

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

November 2015

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FROM PASTOR

A Season of Thanksgiving: All Are Welcome!

This is one of my favorite times of the year at Good Shepherd! I love gathering in the homes of our members, building community and celebrating our mission. As we experience Holy Communion in the living rooms and kitchens of our hosts I have the profound sense that we are living out the spiritual journey of the early church. I especially love that our stewardship initiative happens under the theme of thanksgiving. We are learning that thanksgiving to God for all of life is part of our deepest identity as a community of Christ. “Stewardship” is becoming a joyful experience for our community, based upon these principles:

All of life is a gift from God!

Our response to God is not a small dimension of life that we reluctantly add to the “real” life that we experience on a daily basis. Loving God with all of our heart places God at the very center of every dimension of our lives. We believe that every expression of our life takes on meaning and significance as it relates to this absolute center. All of our time, our talent and our resources are gifts from God, and we respond with joy and thanksgiving by offering all of them to God.

Giving is living!

We know on a very deep level that the purpose we are alive is not to gather as much as possible, but rather to glorify God by offering ourselves to God. Offering ourselves actually brings joy, thanksgiving and meaning to all that we do.

Our volunteer and financial pledges drive the mission of this church!

An important stewardship principle is that there are many ways to give to God. Our own history and interests lead us to give of ourselves in beautiful, diverse ways. But it is also true that our foundational commitment to this community as our spiritual home will lead us to prioritize our volunteer and financial pledge to Good Shepherd. As a community of Christ, we are much more than a random collection of individuals. We are a powerful, spiritual, growing community with a dynamic unfolding mission. The particular shape

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of our mission is determined by the pledged commitment of our members. Thank you for your sincere commitment to the mission of this congregation!

Relationships! Relationships! Relationships!

We are called to deepening relationships with God, with each other and with the world. It is no accident that our Mission Statement is based upon this foundational truth. This is who we are, and why we exist.

Thanks be to God, and to each of you!



All Saints Sunday — November 1st “Clouds of Witnesses”

The stories in the Bible tell us of the many people who have guided and shaped Faith Development in our history. In Hebrews, Chapter 12, we hear these stories and these individuals referred to as “Clouds of Witnesses.”

In our own lives, we too have individuals who have guided us along our own Faith or Spiritual Journeys. Each “All Saints Day,” we honor those individuals by listing and displaying the names on paper clouds within the sanctuary.

Each completed “cloud” can be placed on the walls of the sanctuary starting October 18th and through November 1st (All Saints Day). You may place your own clouds on the walls or we will help with placement.

This year we encourage photos or small mementos with the clouds.



NURTURING FAITH

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Sunday School, we are now learning about “The Prodigal Son!” Please join us on Sunday mornings for fun lessons about this important faith story!



6th Grade Milestone – Sunday, November 8th

As our 6th Graders enter Middle School, we want to take a moment to celebrate a faith milestone! We want to celebrate that these students are loved by God, loved by this church, and loved by their families – no matter what. In the midst of the changes and drama and stress of middle school, they are wrapped in God’s love.

Sunday School Christmas Worship – Practice Schedule

Sunday, November 22nd – Our First Christmas Worship Practice (during Sunday School)

Sunday, November 29th – No Sunday School – Happy Thanksgiving! Many of our volunteers and families will be out of town visiting friends and family – Thank You for understanding!

Sunday, December 6th – Christmas Worship Practice: Full Run-Through (during Sunday School)

Join us after practice for the Advent Workshop! Christmas Crafts and Gift-Making for the whole family! Bring something to share for the potluck lunch... We hope to see you there!

Sunday, December 13th – Sunday School Christmas Worship

8:45 – Kids Lead Worship

10:00 – Treats and Activities for the whole family!

11:00 – Kids Lead Worship

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION STATEMENT:

A Community of Christ

Experiencing God † Reaching Out † Nurturing Faith



During Family Sunday School on October 18, we created a banner to hang in the church! We used our handprints and the phrase “With these hands we give thanks!” I hope you will take time to look at the banner during this month of November – our “Season of Thanksgiving”! But, did you know... when I first found this idea online, it was NOT a church banner... it was a table runner! What a GREAT activity for you to re-create at home! Maybe even a Thanksgiving decoration? Or a gift for a grandparent? The original post

online (found on Pinterest!) used fabric paint to make big, colorful handprints. During Sunday School, we used fabric markers to trace the outline of a handprint. Either one works well! I think the key part is the phrase, “With these hands we give thanks!” After all, the act of thanksgiving is an act of PRAYER. We thank GOD for the many blessings He has given us! Whether you create a table runner or just say a prayer... challenge your family to make prayer, thanking GOD, the center of your Thanksgiving celebration!

God Bless You and Your Family!

Katie Rich (Director of Youth and Family Ministry)

CONFIRMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The “Middle School” Gathering Confirmation Retreat is coming up November 21-22. We will be bringing 37 students and 6 adult leaders to this amazing event! Please keep us all in your prayers! We pray for safe travels and deep spiritual moments. We also pray for lots of fun as we build friendships with each other, and enough energy for our Adult Leaders!

There will be **No Confirmation Wednesday, November 25 – Happy Thanksgiving!**



STEWARDSHIP

A Season of Thanksgiving — All are Welcome!

STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF POTLUCK

Sunday, November 1st at noon

Fellowship and thanksgiving will be celebrated at this year's potluck. Following the 11:00 AM worship service on November 1st, you are invited to join members and friends in a delicious, informative meal to learn about the gifts shared at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

What should I bring?

Last names starting with:

A-G Something warm

H-N Bread or Snacks

O-S Salads

T-Z Sweets

How can I help?

Help is needed for set up and clean up; sign up in the Gathering Space or call the church office at 525-1922.

HOME GATHERINGS

November 3rd-17th (see page 7 for dates and times)

Sign up to attend a home gathering! Sign up sheets are displayed on tables in the Gathering Space (or call the church office at 525-1922) where you will find specifics on menus and kid-friendly options. After you sign up, pick up a reminder slip to post at home!

ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, November 22nd, 4-6:30 PM

More information on page 8 of this newsletter.



A SEASON OF THANKSGIVING — ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOME GATHERINGS

We have the hosts. We have the dates & times. All we need is YOU! Specifics on menus and kid friendly options are listed on the sign up sheets in the Gathering Space. *If you are unable to get to church to sign up, please call our office (525-1922) and let us know which event you can attend.*

Date	Hosts	Time
Sun 11/1	Congregation Potluck	12 noon
Tues 11/3	Rachel & Jim Moseley	5:45 pm
Tues 11/3	Sara and Jon Hendrickson	7:00 pm
Tues 11/3	Joyce Dohlin	7:00 pm
Wed 11/4	Tom and Julie Seidelmann	6:00 pm
Thurs 11/5	Kathy Gustafson (at church)	12 noon
Fri 11/6	Patty and Bill Altonen	12 noon
Sun 11/8	Kathy and Dave Kreager	5:00 pm
Mon 11/9	Linda Susens	4:00 pm
Tues 11/10	Nan and Jerry Asperheim	6:30 pm
Wed 11/11	Sue and John Boutin	6:00 pm
Thurs 11/12	Amy and Cal Loken	6:00 pm
Fri 11/13	Joyce Lund	11:30 am
Sat 11/14	Amy and Jeff Packer	9:00 am
Sun 11/15	Paula and Marc Tsufis	12:15 pm
Sun 11/15	Rosie & Ken Loeffler-Kemp	5:00 pm
Mon 11/16	Debbie and Craig Sanders	6:15 pm
Tues 11/17	Susan and Pat Sage	6:00 pm

REACHING OUT



CHILI COOK- OFF

A COMMUNITY OF CHRIST:

5TH ANNUAL REACHING OUT NIGHT/CHILI COOK OFF
NOVEMBER 22ND, 4-6:30 PM

Bring a pot of your favorite chili!

This will be a celebration of grace-filled living and grace-filled giving

Grace lies at the foundation of God's relationship with us and informs how we are to live as God's people each day. We reach out with compassion and share the love of Christ. We actively care for our neighbors, locally and globally. We give generously to the mission of God's church because stewardship is our faithful, joyful, and thankful response as we delight in this rich gift of God's grace.

Please join in our community celebration of God's grace in our lives as we come together to work on worthwhile projects to support local mission partners as well as mark the culmination of our fall stewardship campaign with a fun chili dinner "competition."

PASTY BAKE SALE — DECEMBER 3-5, 2015

"Coming together is our beginning; working together is our success!"

We plan to sell 2,200 pasties next month to support the ongoing mission of LCGS. Each 16-ounce pasty is made with potatoes, onions, carrots, rutabaga and a blend of pork and beef. Cost this year is \$5.

How can I get involved?

- Help us solicit sales. Tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers about our sale.
- Volunteers are needed to peel potatoes, carrots, onions and rutabaga on December 3rd from 5-9 pm.
- Volunteers are needed to make & bake pasties December 4th from 8 am—8 pm; and December 5th from 8 am to finish!

This is a fun event from beginning to end. Please sign up for the shift of your choice in the Gathering Space or call the church office at 525-1922.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING DECEMBER 5TH & 12TH

Are you looking for a way you can do ministry during the holidays? One easy way is ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd members, families and friends have the opportunity to donate one or two (or more) hours of time to assist with this critical work. We will cover two full days of bell ringing at one location: Cub Foods on Central Entrance (inside!). The dates are Saturday, December 5th and 12th, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Look for the signup poster in November. It will be on an easel in the Gathering Space. Please fill in your name for one or two one-hour time slots to offer your help for this worthwhile cause. Call Marcia Semerau at 722-1042 with questions.

SALVATION ARMY 2015 VOLUNTEER HOLIDAY HANDBOOK

- Bell ringing
- Gift wrap booth at the Miller Hill Mall
- Toyland Express
- Adopt-a-family
- Children's tree
- Christmas distribution
- Yarn donations accepted as well as new hats, mittens and scarves

For more information, call 722-7934; or, go online at duluthsa.org



COOKIES FOR OUTREACH

You can help brighten someone's holiday season! Good Shepherd's Visitation Team is collecting cookies for our home-bound members as well as for the CHUM Drop-in Center and the St. Louis County Jail. Last year because of your generosity, we also delivered baked goods to the Twin Ports Ministry to Seafarers. Please put your homemade cookies on the counter in the church office by 9:00 Monday morning, December 7th. To assure proper delivery, mark them "Visitation." We bring a smile to many faces with this ministry; the Jail's annual program serves over 235 people including inmates, staff and volunteers. Please leave all items in the church office. Because of food allergies, if you bake with nuts, peanut butter or coconut, please label your cookies accordingly. Questions, contact Marcia Semerau at 722-1042. Thank you!

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	8:45	11:00
September 27	194	42
October 4	149	36
October 11		64
October 18	137	48

REACHING OUT

OUTREACH SERVICE MINISTRY — Planning continues for an Outreach Service Ministry for individuals over 16 years of age (a great program for youth and parents together!). All programs need leadership and we are seeking a Service Ministry Coordinator (see job description posted on the homepage at www.lcgsduluth.com). More information about Outreach Service Ministry and the coordinator leadership position is available in the Gathering Space. Thank you — Hunger Team.

WINTER COAT DRIVE — Union Gospel Mission is now accepting donations of winter coats, snow pants, snow suits, boots, gloves, scarves, hats and sleeping bags for the approaching cold season. (Last year there was an unmet need for size 3x men's and women's coats. Visit www.duluth-ugm.org for more information.

THANK YOU FROM CHUM

- Many thanks to the members of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd for your donation of 19 backpacks, misc. school supplies + \$485 for the CHUM backpack drive...
- Thank you for your congregational gift of \$85, received in September, which has been put to good use in the distribution of backpacks...

DONATIONS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

— We are collecting donations for



LWR all year. Donation boxes are available in the Gathering Space and lower level near the Sunday School office. 4-5 ounce bars of soap are always welcome (most soaps in original wrappers will work)! The baby kits prefer mild soaps (Ivory or Dove). Health (Personal Care) Kits seek the following: bath towels (light-weight, dark colors, size 20x40" or 52x27"), two bath-size bars of soap (in original wrapping), one adult-size toothbrush (in original packaging), one sturdy comb (no picks or fine-toothed), one metal nail clipper (file optional).

AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE — The next AARP refresher course to renew your 10% automobile insurance discount will be held at Good Shepherd on November 12th, 1-5pm. If you have taken a safe driver course in the past, you are eligible to take the refresher course. The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$25 for non-AARP members. Call Jerry Asperheim at 218-724-7733 to pre-register (required) or for more information.



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:

Nov 1	Suny & Guy Partch, Madeleine and Hannah Andrea Sather Norma Ness Kim & Mark Kroll, Thomas and Ian
Nov 8	Tami & David Patterson, Rylea and Darby Erin & Erik Sather, Elsie and Leo Karen & Kyle Ness, Abbey and Andrew Candy & Jack Rendulich and Nathan
Nov 15	Grace Peterson Susan Sauls and Morgan Nancy & Ken Netland and Ryan Deserie & Daniel Rendulich, Rylee and Kenley
Nov22	Sandra & Mark Paulson Barbara Savonen Melanie & Ryan Neveau, Ethan and Emily Michelle Rengo, Christopher and Zachary
Nov 29	LeAnn & Mark Paulson, Tanner and Dylan Lynn & Steven Saxe and Alex Julie & Eric Nicholson, Evan and Zack Jeanette & Richard Rice

Prayer

Thou art my hiding place: thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. ~ Psalm 32:7

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Worship service at 8:45 AM & 11:00 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

Tammy Newman, Interim Communications
Coordinator 218-525-1922

email: communications@lcgsduluth.org

Beth Lee, Treasurer
218-525-1922

Kayla Hoeft, Nursery Director
218-525-1922

Rick McConnell, Custodian
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.k.sanders@icloud.com

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

Christa Overson, Amie Abenth, Kayla Nyenhuis
Leaders, Sing & Ring

December
Newsletter
Deadline:
November 12