

The Voice
July 2017

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Wells
Worshiping: Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm & Sunday at 9:00 am

Summer Youth Activities

Summer Game Night & BBQ
Grades 7 & 8 (those who have completed)
Sunday, July 9 4:30-6:30pm

All youth who have completed grades 7 & 8 are invited to a gathering led by our fantastic Youth Directors and Pastor Mary. We will have devotion and worship, play some fun “Minute to Win It” style games and enjoy a BBQ meal with hot dogs & brats. You are invited to bring a friend. Please sign up on the sheet on the church office door in advance so we have enough food for all! Deadline to sign up: July 2.



Summer Game Night & BBQ
Grades 9 & up (those who have completed)
Sunday, July 9 6:00-9:00pm

All youth who have completed grades 9-12 are invited to a gathering led by our fantastic Youth Directors and Pastor Mary. We will have devotion and worship, play some fun “Minute to Win It” style games and enjoy a BBQ meal with hot dogs & brats. You are invited to bring a friend. Please sign up on the sheet on the church office door in advance so we have enough food for all! Deadline to sign up: July 2.

How can we help others who are hurting?

Sheryl Sandberg has been my teacher in recent weeks. Sheryl is the Chief Operating Officer at Facebook and the author of *Lean In*. Her latest book chronicles the lessons she learned following the sudden death of her young husband, Dave. I am reading her book, *Option B – Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy* and am learning more about how to live when your original plan in life, Option A, doesn't unfold as you had planned.



Sheryl and her husband, Dave, were parents of two school aged children when Dave died of a heart attack while vacationing. In her book, Sheryl explains that in the days following Dave's death so many people treated her in ways that were “all wrong.” She realized that no one really knows what to say to someone when tragedy strikes or when they are going through a hard time. We struggle with this, don't we?

Before she faced her own tragedy, Sheryl admits that she would often assure hurting friends that, “It will be okay,” thinking that hope was the most comforting thing that she could offer. After facing hardship, she realizes now that real empathy is sometimes not insisting that life will be okay but acknowledging that life is NOT okay.

Sheryl shares another great piece of advice when she says that far too often we greet a hurting friend by asking the simple question, “How are you?” It's a painful question to be asked when someone is hurting, suggests Sheryl, even when asked with the best of intentions. She says that when that question is asked, she wants to shout out, “My husband has died and now I'm parenting my kids alone, how do you think I am?” Instead, Sheryl says it helped to have people shift that greeting question to, “How are you today, Sheryl?” She explains that when she hears that greeting, it seems as if the person realizes that the best she may be able to do is get through one more day.

When a friend or a loved one has faced hardship and is realizing that their original plans for life are not unfolding as they dreamed, we often promise that we are praying for them. I hope that we also realize that we are in their lives to be the answer to prayers, as well. Pray for someone in need...but then do something more, like: Show up, be there for them, bring them a meal and listen. We are the hands and feet of Christ and have the opportunity every single day to ease the burdens of others.

See you in worship, as together we learn more about how God can use you to help others through some of the biggest challenges of life...Pastor Mary

Pastor's Whereabouts

Day's Off: most Fridays and Saturdays

Continuing Education (California): July 15 – July 23

Vacation: July 12 – 14; July 24-30 (Pastor Mary returns to the office on July 31)

Church Auction

A special thank you to all who attended the church auction Tuesday - to those who donated, bid and purchased items and to the youth for the great meal. It was a fun evening and raised over \$7,500 for the church and youth. The proceeds were split evenly and donated to the Good Shepherd General Fund and the youth attending the 2018 National Youth Gathering.

Service Group 9

Will be serving in the month of **August**. Service Group will sign up for jobs on Wednesday and Sunday, July 5 & 9, 2017. Members are encouraged to sign up for several things. Please note that though children are not mentioned by name, they are an important part of the service groups. All members of the Service Group are encouraged to be in prayer for their church and its pastor.

Marlene & Gary Kauffmann	Ray & Charlene Harris	Arlyss Schroeder
Jeff & Paula Amy	Kereen Johannsen	Dennis & Elaine Sellner
Carol Aske	Carol Lackey	David & Karen Skellenger
Scott & Candy Berg	Barry & Sara Lutteke	Jeremy Staloch
Velma Brandt	Angela McCormick	Dean Steckelberg
Luverna Brown	Jason Niebuhr	Lyle & Sharen Stern
Dennis & Nancy Bruckhoff	Taylor Ovrebo	Matthew Stern
Dorothy Christenson	Milton & Gwen Peterson	Chelcie Tolzmann
Carolee Fletcher	Sharon Roessler	Gordon & Margaret Treptow
Bonnie Groskreutz	Brian & Jessica Schrader	Angela Voigt



Join us on Wednesday, July 19 at 11:00 a.m. to hear Kristi Feist tell about her journey to becoming the owner of The Humble Heart. She will share information about what her store offers. A lunch will be provided by the July service group. Everyone 55 and older is invited to attend.

June Ministerial Acts:

Funeral: 6/10 Wilma Thisius

Baptism: 6/21 Damian Wiess Mathison, son of Molly Todd and Chas Mathison

ELCA Missionary in Chile Visiting Good Shepherd

Karen Anderson will be with us for the 9 a.m. worship service on Sunday, July 23, 2017. Karen is a terrific speaker and enjoys meeting with the Minnesotans who support her work. Karen grew up in Owatonna and her family has a cabin near Elysian-so we are her people! Come hear Karen speak and visit with her after the service during the coffee hour. The Global Mission team would love to fill the pews. Spread the word—all are welcome.



Wednesday Nights at Good Shepherd

Wednesday Night Supper

Served 5:00–6:00 p.m.

KIDS EAT FREE every week! *Kids who are in 12th grade and under eat free!*

Adults: Suggested donation of \$4. This continues to be an important ministry in our congregation.

Menus for July:

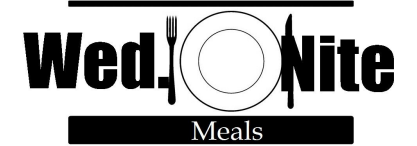
5 - Chicken/Lettuce Wraps

12 - Festag - NO Meal

19 - Smothered Brats

26 - Club Sandwiches

(Available each week for children: mac & cheese, hot dogs/chips, or PBJ sandwich)



Wednesday Night Worship

6:15–6:55 p.m.

Whether you are busy on the weekend or prefer a more casual worship setting, please remember that this alternative worship service takes place each week. Music is led by piano and vocal and the sermon each Wednesday is the same as the following Sunday.

Vacation Bible School was a Wonderful Success

This year we had a great group of 55 kids and helpers gather together for the Maker Fun Factory where we learned that God made us for a purpose. A special thanks to the crew leaders and rotation leaders and helpers who made the days of Vacation Bible School safe and educational and extremely fun. Beth Heggen was the leader for Vacation Bible School again this year and brought so much joy and excitement. Thank you for your leadership, Beth. Ruth Heggen designed and decorated the church, even though she had been hospitalized and at Parkview Care Center in the days before! Thank you for your artistic flair, Ruth!

Vacation Bible School ended with a program on the final day at 11:30 a.m., followed by a free hotdog lunch. Thanks to Shirley Lesto and her team for the great meal. Photos from the week are on both the church website (goodshepherdwells.org) and the church facebook page (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Wells, MN).



Good Shepherd Youth

Car Wash Sponsored by Youth Gathering Participants

Sunday, July 9 ~ 8:30-10:30am

The youth and adult leaders who are attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering are inviting the members of Good Shepherd to a Car Wash on July 9. The car wash will take place in the new parking lot right outside of the church offices. You are invited to get your cars washed before, during and after worship. Thanks for your continued support of the youth programs at Good Shepherd.



Summer Outdoor Movie Night

Grades 7 & up (those who have completed)

Friday, August 25 8:30pm-11:00pm

Put this fun event on your calendars! You may bring a friend. More details in future monthly newsletters.

Summer Movie Night

Grades 2 – 6 (those who have completed)

Sunday, August 27 7:30-10:00pm

Put this fun event on your calendars! You may bring a friend. More details in future monthly newsletters.



Adopt a Youth Gathering Participant

The youth and adult leaders who are attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas are up for adoption! If you or your family applies to adopt one of the Youth Gathering participants, you will get a certificate identifying your adoptee and will meet with them for a fun event before they depart for their June, 2018 trip. In addition, you will receive a postcard from them during their trip and then join them for another fun event after the Youth Gathering to hear all about the trip from them. Adoption applications are included on page 9 of this newsletter, in future bulletins and at the church office. Adoption fees are \$30 payable to Good Shepherd and the full amount goes toward Youth Gathering costs. Thank you for your ongoing support of youth programs at Good Shepherd!

Application to Adopt a 2018 Youth Gathering Participant

Your name: _____

Your mailing address (so we can send you a postcard!): _____

Cost to adopt one participant: \$30 (payable to Good Shepherd – please include with application)
Please leave application in the church office or offering plate.

Summer in the Psalms

During the month of July, the focus in worship will be on the book of Psalms. Psalms is sometimes referred to as the hymnbook of ancient Israel. The book is filled with prayers and songs that were used by the people of God in both good times and in bad. The people didn't have printed copies to read when they worshiped but sang them and prayed them from memory. Because the Psalms were written out of everyday life, they continue to speak to us thousands of years later; they give voice to some of our deepest joys and concerns. For six weeks of worship we will dig into the Psalms and search for its strength and passion. Remember that if you are away during the summer, you can worship on Wednesday or on live streaming through the church website (goodshepherdwells.org).



July Food Collection

During the month of July we will collect food donations of small jars of Salad Dressing, Mustard, Barbeque Sauce or Chili Sauce. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your generous donations in June of Jams and Jellies.

“Martin Luther Moments” begin in July

October 31, 2017 will mark the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. As we prepare for this significant Anniversary, “Martin Luther Moments” will be shared each week during worship starting in July.

July Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1-Larry Majeski
Kevin Schultze | 11-Kallie Rollenhagen
13-Gordon Martin, Jr.
Sue Vee | 22-Steve Voigt
23-Ron Wegner
24-Rachel Iverson
Dennis Sell |
| 2-Marlene Kauffmann
Bennett Korman
Kelsey Placek | 14-Jadelyn Niebuhr
Jonathan Trytten | 25-Megan Boeck
26-Maddex Niebuhr |
| 3-Mildred Sailor | 15-Megan Kruger
Bryan Schroeder | 27-LaVonne Linde
29-Ami Hart |
| 4-John Degner
Millie Halvorson | 18-Pam Baird
Jacob Billings | 30-Kristina Neubauer
Loren Vogelsang |
| 6-Elizabeth Hansen
Terry Schroeder | 19-Carter Schrader
Mason Schrader | 31-Arnold Carlson
LaVaun Schroeder |
| 7-Susan Kauffmann
Halie Stern | 20-Carter Hart
Jody Wegner | |
| 8-Jerelyn Eckhardt | 21-Deanne Mershon
Merrie Sorensen | |
| 10-Andrea Huper
Kereen Johannsen | | |



Women ^{of the} ELCA 

ALL NEW
Session 2: Ready or Not

Circles will not meet in July. Please read the Bible Study to discussed with the August Bible Study.

Looking Ahead...Kernel Days Medallion Hunt

For the second year in a row, Good Shepherd will sponsor a Medallion Hunt for Kernel Days. The event is fun for all ages. A medallion will be hidden on city property by the Monday morning of Kernel Days week. Clues will be posted each day on the outside doors of Good Shepherd, leading people to the hidden medallion. The first person to find and return the medallion to Good Shepherd will receive \$50 worth of Wells Chamber Bucks. Watch for the Medallion Hunt, which begins on Monday, August 14.



Summer Lunch on Wheels

This summer, the Wells Area Food Shelf has launched a new way to feed hungry children who are in the areas around the USC school district. Each and every weekday of the summer (except for July 4) sack lunches are handed out to youth in community parks in Wells (both parks), Easton, Minnesota Lake, Walters, Bricelyn and Kiester. By the second week of the program, more than 150 lunches were being distributed each day to youth who showed up at the parks.

Do you want to help feed hungry kids? Help is needed to assemble the lunches each weekday morning. If you would like to help assemble lunches, please contact Carol Aske 553-3538.

Pastor: Mary Iverson
C-507-420-6126
email-maryiverson@hotmail.com
Administrative Secretary: Andrea Groskreutz
Treasurer: Arden Breitkreutz
Organists: Jean Carlson
Custodian: Kent Stern
Office Hours: M-T 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
F-8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday
Phone: 507-553-3513
Fax: 507-553-6995
shepherd@bevcomm.net
www.goodshepherdwells.org
www.facebook.com/goodshepherdwells
(Please submit articles and pictures of events happening in the Church to the church office to be posted on the web site.)
Broadcast Cable Bevcomm TV Channel 7
at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday & 7:30 p.m. Wednesday

Ushers for July 2017

9:00 a.m. Russ & Nancy Elmer
Ron & Sandi Hartman

Bulletin & Voice Dates to Know:
Bulletin Articles are due Thursday *before 8:30 a.m.*

Voice Articles for August 2017 are Due July 14th.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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