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Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (ELCA)

1325 North 45th Avenue East, Duluth MN 55804-1507



Place address label here.

(new postal regulations)

Newsletter Deadline:

February

January 15

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Sunday Services at 8:45AM and 11:00AM

Office Hours: M-Th • 9AM-4PM; Friday • 9AM—12 NOON

Phone: 218-525-1922

Website: www.lcgsduluth.com

MEET THE STAFF

Pastor Dave Mesner, Lead Pastor

(home) 218-529-9715

email: dmesner@lcgsduluth.org

Pastor Tim Berdahl, Pastor (home) 218-728-4382

email: tberdahl@lcgsduluth.org

Katie Rich, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

218-525-1922

email: kkrich@lcgsduluth.org

Patti Hallback, Office Manager

218-525-1922

Amie Abenth, Communications Coordinator email: office@lcgsduluth.org

email: communications@lcgsduluth.org 218-525-1922

Greg Susens, custodian 218-525-1922 Ray Lopez custodian

Sydney Fischer, Nursery Director 218-525-1922

Beth Lee, Treasurer 218-525-1922

Music Team:

Linda Turpening, Organist 218-525-1922

email: linda@archdirect.com

218-724-9065 email: debra.k.sanders@icloud.com Debbie Sanders, Good Shepherd Choir Director

LCGS IS PRAYING

Good Shepherd randomly prays for all its members.

During these weeks we are keeping the following in our prayers:

- Dec 2 In thanksgiving for all who helped with Pasty making, baking and clean up
- Dec 9 With joy for all of our families involved in Sunday School
- Dec 16 In celebration of all who participate in sharing their musical gifts
- Dec 23 In gratefulness for all of our church volunteers who give with such energy and cheer
- Dec 30 Katie & Seth Greicar, Sarah and Joe; Robert Anderson; Kathy & Jim Dexter, Alison and Kaitlyn
- Jan 6 Jeremy Quam; Sharla & Jim Anderson; Lynnette Dennis
- Jan 13 Elaine Elmer; Kim & Wayne Elmer; Dale & Nancy Zimmerman; Robert Anderson
- Jan 20 Sheila Tapper; Cheryl Ziehl; Patricia Anderson; Dawn & Landon Dewitt, Aryanna and Quinn
- Jan 27 Debbie Cervenka; Arlene Litvinoff; Susan & Mark Dexter

Prayer:

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Psalm 84:11



<u>PRAYER REQUEST</u> - If you would like us to pray for a specific concern, please call the office at 525-1922 and your request will be shared with others who care about your needs and believe God will hear and answer. If you have a prayer request emergency and it is after church office hours, please email Patti at office@lcgsduluth.org.

PRAYERS FOR HOSPITALIZED PERSONS shared with the Prayer Chain (and in the Prayers of the Church) will begin with "God knows the names of all for whom we pray..." unless permission has been granted by the hospitalized individual or a family member of the individual. This is in keeping with our Privacy Policy. If you have questions/ comments regarding this policy, please feel free to discuss it with one of the pastors.

10/28	124	213	11/4	137	45	11/11	122	64
11/18		<u>11:00</u>						



POINSETTIA ORDERS

If you would like to share a poinsettia for decorating the altar at Christmas in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, please call the church office at 525-1922 or send this form and your donation to the church office by **Monday, December 3rd, before noon.** The cost is \$15.00 and monies will be shared with both the Girl Scouts and .





HONURAN LUTHERAN CHURCH DONATIONS

This year we would like to offer an additional option for Christmas giving. If you would like to make a \$15 donation to Companion Synod Ministry with Honduras in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, please send this form to the church office before Monday, December 3rd.

Name:	
Phone Number:	
Number of Poinsettias requested:	
Number of \$15 Honduras gifts donated:	
Total amount of money enclosed: \$	
Please indicate what you would like your notation	n to say:
given in loving memory of:	
given in honor (or other similar notation) of:	
given ha	
given by:	



Mark your calendars and plan to join us for our

8th Annual Celebration of Light and Music

Sunday, December 9th - 2:00-7:00 p.m. at <u>Camp Hiawatha</u>
This family friendly event includes an afternoon of sleigh rides, cookie decorating, crafts, yummy food demonstrations, and a Christmas carol sing-a-long.

Worship and a festive holiday meal round out the evening.

Cost: \$5 per person for afternoon activities (\$20 family maximum) \$10 per person for meal (1/2 price for ages 6-11)

RSVP by December 4 if you plan to join us. 218-666-5465

Sunday School

Sunday, December 2 - Christmas Worship Practice and Potluck Lunch!

During Sunday School (10:00 am), we will do a full run through practice of our Christmas Program. We will practice sitting, standing, walking, talking, and singing. After practice, stay for...

"The Advent Workshop" Christmas Crafts and Potluck Lunch!

We will have a variety of gifts and crafts for all ages to create!

And, we'll even have a station for kids to wrap their crafts to give to others!

We'll provide all of the craft supplies.

Please bring something to share for lunch!

Crafts from 11:00 – 1:00 (or whenever you finish...)

Potluck lunch around noon

Sunday, December 9th Sunday School Christmas Worship!

8:45 – Sunday School Children Lead Worship

Please arrive at 8:30 to put on costumes and line up!

10:00 – Family Activities

Play Bingo, watch a movie, and eat Christmas treats!

11:00 - Sunday School Children Lead Worship

There will be NO Sunday School December 16, December 23, or December 30



Sunday School Service Project Sundays

January 6 - January 13 - January 20

We will have hands-on projects for the whole family to help make a difference in our community. Designed for all Sunday School ages – from 3 year olds to 6th graders – plus parent/adult helpers.

Our Reaching Out Leadership Team is helping to coordinate the service projects this year. We are so excited to partner for these amazing weeks!

On Sunday, January 27th, we'll go back to "traditional" Sunday School and start learning the classic Bible Story – Noah's Ark!

Save the Date: January Milestones

2 Year Old Music Milestone – Sunday, January 20th – All 2 Year olds will receive music CDs

Kindergarten Prayer Pillow Milestone - Sunday, January 27th – All Kindergarteners will receive prayer pillows with a special prayer book tucked inside.

To receive these special gifts; please join us in worship at either 8:45 or 11:00 services.

Cookies for Outreach! You can help brighten someone's holiday season! Good Shepherd's Visitation Team is collecting cookies for our home-bound members as well as for the CHUM Drop-In Center, the St. Louis County Jail, and the Twin Ports Ministry to Seafarer's. We bring a smile to many faces with this ministry; the Jail's annual program serves over 225 people including inmates, staff and volunteers. Please put your homemade cookies on the counter in the church office by 9:00 Monday morning December 11th. To assure proper delivery, mark them "Visitation." Because of food allergies, if you bake with nuts, peanut butter or coconut, please label your cookies accordingly.

Again this year, the Jail will take any **extra holiday cards** we may have. Those can be left in the church office to Marcia's attention. Questions, contact Patty Altonen at 525-1807 or Marcia Semerau at 722-1042. Thank you!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing - December 1st and 8th

Are you looking for a way you can do ministry during the holidays? One easy way is ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd members, families and friends have the opportunity to donate one or two (or more) hours of time to assist with this critical work. We will cover two full days of bell ringing at one location: Cub Foods on Central Entrance



(inside!). The dates are Saturday, December 1st and 8th, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Look for the signup poster in November. It will be on an easel in the gathering space. Please fill in your name for one or two one-hour time slots to offer your help for this worthwhile cause. Call Marcia Semerau at 722-1042 with questions

Thank you for your contribution of 60 pounds of food to the CHUM Food Shelf. We operate our food shelf at three sites throughout Duluth, with one open each day Monday through Friday. Each month we serve between 500 and 600 families at the CHUM Food Shelf. Your gift makes a difference in how much and what foods are available.

If you are able, please join us on Christmas Eve at noon on the steps of City Hall for our Memorial Vigil for members of the CHUM community who have died during the year. Although often at the margins, they are known to God and to us.

Your support of CHUM, and the Food Shelf, in all ways – time, treasure and good will – makes our work possible. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Scott Van Daele, Director of Distributive Services

Chum
Food • Shelter • Dignity • Hope

<u>A Way to Help -</u> We just have "no time, "Can't take on one more thing....too much on my plate" is a familiar answer these days. As a person who loves my leisure but also sees the value of participation, I still continue to recruit helpers.

A way to help, a way to give, a way to be a part of the activity. So in the midst of the rapidly approaching holidays and New Year's call for changes, I suggest giving away some time! We are so blessed with many ministries........... find one which calls your name. Many happen on Sunday morning and I will remind you that <u>you have already come</u> to the building. Find your spot.

Families participate together to greet or usher. Counters for offering are still needed (less than one hour every 5 weeks....). Serving teams available on Sunday afternoons. Consider.....

With gratitude, enjoy the time together. Linda Susens, Parish Nurse

Sharing of Food Donations - The Hunger Team maintains our carts and our special times of donation. Our beautiful Cross holds these offerings as well. The needs of our community and our Northland families continues to grow. LCGS supports both CHUM and the Second Harvest Food Bank. Highlighting that both organizations serve our community and reminder that we support both to avoid confusion.

We accept what and when food is offered. We will sometimes offer a reminder like "A Can Each Sunday" or "Remember Your Neighbor". As always, we offer the suggestion to "pick up an extra" or bring the "two for one" items for our collection.

Blessings, Hunger Team

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

December 2018 January 2019 Newsletter

FROM PASTOR TIM

Darkness and Light

From deep connection in one moment to loneliness in another, from sparkling joy here to exhausted busyness there, from getting caught up in a warm pre-Christmas glow to dropping down into the hard edges of daily life, December can give us a crazy mix.

Into the midst of this – into the midst of the highs and lows of daily life, I believe the Holy Spirit works to set up experiences of Christ awareness for us, times of light sparking into our daily lives.

Perhaps you're out for an early walk, maybe alone, maybe with your dog. Concerns fill your pockets. But the morning is crisp, and your lungs take in the cold air, and you begin to notice sounds like the scrunch of the



snow under your boots. There's a beauty in the moment that goes beyond the beauty of the earth, and you feel your spirit being touched by something like Christmas thoughts and memories. Light into darkness, and you find yourself walking more lightly.

Maybe you're driving down snowy streets and as you pass people's houses, you begin noticing some of the decorations. Next to the Christmas lights of reindeer and candy canes are some outlines of bells (blue, green, red, yellow) - Christmas bells ringing out (even silently) the message of Jesus: "Peace on earth - good will to all." And here and there along the byways are displays of Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, perhaps blanketed with snow, but the glow of the message comes through. Light into darkness.

Sometimes the Holy Spirit is nudging us so quietly, so subtly, that it's almost a miracle that we even catch it. It's almost supper time, and from the kitchen your ears might happen to catch a few words from the chatter of your child who is out in the other room. You hear some words about shepherds and a star. Christ's light, this time, is being passed on to you through your child.

Perhaps you are getting down some boxes from storage - boxes labeled "Christmas decorations." You pull open the cardboard flaps and begin to take out the various items. And then, as your hands take hold of a particular decoration, a memory flies to you from your childhood. This was one of your mother's favorites. You look at the details - the artwork, so familiar to you now over the years, and you don't remember exactly what she said, but you do have a memory - like a photograph - of you being there next to your mom as she shared with you about this piece of the Christmas story. You remember, and worry lines around your eyes begin to soften. Light into darkness.

I pray God's peace to you in this month of December, this season of Advent. It is true that our lives are filled with a variety of ups and downs, of our being too busy, of our being gripped with real concerns, of our being distracted with things that are less important. Here is where Christ is born – light into your darkness.

Paston Tim

<u>Create, Laugh, Learn!</u> December 4th from 9am-4pm we will continue another session of "Mitten

Mania" for charitable donation. If you have **polar fleece** we could use, please bring. We'll be working in teams again so all are welcome to cut, sew, or finish with buttons. If you have a sewing machine, bring it with. I have an extra and the church has 5. We all felt last month that we were just getting the hang of the mitten pattern. Come learn with us! Mittens will be donated to local shelters!

* "As I look over the past year, I see the generosity, talents, and joyful spirit our church members bring to our community with Christ. Not only did we enjoy learning and playing but we were able to donate funds or goods to our church, the Seafarers Center, Lake Superior Choral Group, Voyager Youth Camp, Bethany Children Center, and CHUM.

Many thanks to this year's leaders who gave their time to make it happen: Jodi Keppers, Becky Buchanan, Pat and Bruce Johnson, Marcia Opien, Sue Boutin, Karen Keenan, Ann Macintosh, Lois Opseth.

As we look forward to 2019, we invite other ideas and activities that are of interest to you. Please join us between services Sunday, December 9th in the Upper Lakeside Room to plan for next year or contact me directly at sab.boutin@gmail.com or 218-525-3994."

IF YOU HAD YOUR PICTURE TAKEN FOR THE DIRECTORY AND DIDN'T ORDER ADDITIONAL PRINTS, YOUR FREE 8x10" IS IN THE GATHERING SPACE

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lutherans)

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lutheran) Tuesday, December 18! 11:00am-1:00pm Join us for a Christmas Potluck and Music! Debbie may even show us how to ring some bells!



Invite a friend to join us for some Christmas spirit!

75th Anniversary Ornaments Cost: \$10 Featuring a beautiful photo of our church, plus a prayer: "God bless this Christmas tree and all who gather near. Help us reflect Your Light in all we say and do. Amen." Our deepest hope is that this ornament will become part of the family traditions in your home at Christmas time. Imagine family and friends seeing this ornament and the conversations it might inspire. We hope this ornament will be a blessing to you for years and years to come.



Give to the MAX Day was November 15th. It is a state-wide day of giving in Minnesota for our wonderful non-profits! Give to the MAX has been going several years now but this is the first time that LCGS has participated! We raised \$9,482! Thank you to everyone who Gave and to those who gave incentive through matching funds! We are Thankful!

Advent and Christmas Calendar All are Welcome!

<u>1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - ADVENT WORKSHOP — FOR EVERYONE!!</u> Sunday, December 2nd-Worship at 8:45 & 11:00AM

after Sunday School & 11:00 AM Worship Crafts: 11:00 – 12:00 (or whenever you finish...) Potluck Lunch starting around 12:00 NOON

ADVENT NIGHT PRAYER

Wednesday, December 5th at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary - Candlelight Christmas Worship lead by Confirmation Students

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT - SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS WORSHIP Sunday, December 9th 8:45 & 11:00

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT -

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH, 8:45 & 11:00AM WORSHIP **CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SING 10:00 AM** Hymn Sing between services in the Gathering Space. Refreshments will be served.

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 23rd: 10:00 AM - Join us for worship in the Gathering Space

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24th at 2:30 PM, 4:30 PM, & 10:30 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
Tuesday, December 25th at 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 2017
Worship at 10:00 AM

SHARE YOUR TALENT WITH US!

The gift of music is a wonderful way to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus. We will have several opportunities for you or your child to share a musical offering during the Christmas Season.

December 9 (Prelude before the Sunday School Christmas Program)

December 16 - (During the Carol Sing at 10:00am)

December 24 Sunday morning 10:00am worship,

December 24 - Christmas Eve worship at 2:30pm; 4:30pm or 10:30pm

Dec. 30, Sunday morning 10:00am worship

Please contact Linda Turpening, 952-210-4211 or Debbie Sanders, 218-216-5366 by

December 16.





It's time for our <u>Annual Giving Tree for Safe Haven and Life House.</u> You can start selecting tags off the tree in the Gathering Space today! When you take a tag please write your name on the sheet next to the number of the tag you selected. When, you bring your gift back please have it in a gift bag or the knit stocking with the gift tag attached. It is important for the agencies to be able to see what is in the bag so they can match it with the right recipient. Gifts for Safe Haven usually cost \$25 or less and the gift cards for Life House run between \$10-\$15. Please make sure to have all gifts back to the church no later than Sunday, December 9th. That way they can be delivered in time for the Christmas parties at these

places. If you have questions you can call Cathy Kreft at 218.391.7310.

Are you doing your Christmas Shopping online? If you haven't yet, use our Amazon Smile link! A portion of your purchase amount will be given to Good Shepherd, at no extra cost to you!



Go to our website: www.lcgsduluth.com or go directly to: smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0872836



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & ENDOWMENT FUND ANNUAL MEETING -

The Endowment Fund Annual Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Congregation are scheduled for **Sunday, Feb. 10th, 2019, at 9:45 AM.**

2018 CONTRIBUTIONS - Contributions intended for the 2018 tax year must be postmarked on or before **December 31, 2018**, or placed in the offering plate Sunday, December 30th.

No exceptions can be made due to IRS Regulations.

If you have not had a chance, **please turn in your 2019 pledge card**. It is needed even if you are staying on Simply Giving with the same amount. Extra pledge cards are on the nametag table in the Gathering Space and in the office. Pledges are essential for the Vision Council to plan the 2019 budget. Thanks! And thanks to all who have submitted their pledge already!

Confirmation Announcements



Wednesday Evening Candlelight Christmas Worship

Wednesday, December 5th at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

***Confirmation Students will be asked to arrive early to prepare, greet, etc... ***

Our Confirmation Students will be planning and leading this event. Please join us!

There will be no Confirmation December 12, 19, or 26.

January 2 will be a "Mentor Check In Meeting" (so no Confirmation for students, just mentors.) Confirmation Parents – Please mark your calendars!

We'll be having a Parent/Family Night on Wednesday, January 9th before the big Confirmation Retreat January 11-13.

Wednesday, January 9th – Confirmation Parent/Family Night 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall Please make sure a parent or other caring adult is present this Wednesday! We will be sharing important information about the rest of the Confirmation Year, including the Retreat.

January 11th - 13th - Confirmation Retreat

Led by our Peer Ministers at Camp Hiawatha! Always the highlight of our Confirmation year! We'll be sharing more information and logistics on Jan. 9th

Please hold our Confirmation Students, Peer Ministers, and Adult Leaders in your prayers – especially during this special retreat time.

We will celebrate and bless our Peer Ministers in worship on Sunday, January 6th with the Peer Ministry Installation. Please join us and say "Thank You" to our Peer Ministers before launch into leading the Confirmation Retreat.



Register for Camp Today!! Invite a friend!

Check out all the activities happening at camp in the next few months! Www.vlmcamps.org

Summer Camp Registration is open! Join us this summer at Camp Vermilion and Camp

Hiawatha Spend time at Camp Hiawatha or Camp Vermilion this summer and you will experience! It's a chance to try some new things, meet new friends, explore your creative side, learn team

a week of a lifetime! It's a chance to try some new things, meet new friends, explore your creative side, learn team work, be silly, sing, laugh, and learn what it means to live as God's people in the world!

We have programs for all ages - a one day experience for those new to camp, a two night program for those not quite ready for a full week, and week-long programs for elementary, junior high, and senior high campers. No matter what option you choose, we will work hard to make it an experience to remember.

Register your camper before February 15th to receive \$100 off of your fee!

Don't miss the early, early bird deadline on February 15th!