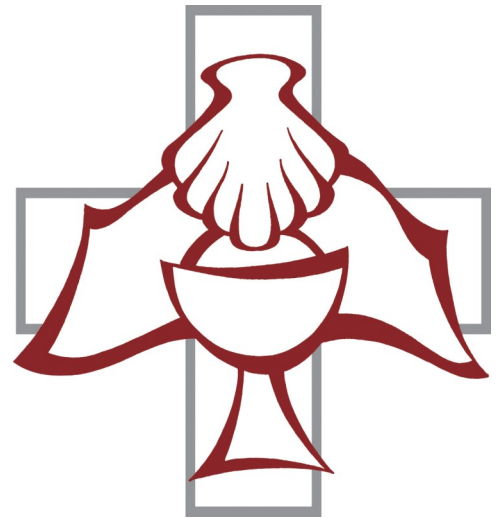


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity) Oct. 1, 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



MYTHS ABOUT GOD'S GIFTS

by Rev. Joseph Fisher

I love being Lutheran! I never need to worry whether I have a quiver in my liver or a quaking' in my bacon. I simply need Jesus. He even tells me where He has promised to be: in His Word and Sacraments. These gifts of God remove our focus from the unholy trinity of "me, myself, and I" and put them squarely upon our giver God. He forgives our sins through His only begotten Son, and yet these gifts are often misunderstood by Lutherans and non-Lutherans alike, which gives birth to many myths about the Sacraments.

MYTH 1

The Sacraments are just manmade rituals.

This impacts both Baptism and the Lord's Supper because it is a denial of the clear Word of God. Jesus institutes both (Matt. 26: 26-29; 28: 19-20). A sacrament is a sacred act, instituted by God, in which God Himself has joined His Word and promise to a visible element by which He offers and delivers the forgiveness of sins earned by Jesus Christ. The Sacraments are Jesus gifts to His Bride, the Church, to present her without blemish or defect.

MYTH 2

Once my child has been baptized, he or she is unable to fall away from the faith.

This myth causes many cases of "splash and dash." Pressure is applied to have the child baptized yet there is no further instruction on what the child has been baptized into, and so the communion of saints, church, Sunday School and confirmation become immaterial. It is as if the baptized got their "get out of hell free card," and they're done. This is not true! Jesus tells us in Mark 16, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." It's spiritual child abuse to give the child the gift of Baptism which brings with it the working of the Holy Spirit and the new life in Christ through the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2: 38-39), only to starve that God-given faith by cutting off the branch from Jesus, the life-giving Vine.

MYTH 3

My faith as a believer — and how much of it I have — makes the Sacraments beneficial.

This gift is given by God. It is what Jesus says it is, whether you or I believe it or not. This is why closed communion is a loving and faithful practice; if someone is taking the Lord's Supper without faith in Christ's body and blood being present, he or she brings judgment upon themselves (I Cor. 11: 27-32). No Christian would want anyone to fall under God's judgment. (see page 2)

We Lutherans actually believe that we are right when it comes to the holy things of God. We would not go so far as to say we are the invisible Church on earth, yet we would hold that all true Christians believe as we do on the basis of Scripture or they are in error. And that's why we consider it worth our time to debunk mythsespecially silly ones about the Sacraments.

taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) September 2015, pg. 19.

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.

TRANSPORTATION VOLUNTEERS

There are times when members of Good Shepherd are in need of transportation to medical appointments in the Omaha/Bellevue areas and are unable to transport themselves. If you would be interested in helping out someone in this situation or a similar one, please let the church office know. We will keep a list of volunteers and phone numbers to possibly assist in these situations.

LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY

Items for the Lutheran Food Pantry are being collected in a brown box on the table next to the south stairway to the balcony. They can use both travel size and family size packages of the following:

Toothpaste

Shampoo

Soap

Toothbrushes (No battery or electric versions of toothbrushes)

Thank you for assistance in meeting these needs.

NEWS AND NOTES DELIVERY

Beginning in mid-October, we will be delivering the weekly News & Notes via the daily e-mails. The e-mail will provide a link to the church website (www.goodshepherdlincoln.org) where the News & Notes will be posted. Paper copies will still be available on the table in the narthex as usual. The goal of this change is to make it more efficient to maintain the email list and to allow individuals to opt-in or opt-out of the daily emails. If you are not currently receiving the daily e-mails, please let the church office know, and we will add you to the distribution list.

REMEMBERING OUR CHURCH WORKERS

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you always in every prayer of mine for you. . . writes St. Paul in his letter to the Phillipians (Phil. 1: 3). With this same gratitude let us remember and thank our pastors, vicar and all who teach God's Word to us and our children during the month of October.

There's this idea that to live out of conformity with how I feel is hypocrisy; but that's a wrong definition of hypocrisy . . . To live out of conformity to what I believe is hypocrisy. To live in conformity with what I believe, in spite of what I feel, isn't hypocrisy; it's integrity.

— Professor Eric Thoennes, Biola College, La Mirada, CA

"The heart is deceitful above all things." Jeremiah 17: 9



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**, for a continued gain in strength (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 (5)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful procedure to more effectively deliver his medication (1)
- **Donna**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, anticipating surgery (5)
- **Dee Grams**, sister of Dean Posner, having health problems (5)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, recently diagnosed with cancer. (5)
- **Rich Lichtenfeld**, recovering from shoulder surgery (6)
- **Olga Wilhoite**, friend of Barbara Kumm, in palliative care following the death of her husband (5)
- **Harrison Snedeler**, friend of Grace Marshall, having surgery to address lung issues (5)
- **Lori Sidlo**, recently diagnosed with memory issues (3)
- **Taylor**, grand-daughter of Holly Herrod, dealing with complications following surgery (3)
- **Tish Loomis**, having medical tests. Pray for God's guidance for the doctors in finding causes and treatments (3)
- **Cathy Meints**, having a hip replacement on Sept. 28th (2)
- **Anne Nelson**, daughter-in-law of Arlene Nelson, recovering from a fall.(2)
- **Sandy Ernst**, grandmother of Megan Lichtenfeld, recovering from a stroke (2)
- **Ken Knaus**, having cataract 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 at Mayo on October 6 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 (6)
- **Sandi**, sister of Jimmy Stepp, having surgery (5)
- **Helen Snook**, recovering from cataract surgery on Sept. 18th (3)
- **Patricia Ann Baxter-Nuner**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, awaiting medical test results (1)
- **Karen Tagge**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from surgery (2)
- **Rose Saying**, grandmother of Angela Von Busch, having health issues (1)
- **The family of Janet Amack, wife of Ron Amack**, who was taken to her eternal home recently. Her memorial service: Sat. , Sept. 30 at 11 am at Good Shepherd (2)
- **The family of Alberta L'Ecuyer, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad**, who was taken to her eternal home recently.

OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT

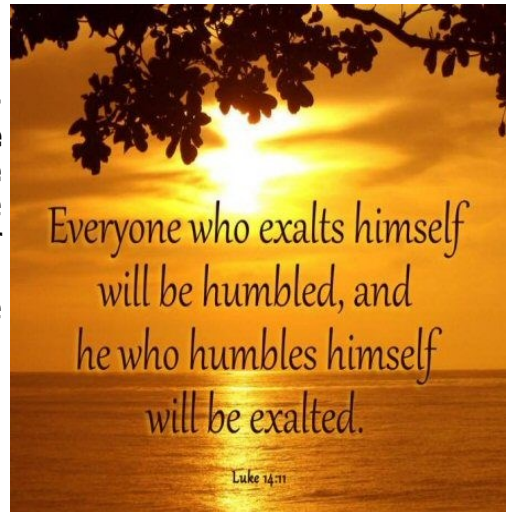
The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society has a three-part mission. This includes the saving of souls, the healing of bodies, and the providing of accredited Christian education. Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere where 70% of children under the age of five suffer from malnutrition. Check out the brochures on the bulletin table for more information.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Pastor Jeff Bloom will be leading the service on Oct. 1st on Main Street Living for the Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity. For those who are unable to join us at Good Shepherd this Sunday, you have the option of worshipping with Pastor Bloom and the Main Street Living Choir on KLKN, channel 8 at 10:30 am.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— Luke 14: 11—
“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” The kingdom of God is always upside down and backwards like this. We must die in order to live. We must be humbled so we can be exalted. It’s like this with giving as well. When we give away, then we receive much more than we bargained for: peace of mind, contentment, joy.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (October 1 thru October 7)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Madison Jordening	Jo Kirk
Lavern Obermeier	Emily Klutz
Adrienne Huelle-Jansky	John Olson
Julia Phillips	Eli Theewen
Cathy Meints	

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

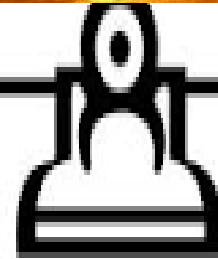
Ron & Leslie Graphenteen
Ryan & Jess Theewen

LIFE MOMENT

The science is conclusive: Human life starts at fertilization. The Bible is conclusive: Life is from God, it begins at fertilization, and God’s commandment of ‘You shall not murder’ (Exodus 20: 13) certainly applies to the slaying of an innocent child in the womb. Because that little baby in the womb IS a human being.

LIFE CHAIN 2023

Life Chain will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1st from 2:30 –3:30 pm on “O” Street. Good Shepherd members will stand on the south side of “O” Street from 53rd to 54th (Piazza Terrace) in front of Michael Tish Jewelers. Pro-Life signs will be provided. Please join us for this annual silent prayer vigil in support of all human life, born and preborn. Parking is available in the Michael Tish parking lot. Questions? Contact Sandy Langemeier at (402) 486-1361.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 24: 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., SEPT. 20 73
SUN., SEPT 24: 258

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 8,509.31

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. 24 2023
We have received
\$ 29,549.50
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., Oct. 1): 8 am: Loraine Harnett
10:30 am: Lauren Georgeson

(Wed., Oct. 4): Ruth Cheek
ELDER TODAY: (Sun., Oct. 1): Rich Lichtenfeld
(Wed., Oct. 4): Rich Lichtenfeld

USHERS: (Sun., Oct. 1): 8 am:
10:30 am:

(Wed., Oct. 4):
ACOLYTES: (Sun., Oct. 1): 8 am: Rhett Bauer
10:30 am: Anthony Pflanz
(Wed., Oct. 4): Broderic Beed

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., Oct. 1): Raiya von Rentzell
(Wed., Oct. 4): Lucy Pflanz

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., Oct. 1): Ella Moline/Haidyn Shubkagel
(Wed., Oct. 4): Arlene Nelson

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., Oct. 1): Deborah Grimmette
(Wed., Oct. 4): Arlene Nelson

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Oct. 1): Sharon Wilkens, Connie Swenson

SUMMARY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE CLASS

This series of classes is a great overview of the Lutheran doctrine as it is taken from God's Word. If you would like to review the basics, bring a friend, or explore what Lutherans believe, teach and confess, this class is for you. This series of classes can lead to communicant membership at Good Shepherd. Classes are meeting between services (about 9:20 am) in room 109 beginning on October 1st. If you have questions, please check with Pastor Goodroad or the church office.



FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

The fall 40 Days for Life prayer vigil will be held from September 27th to November 5, 2023 from 6 am to 7 pm daily in front of Planned Parenthood at 5631 S. 48th St. Lincoln Area Lutherans for Life will be praying in front of Planned Parenthood from 4 pm -7 pm each Monday in October. Join us for an hour of prayer on Mondays or choose a time that works for you. Please park at Cornerstone Christian Church, 4849 Old Cheney Rd. For more information contact Sandy Langemeier at (402) 486-1361.

BRATFEST 2023

Plans are underway for Bratfest 2023 on October 29th. More details to come.

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who donated to providing food for the Building Faith in the Home meetings. The session on Sept. 24 is covered with enough left over to purchase food for the next event. Your assistance is appreciated.

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 Dean Posner and Anita Armitstead who will celebrate their birthdays. Cards will be available to sign until Wed., Oct. 11th.** 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