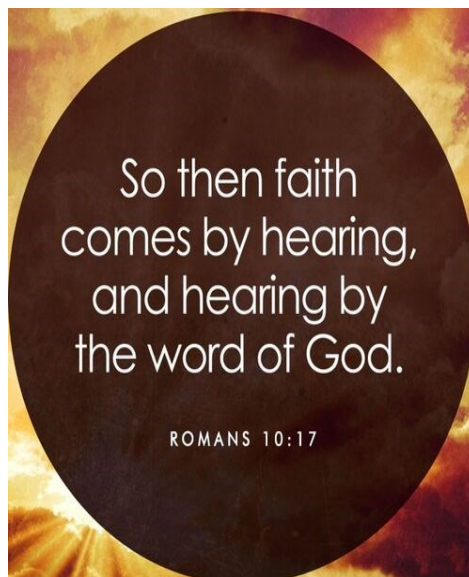


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity) Oct. 8, 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



WHY DO I BELIEVE IN JESUS?

by Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

Jesus grabbed me by the neck in 1962 at a font in little old Bethel Lutheran Church in the Iowa farming town of Lawton. I have no recollection of a time when I did not know that Jesus was my Savior. I often think that I grew up at the “end of sanity.” There wasn’t much crime to speak of. No drugs really. I walked to and from school from kindergarten on with no worries of abduction or sexual predators. Culture and church, Boy Scouts, school — all for the most part supported a similar morality and a favorable view of Christianity. But things change.

Today’s world is a post-modern cultural collage. And that’s not all bad, mind you! Prior to the fall of the Berlin Wall, teetering modernism was in its last gasp, asserting that this or that philosophical or political theory could encompass all truth. Would science unlock the mysteries of life and the universe? People believed the answer was, “Yes!” The modernists discounted the spiritual realm, opting for this or that psychological theory to explain the human experience. They all grasped for truth and found parts of it, but the complexities of the human individual, the collective community, simply evaded encapsulation. And every new discovery, whether at the atomic level or about the universe, has unfolded complexity upon complexity. The most shocking thing is the repeated discovery of order — ordered genetic information in biology and complex order in the universe. It was famously asserted that the probability of life coming about randomly would be about the same odds as a tornado sweeping through a junkyard and assembling a 747, fully fueled and ready for takeoff. Atheism requires too much faith for me.

The question I had to grapple with— the question everyone has to deal with— is, “What do you make of Jesus?” Most people will respond with morality. Jesus was a great man who left the world with great ethics, like “Love your neighbor as yourself.” But Jesus’ ethics can be found in various other religions. What makes Jesus unique is His claim to be the divine Son of God who came to give His life as a ransom (Mark 10: 45).

And did He or did He not rise from the dead? The resurrection accounts of the Bible have all the sober signs of reality, including the complexity of details told from different viewpoints, which are not easily harmonized. I also find compelling that there are no records of squabbles between Jesus’ living followers over what actually took place. Others discounted or contested the facts, but they were either contemporary opponents of Jesus or came much later after Jesus’ immediate followers were all dead.

(see page 2)

And finally, Jesus' apostles preached the death and resurrection of Jesus and suffered all, even death, to do so. They believed it happened.

I believe it too, because "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10: 17). Jesus has grabbed my black heart with forgiveness. My reason follows after, in the wake of faith, and convinces me that the universe is simply too ordered and too complex to exist by chance. And the only way that the life of Jesus makes any sense is if what the Bible says about Him actually happened.

taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) December 2020, pg. 3

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 Phillippians (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.

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.





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 (4)
- **Joyce Thompson**, for a continued gain in strength (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 (6)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful adjustment of his medication (2)
- **Donna**, mother of Jimmy Stepp, anticipating surgery (6)
- **Dee Grams**, sister of Dean Posner, having health problems (6)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, receiving cancer treatment. (1)
- **Olga Wilhoite**, friend of Barbara Kumm, in palliative care following the death of her husband (6)
- **Harrison Snedeler**, friend of Grace Marshall, having surgery to address lung issues (6)
- **Lori Sidlo**, recently diagnosed with memory issues (4)
- **Taylor**, grand-daughter of Holly Herrod, dealing with complications following surgery (4)
- **Tish Loomis**, having medical tests. Pray for God's guidance for the doctors in finding causes and treatments (4)
- **Cathy Meints**, recovering from a hip replacement (1)
- **Anne Nelson**, daughter-in-law of Arlene Nelson, recovering from a fall.(3)
- **Sandy Ernst**, grandmother of Megan Lichtenfeld, recovering from a stroke (3)
- **Ken Knaus**, having cataract surgery on the second eye (2)
- **Barb Kumm**, recovering from hand 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)
- **Sandi**, sister of Jimmy Stepp, having surgery (6)
- **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 Bob McClellan**, who was taken to his eternal home on Oct. 4th. (1)
- **The family of Janet Amack, wife of Ron Amack**, who was taken to her eternal home recently. (2)
- **The family of Alberta L'Ecuyer, grandmother of Marlyse Goodroad**, who was taken to her eternal home recently.(2)

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.

OCTOBER YOUTH ACTIVITY

The youth of Good Shepherd will be going to Roca Berry Farm on Sunday, October 15th. We will meet at the church at 6 pm and proceed from there. Admission will be covered but you will need to bring money for food or drinks, if you so desire.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— Matthew 22: 40— “On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” We serve God and our neighbor through the various vocations (holy callings) that God has given us. We do not need to go searching for good works or inventing our own: God has given us roles to fill in the home, church and society and that will keep us plenty busy! When we seek to fulfill our duties of these vocations in a spirit of faith, God-pleasing works are the result.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (October 8 thru October 14)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Clark Ehrich	Brian Etherton
Karen Brodbeck	Erik Prenosil
Marilyn Rice	Lois Kirchhoff
Chad Renter	Leena Mackey
Beth Loper	

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

Eric & Lisa Klutz
Leon & Deb Burow
Vern Jansky & Adrienne Huelle-Jansky
Scott & Dee Indgjer

LIFE MOMENT

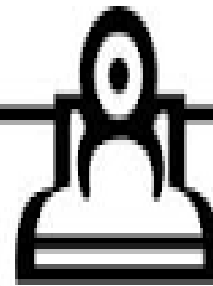
Moved by the Holy Spirit, may we help each other carry the crosses we face together. May we work to eliminate suffering together. And may we find healing, belonging, peace, and joy together in the cross of Christ.

40 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.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 24: 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., SEPT. 27 85
SUN., OCT. 1 :258

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 7,348.60

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.

Between July 1 and Oct. 1, 2023
We have received
\$ 29,662.00
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., Oct. 8): 8 am: Brent & Jan Stehlik
10:30 am: Don & Peg Olson

(Wed., Oct. 11): Alan Brodbeck
ELDER TODAY: (Sun., Oct. 8): Chad Renter
(Wed., Oct. 11): Chad Renter

USHERS: (Sun., Oct. 8): 8 am: Stepps, Graphenteen, Keller
10:30 am: Klutzes, Novaks

(Wed., Oct. 11): Klutzes, Von Busches (A & A)
ACOLYTES: (Sun., Oct. 8): 8 am: Nolan Keller
10:30 am: Job Ehrich
(Wed., Oct. 11): Cole Walker

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., Oct. 8): Brittani Jackson
(Wed., Oct. 11): Ingrid Ehrich

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., Oct. 8): Linda Reigle
(Wed., Oct. 11): Sue Stolcpart

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., Oct. 8): Marilyn Meyer
(Wed., Oct. 11): Sue Stolcpart

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Oct. 1): Dale & Marilyn Meyer

MAIN STREET LIVING

Rev. Thomas Goodroad, pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Lincoln, NE will be preaching on Sunday, Oct. 8th on Main Street Living, KLKN channel 8 at 10:30 am. For those who are unable to join us at Good Shepherd this Sunday, celebrate with Main Street Living, Pastor Goodroad and the Main Street Living choir.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRAW

The next Red Cross Blood Draw at Good Shepherd will be on Friday, October 20th from 8 am — 2 pm in the fellowship hall. Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Good Shepherd Lutheran to schedule an appointment.

MISSION PROJECT FOR NOVEMBER

In the month of November Good Shepherd's mission project will be Pastor Michael & Irene Paul, serving our Lord in Taiwan. Their new apartment is located in Chiayi which gives them a whole new set of neighbors to get to know and with whom to share God's love and saving Word. We have in the past hosted several Bible study hours in which they shared some of the challenges that are presented in learning about the cultural differences they have encountered. Their love for God's children and patience in teaching is quite evident.

"When we purposely destroy human life, we not only destroy something of value, we insult the One who gives it value, who paid the price and won victory for that life."

— Rev. Dr. James Lamb —

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 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