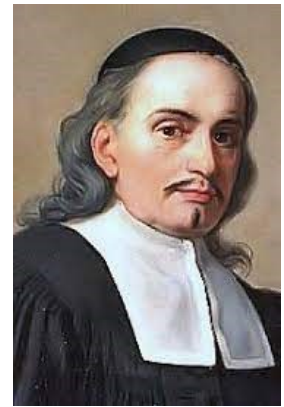


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity) Sept. 3, 2023

3825 Wildbriar Ln., Lincoln, NE 68516
Church Office: (402) 423-7639
E-mail: info@goodshepherdlincoln.org
Website: www.goodshepherdlincoln.org



Paul Gerhardt 1607-1676

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

SEPTEMBER HYMN OF THE MONTH "WHY SHOULD CROSS AND TRIAL GRIEVE ME?" LSB 756

This hymn by Paul Gerhardt, originally in twelve stanzas, is a treasure of comfort. These words even comforted the author on his deathbed, for he spoke the final stanza used in the Lutheran Service Book as his dying prayer.

Many of Gerhardt's hymns present the theology of the cross as sung poetry, though he is not the first to articulate this theology. Martin Luther spoke of the theology of the cross in his Heidelberg Disputation of 1518. The place of trials (tentatio) in teaching the student of theology becomes a common theme in the Reformer's writings from then on. We learn from him that the more we abide in God's Word, the more the devil will afflict us. We can count on it. But such afflictions are good in that they cause us to seek and to love God's Word all the more. Then, in 1539, Luther even gave thanks for the "pummeling, pressing, and terrifying" of the papists toward him, for he said that they helped to make him a decent theologian.

The background of Gerhardt's hymn writing is a trial (tentation) of a different kind; namely the ravages of the Thirty Years' War, being surrounded by death for most of his life, and being removed from his call as pastor of St. Nicholas Church in Berlin for remaining faithful to his ordination vows. While Luther was able to see a blessed road in the persecution he suffered at the hands of the papists, Gerhardt was able to confidently say, "Why should cross and trial grieve me? Christ is near with His cheer, never will He leave me." As a result of Gerhardt's crosses, the saints have hymns to sing about that unique, beautiful, and blessed road even as they suffer crosses of all types.

This is a sung sermon in which the singer learns the difficult lessons of how our Lord chastens, refines, and builds up the ones He loves. Here the baptized are catechized in the ways of their Father's kingdom. Gerhardt does this teaching by asking and answering five questions in his original twelve-stanza text:

1. "Why should cross and trial grieve me?" Answer: Since Christ is near with the promise that He will never leave me, I therefore have all I need, and there is no reason for me to grieve.
2. "Who can rob me of the heaven that God's Son" won for me when He gave His life? Answer: The answer is revealed in the question. Since heaven was won for me by the death of God's Son, no one can rob me of heaven.
3. "Though a heavy cross I'm bearing and my heart feels the smart, shall I be despairing?" Answer: No, we are not to despair or be defeated, for our loving God has sent the cross for our good. He who knows every single woe also knows

how best to end them. We are not left alone in our crosses and trials.

4. "God oft gives me days of gladness; shall I grieve if He give seasons, too, of sadness?" Answer: God defends and guides us day by day, moment by moment, as His love attends us. What more could we want or need?
5. "What is all this life possesses?" Answer: A hand full of sand that only causes distress. Instead, the saints of Christ have a life filled with noble gifts that will sustain them safely through this pilgrimage on to the next life.

These questions and their answers are more or less preserved in the five stanzas in the Lutheran Service Book. But the answers are not easy ones to hear or live, for they reveal the often puzzling ways of God's kingdom. Yet they have to be answered again and again for the faithful, because the world's answers to these questions lead only to despair. Worldly answers can do no other, because they are outside of God's beautiful plan for His children.

The hymn commentary for today comes from Pastor Richard Resch as found in the Lutheran Service Book Companion to the Hymns, Volume 1.

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 guests 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

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**



BUILDING FAITH IN THE HOME MEAL

Because we as a church have chosen not to utilize Thrivent Choice Dollars, we are in need of donations to be able to provide the main dish for the Building Faith in the Home class. If you are willing to donate money for the BBQ chicken sandwiches for September, please give donations to Sarah Kaldahl by Sept. 17th. Thank you for your assistance.



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)
- **Bob McClellan**, dealing with health issues (4)
- **Sarah Stepp**, for prayers that her current diet will provide healing for her celiac disease and that the medication will give healing for her eosinophilic esophagitis (1)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, recovering from surgery on August 16th (5)
- **Alberta L'Ecuyer**, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad, entering hospice care (3)
- **Jan Stehlik**, for healing from foot and rib injuries and recovery after being hospitalized for a kidney infection (6)
- **Gary Chura**, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, beginning treatment for pancreatic cancer. Please pray that his faith may be strengthened (4)
- **Deb Mackovic**, sister of Terry Princ, anticipating back surgery (3)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful procedure to more effectively deliver his medication (3)
- **Patti**, fiancé of Jim Sherbo, beginning cancer treatment soon (5)
- **Shirley Kalina**, prayers that the right medication and dosage would be found to help her reach a satisfactory place in her health (4)
- **Donna**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, anticipating surgery (1)
- **Dee Grams**, sister of Dean Posner, having health problems (1)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, recently diagnosed with cancer. (1)
- **Rich Lichtenfeld**, recovering from shoulder surgery (2)

- **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 (6)
- **Emilia Schellenbach**, niece of Tim Schellenbach, in treatment for thyroid cancer (2)
- **Sandi**, sister of Jimmy Stepp, having surgery (1)
- **The family of Mike Thompson**, friend of Pastor Goodroad, who was taken to his eternal home (1)

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.

FLOWERS

The flowers today are from Don & Peg Olson in remembrance of Peg's mom, Darlene Holle, and Peg's sister, Sharon Schoenleber. We thank the Olsons for adding God's beauty to our sanctuary this morning.

SEPTEMBER MISSION PROJECT:

The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society is working to help support our Siberian Lutheran brothers and sisters in Christ. Funds raised are used to support the Pastoral Office, purchase communion supplies and altar ware, purchase Bibles and VBS materials, etc. Your offerings are also used to support mission efforts and for mercy work in Siberia to meet physical needs and to care for both body and soul.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— Luke 10: 25 “And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’”

That’s just not a good question! Doing and inheriting just don’t go together. What can you do to inherit the Rockefeller fortune? Nothing. Inheriting is about birthright; doing is about merit. We receive eternal life by birthright in our Baptism into Christ. All of our doing in the Kingdom of God flows from this, from who we are by our new birth. It can never be the other way around.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (September 3 thru September 9)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Sam Perrin Ryan Theewen
Myrna Heckman Caraline Higgins
Deb Princ Karen Schmidt
Shelley Stolcpart

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Bob & Elaine Van Valkenburg
Dan & Carol Navratil
Daren & Sheila Turek

LIFE MOMENT

We are made holy by the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ, ours by faith in His life, death, and resurrection. Yet we are holy in another sense, too. We have been set apart, called out, by a holy God for God’s holy purposes — to love God and our neighbor, to serve, to make disciples. We have been set apart to serve as spouses, parents and grandparents, citizens, and workers..

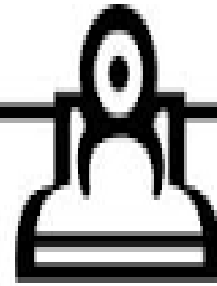
MIDWEEK CLASSES BEGIN

If you missed our parents/students midweek classes meeting on Wed., Aug. 30 and would like to be included for the coming year, please contact Pastor Moline or Pastor Goodroad so that we can all be on the same page.

CHARIOTS 4 HOPE

To the wonderful congregation at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. On behalf of everyone on the Chariots 4 Hope team, thank you so much for your generosity in supporting our mission: Demonstrating God’s love by removing transportation barriers. Thank you for helping us to make an impact in this community!

Blessings and love,
Chariots 4 Hope



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
AUGUST 27, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., AUGUST 23: 66
SUN., AUG 27:: 266

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 5,098.09

CORPUS & MEAL FUND:
\$ 18,080.82

OUR OUTSTANDING MORT-
GAGE: \$ 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 ac-
complish this.

Between July 1 and Aug. 30, 2023
We have received
\$ 28,020.00
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Wed., Aug. 30): Alan Brodbeck
(Sun., Sept. 3): 8 am: Loraine Harnett
10:30 am: Don & Peg Olson

(Wed., Sept. 6): Ruth Cheek

ELDER TODAY: (Wed., Aug. 30): Mark Reinke

(Sun., Sept. 3): Ken Knaus

(Wed., Sept. 6): Ken Knaus

USHERS:

(Wed., Aug. 30): Von Busches (A & A), Pfeister, Eckhoff

(Sun., Sept. 3): 8 am: Stepps, Indgjers

10:30 am: Princes, Novaks

(Wed., Sept. 6): Indgjers, Schmidt, Perrin

ACOLYTES:

(Wed., Aug. 30): Aaden Von Busch

(Sun., Sept. 3): 8 am: Job Ehrich

10:30 am: Rhett Bauer

(Wed., Sept. 6): Braxton Beed

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Wed., Aug. 30): Mayah Stolcpart

(Sun., Sept. 3): Raiya von Rentzell

(Wed., Sept. 3): Ruby Lichtenfeld

COMMUNION SET-UP:

(Wed., Aug. 30): Sue Stolcpart

(Sun., Sept. 3): Corie Christiansen

(Wed., Sept. 6): Arlene Nelson

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP:

(Wed., Aug. 30): Sue Stolcpart

(Sun., Sept. 3): Christine Brugger

(Wed., Sept. 6): Arlene Nelson

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Sept. 3) Bryan & Sandy Prenosil

UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES

Thank you to everyone who helped make our summer park tour a success!

During the school year, we plan to continue holding park dates, but will transition to one park date per month on the second Tuesday of each month at Holmes Lake Park from 3-5 pm. Our first park date of the school year will be on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. We will meet at the playground equipment. All families are invited.

Please note that we will not be running a new announcement every month, so please mark your calendars now. If you would like to be added to the group that receives reminder text messages before each park date, please let us know.

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

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 (at home)
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 Francine Poppe, Sharon Burke and Don Wiese who will celebrate their birthdays. Cards will be available to sign until Sun., September 17th.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.

***"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning."*— Psalm 92**

Since Covid, Good Shepherd has made the change that every Sunday and Wednesday service would be a communion service. This has been a great blessing to our congregation, allowing us to receive the Sacrament of the Altar for "forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." Our long-term plan is to continue to receive the Sacrament of the Altar every Sunday and Wednesday service.

Since that change took place 3 years ago, we have had some who have missed singing the daily prayer offices like Matins and Vespers. After some consultation with the Board of Elders, we are happy to announce an opportunity for a weekly Matins service beginning in early September.

Beginning September 7 at 12:30 we will hold a Matins service immediately before the beginning of our Thursday Bible study. The Matins service will be in the church sanctuary and the Bible study will still be held in the fellowship hall. The entire congregation is invited to one or both weekly events.

During our Matins services each week, our Office Hymn will be the Hymn of the Month, and we will preach through the Gospel of John. In this way, we will be offering an additional opportunity to hear God's Word and to work toward memorizing the Hymn of the Month. These homilies will be audio recorded and used as a part of our daily devotion cycle.

Speaking of that cycle, we will also be paring down our daily devotions. Rather than providing daily video devotions 5 times a week, we will be providing them only 3 days. Monday will be Pastor Moline; Friday will be Pastor Goodroad. Thursdays will be the homily from the Matins service.

This will provide an opportunity for God's Word from Good Shepherd on 5 of 7 days in the week. Sunday and Wednesday Divine Services, Monday and Friday video devotions, and Thursday Matins. We are talking through the possibility of holding a brief daily prayer service on Tuesdays, but we haven't worked out the details as of yet.

We invite you to make use of these opportunities to hear God's Word and to receive His gifts. There is nothing more important in the world than hearing God's Word, by which the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies us in the Christian faith. If you have any questions, please let one of the pastors know.

In Christ, Pastor Moline and Pastor Goodroad