

Shepherd News

I sit down to write this article after having returned from the "Walk for Life" at the Minnesota State Capitol. Today (January 22) is the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision of Roe v Wade which legalized abortion within the United States. It is sad knowing that since that date, over 61 million preborn babies have been murdered in the United States (over 600,000 in Minnesota). As I discussed in last week's sermon, the Bible supports the idea that the unborn are living human beings. Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Paul were all consecrated (set apart) for their task while they were still in the womb. God had a purpose and a plan for them, and something that doesn't exist can't really have a purpose.

At Lifetree Café last night, we held a special session which dealt with the issue of abortion. We learned in that session of several famous people whose mothers considered abortions, but were talked out of them. The list includes: Tim Tebow, Cher, Justin Bieber, Celine Dion, Nick Cannon, Sean Lennon, and Marlin Stutzman. Famous or not, ALL LIVES MATTER and are valuable.



It was encouraging to see all the people in support of this life saving movement at the walk. There were many more out of view of the camera. It was very peaceful. I was overjoyed to see a group of young teenaged boys ask the police overseeing the demonstration where the restrooms were. After the police responded, one of the boys responded with a very

respectful "Thank you sir". It was heartwarming to meet with other like-minded and godly people. What a wonderful witness.

There were some encouraging things going on for the movement at the national level, with a supportive president. Our state legislators are still pushing forward initiatives, although they are working in a minority which makes it hard. But there is a disturbing element which surfaced. Many of the vaccines for children are being made using aborted fetuses (as was shared by some sign holders). It appears that this is forcing mothers who object to abortions to not immunize their children, putting them at risk. [Details here](#). From this article, it appears that today's vaccines are coming from a cell line started from two aborted fetus back in the 1960's. According to this article, human babies are no longer being sacrificed for this purpose. Apparently there were some advantages to using the cell lines developed from these 2 aborted fetuses.

Life IS difficult. It is hard to live a God honoring life. Please use this as a starting point for your own research so you may be able to make informed decisions. ~Pastor Ted



- *Connect/Invite— The Wonder Weavers—2/9*
- *Valentine's Dinner 2/16*

WHERE DID THE FOOD GO?

The meals Good Shepherd Lutheran Church packed at our Coon Rapids, MN location on November 20, 2019 arrived in Nicaragua on January 16 to help kids fed by Reach Now International. Precious children are eating a nourishing meal because of you. Thank you. You've made an incredible difference.

Did you know? Meals usually take between two weeks and six months to travel to their destination. It all depends on where in the world they go and how hard it is to get there. They cross the ocean by ship or plane and wait in line to clear customs. Then they journey by car, bike, canoe or even donkey to reach our partners. Many hands carry these meals to children and families in need.



Your meals are feeding kids!

CONNECT/INVITE EVENTS

WORSHIP
SERVE
GROW
CONNECT

Have you thought about how you can **Worship, Serve, Grow and Connect**. Here at Good Shepherd? Turn to page 7 to see some of the ministries that exist at Good Shepherd and how to join one.



WonderWeavers Storytellers

On **Sunday, February 9th at 2:00PM**, Good Shepherd will host the WonderWeavers, an award-winning duo of women who tell interactive stories with a theme. The theme on the ninth will be: **I'm Great! You're Terrific! Stories about friends including positive messages**. Invite your friends, family members, and neighbors to this free event.

BEAUTIFULLY BROKEN

On January 26th Good Shepherd hosted a showing of the film *Beautifully Broken*. This movie was sponsored by Compassion International. Compassion International is a Christian a child-advocacy ministry pairing compassionate people with children living in extreme poverty to release the children from spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty.

After the movie Good Shepherd members shared stories, pictures, and letters from their sponsored children. We had a handful of people sponsor or indicate they were interested in sponsoring a child.

Thank you, Good Shepherd, for sponsoring these children! If you are still interested in sponsoring a child, [CLICK HERE](#).



JOIN US FOR THE CONVERSATION

Lifetree Café is a weekly opportunity to meet with others in conversation over a cup of coffee. Current event topics and relative issues are presented in a well-done video presentation and provide an opportunity to have a conversation with others. Everyone is invited!

Join us any Tuesday at 7:00PM or Thursday at 10:30AM (same topic each time, different topic each week.)

- Week of 2/2 - **"The Miracle of Dream? Does God speak to us through our dreams?"**
- Week of 2/9 - **"Modern Romance The crazy thing called love."**
- Week of 2/16 - **"Overcoming Life's Obstacles Discoveries How a 10-story fall changed one man's perspective."**
- Week of 2/23 - **"Reincarnation: Have you been here before."**



WHAT IS ASH WEDNESDAY?

The Ash Wednesday service includes the imposition of ashes on those who wish it. This ancient act is a gesture of repentance and a powerful reminder about the meaning of the day. Ashes can symbolize dust-to-dustness and remind worshipers of the need for cleansing, scrubbing and purifying. If they are applied during an act of kneeling, the very posture of defeat and submission expresses humility before God."

The use of ashes on Ash Wednesday is a more recent custom among most LCMS congregations, although some have done it for decades. The ashes are usually derived from the burned palms from the previous Palm Sunday. Experience will show, however, that in obtaining ashes this way, it doesn't take many ashes to "ash" a whole congregation. Like sin, they are very dirty and go a long way. One palm leaf will produce enough ashes for several years. Usually the pastor takes the ashes on the end of his thumb and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each worshiper, saying these words: "Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Adapted from the LCMS website



This year, Ash Wednesday, is February 26, 2020 with worship at 7:00PM.



SING PRAISES to the LORD
Psalm 30:4

Good Shepherd Seasonal Choir
Choir rehearsals have begun for Easter. The choir meets on Wednesday nights at 7:30PM. They are currently in need of soprano voices. The choir is preparing three pieces to perform during the Lenten season. Contact Carol Blomberg at 651-490-3288.

SERVE BULLETIN BOARD

In **February** the focus will be *Food for the poor*.



Our work is motivated by our faith in God, spreading His unconditional love, regardless of race, wealth, or creed as we minister to the poorest of the poor in 17 countries throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. By providing lifesaving food, secure housing, clean water, healthcare, emergency relief, micro-enterprise projects and education opportunities, we are giving the poor a chance at a better future, and showing them God's love.

-From the *Food for the Poor* website.



SERVE-ING AT GOOD SHEPHERD

At Good Shepherd we focus on serving others. We can be the hands and feet of Christ in many ways.

We will also be highlighting a ministry or two per month as we offer the chance to serve through our time, talents and treasures.

Upcoming:

- February—**Food for the Poor**
- March—**Camp Omega**
- April—**Safe Families**
- May—**Bethesda**
- June—**Military BibleStick**

SERVE BY BEAUTIFYING THE SANCTUARY

Coming soon—you will have the opportunity purchase flowers for Easter. We will offer the opportunity for you to order flowers that will be used to beautify the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Stay tuned.

Celebrate the memory of a loved one, a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion by sponsoring the altar flowers. Sign up at the *Connect* Center to purchase flowers for the altar area each week. You will be contacted regarding payment and who you would like to honor or remember to be printed in the bulletin. A bouquet costs \$27.50 and you can sponsor one or both in the week you select. These flowers will be ordered through the church office from Hummingbird Floral in Shoreview and delivered to Good Shepherd.



Kids for Christ

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS!



Children's Christmas Program



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Advent by Candlelight was held on December 15th. Many women of the congregation attended and experienced a lovely evening of delicious desserts and fellowship. There was a special presentation highlighting the stories behind Christmas Carols and their authors. There was even special entertainment by kids, youth and gentlemen from the congregation.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Children's Ministry: *Sunday School*

The Sunday School kids did a fantastic job at this year's Good Shepherd Christmas Program, sharing the true meaning of Christmas with family and friends.

We continue to raise money to purchase a water buffalo through Heifer International. If you would like to support this mission please put your donation in the serve jar in the narthex on the Connect Center. So far, we have raised \$2214.22 of the \$250 needed. Nice job everyone!

Just a reminder that we have the mystery box on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to sign up please contact Melanie Appelquist.

Mark your calendar:

- Sunday School kids will be singing at the 10:45 service on February 9th.
- Vacation Bible School is June 22nd-25th 6:00-8:00 PM

Children's Ministry: *Kids for Christ*

Kids for Christ (formerly Each Day Club) is a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages kids to know Jesus Christ and grow in a relationship with Him.

Kids for Christ is for kids **Kindergarten-5th grade** on **Wednesday Nights 6:00-7:30PM**. Everyone is welcome! Bring your friends, neighbors, or grandkids.

We currently have about 13 kids each week and the kids are learning about studying the Bible. Our last day will be April 15th. If you have any questions contact [Melanie](#).



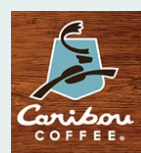
*Mark your calendars-
Good Shepherd VBS*

June 22nd-25th 6-8PM



**AN EASY WAY TO
SERVE OUR YOUTH!**

Consider donating a Caribou gift card in support of the **Bible & Brew** youth opportunity!



(Drop them in the Connect Center drop box.)



*Youth! Mark your calendars for the **first Sunday of the month at noon**. An event will be planned each month especially for you. Join your friends for a fun afternoon!*



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!!**

Valentine's Dinner
Sunday, February 16th
See lobby display for details.

Connect/Invite

- Terrance Tally, a powerful youth speaker on Sunday, March 15th, 2PM
- Luke Winger, Christian Juggler, May 17th, 2PM

Butter Braid fundraiser begins on February 23rd. Support Good Shepherd Youth as they prepare for a Servant Event this summer!



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study is held on various Monday Nights (at the same time as the Women's Monday night study).

The men are continuing an interesting study of the parallel Gospels. They spend time understanding how the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John each have accounts of the same story and how they vary and how they connect.

The men meet in Conference Room B in the Lower Level.
All men are welcome to join!



Session Dates for February

February 10th & 24th

“THE STORY OF HEAVEN: EXPLORING THE HOPE AND PROMISE OF ETERNITY.”

Spiritual Growth Opportunity

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30
Lifetree Café area
This study will be held on February 5, 12, 19.

The Story Of Heaven is a DVD study presented by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee and contains three sessions that will open your eyes to what is beyond the glorious finale of God's masterfully told story. Combining new content with adapted teaching from God's Story, Your Story and The Story adult curriculum, these teachings will give you an awe-inspiring peek into what awaits at the end of life here on earth. Individuals and groups of all sizes can learn, discuss, and apply biblical teaching about heaven to their everyday lives.

Session Titles:

Session 1: Exit Strategy (Lucado)
Session 2: Heavenly Graduation (Lucado)
Session 3: The End of Time (Frazee)

Please join us on **any** Wednesday night at 6:30PM.



YOUTH—MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Last Month's Events

- December 1st Good Shepherd Youth had their White Christmas Party. Seven youth had a blast playing games, eating, and exchanging white elephant gifts.
- December 15th the youth sold lots of yummy cookies. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported this sale. We raised over \$460 for our youth group and our summer trip.
- On January 5th Good Shepherd Youth went to Cheap Skate for a great afternoon of skating!

Upcoming Youth Events

February 2nd will be **Beat the Winter Blue Movie Party**. We be watching a movie, playing games, and having some popcorn.

Ongoing Youth Events

- Youth are invited to **Bible and Brew** (Bible study at Caribou Coffee) 3:30-4:30 p.m. Bible and Brew will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. February 12th and 26th.
- **Breakfast Club!** Sign up for your opportunity to have a free breakfast with Melanie!

SERVE AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Have you been wondering how to get 'plugged in' at Good Shepherd? One good way is to offer your time and talents on a ministry team. Working side by side with your brothers and sisters in Christ is an excellent way to build friendships.

A few of the ministries that currently could use your help:

Usher Team

If you have a heart to help people get the most out of their worship experience, this ministry is for you. Handing out bulletins, ushering during communion and collecting our offerings are part of Usher tasks. Ushers are especially needed at the 8:30 service.

Greeter Team

Do you enjoy welcoming others? Good Shepherd would like to re-establish the Greeter Team. We need 3-4 people at each service; one to be available at each of the two entrances, and someone to be stationed at the Connect Center to assist people with questions. You can work before whichever service you like to attend.



Connect Center Team

Part of the Greeter Team is the Connect Center Team. These individuals will be stationed in the Connect Center where they can answer questions about our services and other opportunities. Are you someone who likes to make people feel at home and 'in the know?' This task is for you!

Coffee Connection

Do you love coffee? Be a part of the Coffee Connection team. Make coffee and clean up on Sunday mornings.

Please contact [Ann](#) in the office and she will put you in touch with the appropriate ministry leader. Check this space each month for other ways you can serve.



EASTER AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 7:00PM

Lent Services

March 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1—
at 7:00PM with soup
supper at 5:30PM

Maundy Thursday

April 9, 7:00PM

Good Friday

April 10, 7:00PM

Resurrection Sunday!

April 12

8:00AM Traditional

9:00-10:00AM Breakfast

10:45AM Contemporary

Remember you can
support our youth in
many ways. See the
[website!](#)

goodshop

goodsearch

amazon
smile



"It was easier to really get connected with others when I volunteered with a ministry." Ann Wellmann



Women's
Ministry

"The fact that I am a woman does not make me a different kind of Christian, but the fact that I am a Christian makes me a different kind of woman."
Elisabeth Elliot

BREAKFAST, BIBLES, AND BLESSINGS

Join other women in a Saturday morning Bible Study. You'll have the opportunity to enjoy a continental breakfast and study God's Word through the DVD Bible study entitled *The Faithful: Heroes of the Old Testament*.

The morning begins at 9:00AM and ends at 11:30AM. Please consider joining us for this time of fellowship and Bible study.

Saturday, March 21st

See article on page 9.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Good Shepherd has a number of opportunities for women to be in fellowship, to serve, and to study God's Word.

WINGS (Women in God's Service) meets monthly and completes multiple fundraising and service opportunities at Good Shepherd and across the world through **LWML** (Lutheran Women's Missionary League).

Advent by Candlelight is a wonderful opportunity during Advent to meet with other women to prepare our hearts for Christmas and enjoy delicious desserts.

Women's Retreat refresh and renew in God's work with your sisters in Christ. See below.

The Quilting Group meets 3-4 times per month. They make quilts to donate to ministries and pillows to donate to soldiers. See article on page 9.

WOMEN'S GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Monday Evening

Looking ahead to February of 2020: **Altogether Beautiful: A Study of Song of Songs** a study for women of all ages, married and single. Join us for this eight-week journey through this incredible book of the bible. You will discover just how much the God of the universe considers His daughters beautiful. Contact [Ann](#) if you have not yet signed up.

Tuesday Morning

This group is studying the book by Douglas Connelly entitled *Miracles: Signs of God's Glory*. Contact Charlene Behne if you are interested in joining. See article on the right.

Wednesday Morning

First Place for Health at 9:30AM. Questions? Check with Lisa Ost, Cathy Netland or Lissa Marcello.

Saturday Morning

Breakfast, Bibles, and Blessings at 9:30AM. Final session in this series is March 21, 2020. See article on page 9.

Looking Ahead:

The Women's Retreat will again be held at Heartwood Retreat Center in Trego, WI, Friday, July 31st through Sunday, August 2nd. Mark your 2020 calendar!



WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE

WINGS (Women in God's Service) will meet on Saturday, February 15th at 9:30AM in the Lifetree Café area. They will begin with a light breakfast with the meeting and program to follow.

The program for the February meeting will be *A Time Such as This*. Hostess will be Charlene Behne.

WINGS would like to thank everyone who helped us set-up, clean-up, serve and those who donated for the funeral of Judy Hokanson. It was greatly appreciated by the family and the women's group.

A big thank you to everyone who donated, shopped, helped set-up, and take down for our annual Craft and Bake Sale held in early December.

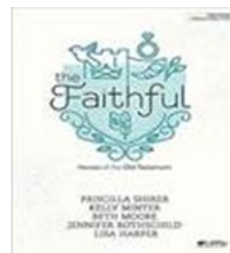
Financially they cleared \$1,096.90. The proceeds will be used for outreach and mission activities in the upcoming months.

Again, thank you so much for your support!

If you have any questions, please contact Charlene Behne, WINGS Chairperson at 763-784-8320.

BREAKFAST, BIBLES, AND BLESSINGS

A welcoming, single session Bible Study, *The Faithful: Heroes of the Old Testament*, with breakfast & fellowship.



This study explores crucial moments in the lives of Old Testament figures. Through their stories, discover how God uses the lives of ordinary people for His glory and the good of His people.

Strengthen your faith as you walk alongside these larger-than-life figures who all chose to obey God no matter the circumstances.

The morning begins at 9:00AM and ends at 11:30AM. Please consider joining us for this time of fellowship and Bible study.

Saturday, March 21st

QUILTING AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Join us as we continue to quilt for Lutheran World Relief and other purposes, and to make pillows for our soldiers.

No experience is required. Quilts are given to those who need encouragement and a reminder of how much they are loved and cared about by Jesus Christ and that He is always with them as they travel along life's journey.

If you would like to help or provide material, please contact Lissa Marcello at 763-783-3790 or just come on the designated Thursday evenings.

February Dates
6th, 20th, 27th

Time: 6:30-8:00PM

Place: Lower Level—Sunday School area

LADIES' TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies' Tuesday morning Bible study meets in the Lifetree Café area from 9:30-11:00AM. In February they will continue their study of "Miracles: Signs of God's Glory" by Douglas Connelly.

If you would like to join them in this study, please contact Charlene Behne at 763-784-8320.

February Dates
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

Time: 9:30-11:00AM

Place: Lower Level—Sunday School area

PRAYER AT GOOD SHEPHERD

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

1 John 5:14-15

MARRIAGE MINISTRY

Session 3 of the DVD series :

"Sacred Marriage: What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy?"

will be held on Friday, February 7th at 6:30PM in the Lifetree Café area.

Join us!

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

Praying in daily life is as important as breathing. Just as we all need oxygen to live, we need God's presence in us for us to be fully alive.

"We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don't want to wait for God to re-

solve matters in His good time because His idea of 'good time' is seldom in sync with ours." Oswald Chambers, Scottish teacher, writer and minister, 1874-1917.



**Next Prayer Meetings—
December 8th & January 12th
at 6:00PM in the Lobby. Join us!**

MOMS IN PRAYER

Do you worry about your children? Come experience God's peace and hope when you pray alongside other moms. Moms in Prayer International (formerly Moms In Touch), gathers moms together to pray for God to transform our children and schools. Won't you join with us in prayer for this next generation?

Please contact Leanne Abraham at 651-766-7442 or MIPICentennial@gmail.com for information about our local group. For more information about Moms in Prayer International visit their [website](#).

SUBMIT A PRAYER / BECOME A PRAYER WARRIOR

Do you need prayer or know of someone who does?

1. On Sunday, fill out a prayer request card (found in the pew) and place it in the offering plate during the offering. OR
2. Go to the [website](#) and click on "Prayer Request" at the top. OR
3. [Email](#) or Phone (763-784-8417) your request in.

Would you like to be on the prayer team?

You will be added to the email list and receive prayer reminders through email. You can pray in your private prayer time. Send an [email](#) to the office indicating your interest in being a part of the prayer chain.

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF

The food shelf provides emergency foods (3-5 days supply) for about 250 local households each month. Team members come together with a driving compassion to serve the community by meeting the needs of others. Good Shepherd volunteers are always needed to serve on the first Thursday of the month from 3:45-6:15. Thank you to everyone for your generous volunteer support and contributions.

Good Shepherd is collecting monthly food items (**February is Sealed Packages of Diapers/Wipes**). There is a drop box for donations located by the coat rack in the lobby. If you would like to make a financial donation to the local food shelf, please make checks payable to: Centennial Community Food Shelf and mail to:

Centennial Community Food Shelf
c/o Gethsemane United Methodist Church
7330 Lake Dr
Lino Lakes MN 55014

The Centennial Community Food Shelf is located at 200 Civic Heights Drive (in the lower level City Hall building). Please contact Darlene Leiding at 651-484-0119 if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.



Monthly Ministries:

- **Food for the Poor**

Learn more about this ministry in the Lobby.

Remember:

- Join us at the Connect/ Invite event *Wonder Weavers* on 2/9 at 2:00PM. Free!
- Attend the Valentine's Dinner on 2/16 if you purchased tickets!
- Ash Wednesday service is on February 26th marking the beginning of Lent.

SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY

Worship at 8:30AM & 10:45AM
Kids and Youth studies at 9:30AM
Adult Pastor-led Study at 9:45AM

Youth Butter Braid Sale begins on 2/23. They are raising money for next summer's servant event. YUM!

Worship Opportunities for Lent

Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, 2/26.
Palm Sunday Worship—4/5 at 8:30AM & 10:45AM
Maunder Thursday Worship—4/9 at 7:00PM
Good Friday Worship—4/10 at 7:00PM
Easter Sunday Worship—4/12 at **8:00AM** & 10:45AM
Easter Breakfast—4/12 from 9:00AM-10:00AM

February's "theme" item is Diapers/Wipes (sealed packages only)

ELECTRONIC GIVING—A SIMPLE WAY TO GIVE!

Do you find yourself forgetting to write out your check or leave it at home on Sundays? Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? We highly recommend "Simply Giving". It is

convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our church. To set-up electronic donations, simply complete an Authorization Form and place it in the drop off box, both are located at the *Connect* Center

ELECTRONIC GIVING

A convenient, consistent way to help your church grow.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1 Shepherd Court
Circle Pines MN 55014

763-784-8417
goodshepherdlink.org

Connect with Staff

PastorTed@goodshepherdlink.org
Melanie@goodshepherdlink.org
office@goodshepherdlink.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE