



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2013 VOL. 7, NO. 9

"The Lifestyle of Faithful Stewards"

C.S. Lewis said, "There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'All right, then, have it your way.'" As redeemed children of God, of course, we desire to belong to that first category, "Thy will be done."

On each of the first four Sundays of September the theme of our worship services and our Bible studies will be *the lifestyle of faithful stewards*. We will learn how the Holy Spirit, working through Word and Sacrament, transforms us to be more like *the Faithful Steward*, Jesus, Who willingly poured out His life in giving and serving, ultimately sacrificing His very life for our lives, both now and forever.

I pray that we all take advantage of these opportunities to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and that we all might be strengthened in faith both for eternity and for a fruitful life here on earth.

The particular themes for the four Sundays are as follows:

Sunday, September 1, "Building Relationships"

Sunday, September 8, "Witnessing for Jesus"

Sunday, September 15, "Living as a Servant"

Sunday, September 22, "Giving Joyfully and Generously" (Commitment Sunday)

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"

(1 Corinthians 15:58).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Rusnak".

Pastor Rusnak

September 2013 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Gaylord Ryg
320-692-4789



USHERS

Darwin Beck
Marion Holmes



GREETERS

01st Bruce Sundberg
08th NEEDED
15th NEEDED
22nd NEEDED
29th Marge Berndt



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

01st Nancy Aarsvold
08th Kevin & Marie Nelson
15th Ladies Aid
22nd Marge Berndt
29th Judy Stahl



If you are unable to serve on the Sunday you are scheduled, please make arrangements for a substitute and please let the office know of the changes so that we can post it correctly in our Sunday bulletins.



This Month's Altar Guild

June Kobs



Invite a Neighbor to Church

This

Month's Birthdays!

01st Sarah O'Neil
05th Marilyn Reinking
06th Dwight Bruckhoff
07th Steve Lawrence
Dick Siemers
08th Marie Nelson
12th Lucy Knowlen
19th Dennis Anderson
20th Bill Uhlig
21st Elaine Drahosh
24th Doug Feltmann
26th Geri Posner
30th Ken Kuschel



This Month's Youth's Birthdays!

08th Kylie Hoese
20th Luke Rusnak



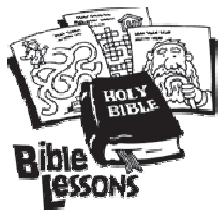
This Month's Anniversaries!

04th Terry & Ippy Drahosh
11th Bill & Linda Alleman
Dick & Jerry Siemers
24th Dwight & Robin Bruckhoff
30th TJ & Tiffany Gustin

We would like to include everyone's Birthday and Anniversary dates from our members and church friends to include in our monthly newsletters. If you would like to include your birthday and/or anniversary to our list or if we have the wrong information please let our church secretary know.



SOTL News for September 2013



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Jesus promised: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John

8:31).

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 8:30a.m. each week. Please join us!

Bible Breakfast meets at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday mornings. Come and join us as we read through the Bible together. We will be meeting at Twin Pines Resort during the summer months.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. each week.

Please check out the bulletin board for updated information on the studies in each Bible study class.



Office Hours

Pastor is available throughout the week for pastoral care and counsel.

The Church Secretary is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00am to 2:00pm.

The Church office will be closed on Fridays.



Prayer Requests



If you have a prayer request for Pastor, please fill out a "Prayer Request" card and hand it to an Usher, place the card in the collection plate, or Pastor's mailbox. Please keep Pastor updated on the requested

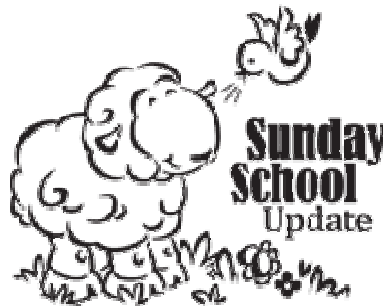
prayers. You can find the prayer request cards on the guest book stand.



Project 24 Received to Date (7/31/2013) \$68,856.64



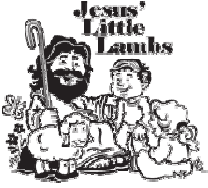
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: Sunday school begins again on Sunday, September 8th at 8:30 a.m. with teacher Marie Nelson! We are looking forward to another great year of Sunday School!!



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE'S WEBSITE: We invite you to check out our website at shepherdofthelake.org. You can access sermons, pictures of church events, any announcements and more.



SHEPHERD'S LAMBS: All young families and friends of Shepherd of the Lake are invited to our September gathering. We will be going mini-golfing at Traditions Mini-Golf Course in Deerwood on Saturday, September 14th at 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions or would like to carpool to this event please contact Julie Rusnak. Hope to see you there!



RUBY'S PANTRY: Everyone who eats qualifies: \$15 cash donation; bring your own boxes or basket for the food. This is a hand up not a hand out and is not income based. Please check out the bulletin board for information on when Ruby's Pantry is going in Brainerd and/or Onamia.



GREETERS & FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP SHEETS: We welcome any and all participation. Please remember that if anything should come up you can always trade with someone else. Thank you for your help!



PASTORAL CARE: It is important that all of our members receive pastoral care when it is needed, especially during times of sickness or other difficulty. If you know of an individual, even if it is a non-member, who would appreciate and benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact the church office or Pastor Rusnak.



CHURCH PUBLISHING INFORMATION: If you have a congregational event you would like to see publicized please contact one of the people on our Publicity team and they will get the information out there (Sandy Feltmann, Sue Raddatz, Julie Rusnak, and Pastor Rusnak).



NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SENIORS (NAPS): NAPS is now available at the Garrison Food Shelf. This is a program for Seniors (60 years of age and older) who meet the household income guidelines set out by NAPS. Any senior (60 or older) who lives in the State of Minnesota, is providing food for themselves, & meets the income guidelines, is eligible to receive these food packages. The food that is given to NAPS participants is provided once a month and is only for the individual who has signed up for the program. Please check the bulletin board for more information.

RIDES FOR HEALTH: The Cancer Support Center, Inc.

provides transportation to anyone of any age in the Aitkin County that does not have someone to take them to medical appointments. These appointments must be medically necessary (medical, eye, dental), but do not need to be cancer related. Please check the bulletin board for more information.



QUILTS—QUILTS—QUILTS; "Tied in Faith, Sent in Hope, Wrapped in Love": The gals are busy making the mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are meeting on Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. They invite anyone interested in helping in any way with this worthy cause. If you would like to help cut or rip apart pillowcases, and fitted sheets or would be willing to sew together tops or help tie the quilts together or just to come and see what they are doing they would like to invite you to come. They are hoping to make more than the 43 quilts that they made last year. If you have any questions please contact Shari Beck or Rose Mihalko.

The Ladies have a wish list for making the quilts:

Needle Nose Pliers

Clean sheets (any size)

Blankets

Material for Backing, any sturdy cotton will do

(7 yards of 44 inch material, makes two backings)

Polyester Batting

Crochet Thread

Sewing Thread (dual purpose, white or cream

Please give any item you wish to donate to Shari Beck or Rose Mihalko. Thank you!



Vision Statement:

Share the Gospel

Our Mission:

We will share the GOSPEL
When we ...

- G**lorify God in all that we say and do
- O**ffer Him our time, talents, & treasures
- S**hare the good news of Jesus
- P**ray without ceasing
- E**ngage the community
- L**ove one another



CROSS is a very special gift appeal adopted by our MN North District Convention in 2012 which has as its goal that all 203 congregations of our District would come together to provide support for our 8 Christian Day School ministries. This support is critical, not in terms of assisting our sister congregations with the day-to-day operating costs of each school ministry, but rather in terms of helping these Christians Day School ministries provide items which will help make them the "school of choice" in their communities. In particular, gifts given to the CROSS appeal will be equally shared among our 8 Christian Day School ministries to enable them to keep pace with the use of technology in the classroom as well as to provide tuition assistance to families who otherwise would not be able to enroll their children in one of our schools. Gifts will also be utilized to provide other helpful upgrades as needed by the individual schools. In the end, 100% of all gifts given to CROSS will go to make our Christian Day School ministries stronger and better!

What makes this support so important is due to what takes place each day at every one of our Christian Day School ministries. Every day every child who is attending one of our schools receives their education in surroundings where God's Word and the love of Jesus Christ is primary! Daily devotions and prayer time are staples of each student's educational menu. Christ-centered values are taught and encouraged and practiced. Faith in Christ is nurtured. And in many instances, when students do not have a church home (in 2012-2013 that was 17% of all students enrolled in one of our Christian Day School ministries), seeds of faith are planted in their hearts and the Holy Spirit is given the opportunity to create a saving faith in Christ in each of those children.



PASTOR WILL BE GONE: The week of September 23rd to the 27th Pastor Rusnak will be at Symposium in St. Louis, MO. If you have any pastoral needs while Pastor is gone please contact the Elder of the Month, Gaylord Ryg or contact Sue Raddatz in the office or at home 218-764-3244.



COMMUNITY ROADSIDE CLEANING: We have will be cleaning the roadside on Monday, September 9th at 9:00 a.m. We will meet up at the old Headquarters parking lot. If you are able to help please sign the sign-up sheet so we have enough supplies for everyone. Thank you!



Let us keep in our prayers Ruth and David Hughley, Ivan Burandt and family at the recent loss of Ruth's son, Terry Swanson; the family of Carole Aeshliman, a former charter member of Shepherd of the Lake; John Vance, brother-in-law of Larry & Jessica Collison; and the family of Rev. Paul Bartz. Let us keep all these families in our prayers as they deal with the loss of their loved ones, our prayers and sympathy are extended to them all.



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM: This year's theme will be "The Lifestyle of Faithful Stewards." This will be a four week program and will run from Sunday, September 1st to 22nd. You will find your stewardship information in your church mailboxes, please take them home with you. If you don't have one and would like to receive one please contact the church office.



ANNUAL CHURCH BAZAAR: It is that time of year again when we need to start thinking and preparing items for our annual Bazaar/Bake Sale. This year the bazaar will be on Saturday, October 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will once again be selling baked goods, craft items, jams and jellies, and of course Lefse! We are looking for donations of butter and flour and, of course, monetary donations are welcome in helping with purchasing other grocery items needed. We will be serving soup, sandwiches and pies again this year and will be in need of pies to serve. Please watch in upcoming Sunday bulletins and next month's newsletter for more information.



RECYCLING ALUMINUM CANS: We are accepting all donations of aluminum cans to support our Sunday school program. Please put the cans into plastic garbage bags and place the bags into the trailer beside the garage. Thanks!



VOTER'S HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY 21, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Bob R. with 32 voting members and 4 visitors present. Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made, second and carried to accept secretary's report as written. To save time, minutes from Voter's will be put into everyone's mailboxes within a week of meeting-no minutes will be handed out the day of the meeting so keep yours and read them ahead of time.

Treasurer's Report: The Designated Fund accts are posted on bulletin board. The treasurer thanked everyone for their generous contributions for these funds. The Quarterly slips were placed in mailboxes.

Pastor's Report:

ATTENDANCE: Average Sunday attendance YTD is 54 compared to 59 in 2012 and 53 in 2011.

BIBLE STUDY: Sunday Mornings, Bible Breakfast or Wednesday Morning Bible Study being offered.

UPCOMING DATES: Aug. 10th will be giving away free coffee and bottled water at the Garrison Fish, Aug. 11th Annual Church Picnic, Aug. 15-24th Pastor & family on vacation, Aug. 25th Fishing Launch at Twin Pines Resort, Sept. 8th Sunday school starts and May 18th, 2014 will be the 35th Anniversary celebration for SOTL.

Elder's Report: Nothing to report.

Trustees Report: A motion was made, seconded and carried to have Center Point Energy bring in a Natural Gas line to the church and change from LP to natural gas for \$1200. We will then sell the LP in the tank back to gas company and sell the LP tank for \$500 to \$600.

Evangelism Report: A large box of new socks and undies of all sizes was delivered by Pastor. The Orphan Grain Train will deliver all kits to Kenya. Praise the Lord for the generous people in this congregation to help the less fortunate. The Praise & Worship concert was wonderful with 55 in attendance, and \$615 was collected for the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat for Pastors.

Board of Education Report: Shepherd's Lambs is going well. They are trying to have an event each month. There were 22 in attendance each day for VBS this year.

Stewardship Committee Report: They will be helping with Annual Church Picnic.

Thrivent Report: Will be doing a Brats Sale on Aug. 23rd and 24th. The money made will go towards the 35th Anniversary celebration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Redecorating Report: Marge B. reported on the projects recommended by the committee AKA Redecorating /Improvement/Building Committee. A survey was handed to everyone to fill out and the results will be presented at the October Voter's (please read the complete Voter's minutes for the list of projects).

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: A committee is needed for the election of new Officers for the year 2014. Ken S. and Bob R. volunteered to co-chair this.

Feasibility study for L/T Care Facility: A motion was made, seconded and carried to begin a campaign to give the feasibility study a chance for 1 year and see if we can raise the \$5000 needed to do this study. If we come close to raising the money the church may pay the remaining balance so we can go forward with this project, if the money isn't raised the donated money will be returned. A thermometer will be hung up by the Stewardship Committee for these donations.

Salary Increase: A motion was made, seconded and carried to give Pastor his yearly salary increase as suggested by district guidelines.

Closing: with no further business a motion was made, second and carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. with Lord's Prayer led by Pastor.

Respectfully submitted by

Elaine Drahosh, Recording Secretary
(Please watch your mailbox for completed minutes or see the church secretary for a copy)



The children will be returning to school on Tuesday, September 3rd. Please watch for the children as they walk to school and get on or off the school bus.