



The Good Shepherd News

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A Word from the Pastor

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“...we now live on this earth, where the evil spirit is the prince. He controls the people under his power and does whatever he wants through them. This is a horrible situation if viewed correctly.”

So says Dr. Luther, in sermon on 1 Peter, likely preached February 8, 1523. We are reminded that satan is in control of this world through the people that belong to him. This is why the world looks the way it does.

It should not surprise us that the general culture looks totally irrational. It should not surprise us that wickedness abounds. We should not be taken by surprise when we are persecuted. However...

God is also fiercely at work in the world. Daily it seems Muslims are coming to Christ. Some have estimated the number of Muslims converting to be between two and seven million over the last few decades.

Evil is being exposed. A look at the way our politicians are behaving is evidence of that. The political left in this country is in full-on crazy mode. They don't want to come into the light. Politicians, celebrities, academics, the wealthy elite; I have never seen such utter loss of control.

So far so good. I don't know long things will last however. Satan will have his little season. More martyrs will join the elect in God's throne room. We may even be blessed to be among them.

Make the most of these evil days. We've been given a temporary reprieve. It may last a day. It may last eight years. Nevertheless we have to be about saving souls. Let's do so before God allows the prince of this world to close that door again.

God's Blessings!

Pastor Bruce



May Newsletter articles will be due no later than April 19, 2017. Please email your article to office@titusvillelutherans.org or leave it in the church office by Wednesday, April 19. Thank you to all who contribute every month.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

	<u>FEBRUARY 2016</u>	<u>FEBRUARY 2017</u>
WORSHIP SERVICE TOTALS (AVERAGE)	139	135

April 2017

From the Elder's Corner:

At a former congregation, the church secretary told me "When you retire, you go to the top of the volunteer list." Using that premise, Good Shepherd should have a fantastic group of volunteers.....and we do!



Our paid staff does a wonderful job, but their efforts would be far less effective without the large group of volunteers backing them up.

People too numerous to mention show up week after week to skillfully do their tasks without fanfare. While we see the results of some volunteers' work, others do their tasks faithfully yet unseen. The results are a well-run and smooth functioning congregation.

If the spirit is moving you to work for the Lord, contact Pastor Bruce or any of the Elders. We currently have need of many different skills.

Think you have no skills? Think again. I once read this quote, "God doesn't choose the enabled, He enables the chosen."

Another benefit of church work is making new friends. When you greet someone on Sunday morning, that's an acquaintance. But the people you work shoulder to shoulder with doing God's work soon become friends.

To all of our many volunteers, we say – THANK YOU!!!

Til next time, God's Blessings,
Dick Steller

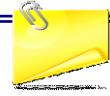


LENT

Midweek Lenten Services

Lent services continue on Wednesday's at 11:00, through April 5th. We will continue our traditional "Lenten Lunches" following the 11:00 service, homemade soups, breads and desserts. Everyone is invited and we hope that you will join us for lunch and fellowship during this special time of our church year. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Evening services will be held at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you there.

FROM YOUR HISTORIAN



Your Historian really felt like an historian when she walked into Shepherd's Hall on the first day of Daylight Savings Time. 2017, and as warmly greeted by Sarina Childers whom she remembered well from the time Sabrina was a 5-year-old Sunday School student. Considering the loss of an hour's sleep, it was not surprising that quite a few worshipers were gathering for the 11 o'clock service, but something really special was about to happen, and Sabrina had been chosen by Hannah Pabst Schnirel to be Baby Lillian Margaret's God mother, sponsoring her in Holy Baptism. One of Lillian's maternal uncles is Kevin Pabst, married to the form Kay Stoltenberg. He has been retired from the Marines for four years, and they still live in North Carolina. Nancy Childers, mother of Sabrina, was also present for th event. Margo Pabst is the mother of Hannah, Rusty and Kevin and stepmother to Robbie (Robert Pabst, Jr.) The late Bob Pabst headed up this special Good Shepherd family, and Andrew H. Schnirel married into it providing the Pabst family with two beautiful children: Michael Reed Schnirel, 20 month old, and Lillian Margaret, born last October. Michael has also been brought to the Lord in Holy Baptism. Carl Bley is Lillian M's God father, and last but not least!) are David and Patty Schnirel. the paternal grandparents. Xander, Lillian's 11-year-old half-brother, was also present. Lillian was named after the late Lillian Rashko, mother of our Jackie Elmore who served as Hannah's pre-school "Grandma" a generation ago! Lillian R. lived to be 102 years of age and was well loved by Good Shepherd's members. She spent the last years of her life in a local nursing home with Daughter Jackie spending every day with her! Pastor Bruce's sermon of the day was about having children (in his new marriage and family series)--perfect timing!

The month of March has flown by; and although we are aware that Titusville's 150th birthday is being observed, there hasn't been much time in which to even recall what was done back in 1967 to observe the 100th anniversary. Women did wear hoop-skirted dresses and bonnets of the Civil War Era, while the late Al Netzer (and others) grew authentic sideburns and really looked the part. Various civic celebrations are under way at this time.

May all readers enjoy a most blessed Easter, and we hope to be with you again in May.

The Historian.



Easter Lilly order forms are now available.

Please use the insert in the weekly bulletins and make sure to order a Lilly or two to help beautify our Easter Sunday services. Lillies are \$7.00 and order forms are due no later than Sunday April, 9.





Helpful Health Hints By The Congregation Nurse

A few weeks ago Dr. Pamela Tronetti had an article in the newspaper giving advice to loved ones who had a family member in the hospital. Since not everybody gets the paper, a church member suggested I use the subject for this column. The article gave very useful information to insure that the patient received the best care possible.

Have a notebook with you every time you visit your loved one. You should have copies of his or her medical history complete with surgeries, medications and also allergies. Each time a new consulting physician comes in the room give a copy to him.

Keep a record of what tests are going to be done, and when, and make sure the results are given to you in writing. Have all your information in hand when the attending physician is in the room so that you can discuss them. If you ask for the result of a specific test or procedure do not accept "fine" as an answer. If you are told a blood test or oxygen level is "fine" insist on the exact number so you can track the progress.

Use your eyes and ears. Check the skin for rashes, open sores, or discolored areas. Point them out to the physician. Also report any other symptoms such as a cough that might worry you.

Pay attention to the food being served. Has your loved one been on liquids since admission? Check the printout that comes with the tray, is he a diabetic and is on a regular diet? You are his advocate and that doesn't mean you can be disrespectful, but you can voice your concerns.

Bring your own dry erase marker for the room's whiteboard and leave your name and number as well as notes for the staff such as "Mom is hard of hearing". It is also a good idea to take jewelry and watches home so they do not get lost. Have names on eyeglasses and hearing aids if possible.

Be sure to get your loved one out of bed. Unless there is a specific reason to be kept in bed make sure they are up and walking as much as possible. The same is true for someone in a nursing home. They need to be up and out of their room to maintain and improve strength, as well as for socialization.

Regarding nursing homes, family participation is very important to your loved one as well as to the staff. It is a new setting for the patient and having familiar faces visiting is positive aspect. Also the staff is more likely to get the patient up and out of bed if they know visitors arrive daily. Go at different times, if possible, to make sure meds are being given on time, the patient is dressed and out of bed, he is in the dining room with others and attends activities.

Discharge planning is taken care of by the case manager assigned to your loved one. You should talk to them frequently during the hospital stay so you know what plans they are making regarding transfer home or to a nursing home. Make sure you know 24 hours before discharge so that you can make arrangements.

I hope this has been helpful to you, and remember, you are the patient's advocate, your voice counts.

Barbara
(adapted from an article by Dr. Pamela Tronetti)



Maundy Thursday Service

There will be one service on Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Invite your neighbors, friends and family to join us for worship during Holy Week.

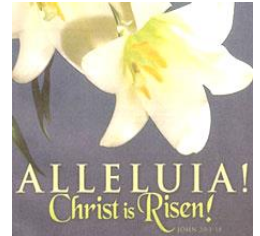


Good Friday Service

There will be two services on Friday, April 14. An early service at 11:00 and our regular service at 7:00pm, both will be in the sanctuary. Please make plans to join us.

There will be two Easter Sunday Services Sunday, April 16

There will be a Sunrise Service at 7:30 am on the east side parking lot of Shepherd's Hall with breakfast immediately following the service, and an Easter egg hunt. Traditional Easter Service at 11:00am in the sanctuary. Please invite your family and friends to join us



Is Your Faith on Tight?

On Friday March 9th at the Downtown Block Party or Titus Nites we had a great time. Talked to many people and handed out over 100 Bibles. 6-9 PM. By 8PM we were almost out of Bibles and I was out of gas. Talked to many normal everyday people. Even talked to some missionaries from South America. Amazing. Then I got floored by one conversation. This man approached me and began a conversation with me. He told me he has been an Atheist for 53 years. Read the Bible and now was reading the Quran. We peacefully bantered back and forth. Him claiming there was no God, no Devil, no Heaven or Hell. I told him to be careful of reading the Quran. That their depiction of Jesus was dangerous. Them claiming Jesus to be just a man with Christians claiming Jesus to be God. I thought I was doing good until I tried to explain to him the Trinity. That Jesus was part of it and that Jesus was both God and man. I really lost control of the conversation when I tried to tell him we could not explain it but that it was true! He looked at me like I was the biggest cult believer ever. I tried to shake his hand to wish him well but he refused and walked off. I felt so defeated. My faith is on tight but to him I was just another Christian cultist. May Jesus forgive me.

Joseph Laberge



Easter Breakfast and Fellowship

Everyone Is Invited To Celebrate The Resurrection Of Our Savior, Jesus Christ At Easter Breakfast Immediately Following The Easter Sunrise Service. Donations for this event are needed. If you would like to donate to the cost of food for the Easter breakfast, please indicate "For Easter Breakfast" and place it in the offering plate. We also need volunteers to cook breakfast, do set up/clean up, and create table centerpieces. Please talk to Joe or Helen Laberge about volunteering or contact the office at 267-4323.



Creation/Evolution

Last month I talked about the Big Bang Theory being a fact in spite of the huge number of scientific observations that make it impossible. There are a reported 40+ problems with it. One of them is the Doppler Effect. It states that the farther away something is, its color to us should shift more and more into the red. Meaning its distance and speed going away from us should increase. This should all be testable and confirmed. It WAS until they found some chinks in that explanation. It was noticed that some objects (Galaxies) were moving away from us and at the same time some were moving apart from each other. They calculated the separation over a 10 year period and saw that they moved 300 light years apart! Einstein says that is not possible. Nothing can move faster than the speed of light. It all by itself makes the Big Bang explanation impossible. Or it makes our understanding of many other facts about the Universe not nearly as well understood as scientists want you to believe. We Christians know how the Universe was created. God created every atom and Galaxy in place with just His Word. Just like God said in Genesis. In The Beginning God created time, energy and matter. I love saying this "God did it"

Joseph Laberge



LWML NEWS



WONDERING WHAT TO DO with empty inkjet printer cartridges, empty laser printer cartridges, used cell phones, laptops (include power cords) digital cameras, e-readers, tablets, GPS systems, and Scientific Calculators? Here's a suggestion-donate them to the LWML. We will collect them and redeem them for cash to help fund the LWML's 2019 National Convention in Birmingham. Ask your family, friends, neighbors-even the place where you work- if they would like help disposing of their empty ink jet and laser cartridges or other recyclable items. Then, bring them to the church and drop them in our collection box in (meeting room in church or the gathering room in Shepherd's Hall. We'll appreciate your help....and so will the environment! **Remember to purge any personal information on your donation.** (Please no monitors, computer towers, keyboards, fax or copy machines) Thank you very much LWML.

April Birthdays



1 st	Lucy Erickson		
1 st	Glenna Lau	18 th	Helen Laberge
5 th	Jelena Schumacher	21 st	Jeanne Forte
6 th	Danielle Baxter	22 th	Bella Mia Hall
9 th	Suzane Alberts	27 th	Peder Larson
11 th	Michael Bross	30 th	Lesley Lundberg
16 th	Miriam Rauha	30 th	Gabriel Alberts

April Anniversaries

16 th	Clair & Pearl Held
19 th	Rich & Diana Good
21 st	Tom & Jamie Affeld
28 th	Lynn & Ruby Edlund



We join in thanking God for His blessings in the past. We ask Him to keep you in His Grace and love in the future. If your birthday or anniversary was not listed correctly, please contact the office.

Lunch Bunch



April lunch bunch will meet at Dixie Crossroads, April 27th @ 11:30.

Please sign-up on the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary area in Shepherd's Hall. Come join in the good fellowship, good food...good fun! Everyone is welcome. Any questions call Gary or Barbara Gullikson.

Never Assume



Working on the Church grounds we need to move a pile of dirt. Don Kalwat found an old wheel barrow in tough shape in the shed. The biggest problem was it had a flat tire. I took it home and decided to recondition it completely. Took it completely apart. Removed all the old hardware and replaced it with new, sanded and painted the wood. Fixed the flat. Greased the axle and reassembled it. It looked brand new. I was so proud of it. To finish it off I proceeded to write Good Shepherd in big letters on its side when I noticed the words "Chrome Electric" emblazoned on its side. I laughed as I realized I was probably working on a stolen wheel barrow or at least forgotten! I assumed it was ours. No one can tell me if it is. I plan to bring it over to Chrome Electric and show it to the rightful owner and explain how I found it. Wish me luck. Never assume!!



Joseph Laberge

10th Annual Chili Cook-off

The 10th Annual Shepherd's Hall Chili Cook-off was held on February 19th! Yes, I said 10th annual! It is hard to believe that we had 10 very successful, well attended, fun filled chili cook-off events in this hall. Our congregation has generously supported many causes while enjoying great fellowship and food at these events, while raising money for the building fund, mortgage fund, roofing fund as well as, our now 4th national youth gathering group.

This kind of support for an event does not just happen – this congregation rallies our support around the event. From chili cooks, chili coinsures, event organizers, youth desserts and treats, table set-up, kitchen clean-up crews and Thrivent members – you guys rock-it!

This year our cook-off raised \$1200.00 to be split for the 50-roof,50 youth funds. We want to thank each of you for your participation and your generous donations and support!

A special thanks to our chili chefs for their amazing chili, our youth for all the great desserts & set-up, kitchen crew and clean-up crew. We also want to send a special shout out to Tom and Glenna Lau for organizing a Thrivent Action Team Project, which paid for all the prizes as well as the amazing baskets for the silent auction. The baskets were very creative and a huge success!

Congratulations to our winners: Paul Maurer 1st place, Debbie Hall 2nd place & Mary Anne Kalwat 3rd place.
GRFAT .JOB!



Volunteers Needed- For Easter Sunrise Service

Younger Members Please consider lending a helping hand to help set-up and put away chairs for Easter Sunday sunrise service. If you can lift a folder chair you can help out in any part of this 3 step process. Thank You!



Step 1—Saturday, April 15th at 9:00 a.m. load the chairs on the trailer. This takes about a 1/2 hr.

Step 2—Easter Morning, 1 hour before service, help set the chairs out and wipe them off.

Step 3—Easter Morning right after the service, before breakfast, help unload the chairs and put them back into the shed. This takes less than a half hour with lots of hands to help

A Worthy Cause

At the book sale in February we were talking to a woman who volunteers for Care Wear. Care wear began in 1991 to provide much needed apparel for premature and low birth weight infants in neonatal intensive care unit. They also sew baby items for infants and children that are ill. They have a list of hospitals and requested items such as hats, booties, blankets, lap blankets, burial gowns, and kimonos. They use ribbons, lace and other items. You can find more information on www.carewear.org. The local woman is Janet at 321-614-5319. Jackie Elmore has more information if you are interested.



HAPPY EASTER

