

# Good Shepherd News & Notes

Fifth Sunday of Easter: April 28, 2024

3825 Wildbriar Ln., Lincoln, NE 68516

Church Office: (402) 423-7639

E-mail: [info@goodshepherdlincoln.org](mailto:info@goodshepherdlincoln.org)

Website: [www.goodshepherdlincoln.org](http://www.goodshepherdlincoln.org)

KNNA radio: 95.7FM or [www.thecross957.org](http://www.thecross957.org)

Services broadcast live Sundays at 8 am & 10:30 am  
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



## **HOW DO I KNOW I'M FORGIVEN IF I DON'T FEEL FORGIVEN?**

*by Rev. Todd Peperkorn*

Knowing and feeling are two different things, and neither one is faith. Knowing involves the head and how we think, while feeling involves the heart and how we perceive the world within and around us. Faith means trusting or relying on Jesus Christ.

When it comes to forgiveness, God forgives our sins for Jesus' sake, because of His work in dying and rising from the dead to atone for our sins. Jesus won forgiveness on the cross, and He now gives that freely to you and me as a gift. It is not simply knowing the right things or feeling the right way. Forgiveness is a reality given by God through His sacramental Word.

Easy to say; hard to believe sometimes though, isn't it?

As the saying goes, the devil is in the details. And the devil loves to cause us to doubt both God's Word and God's intentions toward us. If he can convince me that I do not know something, then I will doubt everything that is before me. If he can convince me that my feelings shape reality with God, then he can wage war against me using my emotions as his weapon.

God's Word provides a different picture. We read in John's Gospel, "And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld'" (JOHN 20:22-23). Notice that Jesus says the apostles actually forgive sins. It is not a reminder. It is not simply assurance. God authorizes them to release — forgive — sins. That's the gift.

Because God gives this forgiveness to us by His Son through the church, we receive this reality by faith, even if we may not always feel it. God remains steadfast, regardless of our fickle hearts: "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" (PSALM 73:26).

All of us have times when we doubt. All of us have times when we feel as though God hates us or that we are not loved or worthy. In such moments, flee to God's Word and Sacraments. This is where we hear the Gospel. This is where God draws us back to our Baptism and gives us His own Son for the forgiveness of sins in the meal. And this reality is greater than our hearts or minds:

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. (I JOHN 3: 19-20).

*The Lutheran Witness (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO) Aug. 2021*

## **KNNA LUTHERAN & COMMUNITY RADIO**

Good Shepherd's radio station (KNNA-LP 95.7 FM) provides both Lutheran and community broadcasting. The vast majority of the programming is Lutheran and theology-based (about 80%). There are also many programs that are community oriented. You can hear regular updates from the Nebraska Game and Parks, local sports information and programming, as well as several music programs like When Music Was Music, Classical Kitchen, and Soundscape Journeys. If you are not able to receive KNNA on your radio, you can also listen on the internet at [www.thecross957.org](http://www.thecross957.org). Thanks for listening!



## **MAY MISSION PROJECT: APPLE OF HIS EYE MISSION SOCIETY**



Rev. Jordan Peiser will be preaching and leading Bible study on Sunday, May 5th to introduce one of Good Shepherd's newest mission projects. In order to witness effectively and lovingly, it is important for non-Jewish people to understand the foundation of what Jewish people believe today. Rev. Peiser will help us to understand this process and will tell us about how the mission society works to show a person how Jesus fits the Old Testament prophecies and is the Jewish

Messiah. Everyone is invited to come to services and Bible study to hear about this opportunity for ministry to God's chosen people.

## **"LUTHERANISM IN A POST-CHRISTIAN AMERICA"**

Registration is now open for Luther Classical College's annual Christian Culture Conference. The dates for the conference are Tuesday and Wednesday, **June 4th and 5th**. It will be located at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1240 S. Missouri Ave., Casper, WY 82609. Presentations are as follows:

"Wokism and Post-Christian America"

"The Lutheran Family: Past and Future"

"Necessary Masculinity in Post-Christian America"

"The Role of Luther Classical College in Post-Christian America"

"Campus Free Speech is not Enough"

"Tyranny's Assault on the Family: Church and State in Post-Christian America"

Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer

Dr. Allan Carlson

Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer

Dr. Ryan MacPherson

Dr. Scott Yenor

Dr. Scott Yenor

Rev. David Ramirez

Rev. David Ramirez

For more information or to register, please go to <https://www.lutherclassical.org>.

## **CHURCH WORKER SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students from congregations in the Nebraska South District who are studying to be full-time church workers (pastors, teachers, musicians, directors of Christian education, and deaconesses) are encouraged to apply for the LWML Scholarship. Scholarships up to \$1,000 will be given for the 2024-2025 school year. The scholarship forms are online at <http://www.lwmlnesouth.org/scholarships>. All applications must be postmarked or sent via email on or before May 1, 2024.

## **FOUND**

A car key was found on Tuesday, April 16th outside the south doors of the church. If you have lost one please contact the church office at (402) 423-7639.

## **LINCOLN MARATHON**

The Lincoln Marathon and Half-Marathon will be run on Sunday, May 5th. Runners will be at Nebraska Parkway and 27th St. between 7:40 am and 9:45 am. Your route to church may need to be altered depending on where you live. To check the route and estimated times at the checkpoints, google: Lincoln Marathon.



## 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 (1)
- **Leena Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, with continued medical issues (4)
- **Elaine Egner**, that her chemo and radiation treatments would be successful (3)
- **Jerry & Lori Sidlo**, dealing with continuing health problems (2)
- **Irma Brandt**, in hospice care (1)
- **Terry Fitzgerald**, recovering from surgery (6)
- **Irene**, friend of Linda Clark, being treated for lung cancer (5)
- **Grady Schutz**, great-nephew of Linda Clark, having medical issues (3)
- **Dee Crisler**, with health issues (1)
- **Linda**, healing for health issues (4)
- **Karen**, daughter of Barb Kumm, dealing with health issues (4)
- **Barb**, a friend of Shelley Kurtzer, Barb Proescholdt, and Loraine Harnett, in treatment for cancer (3)
- **Brianna Merriman**, great-granddaughter of Rich & Lorelee Novak, dealing with health and adjustment issues. (3)
- **Georgia Deubler**, recovering from shoulder surgery (2)
- **Jim & Peggy Cather**, dealing with health issues (3)
- **Rita**, mother of Rich Lichtenfeld, recovering from surgery (3)
- **Janine Melton**, sister of Bob Rathjen, having medical tests (6)
- **Marilyn Meyer**, for a successful medical procedure on May 1 (1)
- **Shirley Kalina**, experiencing health issues (2)

- **Sarah Stepp**, thanksgiving that issues regarding Rx insurance are resolved. Pray that her new prescription would be effective for her EOE. Pray also that her celiac disease would continue to be responsive to just a gluten-free diet (1)
- **Thanksgiving for the baptism of Lilliann Marie Etherton**, during the 8 am service on Apr. 21st (2)
- **The family of Elaine Egner**, whose son-in-law , Joe Brosh, was taken to his eternal home . (2)
- **The family of Sharon Burke**, who was taken to her eternal home last week. Funeral was on Friday, Apr. 19 (2)
- **The family of Don Wiese**, who was taken to his eternal home recently (3)



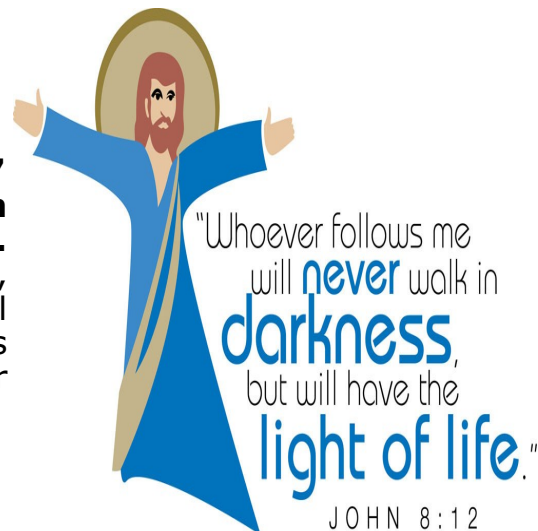
## OWLS—FUN & FELLOWSHIP

That is: Older, Wiser Lutheran Seniors. The OWLS fun & fellowship group will meet this **Friday, April 26th at 2 pm**. Bring a drink for yourself and a snack to share. Last month we learned how to play Hand and Foot and also played Pitch and Mexican Trains. Please feel free to join in the fun and enjoy some great fellowship. The more the merrier. For more information please contact Marilyn Meyer or Linda Reigle.

# Good Shepherd News & Notes

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— James 1: 17

**“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.** God is the source of all goodness. When we do good, therefore, we imitate Him and reflect His light to all the world. Christians give freely because God has first given to freely to us; we are only imitating our Father, growing up into His likeness.



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

(April 28 thru May 4)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Terry Fitzgerald (sorry we missed last week)

Allison Fredrick	Andrew Wood
Georgene Duer	Everett Beed
Anna Eisenmann	Cindi Olson
Chelsea Wilson	Eric Beed

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

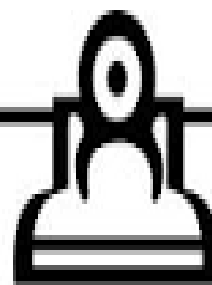
Lance & Kim von Rentzell  
Terry & Deb Princ

## LIFE MOMENT

It is anxiety and fright that drive folks to pursue abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and other measures that view death as a solution. Fear likewise bullies the sanctity of life into silence. But the Lord's perfect love puts all fear to flight (I John 4: 18). In surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis, we and our neighbors need not independence and empowerment but the presence, promises, and compassion of the Father Almighty.

## OUTDOOR CLEANUP; MULCH APPLICATION

On Saturday, May 4th beginning at 9 am Good Shepherd members will be sprucing up the outdoor property. Volunteers, please bring your wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, pruners, gloves and green thumbs. Mulch will be provided. All assistance with this project will be greatly appreciated.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
APRIL 21, 2024

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:  
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:  
WED, APRIL 17: 79  
THURS: MATINS: 39  
SUN., APRIL 21: 248

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:  
\$ 10,664.25

OUR OUTSTANDING MORTGAGE: \$ 1,636,542.68

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 Jan 1 & April 21 2024  
We have received  
\$ 30,688.04  
in principal only gifts.

Vicarage Fund Jan 1 — April 21,  
2024:  
\$ 24,117.00

## **SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:**

**DOORKEEPERS:** (Sun., April 28): 8 am: Stehlik  
10:30 am: Olson  
(Wed., May 1):

**ELDER TODAY:** (Sun., April 28): Dale Meyer  
(Wed., May 1): Dale Meyer

**USHERS:** (Sun., April 28) 8 am: Stepps, R J Huff, Kaldahl  
10:30 am: Klutzes, Fitzgerald, Eckhoff  
(Wed., May 1):

**ACOLYTES:** (Sun., April 28): 8 am: Job Ehrich  
10:30 am: Brantley Reinke  
Wed., May 1): R J Huff

**ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT:** (Sun., April 28): Brittani Jackson  
(Wed., May 1): Ingrid Ehrich

**COMMUNION SET-UP:** (Sun., April 28): Ella Moline  
(Wed., May 1): Karen Huff

**COMMUNION CLEAN-UP:** (Sun., April 28): Nancy & Sarah Stepp  
(Wed., May 1): Karen Huff

**COFFEE SERVERS:** (Sun., April 28): Andrew & Jeana Wood

### **"BUILDING FAITH IN THE HOME"**

The next class in this series of parenting sessions will be a continuation of "Sexuality and Chastity." Pastor Moline will lead this session on April 28th following the 10:30 am service. A taco/nacho bar and drinks will be provided for lunch. **Please bring a side or dessert to share.** The children will be able to participate in board games in the classrooms again while the parents meet with Pastor in the fellowship hall for the class after lunch. Contact Jerika Perrin with any questions at (402) 525-2379.

### **ACELC CONFERENCE**

You are invited register for the ACELC Conference at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kansas City, MO on June 18-19, 2024. A range of presenters will offer their perspectives on the issues facing the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. Check the ACELC (Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Churches) website for updates on speakers and topics and for registration details.

### **POSITION OPENING**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is looking for a full time Congregational Administrative Assistant. Wide range of tasks including weekly bulletins and newsletters, scheduling visits for the pastors, answering phones and a variety of other tasks as assigned. Will work closely with the pastors in the administration of the congregation. Candidates need to be friendly, outgoing, and able to show discretion. Familiarity with Microsoft Office, database software and Google products required. Pay is \$15.40 per hour. Please submit a resume' or ask questions to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3825 Wildbriar Ln., Lincoln, NE 68516 or email to info@goodshepherdlincoln.org.

## **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 Burke (Bailey Pointe)  
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)  
Brent & Cherie Travis (at home)  
Francine Poppe (Azria Health, Central City)  
Marvin & Joyce Thompson (The Woodlands)

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. Beginning on **April 21st** there is a card available for **Brent & Cherie Travis** as they celebrate their **22nd anniversary**. This card will be available to sign until **Sunday, May 5th**. Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.

## **APRIL MISSION PROJECT: LUTHERANS IN AFRICA**

There are millions of Lutherans in Africa. There are more Lutherans in Ethiopia than there are in the entire United States...but most of these Lutherans are Lutheran in name only. Rev. James May founded Lutherans in Africa in 2010 and started teaching Lutheran doctrine to the Lutherans in Africa. Now Rev. May and others are teaching Lutherans about Luther's Small Catechism. LIA has also partnered with the Lutheran Heritage Foundation which translates teaching materials.

## **ISSUES, ETC. "MAKING THE CASE" CONFERENCE**

There is a great speaking lineup for the 2024 Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference on Friday, July 12 and Sat., July 13 at Concordia University Chicago. Speakers include Riley Gaines (All-American Swimmer), Mark Hemingway (RealClear Investigations), Mollie Hemingway (The Federalist), Aaron Renn (The American Conservative), Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller (Has American Christianity Failed?), Pastor Chris Rosebrough (Fighting for the Faith), and Pastor Will Weedon (The Word of the Lord Endures Forever). Early Bird Registration is \$140 and includes 3 meals. Attendance is limited to 500. Register at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org).

## **VICARAGE ASSIGNMENT/CALL DAY EVENT**

The Vicarage Assignment/Deaconess Placement service was held at Concordia Theological Seminary on Tues., April 23rd at 7 pm. Good Shepherd's vicar for the Aug. 2024 — July 2025 year will be Trevor Flanick. Trevor is married to Rebekah and they are parents of 3 boys & 2 girls.

In addition, some of our former Concordia University students have also received their vicarage assignments. They are as follows:

James Gramzow (Jill) to Grace Lutheran, Naples, FL  
Carter Thorman (Joanna Sherrill) to Zion Lutheran, Imperial, NE  
Nicholas Totenhagen (Kacy Meyer) to St. James Lutheran, Howard Lake, MN

Please keep these men and their families in your prayers as they finish this academic year and transition to their vicarage congregations.



## MATH TOOL AVAILABLE

A former teacher living in the neighborhood has donated a math tool kit by Cortensen Co. to Good Shepherd. It is helpful in teaching additions, subtraction, multiplication and fractions. Since it is too advanced for the Little Learners Preschool which occupies our basement currently, perhaps a homeschool family would find it useful. You can check it out in the church office if this is something that would be helpful to your family. Questions? Contact the church office at (402) 423-7639.



***"The value of life does not depend upon what we are able to do but upon what God has done — created, redeemed, and called us (Isaiah 43: 1)."***  
~ Lutherans for Life ~

## SECOND ANNUAL SUMMER PARK TOUR



All families are invited to join us on our Second Annual Summer Park Tour. We plan to hold park dates every other week through the summer at various locations. These park dates are a great opportunity for fellowship and fun. Parents get an opportunity to chat while the kids run around and play.

Our first park date will be May 7, 2024 from 10 am to noon at the neighborhood park located at 1050 Oakview Drive in Hickman. Feel free to bring your own picnic and stick around for lunch.

We will also be gathering for a park date on May 21, 2024 from 10 am to noon at Mendoza Park in Lincoln. There is a sidewalk entrance near Blackstone and Benziger. The sidewalk is between houses on the west side of Blackstone. From there, you walk down the path to the playground. There is a shelter with picnic tables near the playground. Please feel free to bring your own picnic and stick around for lunch.

Information about future summer park dates will be disseminated by text message. Please contact Amanda Civic at (402) 304-6620 with any questions, or to be added to the summer park dates text message group.

***Most bad choices have immediate positive results but long-term negative consequences. Most positive choices have immediate negative results but long-term positive consequences. Watch your choices!***

***Good works are what a Christian does when he/she realizes that he/she doesn't have to DO anything.***

***"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."***  
~ Ronald Reagan ~