

**The Voice**  
**June 2017**

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

# **CHURCH BENEFIT AUCTION**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Basement Social Hall

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

Auction begins at 5:00 p.m.

**Auctioneers:** Karen & Duane Bergemann

**Meal** starts at 4:45 p.m. and continues during auction and will be served by the youth going to the 2018 National Youth Gathering

Serving: Brat or Sloppy Joes

*See page 12 & 13 for a list of some of the items*

Call the church office at 553-3513 if you contribute an item or service.

Auction items can come to the church now or on the day of auction.



## ***Learning from the Youngest Among Us***

Sometimes I'm asked what I enjoy most about being a pastor. Without a moment's hesitation, I can tell you my favorite part of pastoring is to have a front row seat to seeing the people of Good Shepherd being the hands and the feet of Jesus in our world.



It was a Wednesday evening, early in May, when I stepped up to the altar to begin worship. As I shared announcements and invited the congregation to sing the first hymn, I had one of those moments that I love as a pastor.

I looked out in the congregation and watched a five year old worshiper leave his pew and cross the aisle to whisper to a woman who was sitting alone. The woman smiled at Hudson and then picked up her hymnal and purse and followed him to his pew. Hudson smiled as she sat by him for worship. I later confirmed my suspicions with Hudson's Mom after worship: her five year-old had invited a woman who was sitting alone to come and sit with him.

Ironically, the Bible Story at worship that night was from the book of Acts. In Acts, Luke paints for us a picture of what it looks like to be a follower of Jesus; what it is like to be the church. In so many ways, the sermon started and ended when Hudson got up and invited someone sitting alone to sit with him.

Too often we get the wrong idea that doing the "work of God" involves volunteering to be a missionary in China or donating all your earthly possessions to charity. Sometimes it takes the youngest among us to remind us that being a faithful follower of God can be as simple as inviting someone who is sitting alone at worship to sit with you, instead.

I didn't need to preach a sermon that night; in his brave kindness, Hudson did the job for me. You see, God wants us to act just like Jesus here on earth so that the "divine" is visible. What would Good Shepherd look like if we could all start being as welcoming and friendly as the little five year old Child of God? We will never change the world by simply going to church. We will only change the world by being the church...which is the visible body of Christ.

At the end of the day, our church and our community and our world will either be more compassionate or less compassionate because of your presence. It's your choice.

See you at worship, where we sometimes learn more about God from the five year olds...Pastor Mary

## Service Group 8

Will be serving in the month of **July**. Service Group will sign up for jobs on Wednesday and Sunday, June 7 & 11, 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.

<b>Carol &amp; Dave Jacobson</b>	Bonnie Knutson	James & Jackie Ramaker
Jeffrey & Linda Battey	Joel & Megan Kruger	Arnold & Marlene Schrader
Todd & Jolene Carlson	Deb Larson	Derek Schroeder
Chris & Reese Druckenmiller	Steven & Mary Jane Linde	Jessica Schroeder
Gale Gottberg	Dennis & Joan Morgan	Keith & Lacy Schroeder
Ruben & Ellen Groskreutz	Michael Niebuhr	Kim Stevermer
Elaine Grunzke	Ronald & Linda Niebuhr	Shelley Tibodeau
William & Lucy Harnack	Shaun & Lisa Olson	Jon & Allisha Trytten
Claire & Kim Johnson	Linda L. Possin	Pamela & Rollie Warmka
Kim Kastens	Kathryn Raimann	



Join us on Wednesday, June 21 at 11:00 a.m. in the Good Shepherd social hall for a concert by the 3 CDs. They are a group of retired choir directors from Blue Earth, Kiester and Bricelyn who enjoy sharing their love of music. Following the concert everyone is invited to share in the meal that is provided by the June service group. Everyone 55 and older is welcome to attend.

## May Ministerial Acts:

Funeral: 5/1 Evelyn McLain  
Burial: 5/19 Jerald Hiller



## June Food Collection

During the month of June we will collect food donations of Jams and Jellies. 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 May of vegetable oil, baking soda, baking powder, chocolate chips, etc.

## Wednesday Nights at Good Shepherd

### Wednesday Night Supper

**Served 5:00–6:00 p.m.**

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

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

Menus for June:

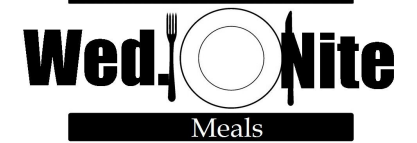
7 - Tortellini Pasta, Meat Salad

14 - Burgers with the works

21 - Turkey Commercial

28 - French Bread Pizza

*(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.

## Worship in June

### Father's Day Altar Parament

*Wednesday, June 14 & Sunday, June 18*

On Father's Day, the altar will display the special paraments designed by Shirley Lesto out of neckties from men of our congregation. Thank you, Shirley, for this special way to honor and thank the men in our lives and in our congregation.

### “Sharing Christian Compassion” Sermon Series

Jesus, whom we follow and model our faith, is often described as “The Compassionate Christ.” During worship in the month of June we will explore what it means for us as followers of Christ to reach out with Christian Compassion. According to the dictionary, compassion is the deep awareness of the suffering of another with the desire to relieve it. Together we will explore what the Bible describes as compassion and explore our call to be compassionate.

## Vacation Bible School Program & Lunch

Wednesday, June 7, 11:30 a.m.

The children who are a part of the Good Shepherd Vacation Bible School will present a brief program on the last day of VBS in the church sanctuary. All are invited to come and hear the kids sing some of the songs and all they learned about having a rock solid foundation of God's Love that will get them through even the darkest of times in life at MAKER FUN FACTORY. A free hot dog lunch is also served at noon in the church basement. Please RSVP for the lunch at the church office by Tuesday, June 6 at 9am. All are welcome!

## Guest Musicians

The Worship and Music Committee is grateful for the many people who have come forward to substitute as worship accompaniment. Throughout June, Mike Schrader will play the piano for most Sundays and Cindi Christensen will play the organ on Sunday, June 4. Connie Stenzel is the pianist every Wednesday in June. Thank you, all!

## Good Shepherd Youth

### A Holy Hot Dish Thank You!

In May the youth who are raising money to attend the 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas made and sold a variety of Holy Hot Dishes to the Good Shepherd congregation. The youth raised \$285. Thank you for your generous support!

## Big Shepherds

During the 2016-17 school year, 8 Good Shepherd 9<sup>th</sup> graders helped with the Wednesday School education program. A big thank you to Emma Beyer, Jacob Billings, Mikenna Erickson, Andrew Heggen, Kayla Nowak, Cody Paal, Halle Schrader and Ongelle Schroeder who were the fabulous "Big Shepherds." On April 30 a Big Shepherd Appreciation Day was spent with the Big Shepherds, Beth Heggen and Pastor Mary in Minneapolis.

## Good Shepherd Honors 2017 Graduates

The 2017 graduates were honored during worship on Wednesday, May 24. Please keep our graduates in your prayers as they move forward in life!

### High School Graduates:

- Zach Linde is graduating from United South Central. Zach plans to attend Winona State University. Undecided major but leaning towards Business Marketing.



- Sydney Niebuhr is graduating from Maple River. Sydney plans to attend St. Thomas University, St. Paul, Majoring in Pre-Pharmacy.
- Hayley Olson is graduating from United South Central. Hayley plans to attend Riverland Community College, majoring in photography.

## ELCA Youth Gathering

Preparations are underway for Good Shepherd youth to attend the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas, June 27-July 1, 2018. This event is a wonderful way for the youth to explore their faith and learn about being a part of a big church by worshiping and learning together.

We have a group who have already begun fundraising efforts and some wonderful Adult Leaders who have stepped forward to volunteer their time and leadership. It is not too late to sign up to go! The registration fee of \$30 is due at the church office by August 1, 2017 (please register and pay not and it is refundable to you through August 1). The second payment of \$40 is due on August 15, 2017.

Thank you, Good Shepherd, for supporting the youth in their fundraising efforts. Thank you for your ongoing prayers of support, as well!!

## Good Shepherd Youth

## 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.

## **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.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## **Synod Assembly Summary**

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly was held on May 6-7, 2017 at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN. Voting members came together from the 174 congregations of the synod for a two day gathering. Good Shepherd was represented by Sandy Coats, Sandi Hartman and Pastor Mary Iverson. The theme this year was “Equipping congregations to follow Jesus into a changing world.” A change this year was that the gathering was held only on the weekend, which allowed for many more young people to attend.

ELCA Pastor Rev. Gladys Moore, from New Jersey, was the keynote speaker on Saturday, speaking specifically on facing racial diversity in a changing church. She also participated in a panel

discussion about embracing racial diversity.

On Saturday afternoon we each attended two workshop sessions as a part of the Learning Event. All three Good Shepherd representatives attended and appreciated a panel discussion led by High School youth, explaining why they have remained active in their ELCA congregations following confirmation. They described for us what their vision of the future church looks like.

Dr. Eric Barreto led a Bible Study on the book of Acts and Dr. Stephen Bouman shared a message from the ELCA Churchwide Office in Chicago.

Voting took place at the Synod Assembly. The 2018 budget was passed. Elections took place for a variety of synod committees. Four resolutions presented to the assembly all passed. Those included a Minimum Salary Guideline for Clergy, a resolution in support of Palestine, a resolution changing the synod documents, making use of the words “Mission Support” in place of “benevolence” and a resolution to amend the Model Constitutions for Congregations.

Next year’s assembly will be held at the Verizon Center in Mankato the first weekend in May. The theme in 2018 will be “Accompanying our Global Partners” and we will have guests from Tanzania, Colombia and South Sudan. We hope that new people might represent our congregation at the Synod Assembly next year...so start considering it now!

## **Your Global Mission Dollars At Work**

*Update from our Missionaries in Bogota, Colombia*

In 2016 we had a visit from a young couple, Curtis and Katie Kline who are missionaries in Colombia. In addition, we sent them \$1,250 in 2016 missionary support. They are completing their third year as ELCA missionaries.

Curtis Kline works with the Human Rights program in Bogota, with a large part of his work getting ready for a Peace Agreement, which was signed on November 30, 2016. Now his work focuses on planning with different churches on how to put the Peace Agreement into action. The Peace Agreement is very life-changing for the people in Colombia because it brings to an end more than 50 years of armed conflict between the Colombia government and the revolutionary armed forces. It is a historic time in the country and the Lutheran Church is helping bring the dream of peace to a reality.

Katie Kline works in the Christian Education Ministry, primarily working with leadership development and strengthening the Lutheran identity among its members.

Thank you, Good Shepherd, from Curtis and Katie Kline, for your very generous support of us and our ministry in Colombia!

## **2017 CHURCH BENEFIT AUCTION ITEMS - JUNE 13TH**

**(Items donated all ready)(More to come)**

Chinese Dinner for six at Wegner's

2 Sets of 1 Doz. Caramel Rolls - Lynne Hansen

2 reserved pews for 5pm Christmas Eve Service

3 One doz. ears of sweet com - Elmer Ehlert

2 Pairs of tickets to Mary Poppins -Chad Groskreutz  
 1 Doz. Pastor Mary's Lefse for Christmas  
 1 Doz. Sandi Hartman's Lefse for Christmas  
 2 Sets of Handmade Greeting Cards-Julie Forderer  
 2 \$25 Casey's Gift Cards  
 2 Pecan Pies - Kathy Ehlert  
 2 One Doz. Kringla - Jane Ewert  
 Hand made Clock - Mike Beckmann  
 Fresh Rhubarb Jam - Trudy Drugg  
 Organic String Cheese - Dennis Lutteke  
 1 Doz Organic Sweet Com - Dennis Lutteke  
 20 Blue Garage Bags for City of Wells - Milt Peterson  
 Brunch on the Bluff for 2 couples - Ron & Sandi Hartman  
 Pink Petals Floral Arrangement - Jenny Lutteke  
 Mystery Box - Brett & Dynette Niebuhr  
 Handmade Quilt - Good Shepherd Quilters  
 3 Doz Cookies - Edie Zabel  
 2 \$20 Dairy Queen Gift Cards  
 2 \$20 Subway Gift Cards  
 2 \$20 Wells Market Place Gift Cards  
 2 \$20 Jake's Pizza Gift Cards  
 2 \$20 Jenny's Pink Petals Gift Cards  
 Aunt Sally's Cookies - Barb Stensrud  
 2 Chanhassen Dinner Tickets for Grease  
 1 Hour labor on computer or TV - Jason Niebuhr  
 2 Hours Labor - Brad Heggen  
 5 10# Farm grown Hamburger - Russ Elmer  
 1 Doz. Lefse for Thanksgiving - Norma Corbin  
 Cheesecake each month - Kent Stem  
 Red Wing Pottery - Wilma Thisius  
 Chocolate Silk Pie - Myrna Boggess  
 Airplane Ride for 3 - Thisius Flying Service  
 2 Angus Beef Packages - Roger Groskreutz  
 2 4 Doz. Caramels - Nancy Elmer  
 3 Jars of Jeanette's famous Pickles - Jeanette Groskreutz  
 2 Rice Puddings - Karen Niebuhr  
 Fresh Strawberry Pie - Myrna Boggess  
 Gift Certificate Wells Market Place - Paula Nelson  
 Home Raised Chickens - Lyssa Warmka  
 2 5 lb pkg Pork Chops - Bill & Andy Groskreutz  
 2 hrs "Get-R-Done" - Gary Kauffman  
 4 Homemade Pies for each season - Linda Hagen  
 Gift Certificate at Jake's & 2 Movie Passes - Kathy Ayers  
 Load of Crushed Rock - Brian Ehlert  
 Framed Picture of Stefon Diggs - Minnesota Vikings



1 Gal. Homemade Ice Cream - Russ Elmer  
 ½ Hog delivered to Conger - Matt & Rachael Korman  
 ½ Hog delivered to Conger - Mike & Nicole Swanson  
 Homemade Jam - Myrna Boggess  
 2 Doz. Krumkake - JoAnn Ovrebo  
 Lawn Mowing & Trimming Arnie & Mike Schrader  
 Lawn Spraying - Arnie & Mike Schrader

### June Birthdays

2-Samantha Andrews	13-Trudy Drugg	24-Karen Carlson
Emma Heggen	15-Ben Huper	Linda Jacobsen
Julie Seedorf	Pat Stenzel	Katelyn Loegering
3-Gerald Ewert	Dianna Tatge	Cindy Schroeder
Cindy Ovrebo	16-Willard Huper	Jim Thofson
Jim Prust	17-Darlene Quade	25-Barb Fuchs
4-Ron Niebuhr	Jill Rollenhagen	Clarise Johnson
5-Emily Allard	18-Brady Berg	Nathan Mattick
Sandi Hartman	Bernice Lenort	Eldo Ovrebo
Dynette Niebuhr	Adriana Soto	Jessie Schrader
Jason Niebuhr	Bexley Wegner	Pearl Vedders
6-Paula Amy	19-Kylie Loegering	26-Kylie Niebuhr
7-Paula Nelson	20-Shirley Lesto	Bonnie Prust
8-Michele Beyer	21-Carolee Fletcher	27-Carol Jacobson
Linda L Possin	Ongelle Schroeder	Madison Loegering
Lorraine Sauer	22-Hailey Archer	Gwen Peterson
10-Kristin Morton	23-Ellie Buendorf	28-Jeanette Groskreutz
Riley Niebuhr	Isaac Ignaszewski	29-Tanner Steckelberg
11-Peyton Schrader	Gavin Schultze	
12-Logan Stangler		





# Vacation Bible School

## June 5-7, 2017

**4 Yrs. to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last School Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$5.00 per child or \$10.00 per family, amount paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program: Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 a.m. Free lunch following program. RSVP to the church office 553-3513 by 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Number planing to attend lunch \_\_\_\_\_

### Summer Lunch On Wheels (SLOW) *Coming Fast*

A new program organized by the Wells Area Food Shelf. It is designed to provide a little extra food to hungry kids in our area this summer, begins Monday, June 5 and continues every weekday through Friday, September 1.

All kids who come to parks during times listed below will take home a sack lunch at no charge. Please pass the word around to all those you know to help make the program successful.

For more information contact Carol Aske at 507-553-3538, Cynthia Matson at 507-294-3793, Linda Swehla at 507-340-5529 or Donna Weckwerth at 507-553-3234. Thanks!

\* Bricelyn City Park 12:30-12:45 p.m.

\* Easton Community Center 11:30-11:45 a.m.

\* Kiester City Park 11:45-12 noon

\* Minnesota Lake Park 11:30-11:45 a.m.

\* Wells Thompson Park (by water tower) 11:30-11:45 a.m.

\* Wells Half Moon Park 12-12:15 p.m.

\* Walters City Park 11-11:15 a.m.



### **Joy Circle**

June 1, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the Parlor

**Bible Study Leader:** Group

**Hostess:** Please bring a sack lunch

### **All New**

Session 1: Ready or Not

### **Love Circle**

June 27, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
291 1<sup>st</sup> ST SW  
Wells, MN 56097

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