

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

April 2019 Newsletter

FROM PASTOR DAVE

"One of the great poverties of our modern culture of rapidity, stress, and externality is that there is so little attention to memory . . .

To visit the temple of memory is not merely to journey back to the past; it is rather to awaken and integrate everything that happens to you. It is part of the process of reflection that gives depth to experience. . . .

If you come to see aging not as the demise of your body but as the harvest of your soul, you will learn that aging can be a time of great strength, poise and confidence."

(John O' Donohue, Anam Cara, pp. 173, 180-81, 167-68)

This time of year has been a time of recurring grief, thanksgiving and hope for me. My birthday, cancer surgeries, and Mom's death in April 2016 have all led me to search for meaning. Intentionally gathering specific memories brought thanksgiving to the grief of journeying with Mom toward her death. And each year the anniversaries return, refreshing and deepening the thanksgiving. This year the anniversaries of my high school (1969) and college (1973) graduations have brought a fresh awareness of the deepest trajectories of my life journey in some surprising ways. Not surprising is that God's presence in both the grief and the joy has made authentic thanksgiving possible. I pray that God will be present in your griefs and joys, and that we will all experience the depth and meaning of true thanksgiving.

Phillips Academy, Andover, MA; Class of 1969

The kitchen table became the place through the years where Mom and I would connect when I came home. I'm just realizing that this tradition of holy conversation started with my time at Andover. The scholarship I had received and my first airplane flight had carried me far beyond our shared experience. I could tell Mom some of the details of the journey, and describe my classes and how the cross country and basketball seasons were going. But I didn't have the words to tell her how challenging to my spirit the entire experience had been. Having always received "A" grades, I was shocked to get a 78 on my first test at Andover, an essay exam in European History. Having been the lead runner on my Windom, MN high school cross country team, I was able to make the Andover varsity, but as the 6th runner! These humbling first experiences opened me to learn to think critically, to pursue excellence, and to find my own voice.

As I gather memories of my time at Andover, I am so thankful for the trajectories set in motion that continue to transform my life today. The Gallup StrengthsFinder tells me that my #1 strength is as a Learner! I appreciate the outstanding education I have received. My vision of the world and of God has broadened immeasurably. Andover required every student to participate in both academics and athletics, anticipating the life lesson I have learned that my body carries my spirit.

When Joyce and I attend the 50th Reunion in June it will be the first time I have been back to Andover since graduation. This week I received an invitation to participate in a memorial service for our 33 classmates who have died. I will be honored to be part of that meaningful moment in the place where I received so much life.

Rice University, Houston TX, Class of 1973

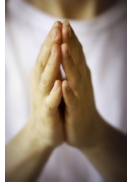
My time at Rice continued to broaden my world view. It was a time of longing and chaos (remember Vietnam?). My search for meaning ultimately led to a call to campus ministry. When Joyce and I returned to Houston last November I showed her around the campus. That walk brought back memories of a seminal moment in my life journey. Virtually alone on campus during Thanksgiving vacation of my Freshman year I went to the Library one day to read for my Philosophy course. I got lost in delight and discovery as I read *The Great Philosophers*, written by our Professor Radoslav Tsanoff. His passionate teaching inspired the love of learning trajectory that transforms me today.

I thank God for the power of our memories to continue to transform lament into joy. I thank God for the power of our memories to continue to transform lament into joy. And I also thank God for the trajectories of our lives that bring us together into this community.



LCGS IS PRAYING

**Good Shepherd randomly prays for all its members.
During these weeks we are keeping the following in our prayers:**



April 7 - Natalie Smith; Cheryl Ziehl; Dani & Dan Westholm, Ben, Alaina and Catherine;
Katie and Clayton Rich; Jasper and Betsy

April 14 - Kim & Brad Hoffmockel, Jarod and Lucas; Nancy & Dale Zimmerman;
Pastor Tim ad Pastor Laura Berdahl; Sanna and Karin

April 21 - Jen & Erik Julsrud, Annika and Haakon; Marcia & Bill Opie; Annie & David Hyopponen

April 28 - Kapri Slotness, Catherine & Paul Roseth, Samantha and Nicole; John Wuotila; Marion Wuotila

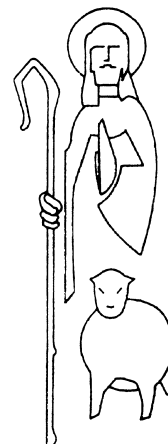
Prayer "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!"

PRAYER REQUEST - 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 Katie at office@lcsduluth.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.

Worship Attendance

	<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>		<u>7:00 Ash Wed.</u>		<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>
3/3	92	50	3/6	172	3/10	42	31
	<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>		<u>7:00 Lent</u>		<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>
3/17	80	31	3/20	215	3/24	121	52





OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lutherans)

Join us in serving our April 10th Soup Supper!
Come help set up, bring soup, bread, or milk!

Create, Laugh, and Learn "Days for Girls" April 18th

Shaming comes in many forms. It may be words said or unsaid. "Exclusion, Not Worthy, Unclean". The "coming of age" for young women in third world countries means denial of an education. During menstruation, young women and girls must stay home because feminine hygiene products are either too expensive or unavailable to them. Missing one fourth of every school year is a road to dropping out.
We can make a difference!

When girls and women have access to resources like DfG Kits and education to manage their periods, the result is proud, strong, confident leaders, ready to change the world.

"Days for Girls" is an international organization which empowers women and girls worldwide through sustainable menstrual care products and health education. The **WELCA women of Minnesota have teamed together to support their mission. French River Lutheran Church WELCA members will teach us how to make these kits to support them.** If you cannot come to this event, please support us with donations dropped off at the church office of the following:

- Lightweight washcloths
- Dark 100% cotton printed geometric, botanical, batik fabric (no animals, bugs, reptiles, people faces, eyes, camo, national symbols, girly glam)
- Dark colored 100% cotton flannel (same guidelines for prints) no bed sheets
- 2 yards of 5/8 inch ribbon for drawstrings
- Freezer gallon size ziploc bags
- Money donation to Marge Kangas or drop off in office.



Save the date! LSS YOUTH BREAKFAST & LUNCHEON!

THURSDAY, MAY 9TH 7:30-9:00 AND 11:30-1:00 Greysolon Ballroom, 231 E. Superior St
Contact Robin Pestalozzi @ Robin.Pestalozzi@lssmn.org or 218-302-6837
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch & program from noon-1:00 p.m.

TWINS GAME-BUS TRIP – Families Welcome! Saturday, June 15th Game starts at 6:10 p.m.

Sponsored by: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)

Please join us for our second annual trip to Target Field. We are chartering a LCS luxury coach with room for 55 fans. Plans are to board the bus at 2:00 p.m. from the church parking lot and return after the 6:10 p.m. game against the Kansas City Royals. The cost of \$52 includes the ticket and bus charter. The seats are in section 206, with elevators, escalators, delicious game food and bathrooms very close to the section for easy access.

Call Marcia Opie, 218-525-2310 or email rosebud2310@msn.com to reserve your seat. Make checks payable to LCGS-OWLS. Please do not bring checks to the church office, instead mail checks to Marcia Opie at 4916 Oakley St, Duluth, MN 55804.



Confirmation Announcements

Important Confirmation Dates:

Wednesday, April 10: No Confirmation (Spring Break) You are still more than welcome to join us for Soup Supper and Worship!

Wednesday, April 17: Not Confirmation (Holy Week) Join us in worship for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday! Double Sermon Note Credit all week!

Wednesday, April 24: Last "Regular Night" of Confirmation

Wednesday, May 1: End of the Year Party!



Important Sunday School Dates

Sunday, April 7 – We'll celebrate Spring Break with a LEGO Lesson for all ages in the Fellowship Hall!

Sunday, April 14 – No Sunday School; Join us for Palm Sunday Worship! We will be waving palms!!

Sunday, April 21 – No Sunday School; Join us for Easter Worship!

Sunday, April 28 – End of the Year Party and **VBS Preview Day!**

5th Graders – Watch your Mailboxes! First Communion Classes are coming up in May!

We'll send you more information in the mail soon!

ROAR: Life is Wild; God is Good!



Save the Date: Vacation Bible School

June 17-21 9:00 am – Noon

Preschool (age 3) – Current 4th Graders

*All Preschoolers must be potty trained

Current 5th-6th Grader can join us as "Volunteers in Training"

Current 7th-9th Graders can volunteer as "Crew Leaders"

Older youth and adults needed as volunteers, too!

You can sign up a child participant (Age 3 - Current 4th Graders), here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/YITyGpjKwHPLbw013>

Adults can sign up to volunteer here: <https://goo.gl/forms/Bw4hzWiRRcLSarlo2>

Students (grades 5-12) can sign up to volunteer here: <https://goo.gl/forms/tjhdGhTbTQLVCIB12>

The Deadline to Register for VBS this year is Wednesday, May 15.

Look for the VBS Supply needs board on April 28th!!



Baby Betsy was born on Sunday, March 17 - one week early and we are incredibly, incredibly lucky. She is healthy, sweet, and loud. Jasper is doing great as big brother. Everyone is home now, resting and recovering. And also learning how our little girl is already so different from our little boy. Thank you for all the love and prayers.

Baby
News

Summer Camp Registration is now open!



Check out the schedule on our website -
www.VLMcamps.org/summer-schedule



We are also seeking college-aged young adults to serve on our summer staff!
If you or someone you know is interested have them contact us today.

Family Camp! Canoe Camp! Elementary—High School youth camp!

Paddle Building Workshop - create a bent shaft canoe paddle or a stand up paddle board paddle.

Friday, April 5 to Sunday, April 7 or

Friday, October 11 to Sunday, October 13 at Camp Vermilion

Genealogy Retreat - May 3-5, 2019 - Camp Vermilion

Gather around the table and explore your past!

Cathi Weber has been researching her family for over 40 years and started NorthStar Genealogy to help others with their research and to teach classes. She is President of the Anoka County Genealogical Society. She has researched and compiled a number of charts and books for family, friends and clients.

Family Overnight – Join us Friday night for dinner at 6:30 with games, campfire, and fellowship in the evening. After breakfast on Saturday, explore the camps on your own or join in on Work Day as we get our camps ready for the summer. This is a great opportunity to introduce new friends to camp – especially if the camper (or camper parent) is nervous about being away from home this summer. This event is free if you help with work day. \$50 per family if you are unable to stay.

Friday, May 17 – Saturday, May 18 at Camp Vermilion (RSVP by May 15)

Register by calling the VLM Office at (800) 331-5148 or sending an email today!

Spring Work Day!! VLM invites you to come help get camp ready for summer! Camp Vermilion Work Day is May 18th!

Stay tuned for Specific needs, as we sponsor the bathhouse!
Ask Amie & Joel Abenth if you have questions!

VLMCAMPS.ORG

Thank you for your congregational contribution of \$25.00 to the CHUM Food Shelf and \$15.00 to the general fund in January. Your gifts allow us to continue to provide food, shelter, advocacy, and a caring community for some of Duluth's most vulnerable residents.

As you may have seen in the news, CHUM, St. Louis County, and the City of Duluth are working together on Duluth's first Warming Center. This is a pilot project, particularly focused on people who are living outside. The Center was open 13 nights in January from 10:00 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. when the temperature was zero or below, with between 5 and 37 people spending the night. The DTA offers free rides to and from the Warming Center.

Your support of CHUM, in all ways - time, treasure and good will - makes our work possible. Thank you again. Sincerely, Lee Stuart Executive Director



Dear Create, Laugh, and Learn team, On January 24th, Cal & I delivered socks, cold weather kits & your mittens from LCGS to Damiano for the "Community Connect" event. All the agencies that interact with our homeless neighbors were there to provide info on housing, legal aid, etc. as well as health & hygiene care, a free hot meal, & gifts from LCGS and 2 other churches. Surveys on each homeless person's situation were also filled out - a requirement of the Fed. Government so they have an accurate count when considering federal aid for our area. Cal & I had volunteered for the event and were there from opening until closing. We had the pleasure of passing out all those gifts from our church. Let me relate some comments and some insights that Cal & I had:

- *It was a very cold day with extremely cold temps on the way. The majority of the people had no hand covering when they came into Damiano.*
- *Your mittens were equally popular with women and men.*
- *The smaller mittens went to children and grandchildren who were in school that day.*
- *For every pair of mittens given away, we received a huge smile, many compliments about how nice they were and may heartfelt thanks.*
- *The News Tribune photographer was so taken by the story of your repurposed mittens that he sent over a staff writer for the paper to make sure your mittens were highlighted in the article that came out the next day.*
- *One mitten in each pair contained a note from the LCGS Sunday School kids, a colored picture of a mitten with a word of hope that the mittens would bring comfort from the cold to the recipient. One gentleman found a pair mittens that fit & in putting them both on, he turned to his friend and said "I have a piece of paper in one of the mittens." Before opening the folded note he said, "I bet someone sent me a love note." and we replied, "you are exactly right."*



I wish you all could have been present for people to thank you in person but know that you touched a lot of peoples hearts and kept a lot of hands nice and warm! Thank you, Amy & Cal Loken

Eyes Full of Wonder This also could be called "a view of snowbanks"! I am watching the snow very slowly recede in my yard. The unshoveled sections retain the glistening and natural sculpture of wind. My front yard bears the scars of each time I shoveled or a snow blower passed along the edges.

It is all about perspective and the beauty of Wonder in our world. As a child, snow meant forts and castles and many snowballs formed and sent out as protection. Today my snowbanks need much concentration to bring any joy to my eyes.

I am blessed to have 11 grandnieces and nephews in my life plus see the many bright and smiling faces of our church family. Looking through their eyes keeps my sense of Wonder alive. Sometimes I confess to being "too tired" to look for the Wonder. We are hopefully moving toward the end of a long, challenging season of snowbanks. We know somehow the grass and plants will be seen again... it's just a long way ahead. As we gather in a season of self assessment, a renewal of promise and longing for change; let us see our world with a hope of Wonder. Look at the face of a young person who giggles at our world, who smiles freely, laughs easily and shows God's love in their face. Wonder! Smiling and receiving a smile,

Linda Susens, Parish nurse

JOIN US FOR LENT AND EASTER!

LENTEN SUPPER SERVING TEAMS — JOIN IN! We are looking for people to help us with our **Soup Suppers**. There will be sign up sheets in the Gathering Space if you would like to be part of a serving team. As a member of a team, you would most likely be asked to bring a crock of soup and a loaf of bread. Some members of the team will need to come by 5:00 PM to help set up, and some members will need to stay for clean-up after worship. **“The goal is to have the clean up done in such a way so ALL can attend worship at 6:15pm.”** Remaining dates for soup supper are: April 3 & 10. 5:30-6:15pm
NO supper during Holy Week.



Join us for Lenten Worship Wednesday April 3rd & 10th at 6:15pm

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

Palm Sunday, April 14th Worship 8:45 & 11:00am

Maundy Thursday April 18th worship, 7pm

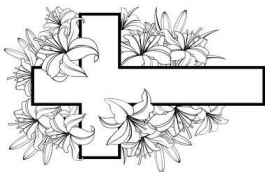
Good Friday April 19th; worship, 7pm

Easter Sunday is April 21,

6:11am (sunrise service), 8:45 am & 11:00 am

Easter Garden

If you would like to share a blooming plant for decorating the altar at Easter in memory or in honor of a special person or occasion, please call the church office at 525-1922 or submit this form before **Thursday, April 4th**. The cost is \$20 (no azaleas available this year). If you donate a plant for the Easter Garden, you are invited to take a plant after the 11:00 AM Easter worship service. You may wish to enjoy your plant at home or you may know of someone who is homebound or hospitalized and may appreciate receiving your plant.



Name: _____

Offering Envelope # _____

Number of Plants (\$20) _____

Amount of money enclosed: \$ _____
(\$20 per blooming plant)

Please indicate what you would like your notation to say:
...given in loving memory of: _____

...given in honor (or other similar notation) of: _____

...given by: _____

Easter is Sunday April 21st



Capital Needs Planning and Funding

Almost two years ago, church leaders decided to put \$40,000 of the generous Silverberg estate gift to Good Shepherd towards a new capital needs fund for the church. A capital needs fund is not part of the operating budget and is used when a major piece of equipment or an important part of the church's physical plant—the HVAC system, the roof, the parking lot, major appliances, that old stretch of sidewalk—stops working, falls in, buckles, and/or cracks, requiring the church to come up with the money to cover major repairs or even replacement. It was a timely decision. Last year, the roof over the Gathering Space started leaking and a contract for repair was signed last fall for work to start this year.

Long a feature of residential community/homeowner association management, formal capital reserve planning is a relative rarity in the world of worship facilities, according to Jim Sheppard, principal of Atlanta-based Generis, a church fundraising consultant. Indeed, "One reason organizations like ours probably exist is because not very many churches are doing this," Sheppard says. "My experience has been that while most churches are very careful about planning ahead and establishing reserves for operations, replacement/repair funding for facilities and other capital items is typically handled on an as-needed basis." That's not good.

Endowing a capital reserve fund enables a church to ensure that the building and its systems are maintained, "preserving the building and the vision that created it in the first place."

"When a church pays many millions to put up a building to serve as part of its ministry, it has the responsibility to be a good steward and take care of it over the years," Sheppard says. Endowing a capital reserve fund enables a church to ensure that the building and its systems are maintained, "preserving the building and the vision that created it in the first place."

Good stewardship practices match people's passions with many different giving opportunities beyond the weekly offering plate. At Good Shepherd there are many special giving opportunities such as ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Global Missions and seasonal opportunities for community outreach such as our Lenten offer-

ing to America's Second Harvest. The Stewardship Committee would like to encourage you to consider giving generously this year to *both* our worthy charitable partners as well as to sound ongoing stewardship of our physical assets - our beloved church home where "all are welcome." Gifts to the capital needs fund may be made online, via the offering plate or by mail.



Derek Olson, Stewardship Committee

Feeding Neighbors in Need

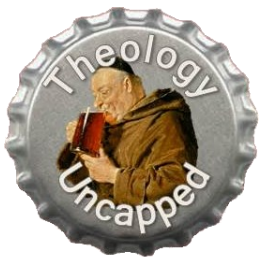
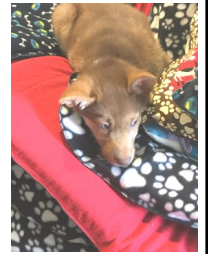
The Hunger team Lenten Campaign began March 10th with donations being sought until Sunday, April 14th. Our Focus is monetary donations to Second Harvest Food Bank. For each \$1 donated, Second Harvest is able to purchase \$7 worth of food items. Stop by our table and watch the Marbles roll !!

Lutheran World Relief Kits

Our highlighted kit for March is **Personal care kits. All donations welcome.** See bright yellow box in gathering space. Kits include the following items: Bath size towels(dark color preferred(20"x40" or 52"x 27")); bars of soap; toothbrush(orig packaging); sturdy comb and metal nail clipper.



Thank you to everyone who donated fabric, scraps, and time to make 43 beds for Animal Allies this week. They were thrilled to offer these as gifts to "forever homes". Sue Boutin



Theology Uncapped is excited to announce our next event, April 30th at 6:30pm, featuring Father Richard Kunst, pastor of St. James and St. Elizabeth's catholic Church's in Duluth and Pastor Peter Kowitz, pastor of United Lutheran Church in Proctor. The topic for the event is: "Women in Ministry", held at Grace Lutheran Church, 5454 Miller Trunk Hwy, in Hermantown. The cost is \$20 which includes a catered meal from Famous Dave's, beer, wine, pop and coffee. Seating is limited, register at www.theologyuncapped.org. Please contact Deacon John Foucault @ 218-393-0631

Congratulations Pastor Tim! He has been chosen by St. Mary's Grief Support Services as one of two "**Volunteers of the Year for 2019**"! Pastor Berdahl became connected to Grief Support Services though his internship in 2011-2012 while completing his Masters of Social Work . Pastor Tim leads grief support groups for families that have lost children. He says through their deep pain, families work together to help find their way through the world that is now totally different.



St. Mary's says they are "Incredibly grateful for all of Tim's ongoing compassion, gifts, and time he provides for the department and to the grieving individuals and families we serve."

Your 2019 VBS Decorating Challenge is to create a free standing Safari Animal
Bring your Creations with you to church on
VBS Preview Sunday, April 28th! Have fun!



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (ELCA)
1325 North 45th Avenue East, Duluth MN 55804-1507



May
Newsletter
Deadline:
April 15

Change Service Requested

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Place address label here.

(new postal regulations)

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Services at 8:45 am and 11:00 am
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
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Katie Rich, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
218-525-1922
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Stef Regenold, custodian
Greg Susens, custodian 218-525-1922
Beth Lee, Treasurer 218-525-1922
Sydney Fischer, Nursery Director 218-525-1922

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Linda Turpening, Organist 218-525-1922
email: linda@archdirect.com
Debbie Sanders, Good Shepherd Choir Director
218-724-9065 email: debra.k.sanders@icloud.com