

Shepherd's *Voice*

Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS

January 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Who am I? What is my purpose?

These are two universal questions asked by endless numbers of people throughout every generation. They are good questions and I commend all who search for meaning and purpose for their life. A life without purpose is meaningless and stagnant. They say that the happiest and most fulfilled people are those who love what they do, what they are good at, and sharing it with those around them gives them purpose.

But as Christians we know there is problem in every person which blinds them to determining meaning and purpose for life. And even when they can determine a purpose for their life, it will be self-serving. The problem is original sin, our old sinful nature. Before their fell in sin, Adam and Eve knew their identity and purpose because they were created in the image of God - perfect, holy, knowing God and finding fulfillment in accomplishing God's will. But all that changed with their fall into sin. Clarity about one's purpose and identity are now veiled in darkness.

Being spiritually blind to the truth of God and trapped in the grip of sin, even when man sets a purpose for living, there will be no true lasting happiness or fulfillment. Because of sin's corruption man has no moral compass, and will choose only to please himself, at the expense of others. True meaning and purpose for live is allusive, for man searches in all the wrong places.

But there is one place that reveals the answer to these questions. The only place with the answer is in the Bible. There is no specific verse which says, "The meaning of life is...", but the **Bible reveals God's purpose for us, and it is in fulfilling that purpose we discover meaning and satisfaction in our lives.**

January Church Events

- 1.1 Heritage Hall Worship 3pm
- 1.8 Adult Bible Study 9am
- 1.12 Church Councils meets after worship service
- 1.13 Women's Guild 1pm
- 1.14 Adult Bible Study 9am
~~Christian Growth 6pm~~
Mission Committee meets
- 1.20 Worship Committee 6pm
- 1.21 Adult Bible Study 9am
- 1.26 Congregation Meeting after church with a carry-in meal
- 1.28 Adult Bible Study 9am

When we are called to faith in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, we become a new creation. We are *"born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you."* I Peter 1:3,4. Our conversion through faith in Jesus Christ is the **beginning** of this **new way of life**. The new life we live seeks to serve God's will and purpose, and is a life culminating in eternal life in heaven. We are **Disciples of Jesus Christ**. And being a disciple defines who we are and our purpose. Who am I? I am a redeemed child God whose sins are forgiven, an heir of His eternal kingdom. My purpose? To tell all people the Good News of God's love for them in Jesus Christ. To tell all people that God has a purpose and plan for their lives.

Take a moment and ponder the following definitions.

DISCIPLE

A *Disciple* is a person who accepts and assists in spreading the teachings of another.

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLE

A *Christian Disciple* is a person who accepts and assists in the spreading of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

DISCIPLESHIP

Christian Discipleship is the process by which disciples grow in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ through study of God's Word, and are equipped by the Holy Spirit to become like Christ.

Christian discipleship is the process that progressively brings Christians from spiritual infancy to spiritual maturity, so that they are able to guide others in becoming faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we need to know what matters most to Him so it can matter most to us. Thankfully, Jesus reveals this to us in His written word. After His resurrection, and just before His ascension back into heaven, Jesus told His disciples what was uppermost on His mind. It is the Great Commission recorded, Matthew 28:19,20. *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."* The mission of the church is to make disciples, followers of Jesus Christ, who believe in and assist in spreading the Gospel to make more disciples.

Who am I? I am a **disciple** of Jesus Christ. What is my purpose? To know and accomplish God's will for my life in the world. And what is true for us as individual Christians is also true for us as members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We are here to share the Good News of Jesus Christ so that all people will know the plans that God has for their lives. *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."* (Jeremiah 29:11).

Our goal is to gather all people around God's Word so that they can receive and find happiness in the plans that God has for their lives.

God bless, Pastor Kriete



2019 Centralia Family adoption.

A big thank you to everyone for the gifts to this family.

Lutheran Family & Children's Services SEASON OF SHARING

THANK YOU FROM LFCS

On behalf of Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Mid-Missouri, thank you for your generosity in contributing items to the "Season of Hope Tree".

You helped restock the LFCS closet with supplies for our clients' emergent needs. Good Shepherd congregates generously contributed diapers, baby wipes, diaper cream, sleepers and onesies, hats and mittens, socks, baby bottles, blankets, pacifiers, teething rings, thermometers, diaper bags and therapy sessions.

Besides facilitating adoptions, LFCS assists individuals and families with counseling for pregnancy, postpartum depression, grief, divorce, abuse, parenting support, and more.



With gratitude for your thoughtfulness and generous outpouring of love.



Interested in being a Mailbox Member of the LWML?

Each month in 2020, as a member of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League), I would like to share a note/item in your church mailbox (or electronic email box) that helps you know more about our mission as an auxiliary of the Lutheran Church.

Rather than just mass produce these items for every mailbox- I would like you to prayerfully consider whether you would LIKE to receive such mail. Please let Ann Seider know by any of these methods listed below:

- Return the bottom portion of this article to my church mailbox
- Verbally reply at church
- Email me at seider6366@gmail.com
- Phone call me at 682-3389 or text to 573-489-2816

LWML recognizes each of us leads varied lifestyles with differing levels of time and interests. With that in mind, and knowing that LWML provides many encouraging resources to equip women to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, I would love for you to sign up for our mailbox program so that you can easily learn about these resources.

Also keep in mind, that all Good Shepherd women, and friends of Good Shepherd members, are welcome to attend our Women's Guild meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at 1 pm. We end around 3:30 pm. Each meeting begins with a bible study. Refreshments are not served...but we have been known to use Guild as an excuse for a treat☺ If you are a member of Guild and still wish to receive the mailbox items, then just let me know at the next meeting on Jan. 13th or turn in the attached slip.

I will set a goal of having some weekend or evening time a couple times in 2020 for us to gather with anyone who is unable to attend our daytime meetings. Perhaps we could take our bible study to a local restaurant or park? ---Ann Seider

Yes, I would like to participate in the Mailbox Program of the LWML in 2020.

Name _____ Birthdate _____

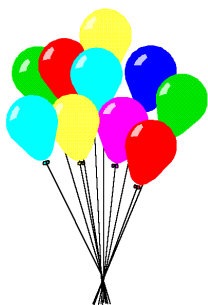
Select one of the methods for your participation.

1. _____ Put the Mailbox items in my church box.
2. _____ Electronically send me the items to this email address.
3. _____ Just hand me the items when you see me at church

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3:00 p.m. Heritage Hall Worship	2	3	4
5 9:00 a.m. S. School 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	6	7 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	8	9	10	11
12 9:00 a.m. S. School 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship Service w/ Children's Church Council meets after service today	13 Women' Guild Meeting 1:00 p.m.	14 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Christian Growth 6pm	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 a.m. S. School 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	20 Worship Committee 6:00 p.m.	21 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	22	23	24	25
26 9:00 a.m. S. School 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship Service w/ Children's Church Congregation Meeting With carry-in meal	27	28 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	29	30	31	

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



1.2 Nathaniel Mahieu
 1.4 Verda Adkisson
 1.12 Tim Billings
 1.14 Garon Stowers
 1.15 Audrey Seider
 1.15 Ella Smith
 1.16 Kim Decker
 1.18 Danny Nadler



Serving The Lord

Officiant: Pastor Robert Kriete (vacancy)

January 26

Reader: Gary Seider

Greeters: Katie Hoek & Sheryl Bartels

Ushers: Gary Seider & Aaron Seider

Musician: Donna Hoek

Nursery: Jacki Stelzer

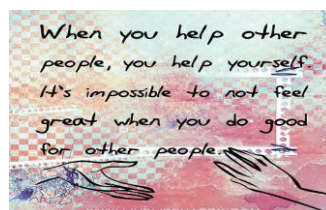
Altar Guild: Ann Seider/Vickie Chism

Acolyte:

Tellers: Jeff & Tracy Jaeger

GOOD SHEPHERD CARE COMMITTEE

John Briggs	573-424-2257
Sheryl Bartels	573-881-7879
Judy Maseman	573-682-4237



Elders

Eric Walters	(573) 682-4781
Gerry Sydow	(573) 682-4157
Jon Hoek	(573) 682-7236



Giving the Gift of Mobility

Thank you so much for supporting the Frog project! We are humbled by the amount of support we have received from our family, friends, & complete strangers throughout this journey. We wouldn't be near where we are today without your help. We are very excited to see what the road ahead has in store for us as we help get kids like Brody moving!

Since we launched our campaign we have heard from physical & occupational therapists as well as parents from across the world that have little ones that they believe can benefit from a Frog. We are so excited to ship Frogs out to them as quickly as we can to get those little people moving!

Thanks again!
Taylor, Ally, & Brody Moreland



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

DECEMBER FINANCIAL AND ATTENDANCE

Special Services

December 1

Attendance	48
Current	\$ 3,271.16
Building	\$ 362.56
Total	\$ 3,633.72

December 8

Attendance	93
Current	\$ 2,084.35
Building	\$ 160.00
Total	\$ 2,244.35

December 15

Attendance	63
Current	\$ 1,854.09
Building	\$ 280.00
Total	\$ 2,134.09

December 22

Attendance	65
Current	\$ 2,420.00
Building	\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 2,620.00

December 29

Attendance	47
Current	\$ 5,276.00
Building	\$ 257.56
Total	\$ 5,533.56

Current

10% of our current offerings are sent to Missouri District for missions. The remaining 90% is used for GSLC budget expenses.

Building

100% of money designated for building stays in our congregation for budget expenses.

November 27

Thanksgiving Eve

Attendance	23
Offering	\$320.00

December 4

Advent

Attendance	38
Offering	\$579.00

December 11

Advent

Attendance	44
Offering	\$439.00

December 18

Advent

Attendance	52
Offering	\$361.00

December 24

Christmas Eve

Attendance	89
Offering	\$617.51

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The offerings for Thanksgiving Eve, all Advent services, and Christmas Eve are designated to be divided in this way: one-half to Lutheran's For Life and Centralia Ministerial Alliance

Other December Deposits

12/1/19 Frog Mobility	\$45.00
12/1/19 Donna Hoek (advent meal)	\$7.00
12/18/19 Boone Coop(Capital Credit)	\$159.76
12/29/19 Additional Advent Donation	\$10.00
12/29/19 December Hall Usage	\$120.00

SICK AND HEALTH CONCERNS

Marth Blevins; Mary Brechler; Susan Harris; Codee Bartels; Brogan Virden; Bob Moss; Jane St. John; Wayne Nolan – stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; Joanne Bettenhausen; Michelle Smith – Daughter of Jane St John; Sherry Hashagen – Aunt of Catherine Simmons; Tracy Brownstein – sister of Randy Simmons; Glennon Stelzer – uncle of Russell Stelzer and Palmyra Dubbert; Norma Remmert – sister of Ernestine Ramsey; Arla Benskin – daughter of Mary Brechler; Mark Ramsey son of Ed Ramsey. Community: Brian Flatt–treatment for Liver Cancer; Misty Williamson-treatment for Breast Cancer; Cheryl Hartgrove–wife of Pastor David Hartgrove.

ARMED FORCES

Chris Chism, U.S. Navy – son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Armand & Barbara Fischer; Mason Crabtree – grandson of Margaret Parker; James Wessels – grandson of John and Sherry Morse; Brittany Macklin – great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; Zachary Warden – grandson of Betty Warden; Diton J. Parker – grandson of Margaret Parker; Thomas Teem – husband of Margaret Parker’s granddaughter, Kaylyn; Andrew Butler – husband of Margaret Parker’s granddaughter, Sarah. Community: Ray Finlay; Jeremy Mitchell; Justin Thurston.



Pastor Robert Kriete (vacancy pastor)

(573) 999-6525, Email: rkriete@centurylink.net

Church Office- Starr Nadler 8:am-12:pm, M-F

(573) 682-3941

120 West Gano Chance Road

Centralia, Missouri 65240

goodshepherdcentralia@centurytel.net

www.goodshepherdcentralia.org