

Good Shepherd News & Notes

Lent I : February 18, 2024

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



WHEN YOU FAST . . .

Rev. Paul T. McCain

Did you know that our Lord Jesus Christ assumed that His disciples would fast, just as He assumed they would pray? Jesus commended fasting as a private act of humility and devotion to God (see Matthew 6: 16-18). Note particularly that he says, "When you fast..." not "If you fast..." Take a look at Matthew 9: 14-15. The first Christians fasted (Acts 13:2-3;14:23). Why shouldn't a twenty-first century Christian do likewise? Why?

Because we are, as a culture and society, gluttons. After all, we are a "consumer" society. We consume, consume and consume some more. We eat to the point that our bellies are too large, we weigh too much, and we inflict chronic illness on ourselves brought on by poor diet and exercise habits. I'm as guilty as anyone in this regard. We do *not* fast to earn brownie points with God, but that fact has become our excuse for not fasting, for not attending to self-discipline and self-mortification. We excuse our laziness and gluttony by appealing to our freedom in Christ as forgiven children. We let ourselves off the hook all the while comforting ourselves that we are free not to get caught up in "legalistic" requirements such as fasting. We look at the required fasts in Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy and rightly criticize the imposition of such rules contrary to the Gospel freedom we have, but then we again use this as an excuse not to fast. We'll show those legalists, as we continue stuffing our faces and filling our bellies with the food that perishes.

As we now approach the beginning of Lent, it is good to recall that Lent has been, historically, throughout the Church's history, a time that involves fasting. The German name for Lent used historically in Lutheranism is *Fastenzeit*, "Fast time." The spiritual discipline of fasting was always part of historic Lutheranism, but as in so many other areas of our church life, the desire to "fit in" with the rest of American Protestantism, led this practice to fall into disuse among us. Luther assumes that fasting will be part of Lutherans' practice when they prepare to receive the Supper, for in the Catechism he writes, "Fasting is indeed fine outward bodily preparation..." What he goes on to say about the proper preparation being faith and trust in Christ was never intended to be an excuse not to fast. In *The Lutheran Study Bible* there is a great article on fasting and I thought you might find it useful as you consider how you will be observing Lent.

Afflicting One's Soul

The modern Jewish calendar has 28 fasting days, but in the Old Testament, God commanded only one annual fast. In Lv 16: 29-31, Moses gave God's dictum to "afflict (deny) yourselves" on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). In response to the atonement for Israel's corporate sin, devout Israelites would fast from morning until evening on the tenth day of the seventh month. Before the exile to Babylon,

Israelites fasted during times of impending danger, mourning, sickness, threat of war, distress, and sorrow. For example, Hannah did not eat because of the great stress brought about by her barrenness (1 Sam. 1: 7), and David fasted after learning of Abner's death (2 Sam. 3: 35). Religious leaders also mandated periods of fasting at times of great national crisis (cf Jgs 20: 26; 2 Ch 20: 3; Jer 36: 9). These examples show that fasting was an expression of sorrow and, most important, an expression of repentance.

(to be continued)

MISSION PROJECT FOR FEBRUARY

Luther Classical College will be Good Shepherd's mission project for the month of February 2024. With an opening date planned for the fall of 2025, the college will be built on the 11-acre campus of Mount Hope Lutheran Church and School in Casper, WY. It will provide a conservative, classical Lutheran education to Lutheran students. LCC now has 134 prospective student sign-ups. It will offer its students a high quality education, preparing them for a variety of career paths. Some will go on to become pastors, teachers, and lawyers. Others will take advantage of the trade options that will be offered in cooperation with Casper Community College and go on to become electricians, plumbers, etc. All will receive an education that prepares them to confess Christ in this world, using all the gifts God has given them to glorify Him and to serve their neighbors.

If you are moved to invest in the coming generations of Lutheran students, this could be the opportunity you are looking for. Envelopes and more information can be found on the bulletin table in the narthex.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRAW

Register online to be a donor on **Friday, February 23rd**. The blood draw will be at Good Shepherd in the fellowship hall **from 8 am—2 pm**. To schedule your appointment go to **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter **Good Shepherd Lutheran**.

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

All women are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the LWIM at Good Shepherd. The meetings are held on the **third Monday of the month (February 19th this month) at 9:30 am in room 109**. It is affiliated with the national group which is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS. Many opportunities are available for service, Bible study, etc.



WEDDING INVITATION

We would like to invite the members of Good Shepherd to rejoice with us on the day of our wedding, March 2, 2024. The Office of Vespers with the Rite of Holy Matrimony will begin at 2:30 in the afternoon. Please join us in celebrating our marriage in Christ.

Blessings in Christ,
Jessica Burow & Noah Kerstein



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)
- **Leena Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, with continued medical issues (6)
- **Gary Chura**, brother-in-law of Maureen Marshall, in hospice care with pancreatic cancer (6)
- **Elaine Egner**, having chemo and radiation treatments (6)
- **Elaine Van Valkenburg**, for continued strength and healing (6)
- **Don Wiese**, in hospice care (6)
- **Peggy Cather**, hospitalized with a broken pelvis following a fall (5)
- **Jerry & Lori Sidlo**, having medical issues (4)
- **Jeremy Janssen**, friend of Rich Lichtenfeld, recovering from a stroke (4)
- **Taylor**, grand-daughter of Holly Herrod, for continued recovery (4)
- **Judy**, mother of Wendy Stepp, for quick recovery from surgery (3)
- **Brent Travis**, diagnosed with a lung disease. Pray for comfort and guidance (3)
- **Ken Marshall and family**, father of Grace Marshall, with ongoing health problems (4)
- **Olga Wilhoite**, friend of Barbara Kumm, who is near death (3)
- **Barbara Kumm**, hospitalized following a fall on the ice (2)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, recovering from surgery (3)
- **Don Olson**, having knee replacement surgery on Wed., Feb. 21st (1)
- **Pat Perrin**, mother of David Perrin, for successful recovery following knee surgery (3)
- **Larry Baack**, brother of Pam Jensen, recovering from sepsis (2)

- **Melinda**, friend of Wendy Stepp, for successful medical treatment (3)
- **Robert Nichols**, grandfather of Grace Marshall, in declining health and struggling with fear & uncertainty about his faith (1)

NEW KNNA SCHEDULES

New schedules for Good Shepherd's radio station (KNNA-LP 95.7FM) are available on the table where you can pick up your bulletins in the narthex. Some discontinued programming has been deleted and new offerings have been added. On the back of the new schedules is a summary of the changes. The KNNA board is planning to apply for Recognized Service Organization status from the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. Questions can be addressed to Curt Christiansen, Joe Ehrich, Pastor Poppe, or Pastor Goodroad.

TREATS FOR SUNDAYS

Needed: treats for Sunday morning Bible study. Please sign up in the kitchen on the clipboard located on the cart. You can bring the treats during the week prior to the Sunday you choose and put them in the freezer. Any questions? Call Sharon Wilkens at (402) 499-7064.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

One of the many original programs produced by KNNA-LP 95.7FM The Cross is Equipping the Saints. This program is designed to help the Christian live a life in accord with God's Word. As a baptized child of God, forgiven full and free by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, how should I live? Should I go on sinning so that grace may abound? Heaven forbid! Pastors Moline and Goodroad are currently leading a study on the book of Proverbs. Thanks for listening!

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— Matthew 6: 21 – “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” There’s the ultimate word on stewardship: your heart goes where you put the treasures God has given you to manage in this life.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (Feb. 18 thru Feb. 24)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Sawyer Shubkagel	Kim Bock
Bridgette Beed	Kim Keller
Addison Cheek	Rich Novak
David Kirchhoff	Kadin McNabb
Carol Navratil	Jim Baumann

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

None this week

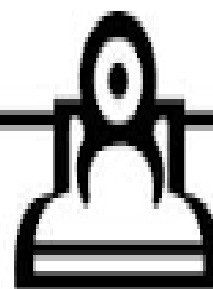
LIFE MOMENT

The Lord God forbid father Abraham from sacrificing his boy Isaac (Genesis 22: 12). The lesson extends to us too. Abortion is immoral because it is unnecessary. Jesus alone serves as beast of burden in the solemn rite of righting wrongs (Mark 1:13). Death always hatches from sin (James 1: 15), but we belong in the business of redemption.

LENTEN MEALS

Lenten services begin on Wednesday, February 14th with Ash Wednesday. The following dates are available for groups interested in serving a meal from 5-6 pm. Free-will donations will go towards a project of the group’s choice. Please contact Sarah Kaldahl at 660.238.7327 to schedule. Lenten services will be at 4pm and 6:30 pm.

Feb. 14 — Pastor Poppe & crew (Pulled Pork)
Funds to the Women’s Care Center
Feb. 21 — Homeschool Moms (Nacho Bar)
Funds to Parish Education
Feb. 28 — Church Council (Sloppy Joes) Funds
to interior painting & upkeep
March 6 — Elders (Soup) Funds to the Vicarage
Fund
March 13 — OPEN
March 20 — Indgjers (Baked Pasta) Funds to
Narthex improvements



**FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FEBRUARY 11, 2024**

**WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00**

**ATTENDANCE:
WED., FEB 7 : 79
MATINS, FEB 8: 34
SUN., FEB 11: 273**

**GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 5,684.47**

**OUR OUTSTANDING MORT-
GAGE: \$ 1,636,542.68**

Our goal is to pay off the mort-
gage by 2030. We need \$2,300
per week donated in principal
only payments to accomplish this.

Between Jan 1 and Feb. 11, 2024
We have received
\$ 9,673.00
in principal only gifts.

Principle Only Gifts from
Oct. 2022– Dec. 31, 2023
\$ 207,886.19

Vicarage Fund Jan 1 — Feb. 11,
2024:
\$ 19,078.00

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., Feb. 18): 8 am: Brodbeck
10:30 am: Perrin
(Wed., Feb. 21): Harnett

ELDER TODAY: (Sun., Feb. 18): Wayne Gudgel
(Wed., Feb. 21): Wayne Gudgel

USHERS: (Sun., Feb. 18) 8 am: Schnell, Wilkens, Graphenteen,
Higgins
10:30 am: Novaks, Klutzes
(Wed., Feb. 21): 4 pm: Brodbeck, Eckhoff
6:30 pm: Stehlik, Huff, Kaldahl, Schmidt

ACOLYTES: (Sun., Feb. 18) 8 am: Zach Von Busch
10:30 am: Declan Reinke
(Wed., Feb. 21): Aaden Von Busch

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., Feb. 18): Raiya von Rentzell
(Wed., Feb. 21): Lucy Pflanz

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., Feb. 18): Ella Moline
(Wed., Feb. 21): 4 pm: Arlene Nelson
6:30 pm: Paula Erickson

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., Feb. 18): Gayleen Potter
(Wed., Feb. 21): Paula Erickson

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., Feb. 18): Tim & Jenny Higgins

FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL TOUR

Join Pastor Michael Awe in this wonderful opportunity to have St. Paul's letters come alive as we travel to some of the places where Christ led him to share the Gospel. Here we will see the Bible come alive with the beautiful locations of the early Christian Church. We will enjoy sights including Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Thessaloniki, and many others. Also part of this tour is a 3-day cruise to the Greek Isles and Turkey. The dates for this wonderful tour are **October 29 – November 8, 2024**. We will be departing from and arriving back at the Omaha airport. The price for this trip which includes transportation, tours, hotels, and most meals is **\$4,379 per person based on double occupancy**. If you would like to receive a brochure, please contact Pastor Awe at the 1revma@gmail.com or call him at 531-218-5793.

BUNCO PARTY

You are invited to an afternoon of fellowship and fun on Saturday, February 24th at 3 pm in the fellowship hall. We will be playing an easy, fun dice game called Bunco, no experience required. Anyone age 10-99 is welcome to play! The game requires an even number of people, so please sign up in pairs, but don't worry — you won't be stuck with your partner for the entire game. (If you want to play and can't find a partner, let Elizabeth Moline know or check out the sign-up sheet.) Limited babysitting will be provided for a freewill offering. Feel free to bring snacks — water and lemonade will be provided. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Contact Elizabeth Moline at 701-640-7989 with any questions.

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)
Arylss 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 birthday cards to sign for Verneda Gerdes and Elaine Egner and an anniversary card for Marvin & Joyce Thompson. These cards will be available until March 6th.** Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.



2024 Summer Camp Opportunities

Camp Luther is so excited to announce that our Summer 2024 registration is officially open! Our Christ-centered Bible camps are for youth entering first grade through high school. This summer campers will explore our theme 'Called to Serve' which will dive into what it means and what it looks like to serve the Lord.

While at camp, campers will spend time growing in their faith, playing outside, building lifelong friendships, and learning new skills. Our trained staff will be with campers every step of the way as they experience God in a different place, one that allows the youth to step away from the realities of our world. Don't delay, register today!

Activities

Campfire, Chapel, Archery, Boats, Swimming, Hiking, Hatchets, Sports, Arts/Crafts, Night Games, Fort Building, and more!



2024 CAMPS:

EXPLORER: ENTERING GRADES 1ST - 4TH (2-NIGHT, 3-DAY CAMPS)

DISCOVERY: ENTERING GRADES 4TH - 6TH (5-NIGHT, 6-DAY CAMPS)

ADVENTURE: ENTERING GRADES 7TH - 9TH (5-NIGHT, 6-DAY CAMPS)

SPECIALTY CAMPS: ENTERING GRADES 6TH - 9TH

VOYAGER: HIGH SCHOOL AGE JULY 10-12



Learn More
or Register
Today!

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

For a list of the camps available this summer, check the clipboard at the information center. Lutheran Women in Mission is offering scholarships to these camps. For the basic camps the scholarship will pay 50%. For the specialty camps the scholarship will pay 75%. Register for the camp of your choice and bring in your receipt for reimbursement. Please contact Maureen Marshall at 402.902.9125 with any questions or to give her your receipt for reimbursement.

"Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility.

-Saint Augustine-

"You can't get second things by putting them first; you can get second things only by putting first things first . . . Seeking the Kingdom of God first is the choice that brings true and lasting satisfaction."

-C. S. Lewis-

EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies are used to beautify our sanctuary in celebration of our Savior's resurrection. The lilies are available this year at the cost of \$10 each. A sign-up table is located in the narthex. If paying by check, please make the check payable to Good Shepherd and designate that it is for flowers. If you would like to designate your lily in honor of or in memory of someone, please write this on the envelope.



EASTER BREAKFAST

The youth, with the help of Dee Indgjer, will be serving an Easter Breakfast Potluck this year! We are asking members to bring in their favorite baked goods, ready-to-serve fruit or other breakfast, snacky food they would like to share with their fellow church members. Muffins, bars, cookies, nutter-butters, cheese sticks, Gogurt, pudding, cantaloupe in manageable pieces, cut up strawberries and cleaned grapes are all welcome additions!

Feel free to bring them to church ahead of time and leave them in the kitchen fridge or on the counter. The youth will take it from there. Thank you for your help and remember "He is Risen".



CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR

The Peace Lutheran Church Youth Group would like to invite you to attend their Third Annual Spring Into Crafts and Décor Vendor Fair on March 16th. The youth host this annual event as a fundraiser for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering. This year we have a wide variety of crafts and vendors attending. Baked goods, jewelry, 3-D printed items, permanent jewelry, kitchen items, sewn/knitted/crocheted items, home décor, health/beauty items, clothing and more will be

available. A local coffee store, Patina Joe's will also be attending with coffee for sale. The Spring Into Craft and Décor Vendor Fair is on **March 16 from 10 am- 4 pm at Peace Lutheran Church, 9831 N. 145th St., Waverly, NE 68462** and there is no cost to attend.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS

You may have noticed the reprints from the Lutheran Witness from time to time in the News and Notes. If you would like to be a subscriber, please sign up at the high table next to the north stairway to the balcony. Your subscription would begin with the June/July issue and will include 10 more monthly issues for \$20.65. You may pay for your subscription using envelopes labeled "Lutheran Witness" found next to the sign-up sheets. If you put cash in the envelope, please include your name so that we can give you credit for a paid subscription. The deadline to subscribe is Sunday, March 17th.