

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (ELCA)
1325 North 45th Avenue East, Duluth MN 55804-1507

June/July 2015

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Spiritsong: Mama Mia!

We got it right! What do you do on a free Saturday evening in Duluth with our Honduran friends Martin, Rubi, Josefina and David? You watch *Mama Mia* with Spanish subtitles! Joyce and I thought we might have made a good choice when we heard Abba music playing when we arrived for dinner. Though none of our friends had seen this movie, they obviously loved the Abba tunes. Experiencing the music together that night was such a delight! OK, the plot is pretty spare, a thinly veiled excuse to celebrate the music. But what music! Josefina and Rubi anticipated each song, and sang along exuberantly, often with squeals of laughter accompanying a full bodied expression of Latina rhythm. *Dancing Queen* (my favorite!), *Mama Mia*, *SOS*, *Waterloo* and all the others brought us together across language, age and cultural boundaries. We celebrated a fresh experience of our individual histories in a joyful shared evening. We created a memory! Music has the power to touch our souls and bring us together.

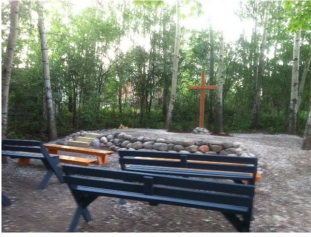
The next morning in worship Rubi and Josefina were sitting next to me. As Christa and Steve gifted us with *Padre Nuestro*, my Honduran sisters could not help but sing along. What a memory! Hours later Josefina was still humming *Cantad al Señor*. She officially requested that *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* be sung at her funeral. Music has the power to touch our souls and bring us together. Liturgical scholars tell us that the music of the liturgy and hymnody carries the Word of God into our hearts. This is most certainly true!

Christa Overson, Debbie Sanders and our Experiencing God team have designed a summer worship experience for all ages called Spiritsong. Beginning June 10 we will gather on Wednesday evenings in the outdoor worship space to celebrate Night Prayer, Holy Communion, and our favorite songs! Please share a piece of music that has been important to you. We will be developing a Spiritsong Playlist of Good Shepherd tunes! Music has the power to touch our souls and bring us together!

Singing a new song,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Mason".

Pastor Dave



Music is able to touch our hearts when words fall short. Music connects us to the deepest parts of our faith in God, often guiding us when we are overcome by doubt, grief, and fear. Music is one of the ways that God comes to us as the Good Shepherd when we walk the darkest valleys. Mirroring the 23rd Psalm, Henry David Thoreau said,

“When I hear music, I fear no danger. I am invulnerable. I see no foe. I am related to the earliest times, and to the latest.” Music keeps us connected to that which is eternal and beyond our understanding.

Our summer worship is dedicated to these questions: How has music shaped your faith? When was a time when music helped you cope with a crisis, overcome a challenge, or celebrate the beauty of life? How has God used music to touch you when words fell short?

We hope to answer these questions in two ways:

- Through worship on Wednesday nights—we are looking for speakers for each Wednesday evening to share a short talk about how music (either a particular song or music in general) has shaped your faith.
- Through members submitting a particular piece of music and brief testimony in writing (a few sentences, a paragraph, or as long as you’d like) which will be added to a “LCGS Playlist.” Submissions can be anonymous or with a name.

The details:

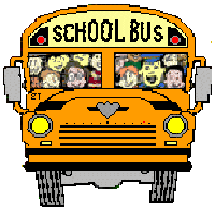
WORSHIP:

- **Worship and Holy Communion is Wednesday evenings at 7 pm, on June 10, 17, 24; July 1, 8, 15; and August 12.**
- Meet at the Outdoor Gathering Space. We will meet inside if there is rain.
- This will be a music-filled, laid-back, “camp fire style” service for all ages.
- If you would like to be a speaker (ALL AGES), contact Christa at 218-340-3348 or christa.overson@gmail.com
- Deadline to be a speaker: June 8th

PLAYLIST SUBMISSIONS:

- Submit via email to christa.overson@gmail.com (questions also welcome!)
- Include song title, artist, and something about how this music has helped you through a crisis, challenge, or celebration or just touched you!
- We will collect these submissions all summer and share the “playlist” on our website.

“My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and re-freshed by music when sick and weary.” — Martin Luther



**17TH ANNUAL "BACK TO SCHOOL WITH
BACKPACKS" PROJECT
FOR KIDS IN NEED OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

CHUM is once again working with the Duluth School District to host a "Back to School Fair" in August. Families with limited resources will be provided school supplies and backpacks at this event.

We can help by donating backpacks and supplies OR money to purchase supplies. Checks may be made out to Chum and left in the Reaching Out Leadership Team Mail box marked "Backpack Project."

School Supplies may be left in the Yellow School Bus in the Gathering Space by Mid July– August 2nd. Full details will be on our website and in our weekly bulletins in July. Questions? Please call Marcia Semerau at 218-722-1042.

RECIPE WINNER!

Last year we invited you to meet our new office staff and submit your favorite recipe. We have at long last found a winner— Congratulations Marcia Semerau!

Rhubarb Crisp

Submitted by Marcia Semerau from her sister Kristin

- 4 cups rhubarb cut into 1/2 " pieces
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 1/4 cups flour divided
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine

Combine rhubarb, sugar, 1/4 cup flour, cinnamon and water in 8 x8 glass baking dish. Stir to mix well. Cover tightly with plastic wrap. Microwave 5 minute on high.

Mix together the remaining 1 cup of flour, oats and brown sugar in large bowl. Cut in butter to make a crumbly mixture. Sprinkle topping evenly over cooked rhubarb mixture. Don't cover. Microwave 10 minutes on high, turning dish 1/4 turn after 5 minutes. Topping should be golden brown and rhubarb tender when finished.



Someone to Listen

Most of us have a multitude of blessings in our lives. An often unrecognized blessing is the kind of friend, spouse, sister or other who listens to us. A special connection who takes the time to truly listen, who listens to our worries, whining and concerns along with the other “good stuff.”

We are reminded of God’s listening skills. No judgement, open 24/7 and always available whether highs or lows shared. How the warmth of listening gets us through anything. I am blessed with friends and family who listen for me. Allowing me to even rant and rave when I need to do so and share the other blessings of my life. My spring blessings continue to be those “good listeners” in my life. As a member of my family, I try to be a listener (sponge) for all news but especially for things which challenge us daily. I find that sharing a concern with others allows me to let go of some of the worry. The negative feelings seem to dissipate and I hope to move forward with an improved level of energy and anticipation. Thank you to God (who never gets “full”) and my friends who allow me to share. I hope I too, can be a listener for those in my life in such need.

Green grass is growing, the buds are expanding, our hill side becoming green and spirits are rising. I am adding listening to the birds to my morning coffee time. A fine place to begin!

Be a blessing to your friends and family. Take the time to listen this summer.

—Linda Susens, Parish nurse

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
MISSION STATEMENT:**

*A Community of Christ
Experiencing God † Reaching Out † Nurturing Faith*

LCGS & LUTHERAN WORLD

RELIEF— Our sending of quilts, Personal Care Kits, School Kits, Fabric Kits and Baby Kits is a wonderful, meaningful way to connect LCGS with many parts of the world— sharing our abundance with those who have so little. It's a relatively easy way to spread love and promote peace. This year we packed (totals from Fall and Spring) 57 School Kits, 35 Fabric Kits, 32 Personal Care Kits, and 41 Baby Care Kits. In addition we made 105 quilts— 76 were packed for Lutheran World Relief and 29 were give to local community services and those in need.

Many thanks to LCGS's Monday Morning and Monday Evening Quilt Groups, the Miriam Rebekah Circle and Ruth Circle Members and other LCGS members for their contribution of articles that go into the kits, for making the quilts, and packing of the kits and quilts. This ministry not only provides necessary items for the health and welfare of many in need throughout the world, but lends wonderful opportunities for fellowship within our church while working on these projects. May God Bless all of you who were so benevolent with your time and donations! My God also bless and watch over the receivers of these gifts.

NEW CHURCH COOKBOOK!

**"Do you have a recipe that everyone asks you for?
Do you have a go-to recipe that your family loves?
Or maybe you have a special family recipe?"**

We are assembling a New LCGS Cookbook. We would love to include your special dish!

Please bring in your recipes to the church office or e-mail them to: Amieabenth@gmail.com by July 31st.

Contact Amie for more details at 218-780-0814



CLERGY EVALUATION PROCESS

The Human Resource Team has been using the Callahan process for clergy self-evaluation since 2005. A sub-committee was initiated by the HR committee for this process. Current team members are Amy Loken, Joe Johnson, Gina Cole and Kris Curtis.

This process is similar to an evaluation that would be done by a manager with an employee where the employee is evaluated according to the job description. The purpose of the team is to help our pastors with self-evaluation. The evaluation process is based on the book “Effective Church Leadership” by Kennon Callahan. Following this process, our pastors complete a self evaluation focusing on key objectives to accomplish and competencies to develop in the next year. The team then listens to their evaluations and provides consultative feedback. We are pleased with this process and want to share it with the congregation again to continue communicating about this team.

Purpose of the Callahan Clergy Evaluation Process

Growth

Reflection

Mission Oriented

Proactive

Examples of growth objectives

- Intentional times of prayer, study, reflection
- Continued spiritual growth – rich, deep, connection with the life of Christ

Examples of action objectives

- Ministry structure in place
- Deepening spiritual growth of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
- Healthy stewardship

We welcome questions or comments from the congregation.

—Kris Curtis

For the Callahan Clergy Evaluation Team

Worship Attendance

April 26	208
May 3	181
May 10	203
May 17	419

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9 AM- 4 PM
Fridays from 9-11 AM.

Stewardship Stories

" What moves you the most about being a member of LCGS? "

" There are many special things about Good Shepard. The most important besides the spiritual aspects are the true family feeling that abounds. We have a very caring and loving crew! They are great support during the good and bad times of life. "
"—Kathy Gustafson.

" Fellowship. Being surrounded by people who believe in Jesus Christ. Worshiping together. Serving together. Celebrating together. "

2015 LCGS CHURCH CAMPOUT

June 5th-7th

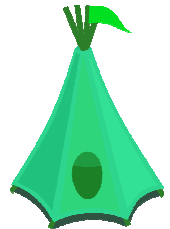
At Camp House on Lake George in Brimson, MN

We have full use of the camp...everything but the director's cabin! Come for the weekend or the day.

All are welcome!



Questions or to RSVP contact
Steve Kramer: 218-525-3882 (home),
218-491-0516 (cell),
kramstev@yahoo.com





ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE JUNE 12-13



Spring Cleaning? Donate your unwanted items to our Rummage Sale!

DROP OFF DATES/TIMES:

JUNE 2nd 5pm-7pm, 7th 10:30am-12 PM, 9th 6pm-9pm

Feeling Creative? Have a flair for order? We welcome your help!

SET UP DATES/TIMES:

JUNE 9th 6pm-9pm, 10th 3-9 pm, 11th 3pm- 9pm

Enthusiastic Shoppers & Bargain Hunters Wanted!

Rummage Sale Hours

JUNE 12th 9 AM-7PM

13th 9AM-12 PM

The Rummage Sale is an annual event to help sustain the mission of LCGS. Contact Kristi Fischer 218-348-6669 or Sara Vallie 218-213-5259.

Sign up for Vacation Bible School!

**This year's theme: "Everest"
June 22-26**



**9:00 am – Noon for Preschool (age 3*) – entering 5th Grade
*All preschoolers must be potty trained**

**Those who have completed 5th Grade and older are welcome
to volunteer!**

Potluck lunch on Friday for the whole family!

Registration is Open. \$ 15 per child- \$40 family maximum

Faith @ Home: Photographing God's Creation!

Do you remember our Lent Photo Challenge from this spring? Each week, we were challenged to express our faith using a camera! One of the weeks was a photo of God's Creation! I remember thinking, "I wish it was summer! Then I could take a picture of..." Well, summer is here! How can you capture God's Creation in a photo? And, how can you challenge the kids in your life to capture God's Creation in a photo? What a great "I'm bored" activity! Or a great vacation activity! Or a great "we're going on a family walk and I don't want to hear any complaining so I'm going to give you something to do" activity! Or a great "my grandkids, nieces, or nephews are here and I don't know what to do with them" activity! Simple tell the kids in your life, "Here, take this camera (or this phone) and go take a picture of God's Creation! I can't wait to see what you come up with!" I bet everyone in your family will take a picture of something different. Or, even if they took a picture of the same thing, it would still be coming from a different perspective! The photos could be something you treasure for years to come. (Or collect in an album throughout the summer! Or frame as a great summer memento!) And, the challenge of seeing the world as God's Creation is a lesson in faith your children will remember for years to come! Good luck! And happy photographing!

Please Pray For...

Please pray for our High School Youth heading to the ELCA Youth Gathering in July! Sanna, Glory, Dawson, Sydney, Carrie, Chloe, Peyton, Jarod, Falcon, Lauren, and Sam will be off on a great faith adventure July 11-20! We pray that during this time they will grow in their faith and their friendships. We pray that their service will be a blessing to the communities in Michigan. We pray for safety throughout their travels. And, we pray for their Adult Leaders: Brian, Kim, and Pastor Laura.

God Bless You All on this amazing journey!



If you would like us to pray for a specific concern, please call the office at 525-1922 and your request will be shared with others who care about your needs and believe God will hear and answer. If you have a prayer request emergency and it is after church office hours, you are invited to call Karin Lemenager at 721-4332.

PRAYERS FOR HOSPITALIZED PERSONS

shared with the Prayer Chain (and in the Prayers of the Church) will begin with “God knows the names of all for whom we pray...” unless permission has been granted by the hospitalized individual or a family member of the individual. This is in keeping with our Privacy Policy. If you have questions/ comments regarding this policy, please feel free to discuss it with one of the pastors.

Good Shepherd randomly prays for all its members. During these weeks we are keeping the following in our prayers:

June 7	Jeannine & Tony Maki and Dylan; Arlene Litvinoff; Jody & Paul Sandstrom, Carl and Samuel; Elizabeth & David Nelson, Elle and John
June 14	Terri Maki, Sarah and Amy; Heather & Eric Kemp, Hazel and Seth; Peggy & John Nelson, Adam, Erik, Rachel and Matthew
June 21	Bonnie & Tom Malterer, and Annie; Jean Pappas and Elizabeth Audrey Amundson & Milton Legg
June 28	Dan & Dani Westholm, Benjamin, Alaina and Catherine; Sandi & Joseph Santomassimo; Vija & Fred Nervick
July 5	Susan Ramsey & Steve McConnell; Elizabeth & Ross Young ; Cheryl Ziehl
July 12	Shawna & Gregg Velander, Taylor, Samantha, Austin, Beau & Jaxon; Sam Thiesse; Mark Zimmerman
July 19	Julie & Colin Reichhoff, Sarah, Annie and Michael ; Beverly & Lowell Venberg; Denise & Dale Thompson, Jacob, Kelsi and Joshua; Jodi & Peter Altonen, Nicholas, Jenna, Alyssa and Krista
July 26	Cyndi & Tod Venberg; Rachael & Larry Thompson, Daniel, Katrina and Zachary; Christy & Erik Altonen
Prayer	But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded —2 Chronicles 15:7

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Summer Services begin May 24th at 9:30 AM

Office Hours: M-Th • 9AM-4PM; Friday • 9AM-11AM

Phone: 218-525-1922 • Website: www.lcgsduluth.com

MEET the STAFF

Pastor Dave Mesner, Lead Pastor
(home) 218-529-9715

email: dmesner@lcgsduluth.org

Pastor Tim Berdahl, Pastor
(home) 218-728-4382

email: tberdahl@lcgsduluth.org

Katie Rich, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
218-525-1922

email: kkrich@lcgsduluth.org

Patti Hallback, Office Manager
218-525-1922

email: office@lcgsduluth.org

Jessica Hehir, Communications Coordinator
218-525-1922

email: communications@lcgsduluth.org

Gordy Nyenhuis
218-525-1922

email: custodian@lcgsduluth.org

Beth Lee, Treasurer
218-525-1922

Kayla Hoeft, Nursery Director
218-525-1922

Music Team:

Linda Turpening, Organist
218-525-1922

email: linda@archdirect.com

Debbie Sanders, Good Shepherd Choir Director
218-724-9065

email: debra@sanders@icloud.com

Christa Overson, Joyful Noise Director
email: christa@overson@gmail.com

**August
Newsletter
Deadline:
July 15**