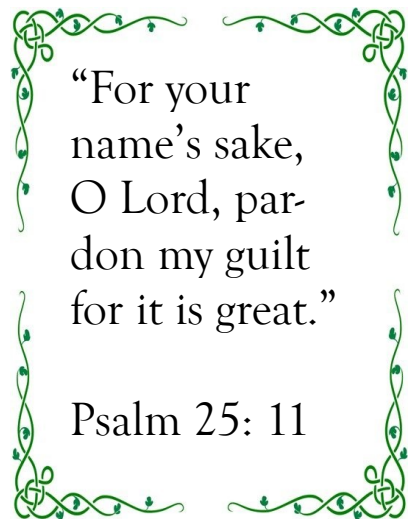


Good Shepherd News & Notes

(Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity) Oct. 15, 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



FORGIVING YOURSELF: DON’T BOTHER

by Rev. Aaron Schian

“Your Honor, I forgive myself!” Would a criminal ever stand before a judge in a court of law and announce such a thing? Of course not! When someone is accused of a crime, he stands before a judge and pleads either guilty or not guilty. He can’t forgive himself because no criminal has broken his own law. The criminal has broken the law of the land and stands before a judge who will declare the punishment for his crime, a punishment he deserves. It’s not his own forgiveness the criminal needs: it’s forgiveness from the judge. The judge alone has the authority to forgive him, that is, to release the criminal from his punishment and set him free.

We, too, stand before a judge — the holy and righteous Judge, the Lord God — as criminals because we have sinned. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3: 23). We have broken our Lord’s holy ten commands, and now we must each pay the price for our crime. “For the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6: 23). The punishment we deserve for our sin is eternal death. We are the offenders, and we stand before the Lord Jesus, who is both the offended party and our holy Judge.

Before our Lord, we stand guilty: we have sinned against Him. We learn this from King David. After King David committed adultery with Bathsheba and murdered Bathsheba’s husband, Uriah, the Hittite, King David prays: “Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment” (Psalm 51: 4). King David’s sin was not against himself. He sinned against God, breaking the Lord’s holy Law. King David was the offender, and the Lord was both the offended party and his Judge.

So, what did King David do? He did not say, “Your Honor, I forgive myself!” No, he stood before the Judge, confessed his sin to Him and sought forgiveness: “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love ; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.” (Psalm 51: 1). David sought forgiveness from the Judge, who delivered the not guilty verdict to him through the prophet Nathan. “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die” (II Samuel 12: 13). In other words, God’s forgiveness — given out of His mercy — removes guilt.

But the Judge did the unexpected, taking the guilty verdict for us. On the cross, the innocent one, Jesus, took the place of every offender — including you — and endured the eternal-death punishment all men deserved. In its place, He gives to all men what they do not deserve and could never give themselves: forgiveness.

(see page 2)

So it is with us. Every Sunday we stand before Judge Jesus, confess our sin to Him and seek His forgiveness. When we feel our sins particularly acutely, we go to our pastor for private confession, trusting that the forgiveness he speaks to us is God's forgiveness.

That is, we do not seek forgiveness in vain! We confess, and the Judge delivers a verdict that is sweet to our ears: "I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." With those absolution words, the Last-Day verdict is brought into the present. The Judge pronounces us "Not Guilty" because the Judge is also the Savior.

Can we forgive ourselves? Don't even try. To attempt that is to assume the place of the Judge, making yourself God. Instead, pull a King David. Seek the Lord's forgiveness, while it may be found. Come before Judge Jesus in His Church. Confess your sins to Him. He has already pronounced you "not guilty" from the cross, delivering that forgiveness to you through His means of grace. Prepare yourselves. Get ready. Your Lord is merciful, and you have already received the most unexpected sentence from Judge Jesus Himself: "I forgive you!"

taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) January 2014, pg. 17

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 use the following link to subscribe <http://eepurl.com/gXweKf> or, contact the church office and we will try to 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 (5)
- **Joyce Thompson**, for a continued gain in strength (6)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful adjustment of his medication (3)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, receiving cancer treatment. (2)
- **Lori Sidlo**, recently diagnosed with memory issues (5)
- **Taylor**, grand-daughter of Holly Herrod, dealing with complications following surgery (5)
- **Tish Loomis**, having medical tests. Pray for God's guidance for the doctors in finding causes and treatments (5)
- **Cathy Meints**, recovering from a hip replacement (2)
- **Anne Nelson**, daughter-in-law of Arlene Nelson, recovering from a fall.(4)
- **Sandy Ernst**, grandmother of Megan Lichtenfeld, recovering from a stroke (4)
- **Ken Knaus**, having cataract surgery on the second eye (3)
- **Barb Kumm**, recovering from hand surgery (2)
- **"Buddy"**, born to John & Ashley McClinton, friends of Eric & Lisa Klutz, at 24 weeks. Please pray for continued strength and healing (1)
- **Scott Clark**, nephew of Linda Clark, hospitalized with COPD (2)
- **Ellie Anderson**, friend of Grace Marshall, dealing with health issues and pain, Please pray for peace, answers, and alleviation of pain. (2)
- **Karen Kammann**, for a favorable outcome to her appt. with an orthopedist 10/17th (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 (2)
- **Patricia Ann Baxter-Nuner**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, awaiting medical test results (2)
- **Karen Tagge**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from surgery (3)
- **Rose Saying**, grandmother of Angela Von Busch, having health issues (2)
- **Thanksgiving for the birth of Wesley Mankin**, to Mike & Sky Mankin, relatives of Adam Mankin (2)
- **The family and friends of Matthew Fietchner**, who was murdered on Oct. 2nd in Hobson, Montana. Please pray for his parents, sister, and two small children for strength, healing and justice (2)
- **The family of Bob McClellan**, who was taken to his eternal home on Oct. 4th. Funeral service to be on Sat., Oct. 14th at 11am (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— Ephesians 4: 24— “Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” We have a new identity in Christ. Our old identity was in Adam; we were sinners, enemies of God, destined for death and destruction. But in Christ we are forgiven the children of God, cleansed, destined for life everlasting. These two identities continue to struggle as we exist in this fallen world. So St. Paul encourages us to “put on the new self” — to consciously cling to Christ in faith and claim our new identity in Him. Coming to the Lord’s House, faithfully supporting the ministry, praying and reading the Bible daily — these are the works of the new self.

“Put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”

*King James Version of the Bible
Ephesians 4:24*

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (October 15 thru October 21)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Andrew Smith	Broderic Beed
Dean Posner	Nicholas Totenhagen
Joyce Eckhoff	Beverly Obermeier
Kelsea Hughes	

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:
None

LIFE MOMENT

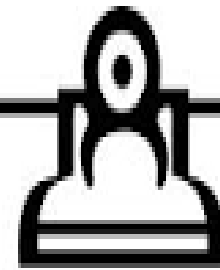
The God of the Scriptures displays a decided preference for precisely the kind of lives our world despises. He devotes particular attention to infants and elderly persons (Psalm 146: 9), with no thought for who might find them “unwanted” or “burdensome”. He would even have us emulate their dependency on Him (I Peter 2: 2). And He invites us to know this — and make it known.

REFORMATION CELEBRATION

Join us on Reformation Sunday, October 29th at noon(ish) in the Fellowship Hall for a Reformation Celebration with brats, trivia for the adults, and a coloring/drawing competition for the kids. The elders will serve brats and hot dogs. Please bring a side dish to share. Free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost of brats and hot dogs. Contact Sarah Kaldahl (660.238.7327) with questions.

OWLS FELLOWSHIP

Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) will be meeting on the first Friday of each month for fellowship, games, etc. at 2 pm. Please bring a snack to share. The next date will be November 3rd.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
OCTOBER 8, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., OCT 4: 70
SUN., OCT. 8: :246

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 6,266.50

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 Oct. 1 and Oct. 8, 2023
We have received
\$ 175.00
in principal only gifts.

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

- DOORKEEPERS:** (Sun., Oct. 15): 8 am: Tim Higgins
10:30 am: Don & Peg Olson
(Wed., Oct. 18): Loraine Harnett
- ELDER TODAY:** (Sun., Oct. 15): Wayne Gudgel
(Wed., Oct. 18): Wayne Gudgel
- USHERS:** (Sun., Oct. 15): 8 am: Schnell, Wilkens, Indgjers
10:30 am: Princes, Eckhoff, Fitzgerald
(Wed., Oct. 18): Indgjers, Eckhoff, Kaldahl
- ACOLYTES:** (Sun., Oct. 15): 8 am: Zach Von Busch
10:30 am: Sawyer Shubkagel
(Wed., Oct. 18): Kyler Cover
- ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT:** (Sun., Oct. 15): Brileigh Twarling
(Wed., Oct. 18): YuNa Kort
- COMMUNION SET-UP:** (Sun., Oct. 15): Sondra Rathjen
(Wed., Oct. 18): Karen Huff
- COMMUNION CLEAN-UP:** (Sun., Oct. 15): Gayleen Potter
(Wed., Oct. 18): Karen Huff
- COFFEE SERVERS:** (Sun., Oct. 15): Joel & Sarah Kaldahl

MAIN STREET LIVING

Rev. Keith Burk, pastor at Faith of Our Fathers Lutheran in Roca, NE will be preaching on Sunday, Oct. 15th 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 Burk 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)
Dorian Merritt (at home)
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)

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.

VIDEO DEVOTIONS

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 4 days. Monday will be Pastor Moline; Tuesday will be Vicar Garrison, and 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 6 of 7 days in the week. Sunday and Wednesday Divine Services, Monday Tuesday, and Friday video devotions, and Thursday Matins.

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

THANK YOU

Members of Good Shepherd,
After working here for a month now, I wanted to let you know that I have greatly appreciated the warm welcome you have given me. My pantry is full of green beans, mac & cheese, peanut butter, and Crispix (11 boxes total) along with many other items — even a first aid kit! To make it better, the items were all graciously carried out to my car thanks to bags and boxes as well as readily available kid power. My wallet is full of money and gift cards to Hy-Vee, SuperSaver, and Russ's Market among several other stores so that I can shop freely. Because of these things, I am feeling no lack of Christian love and care from you all. Thank you kindly. I have already been learning a lot from you and look forward to all I will learn this year alongside you.

In Christ,
Vicar Garrison