

Good Shepherd News & Notes

Sixth Sunday After Trinity: July 7, 2024

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KNNA radio: 95.7FM or www.thecross957.org
Services broadcast live Sundays at 8 am & 10:30 am
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Historical Questions with Pastor Moline

On October 7, 2023, a group of terrorists initiated an ongoing war in the Holy Land. This war has sparked many questions to Pastor Goodroad and I about the state of Israel. Is the Israel of today the Israel of the Bible? Isn't Palestine their land? (insert whichever noun you wish for the word "their"). Should we as Christians support one side or the other in this conflict?

As is often the case, there are no easy answers in a sinful world. My goal here is to show you why by examining the history of one city in particular – Jerusalem.

Historically, Jerusalem is one of, if not the most fought over city in history. By some counts, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands through warfare some 40-50 times. There isn't space to cover all of these in a News and Notes article, so I'll try to summarize. Note, that while these are specific dates, there is a great deal of overlap as peoples changed. Things are not cut and dry in the annals of history, so we'll paint with a wide brush. One item to keep in mind: There is a distinct difference between temple period Judaism, and modern Judaism. Israel from today isn't Israel from the bible, even if they are distantly related. Don't equate Israel in the bible with Israel today.

From c. 2000 BC to c. 1000 BC, Jerusalem was under the control of the ancient Canaanites, specifically, the Jebusites. During this time is the life of Abraham, (Gen. 22) and the Exodus and Conquest (c. 1450 BC). C. 1000 BC is the time of King David, who conquered Jerusalem and made it his capital and spiritual center. It is at that time that the city comes into the control of the ancient Israelites. These Israelites were the descendants of Abraham, and they controlled the city until 586 BC. In 586, the city was razed by Nebuchadnezzar and only the poorest were left in the city ruins. In 539, the Jews returned and re-founded Jerusalem as a Jewish city, but one under the control of the Persian Empire. In 331, Alexander the Great conquered the Persians, and Jerusalem came under Greek control, but remained Jewish. In 167 BC the Jews revolted from the Greeks under the Maccabees, and established an independent Hasmonean dynasty. This kingdom existed until Pompey the great subjugated the Jews to the Romans in 63 BC.

Jerusalem existed as a Jewish city under Roman rule until 135 A.D., at which time Emperor Hadrian outlawed Jews from living in Jerusalem following the Bar Kochba revolt. At that same time, Christianity was on the rise. Jerusalem was officially a pagan city, Aelia Capitolina, until the time of Constantine the Great in 325. However, it should be noted, that more and more Christians were living in Jerusalem during this time frame. Jerusalem remained Roman and Christian until it was conquered by the Islamic Umayyad Caliphate in 637.

During the crusades, the city became Christian again. In 1099 it fell to Crusaders, but again in 1187, it fell to Islam. It remained under Islamic control, but with a healthy Christian population, until the Zionist movement began in the late 1800's. In 1948, the modern state of Israel was established as a result. This followed the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in WWI, and the end of the British Mandate period. (see page 2)

This information can be summarized in two ways, politically and theologically. For this, I will also be making a distinction between "Temple Judaism" which is what we see in the Scripture, and modern "Synagogue Judaism" which is what exists today. I'll draw this line at 33 A.D., when Christ fulfilled the need for the temple, but many others would draw that line in 70 A.D., when the temple was destroyed by the Romans. It is also worth pointing out that my theological numbers are "very blurry." Unity in faith across an entire society is rare throughout all history, so it is difficult to measure. See my summary chart.

So what do we learn? There is no good historic argument to be made on who *should* control Palestine politically or theologically. Today's country of Israel is separated by 1900 years from the Biblical Israel. One shouldn't make modern political decisions based upon an assumed history! The actual history is actually much more complicated than is depicted on the news. As a Christian, you are free to support one side or the other, but have no obligation to one side *because* of your faith. As with all nations, kingdoms rise and fall, but the Word of the Lord remains forever.

Who has been hurt by the wars that have afflicted Palestine over the years? Christians. Christians had lived in Palestine since the first century, but in the last few decades they have been driven out by the constant conflicts in the area. There are in fact very few Christians remaining in Palestine today. That is the true tragedy that we ought to pray for now: that our brothers and sisters in the faith may not perish from the land our Lord walked. Peace in the holy land is to be sought for the sake of Christians who have lived there since the time of Christ. Additionally, we should not rejoice in the conflict that kills humans outside the Christian faith. Rather we ought to pray for their repentance and conversion to the Christian faith, and work towards that end, something that becomes impossible if they have killed each other in warfare.

Political Control	
Caananites	~1000 Years
Kingdom of Judah	414 Years
Babylonian Rule	47 Years
Persian Rule	208 Years
Greek Rule	167 Years
Hasmonean Jewish	101 Years
Roman Rule	700 Years
Pre Crusades Islamic Rule	462 Years
Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem	88 Years
Post Crusades Islamic Rule (Mamluk and Ottoman Periods)	731 Years
British Mandate	31 Years
Modern Israel	76 Years
Theological Control	
Canaanite religion	~1000 Years
Temple Judaism	~987 Years
Roman Paganism	~255 Years
Christianity	~348 + Years
Islam	~1187- Years
Modern Judaism	76 Years

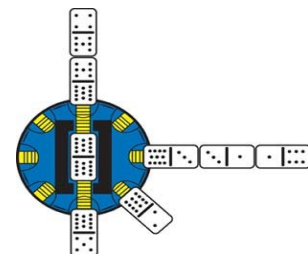
DID YOU KNOW?

KNNA-LP 95.7 FM The Cross plays the Sunday morning Divine Service in its entirety every Sunday at 8 and 10:30 am. Did you know that the Sunday service is also replayed every Sunday at 7 pm? You can also listen to the Wednesday 6:30 pm service live. Most of the special services, including funeral services, are broadcast live as well. If you cannot be here in person, consider listening on KNNA. If you cannot listen on your radio, you can also access the services on the KNNA website at www.thecross957.org. Thanks for listening!

OLDER WISER LUTHERAN SENIORS

The OWLS fun and fellowship group will meet again on **Friday, July 5th at 2 pm** in the fellowship hall. Bring a snack to share and a drink or beverage for yourself. Some of the games we may be playing are:

- Mexican Trains — a game using dominos
- Pitch or other card games
- Hand and Foot — a card game similar to Canasta with more rules and more decks of cards
- Marbles and Jokers — a strategy game similar to Sorry but with a bigger game board and more rules



Or, bring your own favorite game to share. It is a great way to get to know some of the people in our congregation a little bit better. You are welcome to bring a friend if you like. Hope to see you on Friday.



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 (1)
- **Elaine Egner**, hospitalized following a stroke (1)
- **Jerry & Lori Sidlo**, dealing with continuing health problems (5)
- **Irma Brandt**, in hospice care (4)
- **Nancy**, sister of Ken Knaus, for healing of a broken ankle (4)
- **Georgia Deubler**, recovering from shoulder surgery (4)
- **Cherie Travis**, dealing with heart issues (3)
- **Rachel Wells**, sister of Hannah Swor, with ongoing health issues (3)
- **Pearl**, sister of Loraine Harnett, with ongoing health issues (2)
- **Ellie Mackey**, grand-daughter of Linda Clark, with an upcoming medical procedure (5)
- **Grady Schutz**, great-nephew of Linda Clark, with continuing medical issues (5)
- **Mike Rogers**, husband of Linda Clark's co-worker, who had a stroke (6)
- **Kelly Hanson**, friend of Karen Kammann, hospitalized in Kearney due to health concerns. (2)
- **Dale**, brother-in-law of Tish Loomis, recovering from a double knee replacement (4)
- **Arthur**, brother of Elaine Van Valkenburg, for healing of his broken ribs (4)
- **Greg Kurtzer**, home from the hospital and recovering (2)
- **Reva Von Busch**, recovering from surgery (4)

- **Lois Kirchhoff**, recovering from the removal of a kidney stone (5)
- **Glenna**, sister of Helen Snook, having health issues (4)
- **Bryan Prenosil**, recovering from hip surgery (4)
- **Amy Fitzsimmons**, recovering from surgery (2)
- **Thanksgiving as we celebrate the first anniversary of Pastor Goodroad's ordination(1)**
- **The family of Barb**, a friend of Loraine Harnett, Shelley Kurtzer, and Barb Proescholdt, who was taken to her eternal home this week (2)
- **The family of Harold Schmidt**, father of Rev. John Schmidt, who was taken to his eternal home recently (2)

PANTRY SHOWER FOR THE FLANICKS

Help us to welcome the Flanicks to Good Shepherd by filling their kitchen. Preferred pantry shower items are located on the whiteboard in the narthex. Take the tag(s) with the name of the item(s) you will be purchasing. After purchasing, place the item(s) on the table labeled "Pantry Shower for the Flanicks". Items will be collected through Sunday, July 28th.

HELP WITH MOVING IN

The Flanick family will be unloading the moving truck on Saturday, July 20th beginning at 9 am. If you would like to help them unload and get a bit organized, reserve this date. The address is 1901 S. 48th St.

Good Shepherd News & Notes

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— Matthew 5: 24
“First, be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” First things first: the Lord won’t be bribed by our giving. Our giving must flow forth from a faithful Christian life that receives Christ’s forgiveness and freely shares that forgiveness. Or, in other words, a good work isn’t a good work if it doesn’t flow from faith.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (July 7 thru July 12)

People celebrating birthdays are:

Nolan Novacek Emma Roblyer
Joyce Thompson Gabriel Buhr
Megan Lichtenfeld Angie Frerking
Loree Kirilloff Brantley Reinke
Anthony Pflanz Chloe Theewen

Couples celebrating anniversaries are:

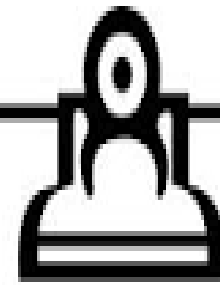
Dean & Darla Posner
Lavern & Beverly Obermeier
Kyle & Shelley Poore

LIFE MOMENT

We may think our prayers are small in relation to the magnitude of the problem of abortion. Not so! ... Educate yourself, your children, and the people you know ... Support leaders who embrace these words, “All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness ...” We have the most hopeful message the world has ever heard. You know it. God does big things with small stuff. How can we be so sure? Shiphrah and Puah, Jochebed, Miriam, and Moses ... and especially Jesus. Amen.

BOARD GAME DAY

Sunday, July 7th will be the next board game day at Good Shepherd. Bring your favorite game(s) and a snack to share and come to the fellowship hall at 2 pm. It will be an afternoon of fun and a chance to get to know some of your fellow Good Shepherd members better.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION
JUNE 30, 2024

WEEKLY BUDGET NEED:
\$ 11,184.00

ATTENDANCE:
WED, JUNE 26: 57
THURS: MATINS: 32
SUN. JUNE 30: 220

GENERAL FUND OFFERING:
\$ 4,576.00

OUR OUTSTANDING MORT-
GAGE: \$ 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 & June 30, 2024
We have received
\$ 33,148.04
in principal only gifts.

Vicarage Fund Jan 1 — June
30, 2024:
\$ 25,771.00

Painting Fund May 26—June 30
\$ 2,312.00

SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD THIS WEEK:

DOORKEEPERS: (Sun., July 7): 8 am: Higgins
10:30 am: Sidlo
(Wed., July 10): Stehlik

ELDER TODAY: (Sun., July 7): Dale Meyer, Curt Christiansen
(Wed., July 10): Curt Christiansen

USHERS: (Sun., July 7) 8 am: Kaldahl, Schnell, Wilkens
10:30 am: Perrin, Luebbe, Princes
(Wed., July 10): Schmidt, Pfeister, Stehlik, Eckhoff

ACOLYTES: (Sun., July 7): 8 am: Rhett Bauer
10:30 am: Sawyer Shubkagel
(Wed., July 10): Job Ehrich

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANT: (Sun., July 7): Brileigh Twarling
(Wed., July 10): YunA Kort

COMMUNION SET-UP: (Sun., July 7): Wendy Stepp
(Wed., July 10): Sue Stolcpart

COMMUNION CLEAN-UP: (Sun., July 7): Nancy & Sarah Stepp
(Wed., July 10): Sue Stolcpart

COFFEE SERVERS: (Sun., July 7): Harnett, Langemeier

THE DAVID PREUS FAMILY HOME-SERVICE RECONNECT VISIT

If you would like to reconnect with Pastor David Preus, Jenny and their family, they will be in the USA for a visit during mid-June—mid-July. Visit <https://locator.lcms.org/church> to contact the pastor or church about details for the time and location for the following opportunities closer to Lincoln, NE

July 7: St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, NE (308) 262-0424

July 9: Mission Central in Mapleton, IA at 1 pm

July 21: Trinity Lutheran Church in Vinton, IA (319) 472-5571

JULY MISSION PROJECT: FLOOD RELIEF FOR IOWA

We are changing our July Mission Project to meet some more immediate needs of our neighbors in Spencer, Iowa. The two LCMS congregations in Spencer count 71 families who are dealing with damage from the flooding. Rev. Kaldahl (father of Joel Kaldahl) has spoken with our Pastors about these needs ... and so we will be receiving donations to help meet those needs. Thank you for your help!

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

The church council minutes for May have been approved at the June meeting and are available on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and on the table in the narthex where you pick up your bulletin. Every month the minutes from the previous month will be made available.

COMING HAPPENINGS

Vicar Garrison's last Sunday will be August 11th. Details for the Vicar Farewell are still pending. Watch for the info.

Vicar Flanick will be installed on Sunday, August 18th. We will be welcoming him and his family at the church picnic sometime in September. Details are pending.

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) Anita Armitstead (at home)
Betty Bluhm (at The Grand Lodge) Irma Brandt (Yankee Hill Village)
Joe Burke (East Lake Flats) Jim & Marilyn Carr (at home)
Jim & Peggy Cather (Bailey's Point) Georgene Duer (at home)
Elaine Egner (at home) Verneda Gerdes (at home)
Shirley Kalina (address unknown) Arlyss Ketelsen (at home)
Janet Kniep (at home) Jerry Kohl (The Woodlands)
Tish Loomis (at home) Lynda Mahloch (Legacy Estates)
Dorian Merritt (address unknown) Brent & Cherie Travis (at home)
Cindi Olson (Country House) Francine Poppe (Azria Health, Central City)
Dean Posner (Good Samaritan, Beatrice) Marvin & Joyce Thompson (Moved to PA)
Alice Urbach (at home)

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 **June 26th** there is a card available for **Joyce Thompson** as she celebrates her **birthday** and **Dean & Darla Posner** as they celebrate their **anniversary**. There is also a card available for **Pastor Russert** as he celebrates **his birthday and the anniversary of his ordination**. These cards will be available to sign until **Sunday, July 7th**. Thank you to everyone who has taken advantage of these opportunities to stay in touch with our shut-in members.



MEET TREVOR FLANICK & FAMILY

Trevor Flanick was raised on a small farm in Maryland along with five brothers. He was baptized, catechized, and confirmed in the LCMS and was homeschooled throughout high school. After graduating, he attended Messiah College in PA, where he studied Criminal Justice and Psychology. Trevor also participated in Army ROTC to prepare for a military career; he met his bride, Rebekah, in college.

After marrying and graduating college, Trevor was commissioned as an active-duty Infantry officer in the Army. In the following nine-and-a-half years, they traveled and lived throughout the country. Stationed in Georgia, Alaska, and Kansas, Trevor spent some time overseas for deployments and training. In 2022, he left military service, moved the family to Ft. Wayne, IN and began the MDIV program at CTSFW. Trevor was blessed to serve as fieldworker at Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School the last two years.

The Flanicks have 3 sons: Gideon (6), Theodore (Teddy) (4), and James (2) and just welcomed twin girls — Constance and Caroline (7 months) — this past November, bringing the family up to 7.

Trevor will be completing his vicarage at Good Shepherd during the Aug. 2024 — July 2025 year. Please include Trevor & Rebekah and their family in your prayers as they transition to Lincoln, NE and Good Shepherd.