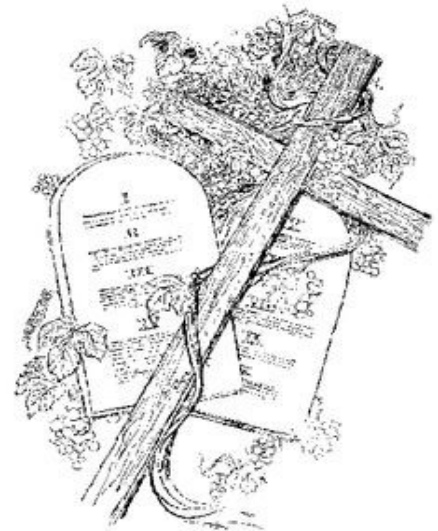


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity) Sept. 10, 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



TO COEXIST OR NOT

by Rev. Anthony Oliphant

Go for a drive, and it won't take you very long to see a bumper sticker with letters made out of symbols from the world's religions that read "COEXIST." What's that about? For most people, to coexist means to let everyone believe what they want and leave each other alone. What these bumper stickers are claiming to promote is peace between people of different religions. So, what's the problem? Isn't it good to want peace between people, no matter what their religions are?

As Christians, we do want to live in peace with our neighbors. St. Paul encourages us to do this: "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all" (Romans 12:18). But we also have to recognize a big problem behind the coexist bumper stickers. They make a bigger claim than to simply live peaceably with each other. Behind them is the idea that no matter what religion someone belongs to, no matter what they believe, everyone will go to heaven. But if we're to live peaceably with all, does that mean that we must recognize that all religions believe what we do? The answer is no.

One of the defining characteristics of our Lutheran teaching is Law and Gospel. We can find the Law in a lot of places — nature, the Bible, even in our hearts — but all it does is accuse us. The Law shows us what we've done wrong and that God is displeased with it. Almost every religion recognizes this, but it's also where almost every religion goes wrong. They try to win God's favor with that same Law by doing things they think will please Him so that He'll reward them in this life or the next. When these religions attempt this, one of two things happens. People fall into hopeless despair or they trick themselves into thinking that it's worked. "Their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them" (Romans 2: 15).

The Gospel is where Lutherans are unique. Rather than trying to win something from God by doing things for Him, we recognize that God has already done everything necessary to bring us back to Him. It's not a 50/50 deal where we come part of the way and God does the rest. God goes 100 percent of the way to get us back. He sent His Son to die for our sins, to pay for all of the things that the Law says displease Him. He raised His Son from the dead to promise us eternal life. Being Lutheran means that we're not a religion of the Law. Instead, we're a religion of the Gospel. We believe "the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law . . . the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe" (Romans 3: 21a, 22a). This is what makes us unique among all the religions of the world.

(see page 2)

As Lutherans who teach both Law and Gospel, we can offer a lot more than simply coexisting with our neighbors. We can offer them dialogue and explanation. When we're rooted in Law and Gospel, it gives us steady ground to talk to people of different beliefs. We can set people free from their illusions or the despair that comes from living under the Law. We can speak with confidence, grace, humility and patience with those around us about the only way that we're released from guilt and shame: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we know about Law and Gospel, we can do much more than coexist with our neighbor. We can love them by gently leading them to the truth

~taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) August 2014, pg. 4.

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 CLASS

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.

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.

FIRST AID TRAINING CLASS

The Security Committee will be hosting a CPR-AED First Aid Class put on by Pulse Finders at Good Shepherd on Thursday, September 28th starting at 6:00 pm. The class will cost \$60.00 per person and will be approximately 2 hours. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are interested in attending the class.

THANK YOU

Dear members of Good Shepherd,
We are so grateful for your continued support for Luther Classical College in Casper, WY. Thank you!

God has blessed our efforts so far, as this month we mark exactly two years until our opening. We remain on track — thank God for His blessings — and are in high spirits as we also remain focused on our year-end goals. Your gifts make a tremendous impact in this regard.

Thank you again for your generous support!
Yours in Christ,
The LCC Development Team



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 (6)
- **Joyce Thompson**, for a continued gain in strength (1)
- **Bob McClellan**, dealing with health issues (5)
- **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 (2)
- **Alberta L'Ecuyer**, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad, in hospice care (4)
- **Gary Chura**, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, beginning treatment for pancreatic cancer. Please pray that his faith may be strengthened (5)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful procedure to more effectively deliver his medication (4)
- **Patti**, fiancé of Jim Sherbo, beginning cancer treatment soon (6)
- **Shirley Kalina**, prayers that the right medication and dosage would be found to help her reach a satisfactory place in her health (5)
- **Donna**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, anticipating surgery (2)
- **Dee Grams**, sister of Dean Posner, having health problems (2)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, recently diagnosed with cancer. (2)
- **Rich Lichtenfeld**, recovering from shoulder surgery (3)
- **Olga Wilhoite**, friend of Barbara Kumm, in palliative care following the death of her husband (2)
- **Harrison Snedeler**, friend of Grace Marshall, having surgery to address lung issues (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 (1)
- **Emilia Schellenbach**, niece of Tim Schellenbach, in treatment for thyroid cancer (3)
- **Sandi**, sister of Jimmy Stepp, having surgery (2)
- **The family of Mike Thompson**, friend of Pastor Goodroad, who was taken to his eternal home (2)

FLOWERS

Flowers today are given by Connie Swenson in memory of her parents, Lester and Adeline Swenson.

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.

PANTRY SHOWER

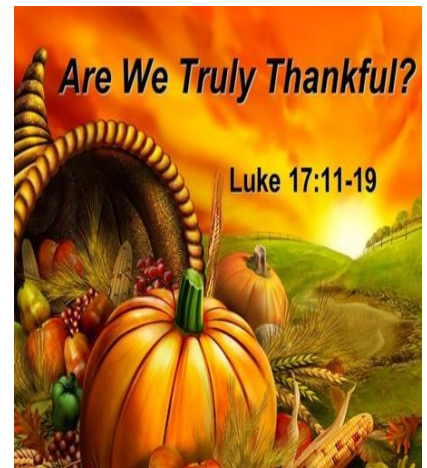
Let's welcome Vicar Garrison with a pantry shower! Bring in canned goods or chips....napkins or soap, toilet paper, a gift card to your favorite grocery store....the possibilities are endless! Please have all items to the table in the narthex by September 24th. Contact Elizabeth Moline (701) 640-7989 with any questions.

LIFE MOMENT

There is no more valuable work for God and for all of Christendom than bringing up your children in the faith and trust of Jesus! It is not hard to believe that if this were our primary aim, that our children would not question their gender, that they would respect their neighbor and love their spouses, reflect solid biblical values, and attend church after confirmation.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT– Luke 17: 18-19 “Then Jesus answered....”**“Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ And he said to him, ‘Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”** Faith and thanksgiving go together. How could they not? Our Lord gave Himself for us and we trust Him and His every Word. Once we have this faith, we want to say thank you — it’s only natural. Thus, our stewardship is a natural part of the Christian faith. We thank the Lord with our gifts which enable the church to reach more people with the Good News of Christ.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (September 10 thru September 16)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Madison Knapp Gabriel Bliss
Colson McNabb Lucy Roberts
Gary Heckman

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Doug & Vicki Hughes
Mark & Lori Reinke

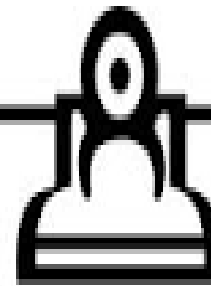
UPCOMING FAMILY PARK DATES

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.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., AUGUST 30: 61
SUN., SEPT 3: 230

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 8,675.65

CORPUS & MEAL FUND:
\$ 18,580.82

**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 Sept. 3, 2023
We have received
\$ 29,045.00
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., Sept. 10): 8 am: Stehliks
10:30 am: David Perrin

(Wed., Sept. 6): Ruth Cheek
ELDER TODAY: (Sun., Sept. 10)
(Wed., Sept. 13):

USHERS: (Sun., Sept. 10): 8 am: Brodbeck, Sidlo, Kaldahl, Stehlik
10:30 am: Eckhoff, Keller, Von Busch (D & R)
(Wed., Sept. 13): Klutzes, Von Busches (D & R)

ACOLYTES: (Sun., Sept. 10): 8 am: Nolan Keller
10:30 am: Gabe Moline

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., Sept. 10): Yuna Kort

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., Sept. 10): Deb Burow
(Wed., Sept. 13): Dennis & Reva Von Busch

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., Sept. 10): Maureen Marshal/Nancy & Sarah Stepp
(Wed., Sept. 13): Dennis & Reva Von Busch

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Sept. 10) Loraine Harnett, Sandy Langemeier

Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

As of just last Thursday, August 31st, I first met with Pastor Moline and Pastor Goodroad to start planning on the vicarage year ahead. I am overjoyed that you all are willing to receive a vicar and glad that it can be me, even if neither you nor I was expecting it at this point.

I am starting work on September 5th and am excited to get going because it looks like there is a lot to be done. Currently I'm staying with family in Malcolm, NE, but as soon as the paperwork is processed I'll move into an apartment on 40th and Yankee Hill.



I grew up several miles west of Malcolm, NE on a farm where my folks still live. We've never done any crops, just cattle, pigs, and chickens. I have one brother in Lincoln who is married and they have a baby girl together. All four of my grandparents live in and around Lincoln. My family has always been an important part of my life.

I attended public school in Malcolm, and then went to Concordia Seward where I majored in English and took pre-seminary courses like Greek and Hebrew. Both in high school and college I participated in competitive speech which is at least one small reason why I thought maybe I'd enjoy being a pastor. Notice, however, that I'm not mentioning if I was very good at competitive speech—I'll let you decide that for yourself as you listen to my sermons—it's just something I enjoy doing and getting better at.

I pray that the Lord will bless our work together to His glory.

Yours in Christ,
Vicar Jacob Garrison

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