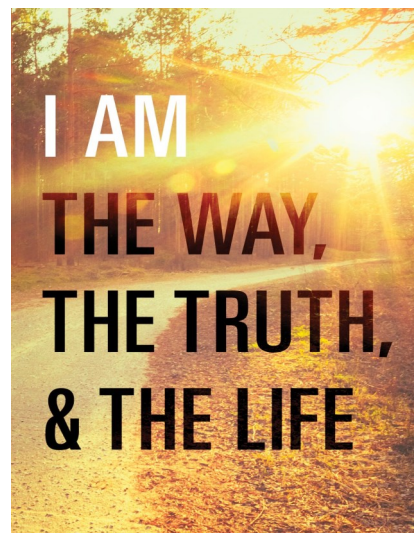


Good Shepherd News & Notes

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Trinity: Nov. 19, 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



THE GROUND OF ALL TRUTH

by Rev. Christopher Esget

Outside an Episcopal library I once frequented hung a sign that said, "Seek the truth, come whence it may, cost what it will." Regularly passing that sign drove a dreariness into my heart. It's message of uncertainty — "Come whence it may" — suggests we do not know where to find truth.

Uncertainty about where to find truth afflicts our entire society. Carl Trueman notes the effects this has had on society: "As society moves from a view of the world as possessing intrinsic meaning, so it also moves away from a view of humanity as having a specific, given end." In other words, with the loss of truth the world has also lost a sense of purpose or what a thing is for, what philosophers call teleology. The human race has lost its self-identity. If you do not know the truth about who you are, then you cannot know who you ought to become.

In the absence of an objective, external purpose, man only finds meaning in his experiences and feelings. A person's inner conviction or feelings trump objective reality. Alasdair MacIntyre calls this emotivism in his book *After Virtue*. For the emotivist, moral judgments only express the feelings or preferences of the individual. Those feelings are "truths" for that individual. Something is right or permissible if it feels right to the individual — an individual untethered from any objective standard.

Emotivism assumes that man's nature is good. It does not have a place for man's corrupted nature. Problems do not come from within a person but from without; oppression by others — societal, structural oppression — becomes the original sin. Man is not depraved, culture is. Since each person determines his truth, he may express himself however he likes, even if it means he wants to become a "she."

What happens to the person who disagrees with the action or idea? The culture does not engage him in the language of moral standards but the language of psychology. Those who disagree are sick, or more precisely, have a phobia. Those who state that homosexual activity is wrong are homophobic; those who believe a man cannot be a woman are transphobic.

Truth has receded here into innumerable, individual, contradictory "truths." In such a world, reality is manipulated to conform to the imagination. Consider how many people treat the body. They alter it through markings and piercings, augment it through implants, and butcher it as men and women destroy their procreative organs to appear as the opposite sex. Such destruction further undermines the purpose of the body (its teleology) by ensuring that the procreation and nurture of children can never occur.

(see page 2)

Christians do not stand on a preference, one iteration of truth among many others, but on the one, holy, catholic and apostolic truth.

WHAT IS TRUTH?

We know truth in two ways: Creation and revelation. In creation, we can see God's handiwork and know that a divine being created the world. St. Paul writes, "For [God's] invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made" (Romans 1: 20). But creation does not tell us who God is. For that, we need revelation, namely, the Word of God.

Often there exists an interrelationship between these where creation shows us what something is and revelation shows us why. For example, creation shows us that there are two sexes: male and female. We can infer certain things about the male and the female, such as that the man's greater capacity for strength makes him a suitable protector, and the woman's capacity for childbirth makes her a suitable nurturer; revelation — the Bible — shows us why He ordered life in this way. God's Word teaches us the truth that man and woman are to be united in holy matrimony in a lifelong union for childbearing, without divorce. What we inferred from creation is clarified in revelation.

(continued next week)

taken from The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) November 2023, pg. 8-9.

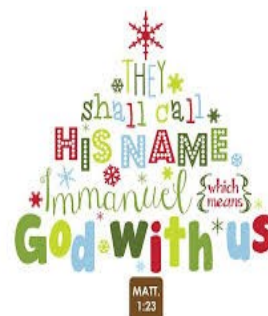
CHRISTMAS VESPERS

It's already time to start thinking about the Children's Christmas Program at Good Shepherd! All children (ages 3—14) are invited to participate. As in the past, we will be learning several verses of 6 Advent and Christmas hymns and leading the congregation in singing those hymns on Wednesday, December 20th at the Advent vespers service that night. We will practice during the Sunday School hour on Sundays from 9:30 until 10: 20 am beginning November 26th. If you would like your child to participate, please contact Elizabeth Moline, Jerika Perrin, or Marlyse Goodroad so we can make sure we have enough copies of music, etc. Children who would like to participate need to attend at least 3 practices (so we can make sure everyone knows the music). Please contact Elizabeth, Jerika, or Marlyse with any questions as well.

Elizabeth Moline (701) 640-7989 or molineae@gmail.com

Jerika Perrin (402) 525-2379 or Dmpjosp02@yahoo.com

Marlyse Goodroad (816) 352-8947 or marlysegoodroad@gmail.com



GOLDEN AGE THANKSGIVING DINNER

Members of Good Shepherd who are 75 years or older are invited to be guests at a turkey dinner with all the trimmings at Good Shepherd on Thursday, Nov. 16th at noon followed by a worship service with communion. If you fit this description and have not received an invitation by mail, please call the church office and let us know. We would like to include you in this celebration. Church Office: (402) 423-7639.



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)
- **Pastor Luke Russert**, for a successful adjustment of his medication (1)
- **Wayne Schuster**, nephew of Rich & Lorelee Novak, receiving cancer treatment. (6)
- **Lori Sidlo**, recently diagnosed with memory issues (3)
- **Barb Kumm**, recovering from hand surgery (6)
- **"Buddy"**, born to John & Ashley McClinton, friends of Eric & Lisa Klutz, at 24 weeks. Please pray for continued strength and healing (5)
- **Scott Clark**, nephew of Linda Clark, hospitalized with COPD (6)
- **Ellie Anderson**, friend of Grace Marshall, dealing with health issues and pain, Please pray for peace, answers, and alleviation of pain. (6)
- **Karen Kammann**, for guidance in making a good decision about treatment options (5)
- **Tom Schmidt**, brother of Rev. John Schmidt, having heart issues (5)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, recovering from back surgery (5)
- **Elaine Egner**, dealing with heart & lung issues (5)
- **Norma Pagels**, mother of Barb Poppe, transitioning to living in a care facility (4)
- **Sarah Stepp**, dealing with additional medical issues (3)
- **Diane Bowlin**, recovering from rotator cuff surgery (3)
- **A former member of Good Shepherd**, pray for comfort, peace and God's grace for her and her family (3)
- **Sister of Darla Posner**, having pain issues (2)
- **James Vavak**, brother of Darla Posner, recovering from knee surgery (2)
- **Cathy Meints**, for a successful medical procedure (2)

- **Tom Vontz**, brother-in-law of Dee Indgjer, now awaiting a kidney transplant at Mayo on Nov. 15th . (2)
- **Patricia Ann Baxter-Nuner**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, awaiting medical test results (6)
- **Karen Tagge**, friend of Terry Fitzgerald, recovering from surgery (6)
- **Rose Beck**, grandmother of Angela Von Busch, having health issues (6)
- **Hudson Dewey**, 1 yr-old great grandson of Sandie Tvrz, diagnosed with COVID (2)
- **Todd Bohlender**, for successful healing following knee replacement surgery (3)
- **John Diagilo**, son-in-law of Lynda Mahloch, who begins treatment for stomach cancer (3)
- **Pearl & Tom**, sister & brother-in-law of Loraine Harnett, both dealing with health issues (3)
- **John Reigle**, for a good diagnosis and healing for back pain (2)
- **Jerry Sidlo**, having medical testing (2)
- **Ray Wobkin**, cousin of Pastor Poppe, having a hip replacement (2)
- **Taylor**, grand-daughter of Holly Herrod, for continued healing (2)
- **Ryker Whalen**, nephew of Maddie Gastler, recovering from the removal of a portocath on Oct. 30th (2)
- **Robert Zook**, dealing with health issues (1)
- **The family of Neil Schochenmaier**, uncle of the Buhrs who died in an automobile accident (2)
- **The family of the brother-in-law of Darla Posner**, who was taken to his eternal home (2)

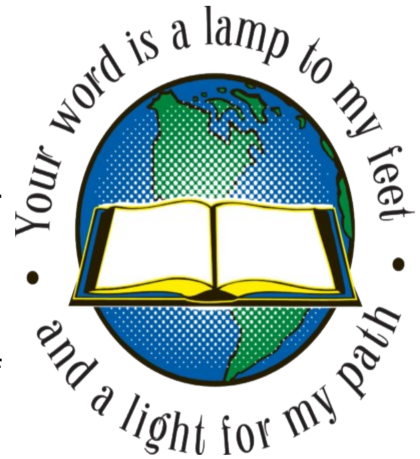
"God's love is not tolerance of sin. It is salvation from sin."

"God defines love as sacrifice of self, not indulgence of self."

from The Harvest Raise by Katie Schuermann, pg. 301

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT– Philippians 3: 19
“Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.” There is danger in setting our minds on earthly things, serving mammon and caring more for our bodily comfort than our spiritual well-being. God does not tell us to be faithful and generous in our stewardship of the things of this earth to ruin our fun. Rather, He tells us to give generously to teach us how to make sure the things of this world do not lay hold of our hearts.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (Nov. 19 thru Nov. 25)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Ruby Lichtenfeld	Tish Loomis
Sondra Rathjen	Don Olson
Pastor Michael Paul	Co Sandman
Declan Reinke	Aron Wiest
Janice Densberger	Joe Ehrich
Elizabeth Moline	Sarah Kaldahl

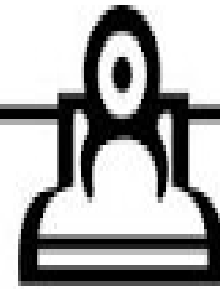
Couples celebrating anniversaries are:
Jimmy & Wendy Stepp

LIFE MOMENT

So how's life? Are you stuck? Are you burdened? Are you troubled? Are you afraid? Do you think you've got nothing to live for? Stop acting like Jesus is dead because He is not. Look again at His life-giving hands. Jesus is alive! Let's act like it. Let's pray like it. Let's believe like it. Let's embrace His call, "I am sending you" (John 20: 21), and bring the Gospel to everyone, one soul at a time. Live life like there is no death because Easter means there is no death. Easter makes life really worth living.

WEEKLY PRAYERS

Tuesday mornings from 8:30–8:50 am you are invited to join with other members of Good Shepherd and the pastors and vicar in praying for those who have requested our prayers and are on the prayer list. This short prayer service will be in the sanctuary.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
NOVEMBER 12, 2023

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED., NOV. 8: 59
THURS. MATINS: 36
SUN., NOV. 12: : 231

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 7,388.00

OUR OUTSTANDING MORT-
GAGE: \$ 1,665,667.46

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 Nov. 12, 2023
We have received
\$ 2,986.50
in principal only gifts.

Principle Only Gifts from
October 2022– Oct. 1, 2023
\$ 197,307.69

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., Nov. 19): 8 am: Tim Higgins
10:30 am: David Perrin
(Wed., Nov. 22): Alan Brodbeck

ELDER TODAY: (Sun., Nov. 19): Joel Kaldahl
(Wed., Nov. 22): Joel Kaldahl

USHERS: (Sun., Nov. 19): 8 am: Schnell, Wilkens, Graphenteen, Higgins
10:30 am: Fitzgerald, Keller, Von Busch (D & R)
(Wed., Nov. 22): Pfeister, Kaldahl, Schmidt, Huff

ACOLYTES: (Sun., Nov. 19): 8 am: Brantley Reinke
10:30 am: Anthony Pflanz
(Wed., Nov. 22): Job Ehrich

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., Nov. 19): YunA Kort
(Wed., Nov. 22): YunMi Kort

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., Nov. 19): Paula Erickson/Marilyn Meyer
(Wed., Nov. 22): Sue Stolcpart

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., Nov. 19): Deb Grimmette
(Wed., Nov. 22): Sue Stolcpart

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Nov. 19): Tim & Jenny Higgins

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.

GOOD SHEPHERD PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Photos will be taken for the pictorial directory on the following dates in room 106:

Sundays in November: 19, & 26 (between services & people can step in quickly during Bible study)

Wednesdays in November: 15, 29 (from 5 pm—6:15 pm)

Prior to the Thanksgiving Meal for Seniors (come early for the meal and pose for your photo)

THANKSGIVING

Good Shepherd will have the usual Wed. eve service at 6:30 pm on Nov. 22nd and a Thanksgiving Day service at 9 am on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23rd. There will be no midweek classes on Wed., November 22nd.



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. **There are currently no birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate among our shut-in members.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.



MISSION TRIP TO MISSION CENTRAL

All are invited to join members of the LWML Lincoln Zone on a bus trip on Saturday, Nov. 18th to Mission Central in Mapleton, IA. We want to fill a bus so men, women and children are included. Carol Halter, a missionary who has been in India for 30 years will speak to us and we will have a full tour of the facilities. A catered meal will be served at noon. The cost is \$37.95 per person.

Departure time is 8 am from Messiah Lutheran Church, 1800 South 84th Street in Lincoln. This is a day trip and we will return to Messiah around 6 pm.

Please make your reservation with Jeanne Krutz at (402) 890-1433 or jeannekrutz@hotmail.com. Payments can be sent to: Mission Circle, P. O. Box 57, Roca, NE 68430. Good Shepherd contact person is Sandy Langemeier, (402) 486-1361.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The funeral luncheon committee is updating our records. If you would like to help by occasionally providing a salad or dessert and/or helping to serve and clean up, please let us know. You can call or text Susan McKinney at 402-560-4158 with your information and the best method in which to contact you. Please leave a message if there is no answer. Thank you and God's blessings.

ADVENT MEALS

Advent services begin Wednesday, December 6 in 2023. The following Advent meals will be served 5-6 pm in the fellowship hall. Please note the meals will end at 6 pm to allow the volunteers to get cleaned up in time for the Advent service. Of course, you are still welcome to stay in the fellowship hall between 6-6:30 pm for socializing.

- Dec. 6 Ramon Marcano and crew serving turkey noodle casserole; free-will offering to a special Venezuela church project for a new printer.
- Dec. 13 Church Council serving sloppy joes & mac & cheese; free-will offering to the vicar fund.
- Dec. 20 Higgins family serving BBQ pulled pork; free-will offering to Lincoln Crisis Pregnancy Center.