



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2017

651.451.6225

500 Years of God's Grace in Action Jubilee Reformation Sunday October 29, 2017

Martin Luther changed history, and 500 years later we're still talking about it. But if you had been in the little town of Eisleben, Germany on November 10, 1483, you probably wouldn't have even noticed his birth. There really was nothing special about Martin and his family that would have caught your attention. But God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. As we look back on Luther's life, we can see God was shaping Martin Luther for service. Thunderstorms, theses, and his bold words at the Diet of Worms ("diet" meaning a formal meeting, not a weight-loss plan, and Worms being a city south of Frankfurt) in 1521: "I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen" (Luther's Works 32:113). All worked together to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to light and to enable the Reformation of the Church to go forward. Insisting before the most powerful people of his age on the Scripture's teaching that people are "justified by faith apart from works of the law" (Romans 3:28), Luther in time came to be known as the "third Elijah." He would have disliked the title, hoping that people, in the end, would talk not about him but focus only on Jesus.

This is why, 500 years later, we are still talking about Martin Luther and why we give thanks each year on Reformation Sunday for Luther's faithful service, but we are even more thankful for the message that we are justified by grace through faith because of Christ, a message Luther recovered for the Church.

I encourage you to DVR the Vikings on Sunday, October 29 so you might attend this year's 500th Anniversary Celebration of the Lutheran Church, which for us at Good Shepherd and throughout the Lutheran Church is not only a time for recalling the rich history of the church, but to celebrate and give thanks for the church today, as well as take a look forward to what lies ahead.

Peace,
Pastor Leesa



Become a Member of Good Shepherd

If you are interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd we hope you can attend a "Night of Introduction to the Church" on Tuesday, October 24 from 6:00-7:00. The evening includes an introduction to Good Shepherd and its vision and mission, a brief overview of Lutheran theology, the opportunity to meet other new members and your sponsor, as well as the enjoyment of refreshments. If you have questions, please email pastorleesa@goodshepherdigh.com and or complete our new member registration found on line. *New Members are received during the worship service of their choosing on Sunday, October 29.*

Baptism Class

Baptisms are a declaration of God's grace and we want you to discuss this extraordinary gift with your child for years to come! If you're planning to have your child baptized at Good Shepherd and it's your first child baptized with us, you should consider attending our baptism class, which is offered on October 1 & November 5 from 11:15-12:15. If you are planning to attend a class, please email the church office at admin@goodshepherdigh.com

Church Building & Office Hours

The church **building** is open during the following times:
Monday - Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm (office hours) and
Sunday through Thursday evenings from 4:00pm to 9:00pm.

If you or a community guest needs to reserve room space or needs access to the building at other times, please contact the church office during office hours to make arrangements.

GENEROSITY - Fueling God's Work

**Living every moment
with awareness of
God's abundant generosity!**

Giving cheerfully is the obvious response to the joy we receive through Christ. We want our church to be a helpful tool for you, a way in which the gifts that are abundantly given to each of us can fuel us to do God's work in the world.

Having received so much from our generous God, we want to be a generous people. Generous not just with our treasures, but with our time and our talents. Giving not just at church on Sunday, but giving ourselves to God every place we find ourselves, every day of the week.

Our October Messages will be heartfelt stories from the congregation as to how God's abundant generosity is contagious. Please join us!

Funerals

Edna Gahler, 8.10.17 *Age 104*
Marlene Miller, 8.16.17, *Age 84*
Neil Neubauer, 6.15.17, *Age 77*
Joan Strumstad, 8.21.17, *Age 81*
Kenneth Tschida, 6.9.17, *Age 79*

Baptisms

Sofia Isabel Overby
Child of Jesse & Anna Overby
8.20.17

Weddings

Alexa Natalie Breen &
Joshua Henry Fleury
8.9.17

Becky Marie Rasmussen &
Jeffrey James Philipsek
7.22.17

Next Newsletter Info

Our next newsletter will be mailed out on October 12.

Articles are due in the church office by October 2.

On Sale Now! T-Shirts & Insulated Bags

For just \$10 each, you can wear a piece of GSLC history (wink-wink) or save the environment, while at the same time showing off to the neighborhood the awesome church you attend!! See the church office if you are interested in purchasing one of these teal colored items with the GSLC logo on them!



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Game Night!

**Thursday September 28th @
6:00pm @ Good Shepherd**

Bring your favorite board game or join others in a card game of friendly competition. Please bring a dish to share as we will (in Lutheran tradition) have an old fashioned church "pot luck" dinner.

8-Week Study on the Gospel of Matthew

Tuesday Nights from 6:30-7:30 & Thursday Mornings from 10:00-11:00

Join us for the time that fits best in your schedule.

It isn't too late to participate in the Tuesday night or Thursday morning Bible study with Pastor Leesa. You can choose to attend one or more of the sessions offered.

- The Birth of the Messiah, September 12 & 14
- This is My Son, the Beloved, September 19 & 21
- You are the Salt of the Earth, September 26 & 28
- You of Little Faith, October 3 & 5
- Who Do You Say That I Am, October 10 & 12
- Where Two or Three are Gathered, October 24 & 26
- My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?, November 7 & 9
- I Am With You Always, November 14 & 16

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Every Sunday morning Adult Bible Study is held from 9:15 to 10:15 in Meeting Room 1. We discuss the Church Year Scripture Lessons designate for each particular Sunday. Everyone is invited to attend!

Growing Through Loss

Monday's, 7:00-9:00 p.m. September 18 - October 17
Church of St. Thomas Becket in Eagan.

Growing Through Loss (GTL) provides support for adults who have experienced loss, information about the grieving process, caring and support from others who are also grieving and sharing of memories and feelings in a confidential setting. GTL supports loss of spouse, child, parent, other loved ones, loss through suicide, life transitions such as the loss of job, health, relationships or mid-life changes, multiple losses and provides small group and one-on-one support.

GTL is sponsored jointly by The Interdenominational South Suburban Grief Support Coalition, a coalition of churches in the south suburban Minneapolis-St. Paul area, which Good Shepherd is invited to participate. If you are interested in this terrific opportunity to find support through well-known speakers and trained facilitators and small group discussions information can be found at the Welcome Center.

Care & Prayer Corner

There are times in everyone's journey where a little more care and compassion is needed because of a difficult experience. At Good Shepherd we promise to listen, empathize and be reminder, that we, your faith community cares. We will visit you

when you're in the hospital, bring communion to those of you who, for health reasons, can't leave your home, provide you resources when you experience loss and pray, pray, pray.

Contact pastorleesa@goodshepherdigh.com if you need support.



Here are a couple ways you can get involved in Caring & Praying:

Card Ministry: If you would like to send a Card of Support and a little cheer to someone in need, Care Cards are located at the Welcome Center. Simply fill a card out, add the member's full name and leave it at the Welcome Center Desk and it will be addressed, stamped and mailed.

Prayer Chain Companion: Do you want to participate in lifting up family, friends and neighbors in prayer? If yes, then be on our text message Prayer Chain. Prayer requests from Sunday are posted to the Prayer Chain every Monday. Throughout the week, new requests are posted as they are received. If you would like to pray on an on-going basis for Good Shepherd Prayer Concerns please contact Cathie O'Neill-Saver at cathie.oneillsaver@gmail.com or 651.968.6469.

Women of Good Shepherd

October 3rd at 7:00 ~ Bible Study

We are currently studying the book of Esther. All women of Good Shepherd are welcome. Please join us! A business meeting will follow Bible Study. Contact Linda Baker with questions, 651.455.8043.

October 19 ~ Ladies Night Out

We are leaving church at 5:20 & heading to The Mason Jar in Eagan. Join us for fun, food and fellowship. We need to make reservations, so please contact Jen Becker if you are able to attend, 651.207.2260

Annual Craft Fair

November 17 & 18!

Our booth space is filling up quickly!

If you would like a table to display the craft items you have made with your talents, call Linda Baker at 651.455.8043. Cost is \$20 for Friday or Saturday or \$30 for both days.

Dial a Ride from Neighbors, Inc

Need a ride to the doctor or dentist? Have an appointment at the County office but no way to get there? Neighbors, Inc's Dial-A-Ride program is here to help! Volunteer drivers provide FREE rides to and from appointments for individuals living in northern Dakota County - all we need is at least a week's notice. For more information, or to request a ride, call 651.306.2143

Looking Ahead

- Nov 5 ~ First Communion Class for all ages
- Nov 12 ~ Bishop Patricia Lull preaches
- Nov 19 ~ 3-5 Gr Twisted Thanksgiving
- Nov 23 ~ Walk to End Hunger at the Mall of America
- Nov 26 ~ Hanging of the Greens Sunday Jubilee Worship
- Nov 26 ~ K-2 Gr Gingerbread Houses

Nursery & Preschool Ministry

Our new Nursery & Preschool Sunday†School ministries will begin on Sunday, November 24! The nursery Team will provide a loving, caring, safe and fun environment for children 6 weeks-5 years of age while parents participate in worship or other special activities. We are looking for loving adults and youth (middle and high school age) to volunteer. To volunteer or for questions email nursery@goodshepherdigh.com.

The Nursery will be open during Sunday worship at 9:15 & 10:30 and on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm.

Wednesday Meals Begin October 4

All ages are welcome and invited for a meal and to stay for Worship and Wednesday evening activities! *We ask parents/guardians stay here with their children Grade 5 and younger during the meal and worship.* Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:15. The menu will vary and cost is \$4 per person. All meals include beverage & a cookie.

- Oct 4 ~ Sandwich & Chips
- Oct 11 ~ Walking Tacos
- Oct 18 ~ Shobi's Table, a Local Food Truck Ministry
- Oct 25 ~ No meal
Trunk or Treat
- Nov 1 ~ Corndogs & Apple Slices
- Nov 8 ~ Mac & Cheese & Veggies
- Nov 15 ~ Chicken Nuggets and Tots

Mark Your Calendar! Sunday, October 8th



The first Good Shepherd Oktoberfest will be held on Sunday October 8th from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. This will be an exciting event for the entire congregation, with great food, fun, and fellowship.

~ **Food** – The menu will be bratwurst and hot dogs with fixings, beans, chips, and soft warm pretzels. Root beer, apple spritzer, water and coffee will be served for beverages. Dessert will feature German chocolate, apple strudel, and black forest cupcakes.

~ **Fun** – We will have games and activities for the kids, German music and décor.

~**Fellowship** - This is a multi-generational family event, all are welcome so please bring your friends, family, and neighbors.

Cost: For this event, we will sell individual tickets for \$1.00 – which is what many local schools do at their carnivals. Individual food items will cost a certain amount of tickets, most items will cost 1-3 tickets each. Tickets will be sold the day of the event.

We will need help leading up to the event, especially on Saturday October 7th and Sunday October 8th. If you can help with this event, please contact Greg Rettinger at 651-552-0646 or via e-mail at gpr1411@icloud.com.

We look forward to celebrating a fun and exciting Oktoberfest event with you and your family and friends.

Save the date! – Sunday October 8th – 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Real Food, Real People with Shobi's Table - October 18, 6:30pm

An event for the entire family! Join us this evening as we take time to create a meal and relationships with the guidance of Shobi's Table, a ministry of the St. Paul Area Synod! Where church comes in the form of a food truck. Shobi's Table is "a ministry of, by, and for folks struggling on the margins in St. Paul." Not only will you have the opportunity to make an authentic food truck meal, but you will also hear stories of real people who have struggled with homelessness and how you can be a voice for change in your community.

K-Grade 5 Inter†Gen News

The Inter†Gen Ministry theme of the year is Jesus said, "I AM Making All Things New". ~ Revelations 21:5. We are eager to begin our new activities in the new Inter†Gen Wing of Good Shepherd! Registration is available online under 'contact us'.



Sunday†School for Pre-K thru Grade 5 (9:15-10:15)

The first day of Sunday†School is September 24th @ 9:15am. We will dive into the year's theme by having students meet in their new rooms for new programming such as meeting our new music team! Classes this year will run from 9:15-10:15 to provide more time for children to learn about the love of Jesus through Bible exploration, songs, games, crafts and group chats. Families are encouraged to attend worship together before or after class @ 8:00 or 10:30.

Wednesday Night†Live for K-Grade 5 (6:30-8:00)

Another ministry option for education is Wednesday Night†Live which begins on September 20th @ the 6:30pm "Messy" worship service for all ages. Immediately after the service, we will spend our time expanding on the message of the worship service through Bible story time while also having fun playing active games outside (or inside) as much as we can. This FIRST class is an orientation to the year so parents are asked to attend with their children. Class ends at 8:00.



Wednesday, October 25~Trunk or Treat (6:30-8:00)

Guests dress in non-scary costumes for 6:30 outdoor worship around a campfire! After which there will be an exciting time of Trunk or Treating around the parking lot by visiting decorated vehicles. Many volunteers are needed to provide trunks with candy, help with snacks or traffic control. In case of inclement weather – we will shift this event to inside of the church. Sign up to help at the Welcome Center or email children@goodshepherdigh.com.

Inter†Gen Christmas Program Auditions

Thursday, October 26

Auditions & Music Practice for the Inter†Gen Christmas Program (5:30-7:30)

People from Kindergarten and up are invited to join together to form the wonderful cast of actors, singers and dancers that will perform "The Power of the King" Christmas musical on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm and Sunday, December 17 at 5:30pm.

Most rehearsals will be on Thursdays from 5:30-7:30. Sign up by October 1 so we can adjust the script to have enough parts for all who are interested. children@goodshepherdigh.com

Bible Class

**Sunday, October 8
11:30am-1:00pm**

Bible Instruction Class for Grade 3

This class is for children in Grades 3 who have not yet received a Bible or those who would like a Bible refresher class. A meal will be provided followed by a kid-friendly tutorial about the Bible. Children taking this class will receive their Bibles as a gift during the service of their choice: Sunday, October 29 services @ the 8:00, 9:15 or 10:30am, Wednesday, October 5 @ the 6:30pm worship service.



Sunday, October 29

Jubilee Worship Sunday

8:00, 9:15 & 10:30

We will not have education classes on this day so all people can worship together and celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran denomination! Our children and youth will provide special music and other family friendly activities will be provided. Children in Grade 3 who complete Bible instruction will receive their Bibles, plus it is New Member Sunday.

Senior High Gustavus College Retreat - November 4-5

Join us on this quick getaway from November 4-5 as we retreat to Gustavus Adolphus College for a time to Pause, Renew and Experience Sabbath. We are partnering with other churches in the Twin Cities for this opportunity as we intentionally walk together through spiritual renewal and stress relief practices for when life gets busy.

Inter†Gen Youth News

Senior High Lock-In - September 22

Good Shepherd Lutheran is excited to host a Senior High Lock-In on Friday, September 22, not only for our youth, but also for youth involved with our friends at Amazing Grace, All Saints, St Luke's, Bethesda and Luther Memorial. Our hope is that you meet new people, share God's love, and have fun! There will be a lot happening throughout the evening; from midnight bowling, escape room, late-night worship, and maybe even an opportunity to sleep!

Java w/ Jesus

Come and get connected with Jacob, Pastor Leesa and other Senior High youth as we begin the school week with a nice hot cup of coffee (or a Caribou Cooler...). Stop on by before the school day begins! We meet every Monday beginning at 6:30am at the Caribou Coffee off of Cahill Ave.

Mission Experience 2018 Informational Meeting - October 8

The initial meeting for next summer's travel to Montana will be on Sunday, October 8 at 11:30 AM. Join us to learn more about where we'll be going, what we'll be doing, and how you can sign up for this amazing summer experience! Participants for the Mission Experience will continue to meet every second Sunday of the month for team building, community learning and fundraising.

Council Round-Table with 9th Grade Youth - October 15

The 9th grade youth will join with the Church Council for an opportunity to learn and engage in conversation about the various ministries and opportunities for involvement at Good Shepherd. After meeting with the council, we want youth to make commitment to serve with one of the ministry teams supported by the council. These teams include the Social Ministry Team, Building Team, Intergeneration Ministry Team, Adult Ministry Team, Be-a-Friend Team, and New Member/Visitor Engagement Team.

Prayer Pal Tailgate Party - October 22

Come huddle around for the first Prayer Pal gathering of the year! Confirm†Faith youth will meet and connect with their Prayer Pals while also cheering on our favorite Minnesota football team. But no need to be a Vikings or football fan, we will have plenty of activities for everyone! "Tailgating" begins at 11:30 AM.

Be a Prayer Pal

At Good Shepherd, we want to surround youth with numerous relationships that model and mentor faith. That is why every year we ask our middle school youth to find a Prayer Pal – a supportive adult from the congregation to be a mentor! The primary role of a confirmation Prayer Pal is to constantly remind our youth that God loves them a ton and wants to use their gifts to make this world more right. We also hope that Prayer Pals pray regularly for each other, recognizing the milestones in each other's lives.

As part of the Confirm†Faith ministry and to best support the relationship, Prayer Pals will meet on Wednesday evening during the seasons of Advent and Lent. If asked, please consider this opportunity a privilege that is easy to do, but will make an incredible impact. We are always looking for members to be Prayer Pals! If you are interested please contact Jacob Niewinski at youth@goodshepherdigh.com.

Youth Moments from Benton Harbor

My journey at Benton Harbor was a very memorable experience. When I first got to Benton Harbor my first thoughts were that the town seemed broken and abandoned. I was thinking this week would go by really slow but it didn't. On Monday and Tuesday my group went to the Senior Center and Boys and Girls Club. At the Senior Center we played a lot of bingo and painted their nails. Some of the seniors were very loud or didn't talk much. After that we went to the Boys and Girls Club. The kids there from ages 6-8 were very loving and wanted to hold onto everyone's hand. We danced there, played games, used technology and played basketball. When we had to leave the Boys and Girls Club the kids were very sad and kept running up to us and urging us to stay. On Wednesday we went to Mary-Alice's garden to help fix it up a little bit. When we first got there it looked like just a field of grass but we later made all the plants visible and it looked very pretty in the end. It is now Thursday morning so I'm excited to find out what memories I'll be making today. With the sites we went to at Benton Harbor we also met a lot of great people. At the Senior Center Emma told us stories about her family and husband. She had seven kids and is now a great grandma at the age of 78. At the Boys and Girls Club the main person, Freddy, was a very nice guy and I enjoyed talking to him. At the community garden, Mary Alice talked to us about how everyone needs to love the Earth that we have and take care of it. Overall, Benton Harbor, Michigan, was/will be a very memorable experience. I'm looking forward to going to another mission trip and making a difference in other communities as well. ~ Makayla Leko

Affirmation of Faith Celebration - Grade 9

October 29 at 1:00pm

All 9th grade youth will have the opportunity to affirm their faith during a special worship service on Sunday, October 29 at 1:00pm. All family, godparents and friends are invited to come and support our youth as they publicly affirm the promises given to them at the time of their baptism. Photos will be held after the worship service.

Volunteers Are Needed to GUIDE Children & Youth

As always, we are in need of several loving adults and senior high youth who want to befriend a small group of children either on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening. Confirm†Faith youth are also welcome to assist with Sunday†School. There is not much planning involved.

A Guide's role is to facilitate an already planned activity while affirming and caring for our young people. To best equip and support you for the year, all Guides are asked to attend a Guide Training on Monday, September 18 @ 6:30pm.

To volunteer please email:

Jacob: youth@goodshepherdigh.com

Karen: children@goodshepherdigh.com

Mary: nursery@goodshepherdigh.com

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7600 Cahill Avenue
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

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Sunday Worship Services
8:00, 9:15 and 10:30am
Nursery Available
9:15 & 10:30am
Sunday†School at 9:15am
All Are Welcome!