Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Eleventh Sunday After Trinity) August 20, 2023

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



"WE . . . HAVE NEVER BEEN SLAVES OF ANYONE" John 8:33

World news organizations announced several years ago that, in Africa, some families have lived in slavery for so many generations they are totally unaware anymore that they are slaves. For them, slavery is normal. The religious leaders of Jesus' day had a similar problem. They lived in spiritual slavery but did not know it. As a result of misinterpreting the Scriptures, they thought they could live a selfrighteous and perfect life. They said: "We . . . have never been slaves to anyone" (John 8:33). When Jesus told these religious leaders, "everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin" (John 8: 34), they were greatly offended. . .

YOU MAY BE A SLAVE - AND NOT KNOW IT!

You may also be living as a spiritual slave and not know it, like the religious leaders. This could be true in several ways. For example, when you find yourself loving the world and believe that God's Word and will is inconvenient, this is a sign of spiritual slavery. If you spend hours watching television at night, but have no interest in reading the Bible, praying for your family or God's Kingdom work, or having family devotions, then you are, at least to a degree, in spiritual slavery. The devil is then in, at least, partial control of your life.

The devil may also have you enslaved when you doubt that God provides for all of your needs. You might be discontented with your home, your family, or your work. You might forget God's promises of mercy and forgiveness for you in Christ Jesus.

A major way in which you may be in spiritual slavery but do not know it is if you see God's Word as primarily a religious instruction book where God tells you what to do and what not to do. The Bible does give instructions for life; however, the Bible's primary function is **NOT** to point people to God's Law, but to His Gospel. Of the Scriptures St. John writes: "These have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20: 31).

Jesus may be speaking to you just as He spoke to the law-oriented Pharisees when He said: "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and **IT IS THESE THAT BEAR WITNESS OF ME**" (John 5: 39). Jesus is saying here that the entire Bible points to and testifies not to religious laws, but rather to Himself and His forgiveness (Luke 24: 44-47; John 20: 31).

JESUS FREES YOU FROM SLAVERY

When Jesus turns you away from the slavery of seeing God's Word only as His Law, He makes you free from your slavery to sin. (see page 2)

Then, **"YOU SHALL BE FREE INDEED"** (John 8: 36). Jesus changes you from a slave to sin to a son in God's house forever. "You have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, 'Abba! Father!"(Romans 8: 15). As St. Paul said, "Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God" (Galatians 4: 7).

~taken from Good News (Concordia Mission Society, St. Louis, MO) issue 18: Justification, pg. 27.



UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES

We will be ending our summer park tour with one last hurrah on **August 22, 2023 from 10 am to noon at the Lincoln Children's Zoo.** All families are invited. We will meet at the indoor playground in The Secret Jungle and go on from there. There are tables located throughout the zoo. Please feel free to bring your own picnic and stick around for lunch. If you arrive late, please call or text for our location within the zoo.

Thank you for joining us on our summer park tour. Please keep an eye on the News and Notes for future play date during the school year.

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

COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

The Lutheran Food Pantry is collecting at this location. A brown box located on the table by the south balcony stairs is where donations may be placed. The following items are requested:

Family-sized toothpaste

Family-sized shampoo

Family-sized bars of soap

_____Toothbrushes (<u>No battery or electric, please</u>)

Travel sizes of the above are also welcomed.

Thanks for your assistance in filling the box for people in need.

THANK YOU !!!

Barb and I would like to express our thankfulness to everyone at Good Shepherd for the overwhelming love and support, not only for all of the retirement festivities, but for the last 26 years, 4 months, and 6 days! Words cannot express how thankful to God that we are for you!! Thank you for all the notes, cards, gifts, and love. Thank you for all the hard work and planning to make August 6 such a special day for us and our families. The corpus is simply breathtaking! (It fits so well in our sanctuary that many quests were surprised to hear that it hasn't been there since day one.) Thank you to Pastor Moline and Pastor Goodroad for the beautiful vespers service. Thank you to all of the former vicars who took time to travel, call, write, and record. Thank you for the amazing replica cross and corpus for our home. While we plan to do some travelling over the next several months, we will be at Divine Service and Bible Study whenever we are in town, and listening on KNNA when we are on the road to "The Word, The Word, The Word!" We know that you will show the same love and support and encouragement to Pastors Moline and Goodroad and their families that you have shown to us, and that the transition will be smooth and seamless. We greatly desire and appreciate your continued prayers and support in this new chapter for us.

God's richest blessings in Christ to all of you!! Clint and Barb Poppe



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,** recovering from a hospitalization (4)
- Alan, son-in-law of Arlene Nelson, dealing with cancer in his thyroid (4)
- **Ruth Brisbois,** needing further treatment for eye issues (6)
- **Bob McCíellan,** dealing with health issues (3)
- **Karen Huff,** recovering from aortic valve replacement. (6)
- Peg Dolphens, sister-in-law of Corie Christiansen, struggling with her faith (6)
- Hayden Higgins, friend of the Knauses grandson, struggling with complications of muscular dystrophy (5)
- **Thomas Carr,** son of Jim & Marilyn Carr, recovering from a stroke (5)
- **Tish Loomis,** recovering at homefrom a hospitalization. (5)
- **Sarah Stepp,** for healing from her celiac disease. Prayers that her new medication will promote healing where it is needed. (4)
- **Greg Kurtzer,** recovering from surgery on August 16th (3)
- Alberta L'Ecuyer, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad, entering hospice care (1)
- Jan Stehlik, for healing from foot and rib injuries and recovery after being hospitalized for a kidney infection (5)
- Gáry Chura, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, beginning treatment for pancreatic cancer. Please pray that his faith may be strengthened (2)
- Deb Mackovic, sister of Terry Princ, anticipating back surgery (1)

- Dawn & Tom 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 (4)
- **Patti,** fiancé of Jim Sherbo, beginning cancer treatment soon (3)
- **Shirley Kalina,** prayers that the right medication and dosage would be found to help her reach a satisfactory place in her health (2)
- Rich Lichtenfeld, recovering from shoulder surgery on Fri., Aug. 11th (2)
- **Pastor Luke Russert,** for a successful procedure to more effectively deliver his medication (1)
- The family of Kim Lange's sister, at the death of their 12-year old son(1)

PARENTS MEETING

If you plan for your child(ren) to attend Children's Choir and/or Sunday School, please attend the Parents' Meeting on Sunday, Aug. 20th at 9:30 am in room 109. You should have received a letter in the mail with a registration form enclosed. Please bring the completed form with you. If you have any questions regarding the meeting, you may contact Jerika Per-Elizabeth Moline, or Marlyse rin, Goodroad. If you did not receive the letter and information in the mail, please contact the church office at (402) 423-7639 with guestions or to receive a copy.

WELCOME BACK COLLEGE STUDENT MEAL

On **Sunday, August 27th** after second service there will be a meal for all our college students to welcome them back at the start of the school year. There is a **sign-up sheet** in the narthex if you would be willing to bring food or help serve. Please contact Elizabeth Moline (701-640-7989) with any questions.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT- Luke 18: 11-12 "The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." The Pharisees got so much right, and so much wrong. It's a good thing for this Pharisee to be faithful to his wife and faithful in his giving to the Lord's work, but these things are worthless if they proceed from a prideful heart! After all, what do we have to be proud of? If we have followed the Lord's ways, we have only done our duty. Better to be thankful (and amazed!) that the Lord has blessed us by making our giving a part of His work!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

(August 20 thru August 26)

People celebrating birthdays are: Robert Zook Heather Jones Clint Poppe, Jr Vivian Cheek R. J. Huff Julie Potter Suzie Znamenacek Mark Nispel Thomas Buhr Wayne Gudgel David Schmidt Jess Theewen Ethan Von Busch

Couples celebrating anniversaries are: Ken & Jan Knaus Jason & Melissa Macklin

LIFE MOMENT

Live as a son or daughter of God, for He loves you as only a Father could. One thing you can know about God: He will never say about you, "These are not Our kind of people." Because of Christ and what He has done for you, the Father will never say that about you.

MEET GRANDY FROM KENYA

In February, our congregation generously gave through the **LWIM Mission Project: Christ's Care for Children in Kenya**. Now, we have heard from one of the children who attends one of the schools funded by this organization. Grandy's picture and letter are on the LWIM table in the narthex. Take a moment and read what he has to say about his life in Kenya. Thank you for supporting these children and sharing Jesus' love with them. FINANCIAL INFORMATION AUGUST 13, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED: \$ 11,253.00

> ATTENDANCE: WED., AUGUST 9: 55 SUN., AUG 613 : 242

> > OFFERING: \$ 6,162.00

OUR OUTSTANDING MORTGAGE: \$ 1,732,996.27

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 <u>\$ 115.00</u> in principal only gifts.

VANCO FOR JULY: \$ 4,675.00

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Wed., Aug. 16): Ruth Cheek (Sun., Aug. 20): 8 am: Brent Stehlik 10:30 am: Jerry Sidlo (Wed., Aug. 23): Scott & Dee Indgjer

- ELDER TODAY: (Wed., Aug. 16): Wayne Gudgel (Sun., Aug. 20): Dale Meyer (Wed., August 23): Dale Meyer
- USHERS: (Wed., Aug. 16): Indgjers, Klutzes (Sun., Aug.20):8 am: Schnell,Wilkens, Brodbeck, RJ Huff 10:30 am: Perrin, Fitzgerald, Von Busch (D & R) (Wed., August 23):Perrin, Eckhoff, RJ Huff, Kaldahl
- ACOLYTES: (Wed., Aug. 16): Sawyer Shubkagel (Sun., Aug. 20): 8 am: Ethan Von Busch 10:30 am: Nolan Keller (Wed., August 23): Zach Von Busch

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Wed., Aug. 16): Claire Moline (Sun., Aug. 20): Haidyn Shubkagel (Wed., August 23): Ingrid Ehrich

- COMMUNION SET-UP: (Wed., Aug. 16): Arlene Nelson (Sun., Aug. 20): Corie Christiansen (Wed., Aug. 23): Marilyn Meyer
- COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Wed., Aug. 16): Arlene Nelson (Sun., Aug. 20): Marilyn Meyer (Wed., August 23): Marilyn Meyer

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Aug. 20) Tim & Jenny Higgins



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.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

There will be a meeting of the members of the altar guild on Sunday, Aug. 20th between services in the sanctuary.

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.

- 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 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 Jerry Kohl and Shirley Kalina who will celebrate their birthdays. Cards will be available to sign until Wed., August 16th. Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.

AUGUST MISSION PROJECT: KNNA COMMUNITY RADIO

Good Shepherd's Community Radio station will be the mission project for the month of August. You can access KNNA LP 95.7 FM on your radio or over the internet at www.thecross957.org. KNNA's programming includes Lutheran Bible studies, and theological talk radio. Some of the programs available are: Proclaiming the One, At Home in Your Hymnal, Nebraska Table Talk, In Layman's Terms, etc.. Our community programs include When Music Was Music with Rev. Jack Kirk, Bringing Back Bach with Pastor Adam Moline, and local sports during the school year. Check out KNNA at different times and days during the week to get an idea of the variety of programs available. Your financial support would be greatly appreciated.

CHURCH PICNIC

Join us for **the church picnic on Sunday, September 10th** at the home of Scott & Susan McKinney. The McKinneys will provide the main dish (hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken) and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert, fishing poles, and swimsuits for the kids for the slip-n-slide. Seating for 50 is available, so also bring a chair. The picnic will **begin at 3 pm with supper served at 4 pm**. **Please sign up** to attend in the narthex so that we can plan for food and drink numbers. Address is: **3231 West Covered Bridge Dr., Lincoln, NE.**

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Greetings and peace to you in Christ our Savior from the Kieser family. My family and I would like to thank you for everything that you have done for us during our time at Good Shepherd. The diapers, wipes, and other important baby things were very helpful as two babies were added to our family.

We have moved to Ft. Wayne where Nathan will be attending Concordia Theological Seminary and are settling into our new home. William and Arthur have been growing a lot and are using up all the diapers and wipes that you gave us. Hopefully, we will have an opportunity to come back to visit Good Shepherd, to show William and Arthur where they were baptized and to say "hi."

Thank you once again for everything. Your support helped us so very much. We thank God for Good Shepherd and for our time there. Your Family in Christ, The Kiesers



RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

On Sunday, August 13 Good Shepherd welcomed a number of people who had become members since August of 2022. Some you might already have greeted and gotten to know; others may attend a different service than you do and you do not know them well.

Photos were taken last week and will be posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall at some point. Thanks to Dee Indgjer for the display on the bulletin board with photos taken at recent baptisms, confirmation, and the installation of Pastor Goodroad. The bulletin board has been empty for several months and it is good to see it being in use again. Check it out for the

names of those who were received last Sunday and introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRAW

On Friday, August 25th Good Shepherd will be hosting the Red Cross team and a blood drive. Check the information center for times and how to sign up to donate. You might help to save a life! Thanks!

MIDWEEK CLASSES BEGIN

All families with children who will be in grades 2 through 8, high school students who have not been confirmed, and other interested individuals are invited to Good Shepherd on Wed., Aug. 30th at 5:30 pm for a special meeting in the fellowship hall to discuss this year's midweek/confirmation classes. At this meeting we will share the Wednesday schedule for the year, hand out materials, and answer any questions you may have. The meeting will conclude at 6:25 and then we will move to the sanctuary for worship; this will be our format throughout the year. It is important for families to worship together and we encourage you to make this a priority. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Moline or Pastor Goodroad.

BUILDING FAITH IN THE HOME

The next session of the Building Faith in the Home will be on Sunday, Sept. 24th following the 10:30 am service. The subject of this session is "Order in the Home". Parents of children age 0-18 are encouraged to participate. BBQ chicken sandwiches and chips will be provided and families are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. The meal will be followed by a presentation for the parents and childcare/games for the children.

INFORMATION CENTER

Please sign in at the information center. If you are a visitor, we will notify your congregation that you have attended if you would list the church and location of your congregation. When signing the attendance pads, please **check all boxes that apply.** For example, if you are a member of Good Shepherd and are also planning to commune, please check both boxes. If you would like to receive the News & Notes by e-mail and are not currently receiving it, please give us your e-mail address.