



Good News From Good Shepherd

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

November, 2020

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Today is a Good Day to Pray

Have you ever watched a movie in which a group of men were about to go into a hopeless battle and one of them says, “Today is a good day to die”? They are preparing themselves for the inevitable, steeling their nerves. That type statement is a sure sign that they have no hope.

But God gives us a different perspective. Luke 18:1-8 says, “And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.” (This is the parable of the unrighteous judge and the persistent widow). For us, today is a good day to pray.

We have so much to pray for: relief from Covid and other diseases, God’s provision of a new pastor, less stress in our days, calmness in dealing with others. That’s just the stuff we need help with. We can also offer prayers of Thanksgiving for our loving spouses, the blessings God has poured into our lives at church, the food on our tables, friends willing to help us.

Yet, a lack of prayer is one of our greatest failings. We get busy and forget. We don’t take our real needs and concerns to God. Worry works better anyway. If we do pray, we pray quickly because we have other things to do. Perhaps our lack of prayer indicates that we really don’t care whether our requests are answered or not. Or we aren’t grateful for or don’t care whether we have the blessings God has provided us. Maybe it indicates that we don’t trust God to answer our prayers. We think, “God is going to do what he wants anyway.” Today is a good day to pray. God does want to hear from us; He wants to walk with us in the garden. Our prayers are our acknowledgement that we need God and trust in him to care for us. Our prayers indicate our desire to be with God.

God promises he will listen to our prayers. Matthew 7:7-8 says, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.” So today, pray about the joys in your life. Pray about your concerns, and pray about your needs. Pray that specific people you know will come to know the Lord. Because today is a good day to pray. And tomorrow, when it becomes today will be a good day to pray too.

David Smith, Head Elder
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Table of Content

From the Head Elder	page 1
A Message from Your President	page 2
Pastoral Coverage	page 3
Capital Campaign	page 3
Women’s Ministry	page 4
Community Outreach	
Operation Christmas Child	page 5
Thanks Giving Baskets	page 5
Angel Tree	page 5
October Events	page 6-8
Birthdays	page 9
Thank you from Pastor Traux	page 9
LCMS Newsletter	page 9
Happy Thanksgiving	page 10



For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the **thanksgiving of many redound** to the glory of God. **2 Cor. 4:15 KJV**

Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and **thanksgiving**, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God forever and ever. Amen. **Rev. 7:12 KJV**

Council in October - In person and online

Council reached consensus on: 1) assigning responsibility for safe deposit keys to the president and vice president while the finance committee continues work on the security policy; 2) the proposed 2021 budget to be presented to voters on November 11.

One item of business was conducted via email vote which was to officially engage Church Mutual for Worker Comp insurance, switching from KEMI. The rate is better and coverage as good or better.

In anticipation of having a new pastor, the **2021 budget** will be much the same as 2020 - a pretty consistent need of \$20k a month in giving. We currently lag behind that expectation in our revenue plan. While the stewardship board will conduct a fall campaign focused on anticipated needs for moving a pastor and for the building fund, we need, as a church body, to elevate our level of giving to what it was at the beginning of the year, pre-COVID and pre-vacancy. ***Please pray for wisdom and fearless faith in this matter - sacrificing with thanksgiving that redounds to the glory of God!***

For Sept. 30	Actual	Budget	Over/Under
General Fund	\$13,276.68	\$20,470.18	\$7,193.50-
Expenses	\$10,570.11	\$19,355.21	\$8,785.10-
Variance	2706.57	\$1,114.97-	



In other news...

Voters on Sunday, October 11, approved the modifications to the constitution and bylaws and also adopted two fund policies that replace those adopted in May of 2014. All items were provided to the voters in advance. The next step will be to affirm the submission process at the November voter meeting prior to the official submission.

Finally, I encourage all of us to consider how we express our **thanks** to our most gracious and glorious God. Yes times are frustrating and inconvenient. To that I say - and? No matter the challenges, and especially in them, we the church are blessed to be a blessing, with **thanksgiving!** As a church, we do not exist for ourselves, but for the works God has prepared for us to do. Let us show our **thanksgiving**, not only to our church but those who do not know the church.

Marlis Norton, Council Pres.

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

Pastoral coverage has been set for November and December. Please pray for our guest pastors and thank them for leading our services. If you need pastoral assistance or would like in-home communion, please reach out to the church office or one of the elders.

November		December	
November 1	Pastor Poynter	December 6	Pastor Kamps
November 8	Past Mueller	December 13	Pastor Berner
November 15	Pastor Kamps	December 20	Pastor Poynter
November 22	Pastor Mitchell	December 24	Mike Wentzel
November 29	Pastor Berner	December 27	Pastor Kamps

The Elders will lead the Wednesday Advent services in December (2, 9 & 16)

David Smith, Head Elder

God's Army-Building God's Kingdom Capital Campaign

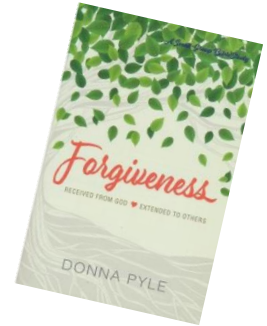
Stewardship would like to THANK everyone for the wonderful baskets donated (12) for the God's Army-Building God's Kingdom Capital Campaign raffle. We are working towards our goals (Pastor Relocation \$8,000-Building Fund \$12,000) and still have envelopes on the table by the office available to use also. For our Campaign we would like to ask that if possible you take time to reflect on how you can be a good steward for GSLC and ask God to guide you. Our Campaign is very exciting for all of us to participate in with our raffle tickets being available for you to sell to family/friends or for you to purchase to have a chance on the wonderful items in the donated baskets. The tickets are \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00. Please see the display in the FLC for individual tickets or the Stewardship Committee for ticket packets to sell. We will be drawing for the baskets on November 15, 2020 (Stewardship Sunday) prior to the Voter's Meeting in the FLC, so please have all tickets turned in by that day/time. We have pictures of the baskets on the www.gslc.org website and working on getting a description page to go with them for a better understanding of what is in each basket. Again Thank you for participating in the Capital Campaign presented by the Stewardship Committee.





Women's Sunday Bible Study • 11 a.m. • Sunday

Our small group will meet with appropriate distancing on Sundays in the Duchow Room and provide a Zoom connection for those not ready to meet in person. Our new study is Forgiveness by Donna Pyle. The book is available from CPH for \$14.99.

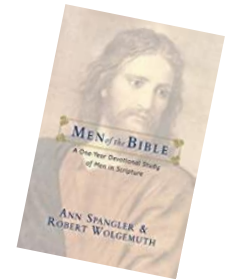


Women's Bible Breakfast • Saturday • November 14

Mark your calendars for the second Saturday in **November at 9 a.m.** We'll complete the series **A Time for Everything** and anticipate having a special Christmas featured study in December. For November, we will be on-site for those who wish to attend. You are encouraged to bring your own favorite breakfast and are not required to share. If you wish to share a dish, awesome. It is current medical understanding that the virus is not transmitted via food. We will take all the necessary precautions of masking, distancing and cleanliness around service items. If you wish to participate remotely, let me know by Wednesday, November 11 and a Zoom session will be set up and the study emailed to you.

Women's Tuesday Bible Study • Men of the Bible • 9:30 am

We are meeting at church. All are welcome. Join in any time. We study one person each session, no book required.



Tuesday Bible Study at the Smith's We will take an in-depth look at this life-changing book focusing on our justification, sanctification and glorification. There is space in the 3-5 pm group at my home. Contact me if you are interested or have questions.
Sherry Smith 210-854-259

Women's Auxiliary to the Federation Ingathering and Reformation Service October 25

Thank you to all who supported the Auxiliary with your ingathering gift of diapers and your financial support. The diapers have been delivered to New Hope Center.

While the guest speaker, Dr. Lamb, could not be with us, the Reformation service and message from Chaplain Ewell was uplifting. It reminded us to remember, celebrate and share with great joy our birthday of being set free with the truth of the gospel in Jesus our Savior recorded in scripture!





Operation Christmas Child

The Human Care Committee is again offering you the opportunity to participate in the Operation Christmas Child Program. This program brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and evangelistic materials that tell the Good News of God's love.

Please pick up one of the shoe boxes and a pamphlet at the display by the entrance. Determine whether you are buying for a boy or girl, and what age group. Fill the box with inexpensive gift and hygiene items (suggestions are listed on the info sheet). If you are able, donate \$9 for each shoe box to cover shipping and other project costs. Just put that in an envelope on top of the items in the box. Fill out the label with the requested information, and tape to the top of your box. Secure the box with a rubber band and leave it at the display no later than November 15th. If you prefer, you can use your own shoebox from home and wrap it in brightly colored Christmas wrapping, or even purchase one of the plastic shoeboxes that the children can keep.

We will drop them off the week of November 16th. This is a fun project for children to help out with. They enjoy choosing what gifts go in the box. Please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives one of these gifts, and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ.



Thanks Giving Baskets:

Something new this year! Families will have the opportunity to fill a Thanks Giving Basket for local families that need food assistance. The basket will be provided along with a list of items. Return the filled basket anytime up until Nov. 22nd. You may still contribute individual items as well. Donations for meat vouchers will also be accepted. Each voucher is \$15. Just make a notation on your envelope if you'd like to contribute!! Deadline: November 22nd

Angel Tree: Good Shepherd will once again have the opportunity to provide gifts for children in our community whose family has limited resources. The Angel Tree will be available after Thanksgiving. Deadline for returning gifts is December 20th



October Events

Mini River Sweep Trash Collections

Thanks to everyone who helped





Elijah, Faith and Isaiah Warren are baptized.

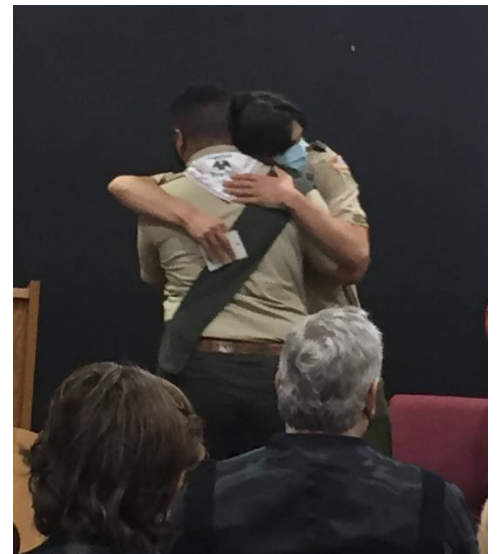
**Farewell to Pastor Traux and Cindy
You will be missed**



Concordia Presentation



Eric Vezina's Court of Honor





Kathy Meckstroth	Nov 2
Marlis Norton	Nov 4
Julie Rath	Nov 8
Joe Barvincak	Nov 9
Jacob Brann	Nov 12
Rob Nielsen	Nov 15
John Yri	Nov 17
Anne Yri	Nov 18
Barb Barvincak	Nov 27
Lynn Mitchell	Nov 28

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry – November 2020**

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son’s blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God’s holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God’s hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God’s providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

Thank you from Pastor Traux and Cindy

Hi! Cindy and I would appreciate having a note of thanks to the congregation in the newsletter. “Thank you all so much. We are overwhelmed by your gift. We will use your gift to go and visit our family in Washington. When we are there, we will remember fondly the people who made it possible. We are all truly blest by the Lord! Pastor Charlie and Cindy”



*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*



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