

Shepherd's *Voice*

Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS

November 2020

Who are we going to trust? Ephesians 6:10-17 reminds us that our strength is found in God, in His power, and in the use of the armaments He has given us.

We are fast approaching a national election. It seems over the last several election cycles that we have seen increasingly bizarre behavior, not only on the part of the candidates, but also on the part of the electorate. Many commentators have begun to speak of politics in terms which, just a generation ago, indeed, maybe 15-20 years ago, would be reserved for religion. We have placed our hopes and dreams on particular candidates. People claim Messianic status for individuals running for our presidency. Appointments to the Supreme Court are viewed in apocalyptic terms. While some hints of this behavior can be found in the first half of the 20th century as well, it has reached a fever pitch which has taken many by surprise.

How should a Christian react to such a culture? First, we remember that it is God who is the great king and judge of all. If our hopes are in fallen humans, our hopes will be disappointed. There is no political party or candidate that will be perfect. Those haven't been made for millennia, since the Fall of man in the Garden of Eden. We try to identify what will be best for society, but we realize that in the end there will be disappointment.

Second, when we have been empowered to do so, we speak our Christian convictions in the public square, voting for candidates and policies we think will do the most good. We love and serve our neighbors through our political voice, including voting, writing letters and emails to people in office, and urging our governmental officials to do what is good and right.

November Church Events

- 11.3 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 11.9 Women's Guild at 1:00 pm
- 11.10 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 11.10 Mission Committee 6:30 pm
- 11.17 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 11.24 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 11.25 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service

Sunday's

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. "The Bible and the Divine Service" (led by Pastor Spotts)

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

After service Bible Study: "Defend Your Faith" (led by Gary Seider)

Children's Church is offered on Non-Communion Sunday's, during the Sermon.

Third, we pray for our nation and all its people, including those who hold elective and appointed office. They are trying to do a very difficult thing. The leaders need wisdom, courage, endurance, and conviction. So do the people they lead. Hardship will not be eliminated.

Finally, as we see our world is full of dissent and strife, we put on the armor of God. We defend ourselves and others, using truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and the helmet of salvation. In Ephesians these are all defensive weapons. They are God's means of protection for us and for those around us in times of hardship. We also speak the truth of God, His Word, which is the sword of the Spirit. It can kill evil. It can hold enemies hostage. It can cause people to lay down their arms and surrender to God's will, which is for the eternal salvation of all who will believe.

We don't put our hope in elections. We put our hope in God. He is the one who can really rescue us.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Pastor Spotts

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Gifts

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Gifts is coming to an end for 2020. Thank you to all who have participated this year. I know it will be a blessing to the children that receive the boxes.

Please have your boxes filled and at the church by Sunday, November 8. It takes \$9 to ship each box. We will be taking a special collection for the shipping on November 8. If you feel led to help with the cost, please put your donation in the offering plate as you enter for worship service or put it in the container on the Operation Christmas Child cabinet found in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Jacki Stelzer.

Shepherd Supply

Offering free household supplies to those in need.

Open Wednesday 2-4 & Saturday 9-12

Or by appointment, contact Sheryl Bartels, (afternoons at 573-881-7879)

PET Project

Pick up will be the first and third Monday's of the month. At this time, they will no longer will be accepting empty pill bottles. Please bring in your clean empty plastic milk jugs or other plastic jugs that have handles and cans.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall Worship w/Holy Communion	2	3 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am	4	5	6	7
8 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall Worship Service with Childrens Church	9 Women's Guild meet at 1:00pm	10 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am Christian Growth/Mission Committee 6:30pm	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall Worship w/Holy Communion	16	17 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am	18	19	20	21
22 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall Worship Service with Childrens Church	23	24 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am	25 Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7pm	26 Happy Thanksgiving Day!	27	29
22 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall Worship Service with Childrens Church	30					

November Birthdays



Garrett Truesdell	Nov. 2
Ed Bartels	Nov. 9
Vivian Diener	Nov. 9
Allison Schmersahl	Nov. 12
Lisa Smith	Nov. 12
Sheryl Bartels	Nov. 15
Madison Smith	Nov. 15
Susan Harris	Nov. 16
Tyler Smith	Nov. 19
Wyatt Truesdell	Nov. 26
Curt Nadler	Nov. 30

November Anniversaries

Jeff & Tracy Jaeger	Nov. 5
Darrell & Alane Gronefeld	Nov. 11
Sherry & John Morse	Nov. 23





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

November

November 1

"Some People Never change?"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Some people never change. Most people do. With God, all people can.

(Daniel 4)

November 8

"Tied into the Same Lifeline"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Humble pie is on the menu at an ill-fated feast.

(Daniel 5)

November 15

"BIGGER"

Guest Speaker: Pastor Gerard Bolling

Big problems call for faith in an even bigger God.

Pastor Gerard Bolling tells how the God Who is bigger than our problems works through us to bring bigger blessings to the people around us.

(Daniel 6)

November 22

"Politics in Perspective"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Political turmoil is nothing new and political security is only temporary. We can't escape politics. However, Dr. Michael Zeigler offers good news of a kingdom that cannot be overthrown and will never pass away.

(Daniel 7:1-14)

November 29

"Magnum Opus"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Daniel 8:27)

Broadcasting

Columbia, MO

KMCV 100.9 FM Sunday Mornings at 8:00am

Moberly, MO

KWIX 92.5 FM Sunday Afternoons at 1:30pm

November Calendar

November 1: All Saints' Day

Text: Matthew 5:1-12

November 8: Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Text: Matthew 25:1-13

November 15: Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Text: Matthew 25:14-30

November 22: Last Sunday of the Church Year

Text: Matthew 25:31-46

November 29: First Sunday in Advent

Text: Mark 11:1-10 or 13:24-37

Serving The Lord

Officiant: Pastor David Spotts (vacancy)

Board of Elders

Gerry Sydow (573) 682-4157

Jon Hoek (573) 682-7236

Russell Stelzer (573) 682-7230

Board of Trustees

Kathy Dickey (573) 489-3421

John Briggs (573) 424-2257

Church ballfield maintenance & scheduling

Kara Stowers (816) 547-5272

FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE

Other October Deposits

10/25/20 Operation Christmas Child \$71.00

September 27

Attendance 63
Current \$ 2,020.00
Building \$ 170.00

Total \$ 2,190.00

October 4

Attendance 49
Current \$ 2,370.00
Building \$ 476.04

Total \$ 2,846.04

October 11

Attendance 39
Current \$ 1,225.00
Building \$ 80.00

Total \$ 1,305.00

October 18

Attendance 41
Current \$ 2,251.46
Building \$ 210.00

Total \$ 2,461.46

October 25

Attendance 56
Current \$ 2,045.00
Building \$ 300.00

Total \$ 2,345.00

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.



The Avenue of Flags will proudly display at least 487 flags during the Veterans Day holiday at the Centralia City Cemetery. Weather permitting, flags will be raised Monday, November 9th at 3:00 p.m. Flags will be taken down Thursday, November 12th at 3:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help raise and lower the flags. Your help and support with this event are greatly appreciated.

For additional information please contact City Hall, Phyllis Brown 573-682-2139

2020 Advent Services begin at 7:00p.m.

We will have no meals this year.

December 2th

December 9th

December 16th

SPECIAL OFFERING DESIGNATION

The offerings for Thanksgiving Eve, all Advent services, and Christmas Eve are to be divided in this way: one-half to Central Missouri Food Bank and one-half to Lutheran Heritage Foundation- Indonesia Kids project.



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

SICK AND HEALTH CONCERNS

Martha Sydow; Pastor Kriete; Bob Graham; Dick St. John; Kevin Morse – brother-in-law of Sherry Morse; **Ed Bartels** recovering at Pin Oaks, in Mexico, Mo.; **Mary Brechler; Don Crump** – uncle of Jacki Stelzer; **Baby Klaus; Bob Moss; Martha Blevins; 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: Father Mike Coleman, the priest at Holy Spirit Church; **Pastor David Hartgrove** and his wife **Cheryl 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**.



We observed LWML Sunday on October 11, and also celebrated the 60th anniversary of the founding of our Women's Guild. Nine current members of Women's Guild were present, as well as one charter member. Pictured are

Ernestine Ramsey, Kim Decker, Verda Adkisson, Arlene Grace (charter member) Ann Seider, Judy Maseman, Jane St. John, Brenda Moss, Margaret Parker and Sherry Morse. The banner was made by Sherry Morse.

Thank you to everyone who ordered bulbs from our fundraiser. We raised about \$300.00. We have another fundraiser beginning November 1. It will run at least through Christmas. It is with Rada Cutlery. Besides knives and other kitchen gadgets, there are food items such as mixes for soup, dip, cheesecakes, and some seasonings. Watch ChurchUpdates and Sunday bulletins for information about ordering.

Children's Church

The children at Children's Church which meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the sermon part of the Worship service, will be learning the Bible lesson John 1: 35-46. In addition they will apply this lesson to a fundraiser to save money so children in Indonesia can have more Christian books in their language. Each child will be given mini M&M tubes.




The kids may eat the candy, but are asked to fill the empty container with quarters or small change and return it by Christmas. We will send their

donation to Lutheran Heritage Foundation for the "Come and See Jesus!" project in Indonesia. Watch for a display in the breezeway for adults to contribute as well. Questions? Ask Ann Seider.

Our mission project:

"COME AND SEE JESUS!"



Bible Books for Muslim & Christian Children in

INDONESIA

Our classroom can introduce
an Indonesian classroom
to the Savior!

Indonesia has the world's largest population of Muslims. Yet, the people pride themselves in diversity and even allow their public schools to teach about other religions.

What an incredible opportunity God has placed before us! With our mission offerings, Christian teachers in Indonesia can give their students their very own Bible storybooks, *Small Catechisms* and workbooks, translated into the languages they speak. The books are theirs to take home and keep.

**We can help –
for just \$5 per child!**

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) is an LCMS recognized service organization that translates and publishes our good Lutheran books for people around the world. For every \$5 our children send to LHF, the organization can give a Bible storybook or catechism to a waiting family in Indonesia.

<https://www.lhfmissions.org/projects/children/indonesiakids/indonesialinks/>

My Faith Story by Vickie Chism

When people discuss their testimonies or faith stories, I get somewhat intimidated. I am always impressed and in awe when people share "the moment" when they realized they were Christian and how that changed their lives. But I feel like I am lacking. The main reason for that feeling is that I don't have a big "AHA moment." However, I have recently come to realize that throughout my life I have had countless little "aha moments." These moments are just as real and important as the big one is to other people. I was blessed with parents that knew that I needed to be raised in a Christian home and they faithfully took me to Sunday School and Church. Growing up there were many people that helped me in my growth as a Christian. As a teenager, I was able to the Youth Gathering in Washington DC with my friends and our leader, Judy Maseman. There, I felt absolute wonder of the role of God in my life and all those other people there that believed exactly what I believed.

Continued on the next page...

When we had the mass communion event, I remember thinking how it felt to be connected so much and then I realized that this was just a very minor comparison to one day living in Heaven with all believers. That was definitely a life-changing realization. There are many other times in my life when I am in awe of the goodness of God touching my life... whether it be my wedding, the birth of my children and grandchildren, a beautiful sunset, the protection from an accident that I likely would have been in if I wasn't running late that day, or the smile of a stranger when I need it most. God has protected me from myself more times than I can count and He continues to place individuals in my life that teach me to grow as a believer. Many of those individuals are from Good Shepherd and I can't begin to thank them enough for all they have done for me. Other times, God will put just the right stranger or minor acquaintance (or event) at the right time to lead me to what I need to learn. I suspect most people that God has used to educate me don't even realize how much I learn from them. They witness to me through their words and actions that a Christian will love unconditionally and never stop learning. For example, watching my children grow in their faith has caused me to want to grow more in mine. Talking to a Christian friend when I am struggling and need that reminder that we are all here to listen and help each other leads me to remember God put this wonderful lady in my life to help me grow. I have realized that I will never learn enough about God and the more I learn I come to the greater understanding that I will truly never know "enough." I will constantly want to know Him more and share Him with others through my own words and actions. Unfortunately, this doesn't mean that I always do that. I have failed to show Christian love many times when I later think of how I should have handled a situation. Thankfully, God will never stop giving me new moments to guide me. I can't think of a time that I have ever doubted that God exists and is control of my life. However, there have been numerous times when I fail to listen to Him, think I know better, feel he doesn't care, or feel that I am not worthy to be heard by Him. It is during those times that God has never failed to send me an "aha, I see what you did there, God" moment – whether it be a special person, a complete stranger, or what may be to others a seemingly insignificant incident that reminds me God is ever present and ever knowledgeable of exactly what I need and when. I try to remember as Proverbs 3:5 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding." I thank all of you at Good Shepherd who help me on my path of trusting the Lord and learning to lean on Him.



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