



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 2015 VOL. 9, NO. 3

Dear members of Shepherd of the Lake,

When I was growing up in the church as the son of the church organist, I could not stand Lenten soup suppers and services. I don't know exactly what it was. These extra things were inconvenient, boring, depressing, and always about the same old thing. I thought we celebrated the death and resurrection of Jesus *last* year?! I needed Lent more than I realized.

I recently read an online article about Lent by Pastor David Petersen from Fort Wayne, Indiana. He wrote this: "The Church is always prepared in the same way: through repentance. Whatever else marks Lent, it is a season of repentance. It lasts for forty days, not counting the Sundays, reminding us of our Lord's fasting in the desert and the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, both austere events. As part of that repentance, Lent is a time of increased prayer, fasting and gifts for the poor. Yet even as true repentance is not simply feeling sorry but is turning from sin and toward God or is sorrow over sin and faith in Jesus, so likewise, Lent is not so much a time of giving things up as it is a time for adding things that increase our awareness of God's mercy in Christ Jesus. That is why the majority, if not all, of our congregations add worship services during Lent. Lent is meant to be a time of increased opportunities to receive God's gifts won by Christ's death and resurrection. Midweek services could be thought of as giving up free time or leisure, but they are better considered as adding something valuable to our lives and as preparation for the life to come. Fasting can also be understood in this way. It doesn't have to be simply denying the body something. It can be training for the body. That training can be good for the body's physical health, and it can serve as preparation for times of temptation or persecution. The same is true of charitable giving. We might be tempted to think that we are giving more of our money away, giving it up, but we do better to think of how God has blessed us with not only material things but also salvation and that we are privileged to share with the needy. In any case, when these traditions are taken on for Lent, whether it is giving something up or adding something, they are not salvific and no sin is committed if they are ignored. They do not impress God or merit His favor. We don't need to impress God. He is already pleased with us in the Son and loves us. These traditions have, however, proven beneficial to Christians over the centuries, and there can be no doubt that they will also be good for us."

I like what Pastor Petersen has to say there because unlike my earlier years, I get Lent now. This is what it is all about. Its simplicity and clarity are beautiful to me and I am beginning to see what Petersen means: "*Lent is not so much a time of giving things up as it is a time for adding things that increase our awareness of God's mercy in Christ Jesus.*" In that spirit, may the God of all mercy bless our Lenten preparation again this year as we seek to continue following in His footsteps unto the Resurrection and life eternal.

In Christ,

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

Pastor Rusnak

March 2015 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Jerry Scherfenberg
218-678-2648



USHERS

Bill Alleman
Mike Raddatz



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

01st Gaylord & Bonnie Ryg
08th Bill & Linda Alleman
15th
22nd The Rusnak Family
29th



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 Drahosh
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 Drahosh
Doug Feltmann
Randy Feltmann

This Month's Birthdays!

05th Sabrina Drahosh
13th Barb Scherfenberg
14th David Drahosh
Bill Eno
18th Janel Forte



03rd Larry & Jessica Collison



05th Lyle Spicer
12th Brooklyne O'Neil
30th Thomas Gustin

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!



THIS MONTHS ALTAR GUILD:

Sandy Feltmann



SOTL News for March 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. Everyone is welcome!

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 in 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
(1/29/15):
\$95,955.33



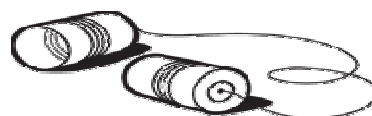
Basic Goal \$1,350,000
For Lutheran Island Camp;
& International Projects
Pledges: \$648,522.42
Received to date: (1/29/15)
\$594,846.22



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

FINANCIAL UPDATE: As we approach spring we look forward to warmer weather, longer days, and seeing everyone who may have departed from our area for a while. It has been the normal challenge to keep up with added expenses such as heat, snow removal, sewer hookup, and conversion of our facility from propane to natural gas. Last winter we found it necessary to take out a \$5000 loan to keep up with these costs and this year we are nearing the point of needing to add to this loan as the checkbook balance as of 2/13/15 stood at \$712.39. we ask that you pray for us to continue this ministry and help in any way the Lord may guide you. May God Bless You Always, *Shepherd of the Lake Church Council.*



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.

On Sunday, March 1st we will have Game Day for the Shepherd's Lambs at 3:00 p.m. So bring your game faces, a friend, a snack to share and your favorite games.



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. 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.



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!



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 be meeting in March. The LWML Board will be meeting at 12:30 p.m. and the LWML/Ladies Aid meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. All Ladies of Shepherd of the Lake are invited to come and be a part of this group.



EASTER FLOWERS: We would like to invite anyone who would like to bring spring flowers, or Lilies to beautify the sanctuary at our Easter morning services to please bring them. It would be nice to have spring flowers like tulips, daffodils, hydrangeas and colorful lilies on the altar once again. Please take home your flowers after Easter and enjoy them.



**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.



BASKETS OF PROMISE



On Easter, we celebrate the joy and hope of Christ's resurrection. We respond to this gift of new life by answering the call to "care for the orphans and widows" (James 1:27, NRSV) — those living in poverty and marginalization throughout the world. Your congregation can reach out to your brothers and sisters in need by joining LWR's **Baskets of Promise** Lenten appeal.

What to Include

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

- ×1 One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended
- ×2 Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- ×1 One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- ×1 One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ×1 One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. **Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*



GARRISON CAREGIVERS FOOD COLLECTION: The Garrison Caregivers are asking for your help once again this March to restock their shelves. Please bring the following items to the church and place them by the wooden cross in the fellowship hall.

- ✓ Soups, chili, stew, crackers
- ✓ Peanut butter and Jelly
- ✓ Canned fish, meat, veggies, and fruit
- ✓ Macaroni & Cheese, etc.
- ✓ Cereal, pudding, jell-o, snacks
- ✓ Cake and muffin mixes
- ✓ Juice, etc.
- ✓ Paper products, toiletries, and soap



ANNUAL SMELT FRY: Mark your calendars for our annual Smelt Fry on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the VFW in Garrison once again. Please watch the upcoming newsletter and bulletins for more information on the church event.



LABELS PROGRAM: Just a reminder that the Ladies Aid are collecting Campbell's soup labels, GM box tops for Education, milk bottle caps, cancelled stamps and pop can tops. They will collect these items and give them to the organizations that can use them like the VFW, Bethesda, & McDonald's House. The VFW will take the used stamps but ask that you keep a quarter inch of the envelope with them. You will find more information on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Elaine Drahosch or Marge Berndt.



YEARLY FLOWER CHART: We would like to invite anyone who would like to place flowers on the Altar in memory of a loved one, for your anniversary, or for a birthday. You will find a FLOWER CHART on the bulletin board in which you can write your name down.



BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY UPDATES:



We would like to invite our members and guests to help us update our Birthday and Anniversary information for our monthly newsletter. If your

Birthday or Anniversary dates are listed wrong or not listed at all please write the information down and place it in the Church Secretary's mailbox or email the information to sotllc@mlecmn.net so we can update are records, if you do not wish to have your dates in the newsletter please let us know and we will only use them for our records. Thank you very much in helping with this.



LENTEN THRU EASTER SCHEDULE:



MIDWEEK LENTEN: Each Wednesday evening from 2/18 to 3/25 at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck supper at 5:00 p.m.

HOLY WEEK:

Maundy Thursday Service w/LS: April 2nd at 6PM
Good Friday Service: April 3rd at 6PM

EASTER MORNING:

Easter Sunrise Service w/LS: April 5th at 7:30AM
Easter Sunday Service: April 5th at 10:00AM



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Daylight Savings begins on Sunday, March 8th. So remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday before going to bed.



17th ANNUAL

SMELT FRY

Sponsored by
Shepherd of the Lake
Lutheran Church

On
Saturday,
April 25, 2015

Serving from
3 to 7 pm

At the
Andy Kokesh VFW Post 1816
Garrison, Minnesota

Serving:
**Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked
Beans, Rolls, Dessert, Coffee,
And**



enough "Smelt" for everyone!



Hope to see you there!!

CHERRY COKE JELL-O

From the kitchen of: *Marge Berndt*

¾ c. Water
1 can Cherry Pie Filling
1 (#2) Can Crushed Pineapple and Juice
1 can Cola Soft Drink
Nuts and Coconut, optional

¾ c. Sugar
6 oz. box Cherry gelatin
1 Tbsp. Lemon Juice

TOPPING:

Cool Whip
Shredded Cheddar Cheese

Combine water and sugar and bring to boil. Add cherry filling and bring back to boil. Stir in gelatin to dissolve; add pineapple and lemon juice. Add 1 can of pop and nuts or whatever. Pour into a 9X13 inch pan and chill. Just before serving, cover with cool whip and shredded cheddar cheese.



SHAMROCK DIP

From the kitchen of: *Elaine Draosh*

1 (10 ½ oz.) box frozen Spinach, thawed, drained, and squeezed dry as possible
1 pkg. Dry Vegetable Soup Mix (Knorr or Lipton's)
1 (8 oz.) can Water Chestnuts, cut in chunks, drained
1 c. Mayo
1 c. Sour Cream

Mix together and chill. Serve in hollowed out head of cauliflower and place some flowerets by side for dipping or scoop out loaf of sourdough bread and place dip in it. Use scoops for dipping.



RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS

From the kitchen of: *God*

2 Heaping cups of PATIENCE
A dash of LAUGHTER
1 Heart full of LOVE
2 Handful of GENEROSITY
A generous sprinkle of KINDNESS
Plenty of FAITH

1 Handful of UNDERSTANDING

1. Combine Patience, Love and Generosity with Understanding.
2. Add a dash of Laughter and sprinkle generously with Kindness.
3. Add plenty of Faith and mix well.
4. Spread over a period of a lifetime. . . .
5. And serve to everyone you meet!

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.*



Easter Egg Hunt

*Come and join us
For our annual*

Easter Egg Hunt!

Sunday, April 5, 2014

*Following the
10:00 a.m. Easter Service*

*Here at
Shepherd of the Lake*

*Coordinated by
The Board of Education*



E

aster Breakfast!

*Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran
Church
1 mile north of Garrison on Hwy
169*

*Easter Sunday, April 5, 2014
From: 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.
Between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.*

Services

Menu:

Egg Bake

Colored Boiled Eggs

*English Muffins & Hot Cross
Buns*

Fresh Fruit

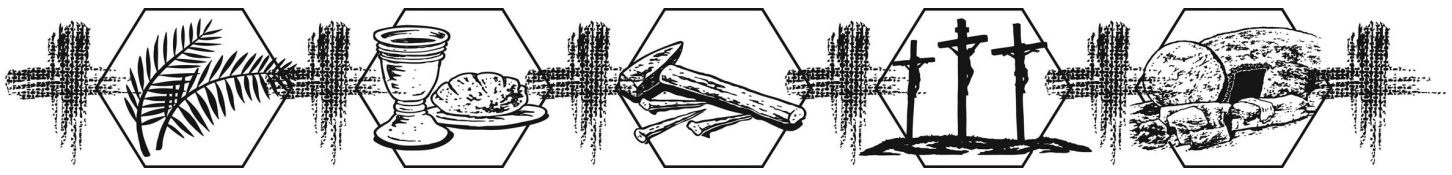
Orange Juice, Milk & Coffee

FREE WILL OFFERING!

(Suggested Cost: \$5.00 per person)

*Coordinated by: The Stewardship
Committee*

All are welcome!



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.





Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church March 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hour	2 9AM-Circuit Pastors' @Motley 7PM-Brd of Elders	3  L ent	4 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Spotlight Café 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study 5PM-Potluck Supper 6PM-Midweek Lenten Service	5	6	7 
8 Daylight Savings Begins 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service 11AM-Fellowship Hour 7PM-Bible Study	9 	10 12:30PM-LWML Board Meeting 1PM-LWML/Ladies Aid Meeting	11 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Spotlight Café 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study 5PM-Potluck Supper 6PM-Midweek Lenten Service	12 10AM-Publicity Meeting	13	14
15 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hour 7PM-Bible Study	16	17 St. Patricks 9AM-Board Meetings 10AM-Church Council	18 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Spotlight Café 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study 5PM-Potluck Supper 6PM-Midweek Lenten Service	19 April Newsletter Articles Due	20	21 
22 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service 11AM-Fellowship Hour 7PM-Bible Study	23	24 Printing April Newsletter	25 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Spotlight Café 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study 5PM-Potluck Supper 6PM-Midweek Lenten Service	26	27 	28
29 Palm Sunday 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hour 7PM-Bible Study	30 	31				

Vision Statement: "Share the GOSPEL"



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

P.O. Box 155

10583 US Highway 169

Garrison, MN 56450



To Those Loved by Christ:



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

E-Mail Addresses

Pastor's: pastor.sotllc@mlecmn.net

Secretary's: sotllc@mlecmn.net

Phone Numbers:

Parsonage #: 320-692-4329

Church's #: 320-692-4581

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Education Hour: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Divine Service: 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11:00 a.m.