



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2015 VOL. 9, NO. 7

Forgiveness and Unforgiveness

Dear baptized Christians,

We daily sin much and live among others who do the same. So, we daily have opportunities to give and receive forgiveness, both in relationship to our Heavenly Father and in relationship with other people. But what is forgiveness? Let's begin by looking at what forgiveness is not.

1. Forgiveness is not the same as amnesia. It is not forgetting and does not require it. One cannot forgive that which has already been forgotten. Rather, forgiveness is given in the face of remembering, and then forgiveness enables us to forget.
2. Forgiveness is not acquittal, finding the offender blameless and without responsibility. Rather, forgiveness is only required when the responsibility of the offender is recognized.
3. Forgiveness is not an award, something earned or given to those most deserving. Forgiveness must be given freely, without regard to merit.
4. Forgiveness is not approval of an action or agreement with it. It does not mean that the forgiving person is admitting that the offense was okay. In fact forgiveness is needed only when the offended does not approve; it is given in the face of disapproval of the behavior.
5. Forgiveness is not acquiescence. This is no license for the forgiven to go and do as he pleases in the future. There is no moratorium on values or a suspension of rules. This is not a permit to repeat the offense. Rather, in a mysterious way, forgiveness inspires and empowers change. It is given in the face of the knowledge that the future may or may not be any different, but it is also given with the hope that it will.

Instead, forgiveness is an affirming acceptance of a person as distinguished from their actions. It is also a reflection of the kind of love that is attributed to God. Forgiveness is an alternative to anger. Better yet, forgiveness is a response to anger. What is more, forgiveness reproduces itself. The forgiven are thereby enabled to forgive.

While we all have opportunities to give and receive forgiveness, many of us choose to live in something we might call unforgiveness. As Ted Kober has said, "Unforgiveness is the poison we drink hoping the other person will die". Unforgiveness keeps us from trusting each other. Unforgiveness breeds bitterness, making it impossible to work together. Unforgiveness only makes matters worse. Unforgiveness can result in depression and all kinds of other problems in the one who refuses to forgive.

As we daily repent and ask our God for forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior, we have the opportunity to daily live in that forgiveness in our relationships with others. It might be difficult and time-consuming, but it is simply what baptized, forgiven Christian people do. So, may the Father send His Holy Spirit again and again that we might live in the forgiveness of Jesus Christ and freely give what we have received (2 Corinthians 5.11-21).

In Christ, our Savior,

Pastor Rusnak

July 2015 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Gaylord Ryg
320-692-4789



USHERS

Bob Wandersee
Duane Posner



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

05th Needed
12th Collison's
19th Needed
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 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!

04th Marion Holmes
05th Ippy Drahosh
Arlen Kuehl
06th Zach Spicer
19th Tiffany Gustin
Candy Larson
23rd Jessica Spicer



17th David & Elaine Drahosh
19th Terry & LaNette Thorson
22nd Randy & Faye Feltmann
23rd Terry & Ippy Drahosh
28th Bob & Nancy Collison
31st David & Angela Raddatz



12th Kaleb Sahr
15th Dustin Frick
22nd Dylan Rasmussen

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 July 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 will be meeting at Twin Pines through the summer 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.

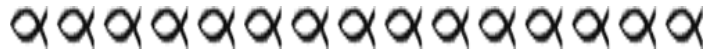


Prayer Requests: If you have someone or something that you would like Pastor Rusnak to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request card, located on the guest book stand, and

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's
Answers
Prayers*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: We would like to say thank you to all the children for coming and making our VBS week a fun experience in learning about Jesus, for the parents and grandparents who brought the children each day, and for all the volunteers. We want to thank Pastor, Julie and Marge for the wonderful job they did in putting the program together and the great job they did in transforming the church into Camp Discovery.



For Project 24
Received to date
(6/15/15):
\$97,765.72



Basic Goal \$1,350,000
For Lutheran Island Camp;
& International Projects
Pledges: \$652,541.41
Received to date: (6/15/15)
\$600,098.21



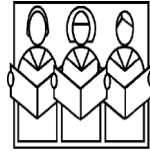
Vision Statement: Share the Gospel

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



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.



SUMMER CHOIR: Would you like to sing in a choir? Join us for a summer choir at Shepherd of the Lake! With your help, we will sing twice a month in June, July, and August under the direction of Mrs. Diane Saumer Guidi from Zion Lutheran Church in Brainerd. See the bulletin board for the sign-up sheet. We wish to thank Mrs. Diane Saumer Guidi and the church members for being a part of the choir group.



SHEPHERD'S LAMBS: All young families of Shepherd of the Lake and the community are welcome to join us as we gather 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, and a Christmas program and party.

In July the Shepherd's Lambs will be participating in the Garrison Play Days Parade on Saturday, July 25th. Donations of Freeze pop Popsicles will be greatly appreciated; the more the better! Float decorating times and more parade information coming soon! Please contact Julie Rusnak if you have any questions.



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.

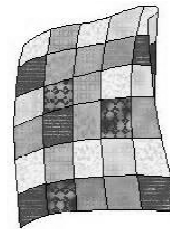


Rides Available

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.



QUILTING FOR WORLD RELIEF "Tied in Faith, Sent in Hope, Wrapped in love":

The Ladies have been busy making quilts for World Relief. Last year the Ladies made around 100 quilts to give to Lutheran World Relief and we are hoping to meet or even beat that count this year. Shari Beck and Rose Mihalko will lead the quilting group again this year and they welcome all who would like to help in any way with this worthy cause. The Ladies are meeting on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Please contact either Shari or Rose if you have any questions.



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.



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!



**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.





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!



LAWN MOWING: We are looking for volunteers to mow the lawn here at Shepherd of the Lake during the summer months. If you will and able to help with this project please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Larry Collison.

VOLUNTEER AT THE AITKIN COUNTY FAIR: St. John Lutheran Church in Aitkin has invited us to help staff their table at the Aitkin County Fair where they will be handing out Bibles and brochures about the LCMS congregations in the area, including SOTL. The fair will be July 8-11 and they need two people to staff the table for three hours at a time. If you are interested in helping, please phone their church office at (218) 927-3170.



Zoe Lynn Reem became a child of God through the water of Holy Baptism on Friday, June 19, 2015. We rejoice along with her parents, James and Anna (Turk) Reem, that the Lord has welcomed little Zoe into his church and we pray for her continued growth in the Christian faith.



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC: This year's Church picnic will be on Sunday, August 9th. We will be having an outdoor service followed by a potluck luncheon and an afternoon of games, fun and great fellowship. We hope to see all of our members and summer guests. Please see the Picnic flyer in this month's newsletter.

QUARTERLY VOTERS ASSEMBLY: The next quarterly Voter's meeting will be on Sunday, July 26th. Once again we will be having a potluck luncheon preceding the meeting, we wish to invite our members and summer guests to stay and enjoy the potluck luncheon and fellowship.

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: The church offices will be closed on Saturday, July 4th for the holiday. We hope to see our members and visitors on Sunday at 10:00 for our Sunday services.

CHURCH BRATS SALES: The church will be sponsoring a Brat's Sale on Friday, August 14th and Saturday, August 15th. All help will be greatly appreciated. You will find a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



A BIG THANK YOU! We want to say THANK YOU to Jerry Scherfenberg, for the beautiful Symbol signs hanging in our sanctuary. They look wonderful on the walls.



I would like to thank all of you who sent Get Well Cards, came to visit, called me, prayed for me, or just thought about me as I'm going through this Bone Infection and Staph in my right leg. It is very painful. You are all greatly appreciated!

Thank you, Elaine Drahosh



Thank you to everyone who participated with the LAPS Baby Bottle Campaign from Mother's Day to Father's Day. It is wonderful seeing how the members of SOTL support local causes.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS: We are planning to gather school kits this fall for Lutheran World Relief. The plan is to begin the in-gathering on August 2, 2015 and end it on September 6. The Evangelism Committee will purchase the back packs.

Education is important for every community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to reach their potential. School kits contain essential supplies to help children—and in some cases adults—continue learning despite the hardships they face. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

School Kits Items:

- Four 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper
 - One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.
 - One pencil sharpener
 - One pair blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
 - Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
 - Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
 - One box of 16 or 24 crayons
 - One 2 1/2" eraser
- Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

ADDRESS CHANGES: We have received a couple of address changes that we would like to pass along.

Betty Goepfert:

2001 West Rudasill Road. #8306
Tucson, AZ 85704

Betty said that her phone number has remained the same. And she would like to say hi to everyone!

Iola Olson:

115 Jefferson Street SE Apt. #100
Hutchinson, MN 55350-2552



Annual Church Picnic

**Sunday,
August 9, 2015**

**10:00 A.M. Outdoor
Church Service**

**Followed By:
Entertainment
Potluck Luncheon
Games
Good Fellowship**



AMAZING RHUBARB COBLER

From the kitchen of: *Memory of Ev Wallentine*

½ c. Margarine	1 c. Hot Water
1 c. Flour	1 c. Sugar
½ c. Sugar	Cinnamon
½ c. Milk	1 tsp. Baking Powder
2 c. Rhubarb, diced	

Melt margarine in 10" pie plate. Make a batter of flour, sugar, baking powder and milk. Spoon over melted margarine. Place rhubarb over batter. Stir sugar into hot water and pour over rhubarb. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes.



APRICOT SALAD

From the kitchen of: *Unknown*

1 large can Apricots chopped, save juice
1 medium can Crushed Pineapple, save juice
1 large Orange Jell-o
2 c. Hot Water
1 c. Juice from fruit
¾ c. Mini Marshmallows (Can substitute with chopped walnuts)

Topping:

½ c. Sugar	2 Tbsp. Butter
3 Tbsp. Flour	½ pt. Whipping Cream
1 Egg, beaten	Cheddar Cheese, shredded
1 c. Fruit Juice	

Dissolve jell-o in hot water; add juice and fruit. Partially set; add marshmallows. Put in large pan and set. Cook flour, sugar, eggs and juice until thick. Add butter and cool Whip and fold in whipped cream. Spread over jell-o. Sprinkle with cheese



PINK CHERRY LEMONADE

From the kitchen of: *Unknown*

1-8oz. bottle of Maraschino Cherries with stems
1 ½ c. strained Lemon Juice or approximately 18 Lemons
1 ¾ c. Sugar 6 c. Cold Water
12 drops Red Food Coloring
Combine cherry juice, lemon juice and sugar. Add water and coloring. Serve with Cherry Ice Cubes

CHERRY ICE CUBES

Fill ice cube tray 1/3 full of water. Allow to partially freeze. Place 1 cherry with stem in each cube section and cover with water. Freeze.