

Shepherd's *Voice*

Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS

August 2021

How to Read

I visit this topic once in a while, and I'm always glad I do. During this time of the Church year, the season of Pentecost or Trinity or Ordinary Time, we remember the life of the early Christians and how they grew in grace and number, spreading around the world, bringing the news of the resurrection with them. In relatively short order, the band of Christians had moved far beyond the twelve apostles and other eyewitnesses of the resurrection. As Rodney Stark observes in *The Rise of Christianity*, over the course of about 250 years, with a growth rate of 40% per ten years, it is not at all unbelievable that Christians would compose the vast majority of people in the Roman Empire.

In addition to transmitting the Gospel by word of mouth, the written Scriptures played a huge role. There are plenty of debates about the level of literacy in the early period of the Roman Empire, but let's accept the fact that many people had at least some ability to read and that virtually anybody who wanted could find someone to read something. Early accounts of Christianity feature gatherings in which the Scripture was read.

But just how was the Scripture read? I'm going to suggest there is a difference between reading and making words. It's an important difference. Given the Greek or Latin alphabet, where the letters stand for sounds, almost anyone can learn to look at letters and make words with a few days' training. What you see, you say. Words!

This isn't reading. It's making words. What we do when we read is completely different. We not only make words, but we consider what they mean, how they express ideas, and why those ideas matter. That's pretty hard work!

I'd like to propose some questions to ask when reading or hearing the Scripture. They can apply to anything we might read. When we read Scripture with these questions in mind, we, like those early Christians, find God's Word coming to life in us, for us, and through us to our lost and hurting world.

August Church Events

- 8.3 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
Elder's meet at 7:00pm
- 8.9 1:00 pm Women's Guild meet
- 8.10 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 8.10 2:00 pm Heritage Hall Church Service
- 8.17 **10:00 am No Adult Bible Study**
- 8.24 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 8.31 10:00 am Adult Bible Study

Sunday Events

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. "Walking Through Galatians" (led by Pastor Spotts)

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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

Question #1 "What's wrong with the world?"

The Scripture describes a world which, in various different ways, is broken. It's broken by sin, and that sin shows up in anger, fear, faithlessness, and many other ways. There's plenty wrong. As you read, look around at how the world around you is broken.

Question #2 "How did it get to be that way?"

The Scripture describes the fallen state of the world coming from the original sin of humans, tempted by Satan, in Genesis chapter three. Through the generations the sinful state has been passed on both through our natural tendencies and our actions. Again, we look around us and see the harm inflicted by fallen humans in a fallen world.

Question #3 "What cure is proposed?"

The Scripture proposes only one cure for sin, death. The Old Testament tells of sacrificial death of one to take away the sin of others. The New Testament makes the idea clear in the death of Jesus, who gave himself as a perfect substitute. What kind of cures are proposed by the rest of our world? How convincing are they?

Question #4 " Does the cure work?"

Jesus says he is the resurrection and the life, able to bring people to the Father by grace through faith. Again, we can look at other ideas that float around in our world. Jesus is the one who can lay down his life and then take it up again. We don't see anyone else doing this kind of work.

How do we read? When we ask those four questions and live in light of the answers, we find Christ in the Gospel, the power of God, the giver of hope and salvation. Accept no substitutes! You will never find one adequate. This is how the early Christians read the Scripture and their world. The Gospel, working through them, brought their world from darkness to light.

The Gospel remains the power of God. As we read, really read, we open ourselves to godly change. We become the salt and light the Lord uses to bring our world to himself.

Pastor Spotts

Shepherd Supply

Offering free household supplies to those in need.
Open Saturday 9-12 & Wednesdays by appointment only
contact Sheryl Bartels, (afternoons at 573-881-7879)

PET Project

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

Operation Christmas Child

A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. See the impact a simple shoebox gift, packed and sent with love, has on a child and how it reaches into a community.

Adopt-a-Box: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is collecting items for shoe boxes February through October. Everyone is welcome to adopt one or more boxes to help with this ministry. Look for the Shoe Box Ministry display in the narthex and pick your box to adopt. Each month we have a different emphasis to help you decide what to put in your box(es). Our goal is 50! Let's work together to help children have gifts this coming Christmas.

Vacation Bible School



We felt our VBS could be more successful if we had an evening format so that more volunteers and participant families could attend. Thus, we will be serving a light meal at 5:30 pm Aug. 9-12 to volunteers and VBS families who wish to attend. The main entree will be provided by the church; but **to help offset cost, we could use the donation of the following items:**

- 1) Bags of chips (any kind that would complement hot dogs, sloppy joes and chicken nuggets)
- 2) Fruit (suggestion of apples, grapes, cantaloupe, watermelon, bananas etc.)
- 3) Anything that you think would be easy to serve, would have quite a number of servings and complement a light summertime meal.
- 4) Monetary donation to the church to offset cost of main entrees

Bring Donations to the church kitchen by Aug. 9.

Other items **needing to be borrowed for VBS** (please clearly mark your name on a piece of tape on the item. They will be left the kitchen on the silver counter after VBS for you to take back home)

8 All-Purpose Buckets(3 gallon size) for Game during VBS week

6 Buckets (5 gallon size) for Storytelling on Monday

2 box fans for Storytelling on Tuesday

Other ways you can help

If you've been thinking about one of these opportunities described in the email sent out in mid July ; but haven't spoken to me about that—then **NOW IS THE TIME!**

- Opportunity #1 --Come early enough to fix a light meal for our VBS workers, children and families and help clean up kitchen when done. Donna Hoek has volunteered to head this up and she has at least one volunteer to help. One or two more would be nice—you could speak for day of the week M,T,W,Th.
- Opportunity #2 --Early Childhood class. Although so far we just have 5 kids; attendance will grow at last minute. This requires lots of Helpers—experienced ones as well as teens who are comfortable with little ones. I have one fabulous Volunteer Teacher but she will want some good help.
- Opportunity #3 --Storyteller -- Use the instructions in Storytelling Leader Guide and tell a bible story (can either use audience participation like the guide explains or can literally "tell the story") I think we have Seiders on this—but it would be great if another team could head it up if we cannot work that evening.
- Opportunity #4 --Team Leader -- Be assigned to about six elementary kids and keep them with you as you progress through the Sites (Bible Story site, Bible Challenge site, Craft/Game site).
- Opportunity #5 -- Crafts and Games. Jacki has volunteered to plan these and she had Sheryl as a Craft helper. Anyone else want to jump in the fun?
- Opportunity #6 -- Bible Challenge--follow the Leader Guide for instructions on a simple science experiment and helping the VBS kids learn a suggested bible memory verse. This would work well with 2 people working together. *Est. time of work each evening is 20 min. x 2 times (you will repeat same thing twice) plus your preparation time. Ann can help you gather some of the necessary supplies.* This is one area that has been the hardest to pin down—basically the instructions have a volunteer showing an experiment (described in the Leader Guide) and then using the lesson plan to tie it to that night's Take Home Point as well as learning a Scripture through song. Anyone interested in trying this? If needed, you can choose a night M,T,W,Th.

Opportunities abound! --**Be there as a greeter at the Registration Table and to help out where needed** and talk with families who may be there during VBS in an adult bible study **IN THE SANCTUARY.**

PRAY for our VBS and for our volunteers. It's exhausting, unpredictable, time-consuming; but also energizing, satisfying and will all be finished in a blink of an eye! Let's not lose an opportunity to share God's wondrous message with our community.

Take Home Points:

1. Jesus is God and cares about me! Based on John 2:1-12
2. Jesus is with me all the time! Based on Matthew 14:22-23
3. Jesus heals me! Based on Mark 5:21-43
4. Jesus saves me and give me life! Based on Luke 24:36-49

Sr. Youth Group



The 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering is scheduled for July 9, 2022 - July 13, 2022 in Houston, Texas under the theme "In All Things."

The Youth Gathering is held every three years and provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

A letter will be going out to those age-eligible youth asking that you prayerfully consider attending this life-changing event. We will start to gather numbers to register for this event in late Fall 2022, as well as planning for travel, lodging and meal costs.

Contact Alane Gronefeld (682-7125) for more information.

In Christ,

Alane & Darrell Gronefeld

2022 Youth Gathering Fundraiser Sr. Youth Group selling ice cream at the Centralia Fair



A special thank you to everyone that helped serve ice cream.

Scholarship Applications

Applicants should write a letter to the Elders of Good Shepherd. The letter should explain their plans for their education, their extra-curricular activities while attending school, and their future plans after graduation from college. Applicants should be members in good standing of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church who are in their first or second year in a 4-year college or a vocational school. If you know someone who is attending college who might be interested in applying, please be sure to pass this information along to them.

Application deadline is August 8, 2021. Scholarship awards will be made in mid August for the fall semester of the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Applications should be given to one of the Elders.... Jon Hoek, Russell Stelzer or Randy Simmons.

Or mail to:

Board of Elders

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

120 W Gano Chance Road

Centralia, MO 65240

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship Service with Children's Church	9 Womens Guild meet at 1:00 pm	10 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am Heritage Hall Service 2:00pm	11	12	13	14
15 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion	16	17 No Adult Bible Study at 10:00am	18	19	20 Teachers Appreciation Dinner	21
22 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship Service with Children's Church	23	24 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am	25	26	27	28
29 9 a.m Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship Service with Children's Church	30	31 Adult Bible Study at 10:00am				



August Birthdays

Roy Richterkessing	8.6
Abigail Rainey	8.11
Bill Mahieu	8.12
Steve Maseman	8.13
Catherine Simmons	8.19
Christina Gronefeld	8.29

August Anniversaries

Eric & Vickie Chism	8.4
Bryan & Jenny Truesdell	8.7
Dave & Martha Spotts	8.8
Tim & Gayle Billings	8.15
Jim & Lori Gesling	8.20
Eric & Kristin Walters	8.23
Curt & Starr Nadler	8.24
Alex & Allison Schmersahl	8.31





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

August

August 1

"Blowing in the Wind"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

"Archives August" begins with a classic message from Pastor Ken Klaus in which he contrasts popularly-held urban legends with the unchanging truth of God's Word.

(Ephesians 4:14-16)

August 8

"Seeing The Savior Sore"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

"Archives August"

(Ephesians 4:26)

August 15

"A Sunny Place for Shady People"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

"Archives August"

(Ephesians 5:8)

August 22

"TBD"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

"Archives August"

(Ephesians 5)

August 29

"Use What You've Been Given"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

"Archives August"

(Ephesians 6:10-17)

Broadcasting

Columbia, MO

KMCV 100.9 FM Sunday Mornings at 8:00am

Moberly, MO

KWIX 92.5 FM Sunday Afternoons at 1:30pm

August Calendar

- Aug 1: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Text: John 6:22-35
- Aug 8: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Text: John 6:35-51
- Aug 15: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Text: John 6:51-69
- Aug 22: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Text: Mark 7:1-13
- Aug 29: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Text: Mark 7:14-23

Serving The Lord

Officiant: Pastor David Spotts (vacancy)

Board of Elders

Jon Hoek (573) 682-7236
Russell Stelzer (573) 682-7230
Randy Simmons (573) 808-1497

Board of Trustees

Kathy Dickey (573) 489-3421
John Briggs (573) 424-2257
Aaron Seider (573) 296-0429

Church ballfield maintenance & scheduling
Kara Stowers (816) 547-5272



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

FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE

July 4
Attendance 37
 Current \$ 1,667.00
 Building \$ 130.00
Total \$ 1,797.00

July 11
Attendance 38
 Current \$ 1,745.00
 Building \$ 110.00
Total \$ 1,855.00

July 18
Attendance 37
 Current \$ 1,585.00
 Building \$ 395.00
Total \$ 1,980.00

July 25
Attendance 52
 Current \$ 1,029.00
 Building \$ 576.40
Total \$ 1,605.40

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.

July Deposits

7/4/21 Sr. Youth	\$ 50.00
7/11/21 Sr. Youth Ice Cream Sales	\$487.00
7/18/21 Sr. Youth Ice Cream Sales	\$109.00
7/25/21 Sr. Youth Ice Cream Sales	\$ 50.00
7/25/21 Operation Christmas Child (OCC)	\$ 66.00



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

120 W. Gano Chance Road
 Centralia, Missouri

6th Annual Centralia Craft/Vendor Fair



Saturday
November 6, 2021
9:00 am to 1:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall



120 W. Gano Chance Road

Lunch Available

Interested VENDORS may contact 573-489-2816 after 4 pm for booth space info
 Or find us on Facebook @ 6th Annual Craft/Vendor Fair.

The Annual Teachers Appreciation Dinner

The annual teachers lunch provided by Churches of the Centralia Ministerial Alliance will be Friday, August 20 at Good Shepherd. Other churches in the community will assist with providing food, but our Women's Guild will be needing some extra Good Shepherd people to help set up tables and also for serving and cleanup. Please let Judy Maseman know if you can help. Call or text 573 682 4237 or e-mail jm46sec@gmail.com.

Judy Maseman.

SICK AND HEALTH CONCERNS

Dennis & Jackie Nadler – parents of Curt Nadler; **Ellen Boydston** - mother of Ann Seider recovering from ankle surgery; **Palmyra Dubbert; Terry Decker; Jane St. John; Verda Adkisson; Darleen Wiederhold** – sister of Roy Richterkessing; **Chloe Decker; Erica Cornet; Helen Julian** – sister of Patti Haubein; **Joanne Bettenhausen; Mary Brechler; Pastor Kriete; Don Crump** – uncle of Jacki Stelzer; **Klaus; Martha Blevins; Susan Harris; Wayne Nolan** – stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **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.**

ARMED FORCES

Rafe Mechlin, U.S. Marine Corps – husband of Abby Hoek Mechlin, brother to Brittany Mechlin and Shelby Banks; **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.**



Pastor David Spotts (vacancy pastor)
(573) 355-0347, Email: WittenbergCoMo@gmail.com
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