



Good News From Good Shepherd

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."
John 10:11
May 2016

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Dear Friends in Christ,

This month we celebrate the gift of our fathers. It is a blessing to be raised by a kind and loving Christian father, one who can be strong enough to be gentle. Such a father points to our heavenly Father. He made all things and knows all things. In the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer (and their explanations), we confess that God is almighty, yet He invites us to call Him "Father" and come to Him as dear children come to their dear fathers.

If this were not the case, we would cringe in fear because we know that God hates sin. He cannot tolerate wrongdoing. (After all, how many of us cowered in fear at the words, "Just wait until your father gets home"?) Yes, God knows all too well that we are sinners. However, instead of destroying us as sinners, God responded to our sin with love, sending His Son to be our Savior and take the punishment that we deserve. May we continue to support fathers who likewise model sacrificial love for their children.

This month also marks the official beginning of summer. As we enjoy the sun, let us not forget the Son – the one whose goodness and mercy are never on vacation. Enjoy God's gifts of great weather, relaxation and perhaps a trip out-of-town with your family. However, let me encourage you to make worship attendance a priority in the summer months. Just like it's not healthy for our bodies to go long without food and water, it's also damaging to go without our spiritual nutrition. We need to be fed consistently with God's Word and routinely strengthened by His pronouncement of forgiveness.

And while we value your presence at Good Shepherd, please let me know if I can help you identify a church to attend while you are traveling this summer.

In His service, Pastor Bill

Taking God's Lead

Two questions I would like you to consider –

- Do you remember being asked to take on something and did not think you had the skill set to do it? After being haunted by the task you finally prayed "Lord, if it is Your will for me to do this thing, I submit to doing it knowing You always provide all I need to bring glory to You in this venture!"
- Can you remember when frustration won out and you finally gave in and proclaimed - "Okay Lord, I've tried it every way I know how and now realize that I can't do it on my own. Please forgive my hard headedness and lead me to Your solution for my situation!"

Two years ago I struggled with both of these when I was asked to have my name on the GSLC ballot for president of the congregation. My confession and testimony to each of you is taking God's lead is not always the easiest but **IT IS ALWAYS THE BEST!!!** In the past two years He has blessed our congregation in ways that have been extremely visible and others we have no knowledge of – both bringing glory to His name.

GSLC now has the following servants ready to lead us beginning with their installation in July 2106 in doing **His** will in the Florence mission field –

President – Rachelle Wesselman
Vice President – Becky Aragon
Council Secretary – Tammy Vaughn
Treasurer – Kathleen Meckstroth
Financial Secretary – Jason Raap
Inreach – Barb Barvincak
Property – Andy Gawura
Outreach – Ryan Reasoner
Education – Lisa Krejci
Communications – Jackie Raap
Stewardship – Marlis Norton
Head Elder – Glenn Leavens
Elders

Dean Daniels
Leroy Raap
Vincent Woolley
Bernie Wesselman
Bruce Bremer
Dennis Bird
Ty Arendall

Following are passages for the new leadership team and all members of GSLC to keep in mind as the Holy Spirit leads us forward –

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

“For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”” 1 Peter 2:6

“so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

⁹But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these

are unprofitable and useless.” Titus 3:7-9

Thank you for trusting in our Lord’s will the past two years. May He grant each of you the patience of Job, the wisdom of Solomon and faith in Christ Jesus as our one true Savior!

Stay focused on the Cross and **always take God’s lead.**

Lee Brooks
President GSLCa

Stewardship Corner....

Stretch until it hurts!

Think about our physical selves and the many cells that make up our bodies. You know that if a cell doesn’t stretch, until it hurts to the point of splitting into two, we don’t grow, we don’t heal. Rather we wither and die. It’s the miracle of life breathed into us from the beginning and sustained until our numbered days are complete.

Thank you to all the new Good Shepherd servants who have stepped forward to take positions on the church council. There are a number of new servants, for whom the position may be a stretch of faith, a stretch that may hurt before it’s over, but a sure means to growth in faith and spiritual fellowship.

I entreat the church body to lift their fellow servants up in prayer, asking a blessing of faith, guidance and perseverance as they begin their terms, learning, perhaps stretching time and talent and growing in their respective roles. For those returning to familiar roles, pray for a measure of fresh discernment and renewed spirit.

And for those still looking for ways to stretch, there is VBS, June 13-17. There is no more satisfying way to exercise one’s faith and stretch in service, than to be a servant to children. Mary Givhan is looking for a lot of us stiffs to get up and stretch ‘til it hurts with laughter, joy and child-like faith.

Stretch until it hurts!

I think we've all heard that before in some situation or another. We didn't necessarily like it, but we heard it and maybe did it. It felt good when we were done, but maybe not so much in the doing. We knew it was good for us before or after a particularly strenuous exercise event or perhaps it was something we had to do as part of a physical training or therapy. Knowing it wouldn't last forever, we got through it.

Our financial position compared to budget is falling behind in income. We are being good stewards managing expenses against income. It is a temptation in the summer to take vacations from worship and giving as we shift our focus to summer family fun, travel and recreation. But be reminded, our God does not take a minute off, let alone a day or a season in His watchfulness. And neither should we. Though we may be away, our church home and servants must still be supported. Let us not fail in stewarding our time by cutting back participation in worship and study or our giving of treasure to our church body this summer. This season is repetitive and predictable, but must it be? Can we be different here? Can we stretch until it hurts to be so different?

Stretch until it hurts!

God had a plan. His only Son would stretch out His holy arms on a cross 'til it hurt like hxxx. Yeah - we know it, we get it, we see it, we feel it. Can we live it?

Marlis Norton, Stewardship

BOARD OF IN-REACH

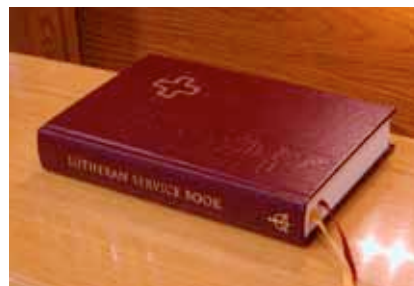
Mark your calendars for Friday, June 10th, for our Family Movie Night. We will have pizza at 6:00 p.m. and then the movie "God's Not Dead 2" at 7:00 p.m. We will show the movie "Barnyard" for the children. If you can come, please sign up on the kitchen door so we can plan the amount of pizza needed. Bring your friends and join us for a fun evening!!

On Sunday, June 26th, we will have our quarterly LWML Mite collection. Watch for the baggie in your bulletin. These moneys are used to support missions here and around the world.

There will be a quick In-Reach meeting on Saturday, June 11th, at approximately 11:00 a.m. following the Women's Bible Breakfast. We hope to see you there.

PAINTSVILLE

Our annual Servant Event trip to Paintsville, KY is shortly approaching. We will be going the week of June 19-24. All food, lodging, and meals are provided, just bring yourselves. This year we will be joined again by an LCMS congregation from Monroe, Michigan to help us serve the working poor of the area and spread God's grace and mercy to the people of the region. We have been given a grant from LWML for the event, as well as the donations received from Good Shepherd when Good Neighbors came and gave a presentation in April, but any additional donations of either material or money would be welcome. Please see Ryan Reasoner for details at (513) 305-8674, or iceman35pilot@yahoo.com



Fellow Members of G.S.L.C

Additional hymnals are needed for the sanctuary. If you would like to donate \$26 per hymnal and have it dedicated in memoriam on behalf of a loved one or special situation, a dedication label will be added with the information to the respective hymnal. Envelopes for this project can be picked up from the table in the gathering area or please mark checks or a special offering in an envelope noting the money is for the purchase of a hymnal(s) in memory "...". Money can be placed in the offering plate. Working together in His mission field.

Thank you!

Lori Raap

Home Visits with Pastor Bill



Dear Friends in Christ,

I have enjoyed serving you - and with you - these past six months.

However, in the busyness of all the ministries and activities we do at Good

Shepherd, I've found it difficult to get to know all of our families on a personal level. While I have been able to get to know some of you pretty well, there are others of you who I do not know much, if at all.

Therefore, one of my goals for the summer months is to get to know all of you better. To accomplish this, I would like to invite you to participate in a home visit with me. I'd like this to be an informal time to learn more about your family (background, employment, talents, interests, etc.) And any spiritual needs or prayer requests that you want to share.

A few additional thoughts:

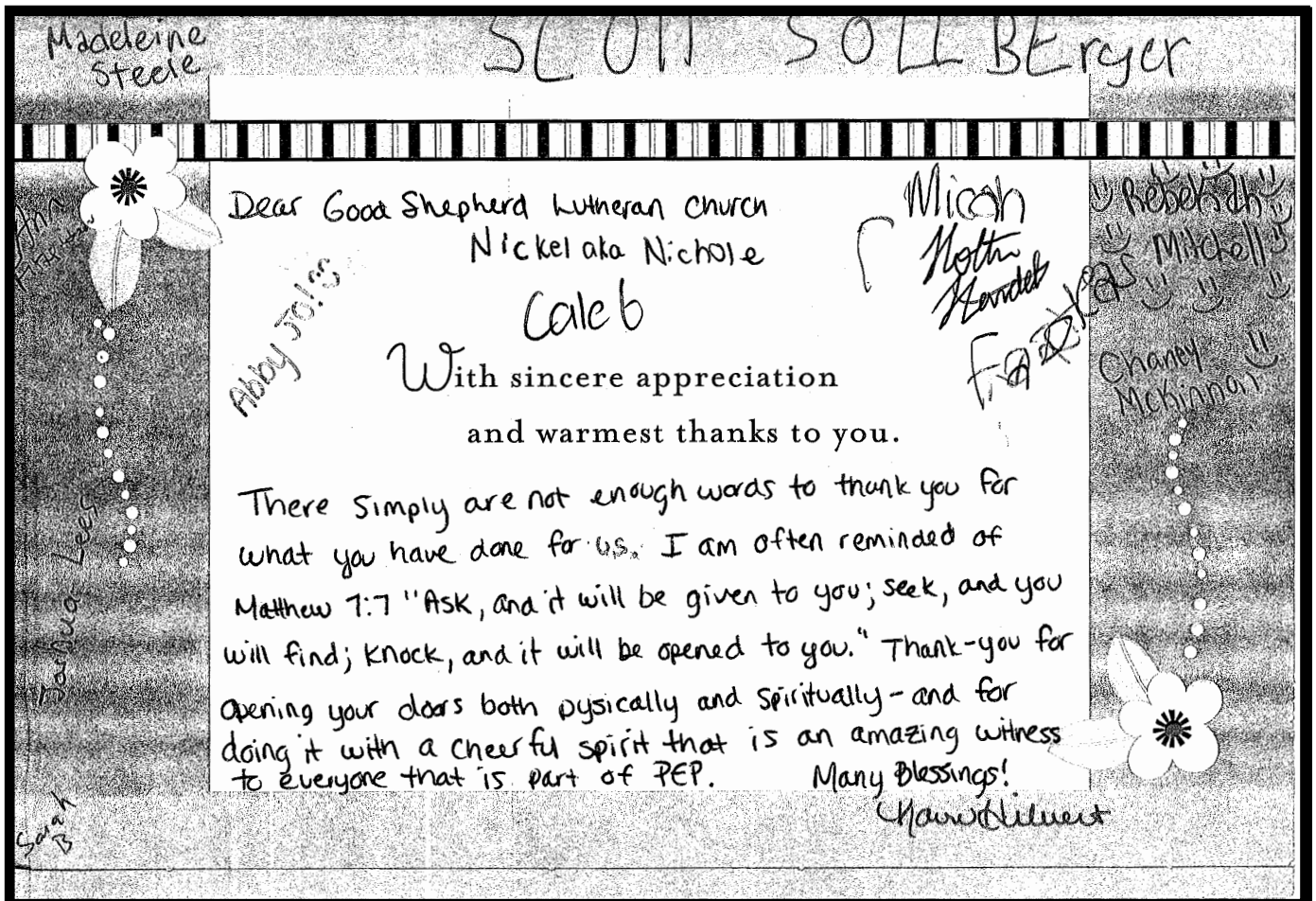
1) A couple of families might like to do this together.

2) Children and youth are important, and they are encouraged to participate too.

3) Please don't feel pressured to have your home perfectly spotless and organized. We all lead busy lives, and mine sure isn't!

If you would like to participate, please contact me or Lynn Mitchell in the church office. Various days and times will be available.

**Blessings,
Pastor Bill**



Sunday School Report

On Sunday May 22, the kids enjoyed fun and games as we recognized the end of Sunday School for this year. Each of the students were present with a Sunday School Certificate and a bag of goodies.

It has been a great year. The kids started off the year with lessons from the Old Testament starting with the life and work of Joseph in Egypt. The lessons also included the birth of Moses, the escape from Egypt, and the exodus in the wilderness. In December the kids presented their Christmas program titled "A Tree for Christmas". As the kids decorated a Christmas tree they explained the meaning behind the decorations we put on the tree. The kids lead the Palm Sunday Procession and they sang "Bring Palm Branches". During the third quarter the covered lessons from the New Testament. The lessons included lessons about Jesus: His birth, his baptism, feeding the five thousand, the Good Shepherd, and the transfiguration.

We could not have done this without the support of our wonderful parents and our great Sunday School teachers. They are fantastic.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 21st, Rally Day, the beginning of Sunday School for next year. More information to follow.



~ June 2016 ~							Jul 2016
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 VBS Volunteer Meeting 7:00 pm	2 Bible Study at the Stetlers' home – 7:00 pm	3 Wunnenburg/Wainscott Wedding rehearsal 6:00 pm	4 Wunnenburg/Wainscott Wedding 6:30 pm	
5 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Adult Bible Class 11:00 am – Worship	6 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	7 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am Finance Committee 7:00 pm Bd. of Ed – 7:00 pm	8	9	10 Family Movie Night 6:00 – pizza 7:00 – movie	11 Women's Bible Breakfast 9:00 am In-Reach Meeting 11:00 am	
12 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – No Adult Bible Class 11:00 am – Worship with Rite of Confirmation 9:45 am - Reception for Confirmands	13 VBS 6:00 – 8:30 pm	14 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am OWLS – Potluck 12:00 Noon VBS 6:00 – 8:30 pm	15 VBS 6:00 – 8:30 pm	16 VBS 6:00 – 8:30 pm	17 VBS 6:00 – 8:30 pm	18	
19 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Adult Bible Class 11:00 am – Worship	20 Elders' Meeting – 7:00 pm Paintsville Mission Trip	21 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am Paintsville Mission Trip	22 Paintsville Mission Trip	23 Jaycees Auction 4:00 – 9:30 pm Bible Study at the Stetlers' home – 7:00 pm Paintsville Mission Trip	24 Paintsville Mission Trip	25	
26 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Adult Bible Class 11:00 am – Worship CID Youth overnight	27 CID Youth Depart at 10:00 am	28 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am	29	30	Notes:		



NORTHERN KENTUCKY CHAPTER OF LUTHERANS FOR LIFE



NORTHERN KENTUCKY CHAPTER OF LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

If you haven't thought about it or decided yet, please consider joining us at the [Cross The Bridge For Life](#) event on Sunday, June 5, 2016. The festivities begin at 1 p.m. along the Ohio River on Festival Row in Newport, KY. After the opening program and the release of hundreds of balloons, the actual Walk starts at 2:00 p.m. across the Purple People Bridge. There will be entertainment, music, face painting for the children, and free t-shirts! More festivities and food will follow the Walk, including a picnic, compliments of JTM Foods, and additional vendors will be available where you can purchase other food items as well. Our own Chapter of Lutherans For Life is again a Rose Sponsor of the Walk. Come out and support the Sanctity of Life!

Lutheran For Life's prayer is that together we can stand for the value and dignity of all human life from the youngest to the oldest, the preborn to the elderly, the weakest to the strongest. "And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these...you did it to me.'" (Matthew 25:40 ESV).

I hope to see you on Sunday, June 5, 2016 as we [Cross The Bridge For Life](#) together!



Jesus Gathers Us Together
Lessons based on Palms 23

Get ready for VBS

June 13 - 17, 2016 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Vacation Bible School

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

9066 Gunpowder Rd.

Florence, KY 41042

(859) 746-9066

June 13th – 17th 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

3 yr. old to 5th grade

Come to a “farm-tastic” VBS and learn that Jesus gathers us together to be with Him with His abundant provision and saving protection, now and forever!

Join us for VBS and bring your friends!

Don't miss out!

You may register online at <https://vbsmate.com/gslcky>

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