish Loomis**, recovering at home from a hospitalization. (1)

- **Sarah Stepp**, for healing from her celiac disease. Prayers that her new medication will promote healing where it is needed. (6)
- **Alberta L'Ecuyer**, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad, with medical issues (2)
- **Jan Stehlik**, for healing from foot and rib injuries and recovery after being hospitalized for a kidney infection (1)
- **Dawn & Ton Vontz**, sister & brother-in-law of Dee Indgjer, awaiting approval for a kidney transplant for Tom. Dawn will be donating a kidney in exchange for the kidney Tom will be receiving. Please pray that all goes well (1)
- **Francine Poppe and the family of Barb**, a cousin of Francine who was taken to her eternal home recently (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.

SET UP AND EVENT HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help Pastor Poppe's Retirement Party go off seamlessly on August 6th. You can help with set up after Bible study the morning of, during the actual party, or quick clean up afterwards. Contact Sarah Kaldahl to help and find a spot that fits your schedule.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT—Romans 6: 19 – “For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.” To be sanctified means to be set aside for God’s purposes in all that we do, whether in the home, church, or society at large. St. Paul encourages us to see ourselves, our bodies, our souls and all that we are as set aside for God’s work.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (July 23 thru July 29)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Dean Perrin	Tim Higgins
Ashley Ehrich	Melanie Pflanz
Abby Potter	Corie Christiansen
Nancy Stepp	Cameron Jones
Jonah Jordening	

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Cameron & Heather Jones
Ty & Erica Twarling
Brian & Anita Campbell

LIFE MOMENT

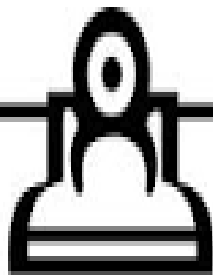
Celebrating every human being as a gift and privilege sometimes meets with resistance. This doesn’t mean the message failed. Good ground may lie beneath an unsightly surface. Our patient Savior often slowly softens the soil, and seeds take time to germinate and flower. The sanctity of life carries God’s message, not ours, and He guarantees His strong Word never goes to waste. (Isaiah 55: 10-11).

RETIREMENT PARTY DISPLAY

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

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING

There will be a special voters meeting on Sun., Aug. 6th about 9:15 am to release Pastor Clint Poppe from his call to Good Shepherd.



**FINANCIAL INFORMATION
JULY 16, 2023**

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,253.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., JULY 12: 58
SUN., JULY 16: 227

OFFERING:
\$ 6,803.50

**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
\$ 45.00
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Wed., July 19): Ruth Cheek
(Sun., July 23): 8 am: Brent Stehlik
10:30 am: Lauren Georgeson
(Wed., July 26): Peg Olson

ELDER TODAY: (Wed., July 19): Curt Christiansen
(Sun., July 23): Joel Kaldahl
(Wed., July 26): Joel Kaldahl

USHERS: (Wed., July 19): Indgjers, Klutzes
(Sun., July 23): 8 am: Huff, Sidlo, Von Busches (A & A)
10:30 am: Fitzgerald, Eckhoff, Princes
(Wed., July 26): Kaldahl, Huff, Von Busches (D & R)

ACOLYTES: (Wed., July 19): Kyler Cover
(Sun., July 23): 8 am: Aaden Von Busch
10:30 am: Gabe Moline
(Wed., July 26): Gabe Moline

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Wed., July 19): Yuna Kort
(Sun., July 23): Chloe Lichtenfeld
(Wed., July 26): Abigail Durr

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Wed., July 19): Sue Stolcpart
(Sun., July 23): Deb Burow
(Wed., July 26): Marilyn Meyer

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Wed., July 19): Sue Stolcpart
(Sun., July 23): Maureen Marshall/Nancy & Sarah
(Wed., July 26): Marilyn Meyer Stepp

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., July 23) Lavern & Beverly Obermeier



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 encour-

aged 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.

LOST

There are three glass pans and a crockpot waiting to be taken home. Check and see if they might belong to you. They are located on a rolling cart in the narthex.

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)

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 Bob McClellan who will celebrate his birthday and Jim & Marilyn Carr who will celebrate their anniversary. Cards will be available to sign until Wed., August 2nd.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.



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 molliegeorge@unomaha.edu.

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.

