



Good News From Good Shepherd

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."
John 10:11

January, 2024

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A Prophet Like Me

During the Christmas Eve morning service, we read the passage from Deuteronomy 18:15 in which Moses said, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him." Many years later, the Pharisees asked John the Baptist whether he was that prophet. Hearing these passages on Christmas Eve made me ponder what Moses meant when he said the prophet would be "like me" and how is Jesus that prophet like Moses. Consider the following:

- Moses led the people of Israel out of slavery. Micah 6:4 states that, "I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you..."

Jesus also freed us from our bondage, our bondage to sin. Romans 6:22-23 describes it like this: ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Moses spoke to God face to face. Exodus 33:11 says, "The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend."

Likewise, Matthew 11:27 describes Jesus' as having a close relationship with His Father: ²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

- Moses is described in Deuteronomy 34:11 as having performed "all those miraculous signs and wonders the LORD sent him to do in Egypt."

Jesus performed many more miracles, the most incredible being his resurrection from the dead.

- Moses interceded for the people with God as told in Exodus 32:9-12, 14: ⁹ "I have seen these people," the LORD said to Moses, "and they are a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation." ¹¹ But Moses sought the favor of the LORD his God. "O LORD," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people..." ¹⁴ Then the LORD relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

In the same way, Jesus is our mediator and intercessor with God. 1 Timothy 2:5-6 says, ⁵ "For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men..."

Jesus is the prophet like Moses that God raised up for us. Moses' actions pointed to our savior in so many ways. That is also why Jesus was able to say in John 5:46, "If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me." Because Jesus is the prophet, let us believe him and listen to him just as Moses instructed us to do.

David Smith, Head Elder

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A Message from Your President

Give an offering....

What follows is taken from the Logos Christian Bookstore customer email for January 4. Steve, who writes these, said this better than I ever could.



Each new year finds many, if not most, of us making resolutions to do better, to quit something, to start something, to lose something, and many other great ideas. Unfortunately, most of the things we resolve to do are never realized. We have great intentions but after a few short weeks of endeavor, the promises and challenges we've made to ourselves are forgotten.

This year how about making an offering rather than a promise? Let's offer ourselves, and our lives, to God. Let's give Him the opportunity to use us in His kingdom however He determines to do so. Instead of attempting to better ourselves through self-centered resolutions, let's allow God to transform us through His power, grace and love.

I like the way Romans 12:1-2 reads in The Message Bible.

"So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you." (The Message)

Let this be our prayer for 2024; "Lord, help me to see your presence in all that I do. Help me to be available to you for whatever it is you have in store for me. Let me be a light to those around me who do not know you, and an encouragement to my brothers and sisters in Christ as together we serve you. Use me every day, Lord, to make a difference in your kingdom. Amen."

I hope that this view and prayer we collectively consider not just for ourselves, but for our congregation (just swap in 'us' and 'we' for 'I' and 'me' in the prayer) as we enter our 29th year in mission at Good Shepherd.



Voter Actions: The voters met on December 3 at which the 2024 proposed Good Shepherd budget was approved (summary pictured), as was the budget of the Federation of Lutheran Churches. (The Federation has been notified.) Two weeks prior, voters had been provided the budget details for both Good Shepherd's budget and that of the Federation. Thank you to all who participated in these important decisions.

Council Actions: The council last met in November 2023 at which the proposed 2024 budget was finalized for presentation to the voters. In addition, **Taylor Woolley** was appointed to fill the Secretary term by unanimous vote. Please encourage and thank her for stepping up to this new role!

Please also prayerfully consider what your "self-offering" might be in 2024. Election month (May) will be upon us before we know it when the leadership roles of President, Treasurer, Christian Ministry Chair, Property Chair, and three (3) Elder positions will be on the ballot. The nominating committee will be set to work in February seeking candidates.

	YTD	Projected	Projected	2024
	thru Oct	thru Dec	Total	Budget
Contributions	224,187	42,000	266,187	265,000
Expenditures	224,020	45,000	269,020	266,299
Net	167	(3,000)	(2,833)	(1,299)
Cash	38,303	35,303		

Marlis Norton, Council Pres.

Embraced by His Grace, Engaged in His Word, Empowered by His Spirit



January

Lee Brooks	January 3
Isaiah Warren	January 8
Kim Leavens	January 10
Shane Waite	January 12
Marian Brockhoff	January 17
Lily Bovais	January 21
Mary Givhan	January 31



February

Kim Hoffmann	February 3
Mike Rath	February 3
Sarah Gamel	February 6
Dave Schneider	February 7
Allison Shaw	February 9
Jillian Cottrell	February 14
Sarah Poynter	February 15
Leroy Raap	February 17
Tammy Woolley	February 17
Lynda Oberst	February 18
Heidi Densel	February 26
Melanie Cottrell	February 27

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE FEDERATION

Thank you to all who participated in this mission event of the Women's Auxiliary Committee of the Federation of Lutheran Churches. It's been done since 1925 with only brief pauses during the Great Depression and COVID pandemic!

This year, 824 boxes of cookies were packed by 45 people representing 9 of our Federation churches accounting for an estimated 300 volunteer hours. Priority distributions were made to the care facilities (8) and the Prince of Peace Bridge Ministry. What a blessing that the cookie supply was sufficient enough to also share with some first responder groups, Christ Lutheran as part of the refreshments during their Live Nativity event and the Trinity Lutheran in Mt. Healthy "Feed Your Neighbor" community outreach dinners!

Good Shepherd distributed their portion (about 45 boxes of cookies with the Christmas message) to residents at Acadia Apartments.

Mark your calendars for 2024! The Cookie Pack date is already set for **Monday, December 9.**



NORTHERN KENTUCKY CHAPTER OF LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

January is the beginning of the New Year, as well as the start-up to our Annual Baby Bottle Boomerang in support of The New Hope Center! Empty baby bottles will be in a basket near the front door as you enter church. Please prayerfully consider taking a bottle home and filling it with change or a check made out to *The New Hope Center*. Then **BOOMERANG** it back to church where the bottles will be collected and given in support of New Hope's important ministry. Starting Dates and Return Dates for the bottles will be listed in the Voice.

The New Hope Center continues to help and give hope to women who find themselves with an unexpected pregnancy. The Center provides free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds and counseling.

Thank you for partnering with us to save babies and strengthen families. **Jackie Vezina**



Good Shepherd Youth Group
And Zion Youth Group will be
Serving meals at Prince of Peace on Wednesday, Jan 17.
Lock In

Friday, February 23 Zon Lutheran Church
Contact Becky Aragon if you are interest in of these events

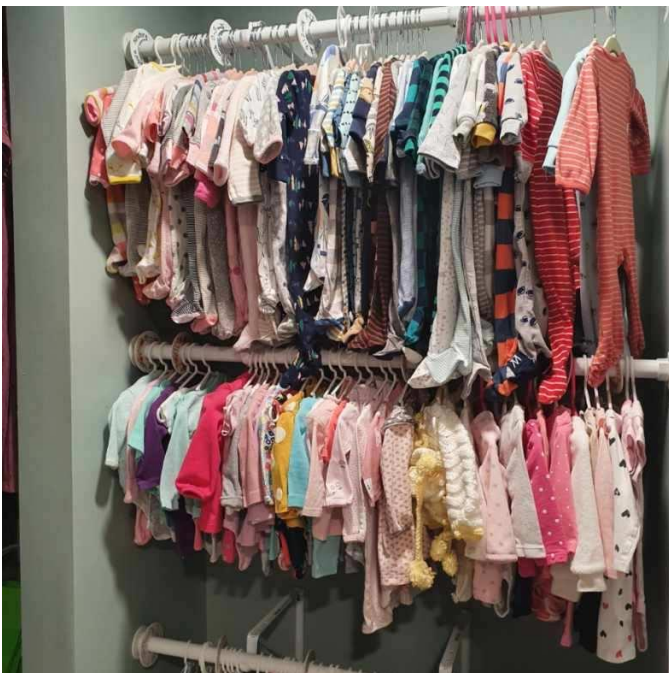
O.W.L.S OUTING

JAN 25

**CINCINATTI ART MUSEUM FREE ADMISSION
LUNCH OR SNACK TERRACE CAFÉ (INSIDE MUSEUM}
CONTACT LINDA KUHN IF INTERESTED**

Past Events

OWLS Tour of New Hope Center



LWML Cincinnati Zone Fellowship Event



Vonnie Herr Memorial Service



The Children's Christmas Program Presented at Legacy Living



Presented at Boonespring



Presented at Good Shepherd



Virginia Langsdale's Memorial Service





Youth Activities Caroling and Game Time





Perfect North Tubing



Christian Education Opportunities

Sunday Morning 8:45 am

Sunday School Pre-K – High School

Pastor's Bible Study

Women's Sunday Bible Study • *Ruth*

The study book is \$20. We are beginning Chapter 3 of Ruth

Monday 10:00 am

Men's Bible Study

Tuesday 9:30 am

Women's Tuesday Bible Study • *Men of the Bible* – Duchow Room

Women's Tuesday Bible Study – *Psalms* – Gathering Area

Wednesday 7 pm

Pastor's Bible Study

Saturday 10:00 am

Reading through the Bible

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