

# Shepherd's *Voice*

Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS

April 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I thought about beginning this newsletter talking about the complications, disruptions and death that the covid-19 virus is having on the lives of all people in the world. And remember we are not immune to its complications and disruption in our own life, so be smart and safe.

With Easter Sunday just a week away, I also thought about beginning with the Good News of Jesus Christ resurrection from the grave – about the message of victory over our enemies of sin, death and the devil that Christ's resurrection proclaims. Always an appropriate topic for proclaiming.

Rather, I begin with our Vision Statement.

*“Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will revitalize with growth through mission outreach working with the Mission Action Advisory Group in Northern Boone county. The mission outreach will begin in Centralia, and expand outward to include Hallsville, Sturgeon, Harrisburg, and the surrounding areas. The focus will be on reaching the unchurched, with emphasis on Millennials and Gen Zers. This vision includes equipping parents to teach Biblical faith, and to develop a missionary mindset and culture among our congregants. The goal is to use this missionary mindset to impact 1% of the Northern Boone County area every week. This vision centers on gathering people around God's Word and in His Service.”*

At a recent meeting of the Mission Committee, our Vision Statement was read to direct our focus as we continue with plans to call a mission minded Pastor, and to seek opportunities for outreach. The beautiful thing about our Vision Statement is that it encompasses the disaster being caused by covid-19, and most of all the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Reaching the unchurched, gathering people around the Word of God and equipping parents to teach and witness faith to their children is what we are to be doing during both the good times and the bad times.

What this covid-19 pandemic has created is an opportunity for the Christian Church to step up, step out and witness the love of God for all people. This is a time of hopeless and fearfulness for so many people. Certain death stares them in the face and they are afraid. Some will say their fear of death is in how they will die, to the pain involved, but this is denial of their greater fear when they cease to exist.

Jesus Christ came into this world to resolve our problem with death and so He did through His own death and then His resurrection on Easter Sunday. Jesus says, *“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.”* John 11:25,26. St Paul wrote, *“Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ‘O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* I Cor. 15:55b,56.

This pandemic is an opportunity to free those facing death with the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ. When the nation of China turned to Communism a 100 plus years ago, it closed its doors to the outside world, especially to Christianity. It was estimated at that time there were 1.5 million Christians among the Chinese people. Seventy plus years later protest broke out among the people and with an increase in economic influx from the outside world, plus some leadership change, the door began to open. Today it was estimated that at there were over 30 million Christians in China. God's Church flourishes under persecution.

Now I'm not saying that this time of pandemic has brought persecution to the church, but it has brought fear and death to the multitude around the world. And we have the message that wipes away all tears and give hope in the face of death - *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16.

So what can we do? How can we share the Gospel when we are directed by health officials and the government to isolate ourselves and stay indoors? And as Christians we know these guidelines are good instructions, for isolation minimizes the spread between people and in time will help to bring an end to covid-19.

But being isolated in our homes doesn't mean we are to remain silent. There are many things we can do.



- Call your friends and neighbors to see how they are doing. If they feel uncertain or express fear, tell them they are not alone and share your hope in Jesus Christ.
- If they have physical needs, groceries etc, see what you can do to help. If you are unable to help physically, find someone who can help. Check the local authorities and grocery stores, etc, for those who have volunteered to make deliveries.
- Send an occasional card letting people know you are thinking about them and praying for them.
- If you have the internet direct you friends to Christian sites where they will hear the Word of God.
- And a very important opportunity. See this isolation as an opportunity for you and your family to grow spiritually. For us who are shut in, we have discovered we have extra time. My friends in Christ, the truth of God's holy and inspired Word is the first, last, best, and only place for you to gain perspective about life and find peace for all times. Devote more of your time to reading and studying God's Word and to prayer for all those in need. By encouragement and example invite you family to join you in devotions and studies.

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."* Romans 15:13

God bless and keep you,  
*Pastor Kriete*

# April 2020

**Please check to make sure meetings are still on!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5  Palm Sunday	6	7	8	9  Maundy Thursday	10  Good Friday	11
12  Easter Sunday	13 Women's Guild Meeting 1:00pm	14 Elder's Meeting 6:00pm	15	16	17	18
19	20 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee	21 Mission Committee 6:30pm	22	23	24	25
26 ?????? 9:00 a.m. S. School 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship w/ Children's Church Congregation Meeting w/ carry-in after worship	27	28	29	30		



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**Jacki Stelzer 4.2**  
**Russell Stelzer 4.3**  
**Lori Gesling 4.5**  
**Judy Maseman 4.11**  
**Kara Stowers 4.13**  
**Breelle Stowers 4.16**  
**Susan Hulen 4.22**  
**Shelby Banks 4.30**  
**Kathy Krause 4.30**



## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

**Matt & Olivia Hoek–April 13**  
**Gerry & Martha Sydow–April 14**  
**Gary & Ann Seider–April 30**



**LUTHERAN HOUR  
MINISTRIES**  
*www.lhm.org*

## April 2020

April 5

"There's Still Time"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

People can be unreceptive to God's love because they are very bad-or because they think they are very good.

(Exodus 11-12)

April 12

"You Haven't Lost Me"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Exodus 14)

April 19

"TBD"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

April 26

"TBD"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

### **Broadcasting**

**Columbia, MO**

**KMCV 100.9 FM Sunday Mornings at 8:00am**

**Moberly, MO**

**KWIX 92.5 FM Sunday Afternoons at 1:30pm**



## April Calendar

- April 5: Palm Sunday  
Text: Matthew 26:1-27:66
- April 9: Holy (Maundy) Thursday  
Text: Matthew 26:17-30
- April 10: Good Friday  
Text: John 18:1-19:42
- April 12: The Resurrection of Our Lord  
Text: Matthew 28: 1-10
- April 19: Second Sunday of Easter  
Text: John 20:19-31
- April 26: Third Sunday of Easter  
Text: Luke 24:13-35



Be sure to check "Church Updates" for the latest church news and prayer requests, as well as serving and giving opportunities at Good Shepherd.

Sign up and register at  
[www.churchupdates.org](http://www.churchupdates.org)

# Serving The Lord

## Good Shepherd Care Committee

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

## Board of Elders

Gerry Sydow	(573) 682-4157
Jon Hoek	(573) 682-7236
Russell Stelzer	(573) 682-7230

## Board of Trustees

Ed Bartels	(573) 864-8364
Kathy Dickey	(573) 489-3421
John Briggs	(573) 424-2257

## Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Gifts

Thank you for adopting one or more boxes so gifts can go to children in other countries that have never received Christmas presents. This is a wonderful way to share God's love. Although we don't know who the recipient will be, I ask you to pray for them throughout the year asking God to show them love and to keep them safe.

It costs \$9 for shipping. If that is too much for you, please do not let that stop you from adopting a box. We will take up a collection at the end of the year.

## April emphases - Wash Cloth and Wrapped Bar Soap (*store item*)

### PET Project

At this time please do not bring any jugs or cans to church for the recycling project. Mobility Worldwide is not making carts at this time. Please feel to recycle them on your own. I will let everyone know when things start back up again.

### Buddy Packs

At this time the schools are not receiving the weekly buddy packs. The stay at home order is until April 24<sup>th</sup>, which is a Friday. If school returns on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> we will need to pick up and deliver on April 29<sup>th</sup> only.

# MARCH FINANCIAL AND ATTENDANCE

**March 1**  
 Attendance 65  
 Current \$ 2,260.00  
 Building \$ 426.04  
  
**Total \$ 2,686.04**

**March 8**  
 Attendance 60  
 Current \$ 1,367.00  
 Building \$ 190.00  
  
**Total \$ 1,557.00**

**March 15**  
 Attendance 0  
 Current \$ 1,187.56  
 Building \$ 290.00  
  
**Total \$ 1,477.56**

**March 22**  
 Attendance 0  
 Current \$ 1,340.00  
 Building \$ 511.04  
  
**Total \$ 1,851.04**

**March 29**  
 Attendance 0  
 Current \$ 1,450.00  
 Building \$ 125.00  
  
**Total \$ 1,575.00**

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.

Special Service		Attendance
Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday \$ 630.50	40
Mar. 4	Lent 1 \$ 145.00	30
Mar. 11	Lent 2 \$ 115.00	<i>(Service Canceled)</i>
Mar. 18	Lent 3 \$ 75.00	<i>(Service Canceled)</i>
Mar. 25	Lent 4 \$ 25.00	<i>(Service Canceled)</i>

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The offerings for Ash Wednesday, Midweek Lent, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are designated to be divided in this way: one-half to MO District LWML Mite Goal and one-half to Rainbow House.

Other March Deposits	
3.1	Fellowship Hall Usage(Feb) \$140.00
3.22	Sr. Youth Bunny Sales \$10.00
3.25	Sr. Youth Bunny Sales \$30.00
3.29	Fellowship Hall Usage(Mar) \$80.00

## **Stephanie and John Eddy family**

**Prayers of thanksgiving** for John and Stephanie Eddy for the birth of their son born on March 27th. Jordan John (JJ) joins big sister, Aliya. GOD IS GREAT! Grandparents are Eric & Vickie Chism; great-grandparents are Armand & Barbara Fischer.

## **Breaved**

**Glennon Stelzer**, uncle to Russell Stelzer and Palmyra Dubbert, passed away on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Charles Eddy**, Eric & Vickie Chism's son-in-law John Eddy's grandfather, passed away on March 26<sup>th</sup> from kidney failure.

## **SICK AND HEALTH CONCERNS**

**Bob Moss** – husband of Brenda Moss recovering from Aortic Aneurysm repair surgery; **Martha Blevins**; **Mary Brechler**; **Susan Harris**; **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; **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**.

## **Highway Cleanup**



On a fairly warm and dry Saturday morning, March 7th, six church members spent an hour picking up 18 bags of trash along our Adopt-a-Highway spot west of Centralia on Highway 22. Those participating were Catherine and Randy Simmons, Lori Gesling, Kathy Dickey, Ann and Gary Seider. Interesting trash items....a bent hubcap, demolished phone, a useful tie-down strap, dead opossum (he really was dead!), lots of fiberboard, and way too many small liquor bottles. Thanks for the help volunteers! We aim to clean again a couple more times in 2020.



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