



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2015 VOL. 9, NO. 2

The Bells Are Still Chiming

Dear members of Shepherd of the Lake,

It was Easter 1993 when Allen and Marverine Johnson gave a Maas-Rowe Carillon to Shepherd of the Lake. I know that because that carillon and its plaque of dedication are in the Pastor's Study. Those bells are still chiming and I get to hear them every day.

I am not the only one who hears those bells every day. Just this week, I spoke with a member of the community who mentioned that he, too, hears our bells every day. At least people know we are here, right? But do they know why we are here?

In the January 2015 issue of the *Forum Letter*, Rev. Peter Speckhard has a nice article about church bells. He wrote this: "Church bells simply stake the claim of religion on the public square. If trains can honk out the demands of the economy coming through, then carillons can peel the love of God for a fallen world. If crowd noise from the football field can announce to everyone in a three block radius that the home team scored a touchdown, then church bells can announce something even more momentous. If sirens can blare that someone is dying and needs help, then our bells can toll that someone has died and yet lives forever. We can't say that everything secular has a right to make noise but everything religious has to be quiet."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Good News that the Son of God came to live, die, and rise for the forgiveness, life, and salvation of sinners, is the most important noise in this world. That message is why we are here. Yet, that message is the one noise the world finds intolerable. For that very reason, we should be making more noise than we do. Rev. Speckhard says it well, "It is this world, with its factories, construction crews, police cars, and high school bands that is redeemed in Christ and needs to know it."

May God bless our proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ through our preaching and teaching, our words and actions, and, yes, even through our church bells, to His glory and for the salvation of many.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Rusnak".

Pastor Rusnak

February 2015 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Dennis Anderson
320-277-3542



USHERS

Doug Feltmann
Jim Wackerfuss



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

01st Ken & Jean Stokes
08th Randy & Faye Feltmann
15th Steve & Beth Lawrence
22nd Marge Berndt



Thank you to *everyone* who continues to give generously of their time volunteering at our many functions. It is so appreciated! We depend on your participation! Volunteers are needed in the coming months to serve as greeters and/or fellowship servers. Please see the bulletin board if you are able to help. You can always trade with someone else if need be, but please inform the Church Office so that the correct information can be printed in the bulletin.



CHURCH OFFICERS

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Rusnak
President: Ken Stokes
Recording Sec.: Elaine Draosh
Treasurer: John Kinzel
Financial Sec.: Barb Scherfenberg
Church Sec.: Sue Raddatz
Elders: Gaylord Ryg-Chair
Dennis Anderson
Steve Lawrence
Jerry Scherfenberg
Trustees: Larry Collison-Chair
David Draosh
Doug Feltmann
Randy Feltmann



This

Month's Birthdays!

01st David Frick
Ken Stokes
07th Robin Rubbelke
10th David Larson
Gary Schwartz
11th Bob Collison
13th Rev. Curtis Foreman
Judy Stahl
Bruce Sundberg
14th Nancy Aarsvold
15th Dale Franklin
17th Jean Root
22nd Nick Garding
25th Hannah Spicer



february anniversaries

25th Bill & Janet Uhlig
27th Zach & Jessica Spicer



14th James Rusnak

In an effort to support and build one another up to the glory of God (Romans 15:1-7), we include in our monthly newsletters birthday and anniversary dates for members and friends of the congregation. If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary date included, or if our information needs to be corrected, please contact our Church Secretary, Sue Raddatz. Thank you!



SOTL News for February 2015



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Jesus promised: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31). Join us as we study the Word of God together:

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 8:30a.m. each week. We welcome everyone to come.

Sunday Evening Study meets each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Bible Breakfast meets at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday mornings to read through the Bible. We are meeting at Spotlight Café through the winter months.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. each week. All are invited to join us.

Please see the bulletin board for updated information on each Bible study.



Office Hours: Pastor is available throughout the week for pastoral care and counsel. The Church Secretary is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30am to 1:30pm. The Church office will be closed on Fridays.



Prayer Requests: If you have someone or something that you would like Pastor Rusnak to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request card, located on the guest book stand, and place it in his box or contact him at the

Church Office. It is important that all of our members receive pastoral care when it is needed, especially during times of sickness or other difficulty. If you know of an individual, even if it is a non-member, who would appreciate and benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact the church office or Pastor Rusnak.

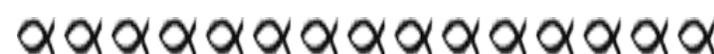
God Answers Prayers

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Classes are continuing and we wish to welcome all the children to come and be a part of this group. Marie Nelson is our wonderful teacher.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: If you have a child or know a child who is ready for Confirmation class, please contact Pastor Rusnak.



For Project 24
Received to date
(1/2/15):
\$95,235.33



Basic Goal \$1,350,000
For Lutheran Island Camp;
& International Projects
Pledges: \$648,522.42
Received to date: (1/2/15)
\$592,631.42



Vision Statement: Share the Gospel

Our Mission: We will share the GOSPEL as we

- Glorify God in all that we say and do
- Offer Him our time, talents, & treasures
- Share the good news of Jesus
- Pray without ceasing
- Engage the community
- Love one another



Spread the Word



SHEPHERD'S LAMBS: All young families of Shepherd of the Lake and the community are welcome to join us as we gather each month at church for a Bible study, craft, and fellowship. We also enjoy fun outings such as swimming and mini-golfing, and seasonal activities like trunk or treat, an Easter egg hunt, passing out May baskets to the homebound, and a Christmas program and party. Please contact Julie Rusnak if you have any questions.

Please watch for upcoming bulletins and newsletters for the next Shepherd's Lambs' event.



Rides Available

RIDES FOR HEALTH: The Cancer Support Center, Inc. provides transportation to anyone of any age in the Aitkin County that does not have someone to take them to medical appointments. Please check the bulletin board for more information or call (218) 927-4077.

We have volunteer drivers around the county and we coordinate client location with the closest driver. The drivers receive some reimbursement for mileage, our other expenses are phone and office. Annually we hold an appreciation/training meeting for our volunteers. We rely on donations and grants to fund our service.

We try to assist people in order to help them maintain independent living. Any donations will aid us in continuing to give rides. In 2013 we provided over 146 trips with a base of 17 drivers and 14 office volunteers: logged in over 600 hours and 12,726 miles at a cost of \$4,688. As of September 30, 2014 we have had 155 trips, logged in over 681 hours and driven 13,920 miles for a cost of \$4,734.

We are also looking for board members and individuals who would be willing to be office volunteers or drivers.



RUBY'S PANTRY: Everyone who eats qualifies: \$20 cash donation; bring your own boxes or basket for the food. This is a hand up not a hand out and is not income based. Please check out the bulletin board

for information on when Ruby's Pantry is going in Brainerd and/or Onamia.



GARRISON COMMUNITY KIDS' NIGHT: Mondays 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Garrison Community Center. This offers space for kids to run around and play and for community families to foster relationships. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Shepherd of the Lake organizes this event.



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE'S WEBSITE: Check out www.shepherdofthelake.org for access to sermons, pictures, announcements and more.



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we are blessed to be here, serving the Lord with you. Thank you for your many cards and gifts over the Christmas season. We so appreciate your generosity, love, support, and prayers! Thank you also for your gift this past October during Pastor Appreciation Month. That was unexpected and very generous of you to do! I have used some of that money to purchase Bibleworks, a computer program that assists me in studying the Bible in the original Hebrew and Greek and I pray will benefit you, too, as we continue to study the Scriptures together. May God bless our continued partnership in His mission and ministry in His church.

THANK YOU!
Pastor Rusnak and family



We wish to thank everyone for your prayers, cards and kindness shown to us before during and after Joan's surgery. We especially want to thank Pastor Rusnak for all his visits and show of concern through all this, he is a wonderful pastor and we appreciate all that he did for us.

God's blessings to you all!
Joan and Bob Wandersee



We would like to thank everyone who helped or contributed, in any way, with the recent renovations at our church building, including the painting, lighting, flooring, and sanctuary art. Everything "LOOKS GREAT!"

Thank you,
The board of Stewardship
The Board of Trustee's



We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with serving the fellowship coffee after Worship Services every Sunday. You are greatly appreciated. Once again we are looking for volunteers for serving in 2015. Please pick a date and sign your name on the serving sheet located on the bulletin board between the two offices.

Thank you, The LWML

RECYCLING ALUMINUM CANS: We are accepting all donations of empty and recyclable aluminum cans to support our Sunday school program. Please bag the cans and bring the bags to the trailer beside the garage. Thanks!



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Mardell Lemke, who entered the Church Triumphant on January 15th. May our good and gracious Father comfort Vern and the rest of Mardell's family during this difficult time. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to them all.



We extend our Christian sympathy to Shirley Kuschel and her family at the recent loss of her husband, Ken, on January 16th. May our good and gracious Father comfort Shirley and family during this difficult time. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to them all.



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the Family of Howard Frick who entered the Church Triumphant on January 17th. May our good and gracious Father comfort Howard's family during this difficult time! Our Prayers and sympathy goes out to them all. Howard was a Charter member of Shepherd of the Lake.



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Shirley Duos who was called to the Lord on December 27th. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time.



EMERGENCY CLOSING: Emergency closure of the church and cancellation of worship and other events due to weather will be decided by Pastor and the Elder of the month. Emergency closures and cancellations will be broadcasted on KKIN 94.3FM Aitkin and KLKS-104.3FM Breezy Point.



LWML UPDATE: The LWML/Ladies Aid group will not be meeting in February but will meet up again in March.



FLOWER CHART: A new flower chart will be posted on the bulletin board for 2015. Everyone is welcome to bring flowers for the altar. If you would like to do so in commemoration of a person or occasion, please contact the church secretary so that we can recognize the commemoration in the Sunday bulletin.



CHURCH MAILBOXES: The Church mailboxes have been updated. If you don't find a mailbox and/or if you didn't receive envelopes for 2015, but would like them, please see the church secretary and she will set you up.



YEARLY CHURCH INFORMATION BOOKLETS: The yearly church booklets are done and have been placed into everyone's mailboxes, please check them over and let the church secretary know of any mistakes, so that she may correct them.



TIME CHANGES: Beginning in February the monthly Board meetings will be at 9:00 a.m. instead of 5:30 p.m. and the monthly Church Council will be at 10:00 a.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. They will continue to be on a Tuesday.



LABELS PROGRAM: The Ladies Aid are collecting Campbell's soup labels, GM box tops for education, milk bottle caps, cancelled stamps, and pop can tops. They collect these items and give them to the different organizations who use them. The VFW will take used stamps but they ask that you keep a quarter of an inch of the envelope with them. If you have any questions, please contact marge Berndt or Elaine Drahosh.



**MEALS ON WHEELS
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

CARE is looking for volunteer drivers to deliver nutritious, hot meals and a warm smile right to the doors of Aitkin seniors.

CALL Betty at 218-927-1383
or visit us at 503 Minnesota Ave N.



GARRISON CAREGIVERS: The Food Shelf and Thrift Store in Garrison are looking for help during the winter months with the snowbirds gone for the winter. This is a great way to help our community. Please prayerfully consider serving.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: A little reminder about the coffee/fellowship donation basket. As you know it is a “free will” offering basket on the counter during the Sunday morning fellowship. The purpose is to help defray the various kitchen expenses, such as purchasing coffee, creamer, sugar, etc. This money is not used for the special donuts, cookies, cakes, etc., these items are provided by the servers on that Sunday. We ask that the people serving fellowship to please take home whatever leftovers there are. Thank you!



WITTENBERG PROJECT:

Are you interested in mission outreach to Germans who were denied their legacy of a Lutheran upbringing? I have made numerous trips to German, taking people to see where the Reformation started, and I have met a number of people in Wittenberg—the place where it all began. In speaking with local residents about Christ, I found that most of them were not churched during their childhood upbringing, and only about 17 percent of the people in Wittenberg claim to be Christians! Why? Under Soviet rule after WWII, many were forbidden to go to church or practice any type of religion under threat of losing their job or being denied educational opportunities. These people are not against Christianity; they simply have no knowledge of it. Now, we have an opportunity to help our sister church in Germany—die Selbständige Evangelisch—Lutherische Kirche—reach these people. We are renovating the Old Latin School in Wittenberg (built in 1564), so we have a place for worship and outreach that historically represents the Reformation and the perseverance of the Gospel. Won't you help us? We are asking congregations, schools and even Bible study groups to join the “500 Club” by pledging \$500 for the Wittenberg Project. Individuals may also pledge \$500 to be a part of the “Sola Verbe” opportunity. Please look at our website (www.thewittenbergproject.org) or call 1-800-248-1930 ext. 1661 or contact me (pastordave@bueltmann.org) to find out more. I appreciate your prayerful consideration of this outreach opportunity. Vielen Danken (Many Thanks), Rev. David Bueltmann, president emeritus, Central Illinois District, LCMS.



RICE HOT DISH

From the kitchen of: Marion Holmes

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 lb. Ground Turkey | 1 can Fancy Chinese Vegetables |
| ½ c. Onion | |
| 1 c. Celery | ¼ c. uncooked Brown Rice |
| 1 large can Mushrooms | 1 c. Water |
| 1 can Mushroom Soup | ¼ c. Soy Sauce |

Combine all ingredients. Bake at 350° for 2 hours.



CHOCOLATE CHERRY BARS

From the kitchen of: Unknown

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 c. Flour | ½ c. Butter |
| 1/3 c. Brown Sugar | 36 Maraschino Cherries |
| 1 pkg. Chocolate Chips | |

Mix flour, butter and brown sugar like pie crust and spread or pat into an 8X8 inch ungreased pan. Bake 15 minutes at 350°. Cut into small 1 inch squares. Drain maraschino cherries and place one on each square. Melt chocolate chips and place ½ teaspoon over each cherry.



DUMP CAKE

From the kitchen of: Unknown

- 1 (1 lb.) can crushed Pineapple (juice and all)
- 1 pkg. Yellow Cake Mix
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. Coconut
- 2 sticks Margarine

Preheat oven to 350°. Oil a 9X13 inch pan. Dump can of pineapple in pan and spread evenly. Dump coconut over pineapple. Dump cake mix over pineapple and coconut and spread evenly. Do Not Mix. Then take 2 sticks of margarine and slice evenly on top of cake mix. Bake approximately 35 minutes or until nice and brown. Serve with whipped cream.

RECIPES WANTED: *If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share, please write it down and put it in Sue Raddatz' mailbox or email it to suzie_q_79@live.com.*



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
 On February 18th
 Divine Service with Lord's Supper
 and The Imposition of Ashes
 At 6:00 p.m.



Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church

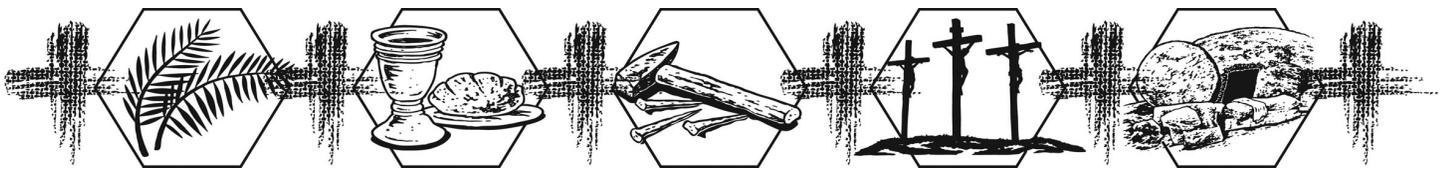
1 mile north of Garrison on Highway 169

Loren Larson

Gospel Concert

*Come for an afternoon of
Praise and Gospel Music
Sunday, February 15, 2015
At 3:00 p.m.*





2015

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday's at 6:00 p.m.

This Year's Theme:

"Amos-Restore the Roar!"



- Ash Wednesday February 18th—"Rescued from the Rubble"—Amos 1:1-2
February 25th—"Upside Down!"—Amos 3:1-8
March 4th—"This is the Night the LORD has Made!"—Amos 5:18-20
March 11th—"Grieving for Joseph"—Amos 6:1-7
March 18th—"Locusts Here, Locusts There, Locusts Seem to be
Everywhere!"—Amos 7:1-6
March 25th—"Lion Alert!"—Amos 7:10-17
Maundy Thurs. April 2nd—"The Taste Test"—Amos 8:11-14
Good Friday April 3rd—"Buried"—Amos 9:1-6
Easter Sunday April 5th—"Come to the Feast"—Amos 9:11-15

POTLUCK SUPPERS

5:00 p.m.

Starting on Ash Wednesday, February 18th —through Wednesday March 25th we would like to invite you to come and enjoy a potluck supper - good food and fellowship! Please help in setting up and cleaning up for the potlucks. Please have your dish to the kitchen by 5:00 p.m. Thank You!

Easter Sunday we will offer an Easter Breakfast between the 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Please watch for the March newsletter for more information.

