

The Voice
November 2017

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

Mystery Dinner
Sunday, November 12, 2017
at 5:15 p.m.
Food and fellowship
See page 11 for more information.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22 ~ 6:15 p.m. See page 12.



What Would You Do?

The video caught my attention when it came across my Facebook homepage several months ago. The video showed a young man gathering a crowd around him in a shopping mall. As he gathered people he announced that he was going to surprise his girlfriend in just a few minutes with a marriage proposal. He showed them the ring he had in a box and he was dressed in a nice suit, all ready for the big event. He told the crowd of about one hundred people who gathered around him that he was 23 years old and ready for the best day of his life.



Soon, just as he predicted, his girlfriend came through the mall on her way to work. “Surprise,” the young man exclaimed to his shocked girlfriend. The video then showed the man get down on one knee and open up the ring box with the request, “Will you marry me?” The young woman stood still. She was speechless and then told him, “No, I can’t. I’m sorry, but I can’t marry you.” And then she walked away.

How did the crowd react to that turn of events? People laughed and hooted. Others had their cell phones out and taped not only the proposal, but continued to tape the rejection. They taped as the young heart-broken man was left alone by his former girlfriend.

And then, out of the crowd, one person stepped forward. Just one man out of the crowd of dozens stepped forward and helped the young man up off the floor and gave him a hug. He spoke kindly to the rejected young man and wished him well. The video showed no one else coming forward to the man.

It turns out that the video was a social experiment for a college class. The premise of the experiment was to test the theory that people today thrive off of failure, rather than celebrating success. The class had predicted that people would laugh at the rejection and that few would offer a hurting stranger some help. As it turned out, only one person helped the man up from his kneeling position.

As they predicted, the experiment showed that, far too often, people are more excited to see someone fall than to succeed. We have to do better than this! Each and every day may we find people to help up when they have been knocked down by the tough times of life. Don’t kick people when they are down. Don’t stand by and laugh at other’s hardships. Step forward and help others out.

And Jesus said, “they will know you are my disciples by your **rules, judgement, power, LOVE.**” (John 13:35).

See you in worship, where we get strengthen for our service as loving disciples, Pastor Mary

A Message From the Council President

How many of you know the song, “This little light of mine”? I should see every arm up! The words of that song says “This little light of mine. I’m gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.” Look around you and you will see that all the lights are on! And why are they on? Because of the offerings you give to keep them on. Not only the lights, but the heating and air conditioning too.

I want to share a few things with you.

Back in August, we had 5 new families join our church. Next month we will have another 4 or 5 new families join our church. These families came to meet us and then they decided to join us, and that is because the lights are on.

Last Sunday we had 10 students confess their faith in Jesus and decide to be confirmed into our church family. They were able to do that because the lights have been on throughout their education process.

Each Tuesday this building hosts the area food shelf in their efforts to assist hungry people and families. This would not happen if the lights were not on. We consider this part of our outreach to host the food shelf. Again, we guarantee the lights will be on every Tuesday.

Our Wednesday evening activities have continue to grow over the years. We now have around the same number of people attending the Wednesday night worship service as we have attending the Sunday morning service. If you have not attended a Wednesday evening service, you might be surprised to see how many children fill the front of the church for the children’s sermon. It really is unbelievable how many there are. And that is great news! Again, the lights are on!

We are fortunate to have a wonderful staff here, who are led by Pastor Mary, Andy Groskreutz, Kent Stern, Ardene Breitreutz, Beth Heggen, Jean Carlson and others all serve us and our children in one way or another to continue the work of Good Shepherd. And when I say “Good Shepherd”, I really mean doing the work of God. They are able to do their work because of the offerings given by you. Because they are here, the lights are on.

There are great things happening here at Good Shepherd. All of these things are happening because the lights are on. So, you may ask, where am I going with this?

As your current President, it is my duty to let you know that we are behind in our offerings to meet our budget for this year. Our general fund is currently behind over \$9,000.00. It is from our general fund that we pay for the lights to be on, and the heating and air conditioning and the payroll to our staff.

I would like to suggest that if you are a regular giver, maybe you would consider giving one extra donation. If you are someone who only gives on special occasions, maybe you would consider this a special occasion to give. Maybe you are a member that has not developed the habit of giving.

This might be the time to give a little and feel the satisfaction of doing your part. The lights are on. And because they are on, the church council wants to thank you for your offerings. Please consider helping us meet our budget this year, to keep the lights shining!

Sandi Hartman, Council President

Service Group 3

Will be serving in the month of **December**. Service Group will sign up for jobs on Wednesday and Sunday, November 8 & 12, 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.

Patsy Beckmann	William Huper	Sara Salisbury
Greg & Mary Alger	Gladys Johanson	Tony & Melissa Schumann
Kathryn Ayers	Gene Kauffmann	Mark & Julie Seedorf
Michael & Michele Beyer	Susan Kauffmann	Barb Stensrud
Michael & Nancy Christensen	Lisa & Travis Loegering	Daniel Tatge
Deb Colvin	Dennis & Diane Lutteke	Clifford Treptow
Vanessa Evans	Judy Melcher	Lisa Ulferts
Ben Groskreutz	Brian & Natalie Niebuhr	Allan & Mary Van Horn
Ronald & Sandi Hartman	Kurt & Melissa Niebuhr	Marcus & Kathryn Weyhrauch
Judy Harpestad	Irene Niebuhr	

Children’s Christmas Program

Both Sunday School and Wednesday School children will present a program during the 6:15 p.m. Worship on Wednesday, December 13th. All children grades k-6 who are interested in participating are encouraged to attend practice on the following Wednesdays from 7:00-7:45 p.m. in classroom 1 (near the church office), Nov. 8, Nov. 15, Nov.29 and Dec. 6. A special thanks to Amy Schroeder for directing the program

October Ministerial Acts:

Affirmation of Baptism - 10/15 Hope Garcia, Mariah Lutteke, Landan Magnuson, Kylie Niebuhr, Hannah Olson, Arianne Schaper, Cole Schroeder, Riley Staloch, Alyson Swanson and Riley Willner

In Christian sympathy - Aileen Meyer who died on Sept. 30, 2017

Lorraine Sauer who died on Oct. 23, 2017

Baptism - 10/22 Gavin Joel Gonzalez, son of Keith & Stephanie Miller
10/22 Walker David Miller, son of Keith & Stephanie Miller



Wednesday Nights at Good Shepherd

Wednesday Night Supper

Served 5:00–6:00 p.m.

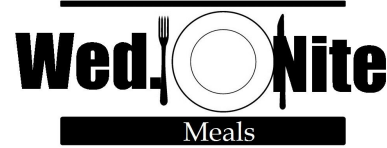
KIDS EAT FREE every week! *Kids who are in 12th grade and under eat free!*

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

Menus for November:

- 1 - Baked Chicken, Roasted Potatoes
- 8 - Chili, Corn Bread
- 15 - Scalloped Potatoes and Ham Dish
- 22 - NO Wed Night Meal
- 29 - Baked Potato Bar

(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.

Wednesday School

7:00–7:45 p.m.

Classes have resumed for students who are ages 4 through grade 6. Students should be dropped off or picked up in the class near the church offices. Make sure that a teacher is in the classroom before your children are left in the room. Students are encouraged to worship with their families before the class from 6:15 – 6:55 p.m. *Note:* No Wednesday School Class on Nov 22, 2017 (Thanksgiving weekend).

PB & J Class

Wednesdays 7:00-7:45 p.m. ~ Nursery

This is a new Wednesday School class for preschoolers who are 2 or 3 years old and a parent. Check it out! *Note:* No PB & J Class on Nov 22, 2017 (Thanksgiving weekend).

Confirmation Class

Wednesdays 7:00-7:45 p.m. ~ Church Social Hall

Confirmation Classes have begun for the 7th and 8th graders. Pastor Mary is leading the class and the focus this year is an overview of both the Old and New Testament. *Note:* No Confirmation Class on Nov 22, 2017 (Thanksgiving weekend).

Youth Events

Good Shepherd Greatest Chef Cooking Challenge

Ever see the cooking challenge shows on television, like Chopped? Come and be a part of a team and compete against others to prepare tasty food combinations to impress judges and help you win this cooking challenge. No cooking skills are required – if you like to eat, you will love this cooking event. Advanced sign up is required (on the church office door) and you may bring one friend! There is no cost for the event. The event will be held in the Good Shepherd Kitchen and Social Hall.



Grades 8-12 Sunday, November 5 2pm-5pm Sign up Deadline: Wed, Nov 1

Grades 4-7 Saturday, November 11 2pm-5pm Sign up Deadline: Wed, Nov 1

Fun, Fun, Fun at the Church ~ Grades K-3

Sunday, November 12 11am – noon

We will play some fun games together, have a devotion together and a snack will be served. Gather in the Good Shepherd Nursery (the one at the end of the educational hall by the kitchenette) for a fun time together with a Thanksgiving theme. The cost is free but we do ask you to sign up by Wednesday, November 8 on the sheet on the church office door.

Looking Ahead

In December the youth who are attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering will be accepting orders for ANGEL TREAT BOXES. Angel Treat Boxes are a wonderful assortment of homemade cookies, bars and other treats that are great for the holidays. They can be purchased to share with your family or to be given as a gift this holiday season. Proceeds will go to the youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. Watch for the upcoming weekly worship bulletins and the December monthly Voice newsletter for order forms.



New Choir Director Hired

Welcome to Sandi Hartman, who will begin serving as the director of the Good Shepherd Adult Choir. She is no stranger to the music ministry at the church, having directed “A Baby Changes Everything” at Christmas several years ago as well as “The Living Last Supper” on Palm Sunday in 2017. She is also the director of the new Seeking Him quartet. Thank you, Sandi, for leading the Good Shepherd Adult Choir this year!



Great reasons to join the Good Shepherd Choir

1. Choir gives us the opportunity to share in leading the worship.
2. You will gain another family that will appreciate your contributions.
3. You don't have to be a soloist- just blend with the group.
4. Research shows that singing in choir makes you happy and less stressed.
5. It's free and fun!
6. Our choir welcomes all ages over confirmation.
7. There is magic and beauty in choral singing.
8. Choir allows us to praise God with body, mind, spirit, and voice.

You are welcome to just come to any rehearsal on Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. We meet by the grand piano.



From the Time, Talent & Treasure Team

Who is this message for? Long time members, new members, people who worship Wednesday night, Sunday morning or only worship occasionally. This is for all ages. Young or old, or whatever age you think you are.

It is important to think about what you are receiving from attending church services and being involved in church activities. How is it helping to renew or build your faith in God? How can we individually help to extend the grace of Jesus to others? We can do this by using our Time, Talents and Treasures to help Good Shepherd Lutheran to continue and expand programs to teach about Jesus and God.

What is your talent? Maybe it is obvious and you know what it is. Maybe it is more subtle and a friend or family member recognizes it and you do not. It could be in the area of music or teaching. How about being on a service group? It could be as simple as greeting others or taking time to listen to someone and find out how their day is going. Your talent could be assisting someone in their time of need. The Time commitment is taking time to use your talents when it is convenient and when it is not convenient. That is a true commitment.

Treasures are your financial giving to keep Good Shepherd Lutheran vibrant and to be able to sustain and increase programs. Pray and think about increasing your financial support. These are the gifts God has given you and we are asking you to share to expand the teachings of Jesus.

During worship on Wednesday Nov.8 and Sunday Nov.12 you will have the opportunity to make a commitment for the year ahead. During the first week in November, watch for a mailing that will include a Time & Talent sheet as well as a Pledge Card. Please return both of these to the church on either Nov. 8 or 12. God is doing amazing things and through our congregation. Let's work together to make a difference through Good Shepherd this year.

Mystery Dinner

Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 5:15 p.m.

Food and fellowship

Come join us for a “night out” on November 12. All adults who attend Good Shepherd are invited to a mystery dinner. We will meet at the church at 5:15 p.m. and then car pool to the mystery destination for dinner. You will be required to pay for your own meal with the average cost of \$10-\$20 per plate. Hurry and sign up in the church office by November 5. There is a limit of 40 people.



November Birthdays

1-Paula Billings	11-Arla Sorom	Teah Trytten
Sandy Lorenz	12-Dale Thompson	Travis Loegering
Alyson Swanson	13-Danielle Drugg	21-Brennan Olson
Leigha Tolzmann	Lesley Richardson	22-Helen Gaines
2-Josey Schroeder	Lyssa Warmka	23-Brad Heggen
Renee Soto	Blair Wegner	24-Tom Hansen
Tracy Warmka	14-Myrna Boggess	Jim Korman
3-Cristian Soto	Harvey Malakowsky	Kendra Schultz
Rahj Soto	Irene Niebuhr	Brenda Soto
5-Marlene Sievers	15-Joanne Korman	25-Linda Battey
6-Jenny Lutteke	16-Bill Sievers	Grant Becher
Britt Wegner	17-Dylan Foley	Aiden Crabtree
7-Sara Lutteke	Matt Korman	Emily Malakowsky
Milt Peterson	Donna Mershon	27-Amos Boeck
9-Addison Larson	18-Lucy Harnack	29-Bob Bruegger
Zach Linde	Jim Stern	30-Sandy Bruegger
10-William Groskreutz	19-Amanda Garvick	Brylee Neubauer
Elise Theede	Erika Johannsen	Amber Placek



Christmas Wreaths will again adorn the Sanctuary at a cost of \$15.00. If you would like to purchase one or more in memory of a loved one please contact the church office soon, as there are 17 wreaths.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____



Join us for some Thanksgiving games and activities on Wed., November 15th at 11:00 a.m at the Broadway Apartments Everyone 55 and older is invited to join in the fellowship and share in the meal provided by the November service group.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22 ~ 6:15 p.m.

Good Shepherd will host a Thanksgiving Eve worship service during our weekly Wednesday evening worship. This year there is no community worship service in Wells. We will gather together to give thanks to God for our abundant blessings. Worshipers are welcome to bring a non-perishable food item for the Wells Area Food Shelf, as well. NOTE: There is no Wednesday Night Meal on November 22.

2017 Community Thanksgiving Dinner

The annual community Thanksgiving Dinner is being served here at Good Shepherd this year on Thurs., Nov. 23rd. We will be inviting people to donate dinner ingredients, time to prepare or help serve. Watch for sign up sheets at the church. Dinner is served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sign up sheets for volunteers and food donations are located on the table by the church office.

November Food Collection

During the month of November we will collect food donations of cinnamon and brown sugar. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your October donations of canned stews and soups that also went to the Food Shelf.





The Apostles' Creed
Session 3: I believe in the Holy Spirit

Joy Circle

Nov. 2, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the Parlor
Bible Study Leader: Group Study
Hostess: Please bring a sack lunch

Love Circle

Nov. 28, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
291 1st ST SW
Wells, MN 56097

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Wells, MN
56097
Permit No. 7

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor: Mary Iverson
C-507-420-6126

email-maryiverson@hotmail.com
Administrative Secretary: Andrea Groskreutz
Treasurer: Ardene Breitzkreutz
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

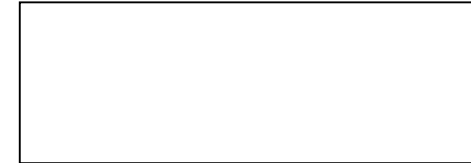
Ushers for November 2017

9:00 a.m. Dave & Chris Tatge,
Elaine Grunzke, Dave Skellenger

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

Voice Articles for December 2017 are Due November 16th.

Thank you for your cooperation.



The Voice
November 2017
Vol. 53 No. 11