



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 2015 VOL. 9, NO. 4

Jesus Is Risen

April, 2015

Dear members of Shepherd of the Lake,

"Christ is arisen and we shall arise: Give God the glory, Alleluia!"

That's the refrain from the hymn, "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" (LSB 474), and it captures the message of Easter simply and beautifully. Jesus, the Son of God, was surrounded by sin and death in His life. He took on all of it and He died, rejected by the world and forsaken by His Father. But God raised Him on the third day. Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed, Alleluia!

We are surrounded by sin and death, too. What does it mean for us to believe that Jesus is risen? It means believing that just as He was raised, we will be raised (Romans 6:4-5). It means believing in "the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come" as we confess in the Nicene Creed. It means believing in the "the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting" as we confess in the Apostles' Creed. It means having hope today in the midst of sin and death because of the death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the promise of our resurrection in Him (1 Corinthians 15:20-26).

"Christ is arisen and we shall arise: Give God the glory, Alleluia!"

That hymn concludes with the following two verses:

Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.

Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,

River of life, Saints and archangels, Sing with creation to God the I AM!

May God send His Spirit to us again this Easter season that we might continue to believe in Christ crucified, share His message of hope with this world, and rejoice in Easter forever.

In Christ, our risen and living Lord,

Pastor Rusnak

Pastor Rusnak

ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!

April 2015 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Steve Lawrence
218-678-2322



USHERS

Jerry Scherfenberg
Barb Scherfenberg



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

05th Easter Breakfast
12th Rollie & Rose Mihalko
19th Rubbelke's
26th Voter's Potluck



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.



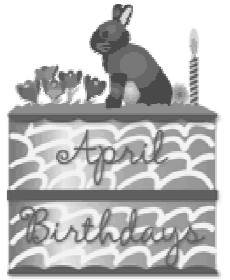
CHURCH OFFICERS

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!

02nd Rev. Walter Brill
03rd Bob Wandersee
11th Patricia Garding
Jim Wackerfuss
12th Sandy Feltmann
14th Bea Tabat
17th Larry Collison
18th Mat Rasmussen
24th Dalton Hoese
Cindy Kuehl



24th Bob & Robin Rubbelke



11th Baylie O'Neil

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:
Sheila Anderson



SOTL News for April 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 April. Beginning in May we will meet at Twin Pines.

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



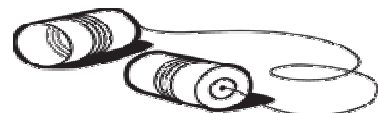
Basic Goal \$1,350,000
For Lutheran Island Camp;
& International Projects
Pledges: \$648,522.42
Received to date: (1/29/15)
\$594,846.22



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



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE'S WEBSITE:

We invite you to check out our website at shepherdofthelake.org. You can access sermons, pictures of church events, any announcements and more.



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.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be the Shepherd's Lamb gathering for April. Please watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters on future events.



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!



LWML BRAINERD ZONE SPRING RALLY:

On April 23rd the LWML will meet in McGregor for this year's Spring Rally with registration starting at 9:30. Please watch upcoming bulletins for more information. Please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.



EASTER FLOWERS:

Everyone is invited to bring spring flowers such as tulips, daffodils, hydrangeas, and, of course, lilies to beautify the sanctuary for our Easter services. After worship, you are welcome to take your flowers home and enjoy them there, as well.



YEARLY SPRING CLEANING:

Mark your calendars for our annual spring cleaning. We will meet at Shepherd of the Lake on Saturday, May 2nd at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided for all workers. Please note we will be cleaning both inside and outside the church. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated.



QUARTERLY VOTER'S ASSEMBLY & POTLUCK:

Our next Voter's Assembly will be Sunday, April 27th following our morning worship and a potluck luncheon. You will find a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the potluck. Thank you for your help! All members are invited to

attend this and all Voters' meetings so that as many as possible can take part in the decision making for our congregation.



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.

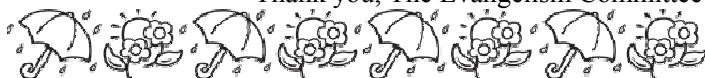




SAMARITAN'S PURSE: Samaritan's Purse that sponsors "Operation Christmas Child" is now taking "The Greatest Journey" around the world. "The Greatest Journey" is a discipleship program that takes many of the children who received Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes through a 12 week course at local churches. They hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, memorize scripture, learn how to share their faith, and receive their very own New Testament. "The Greatest Journey" is taking place in over 100 countries and in 60 languages. For \$6, Samaritan's Purse can take one child on this journey, providing trained teachers and a New Testament in the child's own language.

If you would like to support this evangelism effort by giving \$6 or more, please write your check out to Shepherd of the Lake, making sure "The Greatest Journey" is in the memo line, between now and Sunday, May 31. In the meantime, please pray the Lord's blessings on this effort to reach the lost with the saving gospel of Jesus.

Thank you, The Evangelism Committee



CHURCH RECORDINGS DEDICATION: On Sunday, May 10, 2015 we will be dedicating a set of organ recordings for use in worship at our 10:00 a.m. service. These recordings were purchased with money given in memory of June Kobs. So, we will use the recordings for worship that morning, dedicate them during the service, and enjoy a time of fellowship afterward.



ANNUAL SMELT FRY: Mark your calendars for our annual *Smelt Fry* on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the VFW in Garrison. Bob & Robin Rubbelke, David & Elaine Drahosh, and the Stewardship Committee are organizing this event. We will be prepping and setting up on Friday, April 24th starting at 9AM. You will find a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. All help will be greatly appreciated.



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 Drahosh or Marge Berndt.



PORTALS OF PRAYERS: The new Portals are available and can be found on the table in the narthex. Please take one for yourself and one to someone you know that may like to have one.



FLOWER CHART: Everyone is welcome to bring flowers for worship services in memory of a loved one, an anniversary, a birthday, or for other occasions. You will find a FLOWER CHART on the bulletin board where you can sign your name to a date. Thank you!



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@mlcmmn.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.



"AMOS-RESTORE THE ROAR"

Maundy Thursday Service w/LS: April 2nd at 6PM
"The Taste Test"

Good Friday Service: April 3rd at 6PM
"Buried"

EASTER MORNING: April 5th
"Come to the Feast"

Easter Sunrise Service w/LS at 7:30AM

Easter Sunday Service at 10:00AM



Let us welcome to our church family Jim Stigen. Jim became a member here at Shepherd of the Lake on Sunday, March 15, 2015. We are happy to have Jim

as part of our family. WELCOME JIM!



THRIVENT CHOICE: If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you likely are aware of this easy and convenient way to help support our church. If you would like to participate or simply know more, visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or contact Doug Collins at 218-927-3322.



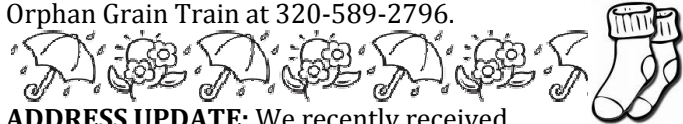


All congregations in the Minnesota North District are invited to collect for one, two, or all three projects of their choice.

New Socks and Undies for men, women, and children, will be taken to Texas border missions, and other places where new items are accepted. Especially children size (age 3 to 6th grade), as children in Mexico cannot attend school without socks and shoes.

Money Donations are needed to help with shipping costs. *The New Socks and Undies can be collected and sent along with your pastor when he attends the State Pastoral Conference at Madden's Resort, Brainerd, MN, from April 13-15, 2015. Bring items to Orphan Grain Train booth.*

Monetary donations can also be sent to Orphan Grain Train, P.O. Box 61, Morris, MN, 56267. Questions can be directed to Gene Pasche, Chairman of MN North Branch of Orphan Grain Train at 320-589-2796.



ADDRESS UPDATE: We recently received Pastor Matthew Ruesch and family's new address:

1912 Calle Monte Sinai
Mayaguez, PR 00682

Home phone number: 787-265-3384

Cell phones are the same:

Pastor's: 920-915-1915

Heather's: 920-840-0382

NOTE: Puerto Rico is part of the US Postal Service, it's still just a \$0.49 stamp to send something to us. For telephone calls, it's a regular long distance call...unless dialing from a cell phone...it's a regular domestic call (not international).



CINNAMON CHIP SCONES

From the kitchen of: *Bea Tabat*

3 c. All-purpose Flour	1 tsp. Vanilla
1/3 c. Sugar	1 c. Sour Milk
2 1/2 tsp. Baking Powder	1 c. Cinnamon Chips
3/4 tsp. Salt	1 Tbsp. Milk
1/2 tsp. Baking Soda	2 Tbsp. Sugar
2/3 c. Butter or Margarine	1/4 tsp. Ground Cinnamon

In a bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda; cut in butter. Stir in sour milk and vanilla until combined. Fold in cinnamon chips. Turn onto a floured surface; divide dough in half. Shape each portion into a ball and pat into an 8 to 9 inch circle. Place on a lightly greased baking sheet. Brush with milk. Combine 2 tablespoons of sugar with cinnamon; sprinkle over scones. Bake at 350° for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

EASTER STORY COOKIES

From the kitchen of: *In Memory of Carole Aeshliman*

To be made the Saturday evening before Easter

1 c. Whole Pecans	Wooden Spoon
3 Egg Whites	Ziplock Baggie
1 c. Sugar	Waxed Paper
1 tsp. Vinegar	Cookie Sheet
Pinch of Salt	Tape

Preheat the oven at 300° (do this at the very beginning... do not wait). Place pecans in the baggie and let the children beat them with the spoon. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, the Roman soldiers beat him.

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. vinegar in the bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, he was given vinegar to drink.

Add egg whites to the vinegar. Egg whites represents life. Explain that Jesus gave his life for us.

Sprinkle a little salt in each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears that were shed by Jesus' followers and the bitterness of our own sins.

So far, the ingredients are not appetizing. Add 1 cup of sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of this story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to him.

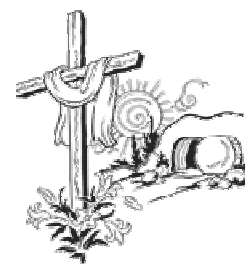
Beat with mixer on high for 12 to 15 minutes or until stiff peaks form. Explain the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus.

Fold in the nuts. Drop the cookies by teaspoons full onto a wax paper covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus was laid.

Put the cookie sheet in the oven; close the door and turn the oven off. Give each child a piece of tape and tape the oven door shut. Explain that Jesus was sealed in the tomb.

Go to bed. Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven, but that Jesus followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed and they had to leave Jesus in there.

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies will be hallow; on the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb empty.



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.*



Welcome Everyone!
To our Annual
Easter
Breakfast



At Shepherd of the Lake
Easter Sunday,
April 5, 2015
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*
- Sliced Ham, Fresh Fruit*
- Orange Juice, Milk & Coffee*

FREE WILL OFFERING!

(Suggested Cost: \$5.00 per person)

Coordinated by: The Stewardship Committee



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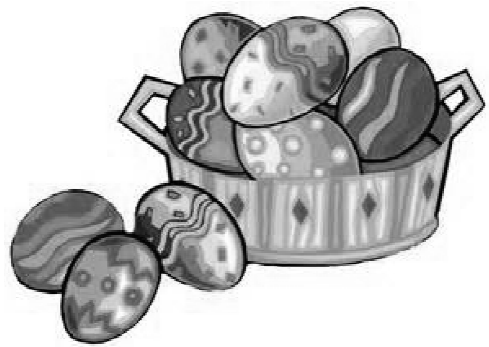
Join us

For our annual

Easter
Egg Hunt!

Sunday, April 5, 2015

At



11:00 a.m.

Here at

Shepherd of the Lake

Coordinated by
The Board of Education





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!

Adults: \$10.00

Children: \$5.00

Hope to see you there!!