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September 2022 Newsletter

“Encouraging faith and proclaiming God’s love by Gathering, Growing and Giving.”

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR MARY

Greetings and welcome to a new school year!

When our adult children were much younger, the beginning of the school year was a rush of shopping, excitement, and occasionally some anxiety (moving to new military bases in the summer, plus those anxiety-inducing milestones years of their lives.) Maybe your family has been experiencing some of this in your home. Now my excitement is focused more on the events related to church and new school sport seasons. It has been nice to have a few autumn-like crisp mornings to get me into the mood for the season that is before us.

I can tell you that there has been a flurry of activity around the church in the past 6-8 weeks as we prepared for and held Vacation Bible School, Carol Heimstead’s funeral, and the Ice Cream Social...ALL bringing so many people together! And then there have been the meetings for Sunday School and Autumn Fest...baskets being made for the Silent Auction, classrooms being readied for September 11th Rally Day and the beginning of 7th-8th Grade Confirmation. What a sheer delight it has been to see SO MANY people in the church building: laughing, talking, worshiping, eating, or planning.

As many of you know, the first half of 2022 was a tough one for ours, and other congregations. So many people have chosen to not reengage with their churches, and our giving levels were extremely low. It was all kind of a ‘perfect storm’ that got our leadership talking about what our future staffing and organizational structure may look like in the future. Thanks to the extreme generosity of two families who offered \$4,000 for our Summer Matching Challenge...AND the MANY OF YOU who responded...our finances are looking much better. That being said, we know there is still work to be done, conversations to be had, and a real need for us as an entire congregation to assess what we are willing to give of ourselves to keep the ministry of Shepherd of the Hill going. We know there are new individuals and families moving into the area, and other folks who could be encouraged to come check out our congregation. As we’ve been learning about with our *Book of Acts Summer Sermon Series*, it takes courage to invite people to be part of a faith community...and our invitation we may be turned down. But we’ve also been learning that when we rely on the power of the Holy Spirit who is already within us, anything is possible.

So keep on reading this newsletter to see what is going on, and to see how you can join in...and even invite a friend.

So very much looking forward to seeing you in person,
Pastor Mary Eide

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” Deut. 6:6-7



Audrey Bracher has moved to assisted living at:
Colfax Rehab and Health Center
110 Park Dr. Colfax, WI 54730 (will get apt. # & phone # later)

Joann Knutson has moved again to memory care at:
Dove West
1405 Truax Blvd. Eau Claire, WI 54703

PARKING LOT REPAIR Please stay off the church parking lot Wed. 9/7 and Thurs. 9/8/22 We will be having the lot seal coated and lined

FUTURE DATES

Saturday, October 1st 8am set up Tent at the Elk Mound Park

Sunday, October 2nd 11am –2pm Autumn Fest (at the Elk Mound Park)

Sunday, October 9th 10am Bluegrass Music Worship

Sunday, October 30th 10am 9th Graders Confirmed

Sunday, December 4th 11am Fellowship 40th Anniversary celebration for Sandy and Conrad Barth

Sunday, December 18th at 10am worship Sunday School Christmas program

GATHERING

WORSHIP - Something new for our 10am Sunday Worship

A *narrative* is a story, and stories are important for us. Stories are how we understand the world and our place in it. As we have learned throughout the centuries, stories also form our faith. This month we will begin using what is known as the *Narrative Lectionary*. A lectionary is a set calendar of Scripture readings that can be used in worship identifying particular Bible readings for Christian worship.

The main purpose for using the *Narrative Lectionary* in a congregational context is to increase biblical literacy in worshippers. Frankly put, most people don't know the Bible, even your ever-Sunday attendees. Many people know a number of different Bible stories, but most do not know how to put them in order, or how they are connected. And, most of the stories known are from the Gospels, because these are the Bible texts most preached on.

The *Narrative Lectionary* is one tool to increase biblical literacy. By narrowing the assigned reading to one main Scripture passage each week, more attention can be paid by worshippers and preachers to that single passage. Many times, preachers and teachers summarize what has happened in the larger biblical story since the previous week to help connect the dots.

The *Narrative Lectionary* begins on the second Sunday of September with a story about creation and touches on the major stories, characters, and plot points in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) until mid-December (through the Third Sunday of Advent). At that point, the lectionary picks up one of the four Gospels (one Gospel each year for the four-year cycle) and moves through many of the main stories or passages of that Gospel in order (mostly) through the Sunday after Easter. From the Third Sunday of Easter through Pentecost Sunday, the readings are pulled from Acts and the Letters. The readings line up with the major church festivals (Christmas, Transfiguration Sunday, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, and Pentecost).

Sept. 11th *Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17* Flood and Promise

Sept. 18th *Genesis 12:1-9* Call of Abraham

Sept. 28th *Genesis 39:1-23* Joseph in Prison

(Want more info? Go to <https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/narrative-lectionary/>)

AUTUMNFEST Sunday, October 2nd 11am to 2pm this year will include not only a delicious meal (\$8/adult; \$4/children), FREE games for the kids, music, car show and a Silent Auction...**BUT THIS YEAR...**we will also have a RAFFLE with some amazing items! The list is still being finalized, but currently there will be a RAFFLE for: Blackstone griddle, one of Barb Vadnais' beautiful quilts, a kayak, ¼ beef, and camping kit.

So mark SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2nd on your calendars and make plans to come...bring family and friends too! A portion of our proceeds will go to *Mounder Meals*, a weekend food program for children in our school district.

Still looking for someone to coordinate setup/cleanup/games.

AROUND ELK MOUND

ST. JOSEPH'S HAM DINNER Sun., September 18th from 11:30 to 2pm.

Ham Dinner (till 2pm) Other Activities include: Bingo, country store, silent auction, raffles, children's games and other adult games. There will also be an auction for several cords of firewood.

NORGE HARVEST DINNER Sat., Sept. 10th, 3-7pm at Big Elk Creek Lutheran Church

Meal includes: Meatballs and gravy, ham, mashed potatoes, rutabagas, salads, rommegrot, sweet soup, Norwegian sweets and lefsa.

Adults: \$12; Children: \$8. Cash or check only. *Drive thru meal with optional outdoor seating.*

GROWING



RALLY DAY INTERGENERATIONAL CELEBRATION

Sun. Sept. 11th

Begins 9-9:45am.

Everyone can join us in the 1st Floor Gathering Place
Sunday School students [3-years old-6th graders] parents,
grandparents, and anyone who wants to join the fun!

- † Hear a Bible story
- † Meet the Sunday School Staff
- † Sing a Bible song
- † Get our picture taken
- † Get to know your teacher and others while enjoying beverages and a healthy snack.

Then...during our 10am Worship

- † Bless the Backpacks (and backpack users)
- † 3rd graders will get a Bible

On Sunday, August 7th, 2022 Elizabeth Jorde was baptized and joined God's family.

Lizzie's parents are Maria (Heltne) and Devin Jorde. Her Godparents are: Autumn & Ellie Guckenberger, Maria Heltne & Caleb Young, and Johan Tczap

Welcome Lizzie to the family!!



HOMEcomings PARADE FLOAT Friday, September 23rd 2pm

We are looking for students and adults who'd like to RIDE ON or WALK BESIDE our church float/wagon for the parade... throw candy out to the crowd and pass out Autumn Fest flyers. Sign-up sheet at church, and parent permission form will be needed for students attending Moundsview Elementa. We will pick MV students up at the school and connect with parents back at church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES begin **SEP. 18th** 8:45am-9:45am. We will all be using the SPARKS curriculum this year. (3-year-olds through 6th graders). We have a GREAT staff this year and are always looking for youth/adults to serve as substitute teachers, assistants, 'behind-the-scenes' workers, or those who can help with the Christmas Program.

- *Bobbi Jo Carothers* 3-year olds-Kindergarten
- *Kris Jenson and Ashley Edin* 1st-2nd grade
- *Brad Zillmer* 3rd-4th grade
- *Holly Sweeney* 5th-6th

You can contact our Sunday School Coordinators Jaime Folczyk (715-821-0796) and Holly Sweeney (715-456-6960) if you have questions or want to get involved.

NEW THIS YEAR: All the classrooms are upstairs and we will gather together before going to individual classrooms.

CONFIRMATION KEY DATES:

- Wed., Sept. 7th 7pm Parent/Student meeting for **all 7th-8th graders**
- Wed., Sept. 14th – 3:20-4:30pm First **7th-8th Grade** Confirmation Class
- Sun., Oct. 30th – 10am **9th Grade** Confirmation Service

GIVING

...of TIME, & TALENTS

Autumn Fest is fast approaching and you can help by offering your time by making bars, putting up the Tent on Sat. 10/1 at 8am and/or on the day of the event with set-up, helping with food, ticket taking, running games, working at silent auction/raffle, and clean up. Check out the SIGN UP SHEETS at church or contact Sarah Larson at 715-577-2560

NEXT AUTUMN FEST organizational meeting Wed. Sep. 14th and 28th at 6pm.

...of TREASURES

AUGUST BALANCES

Independence State Bank Balance \$ 14,769 Mortgage Balance \$ 14,532

Year-to Date Income \$ 81,367

Year-to-Date Expenses \$ 90,457

DEFICIT (\$ 9,090)

*This deficit does NOT reflect the Summer Challenge funds that have come in, because they are being tracked in Dedicated Funds. The amount received as of 8/16 \$8,170. **Thank you for your generosity!***

THANK YOU to the many of you who continue to give generously and consistently!

YOU CAN MAKE ONLINE OFFERINGS/DONATIONS by using GivePlus on our church website. Simply go to [_](#) and click on the GIVE tab. From there go to the top right of the page to **“Sign in or**

Sign Up". You will be directed to a secured site from Vanco to set up an account so funds can be withdrawn from your checking or savings account. You can set up a one-time or reoccurring offering/donation. You are in control of how much and when you want to donate! You can contact us at the church to make sure the account set up and first donation came through alright. These transactions are all tracked in your giving record and including in your giving statement for tax purposes. This is an easy way to ensure the donation you are making for God's work is placed into the church account. Start small if you like, and then build on your generosity as time goes on. (*You can ignore the pop message that ask you to download a mobile app for GivePlus*)

Of course, you can also bring offerings to church on Sunday, mail them to the church (207 University St., Elk Mound, WI 54739), use Bill Pay on your bank/credit union's website to have a check mailed to the church with funds drawn from your account, OR set up a Vanco *Simply Giving* recurring donation payment. (Barb Vadnais can help you with this as our Financial Secretary)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

General Fund/Memorial Fund

Diane DeMoe	In memory of Carol Stuckert's sister, Delores Huber, Flora Lehman and Carol Heimstead
Faylene Howe	In memory of Casey Anderson, Delores Huber, Carol Heimstead, LaVerne Ausman, Floyd Lehmann, Nancy Stengal, Madyn Pangel, Kay (Nelso) Whitney, Diane Hanson's Mother
Faylene Howe	In Honor of Keith and Rita Lee's 50 th Anniversary
Judy & Lyn Dieter	In memory of Carol Heimstead
Billy & Betty Heltne	In Memory of Carol Heimstead and Flora Lehman
Bud and Barb Barum	In Memory of Carol Heimstead
Dave and Mary Gilbertson	In Memory of Carol Heimstead
Vic and Lori Jenson	In Memory of Carol Heimstead and Flora Lehman
John and Mary Ausman	In Memory of Carol Heimstead
Billy & Betty Heltne	In Honor of Elizabeth Jorde's baptism
Carol Stuckert	In Memory of Carol Heimstead
Marshall & Bonnie Fuhrman	In Memory of Carol Heimstead, Nancy Stangel, Delores Huber
Keith and Rita Lee	In Memory of Flora Lehman, Carol Heimstead
Gordy and Candis Sessions	In Memory of Flora Lehman
David and Helen Blicher	In Memory of Flora Lehman
Duane and Anita Clemmens	In Memory of Flora Lehman
Kay and Roger Tubbs	In Honor of their 60 th Wedding Anniversary

Benevolence

Keith and Rita Lee	In Memory of Flora Lehman
Carol Carlstrom	In Memory of Flora Lehman

Shepherd of the Hill Council Minutes August, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Barb Vadnais

Members Present: Carol Carlstrom, Barb Vadnais, Alison Young, Claudeen Oebser, Kris Jenson, Marshall Fuhrman, DiAnna Scheffler, Pastor Mary Eide, Stephany Grossbier, Steve Sweeney

Devotion: By Pastor Mary – Gifts from the Holy Spirit

Mutual Ministry: Flora Lehman's passing 7/13/22; Carol Heimstead on comfort care at Colfax Health and Rehab; Destiny Curry's mastectomy surgery went well and will begin immunotherapy soon; David Gilbertson regaining strength at American

Lutheran Home; Conrad Barth awaiting diagnosis and treatment; Joann Knutson moved to Dove West, Evie Silvernale recovering from knee infection; Ron Rose Marshfield Hospital infection after surgery; Keith Lee continued back issues. John Osmond had surgery and is in the hospital.

Agenda: Motion to approve agenda with the addition of pop-up food pantry made by Kris Jenson, 2nd by Marshall Fuhrman.

Secretary's Report: Motion was made to approve minutes was made by Kris Jenson. 2nd by Marshall Fuhrman. Motion carried.

Treasurer's / Finance Report:

- Profit & Loss: May 2022
 - May Income \$11,954; Expenses \$12,165
 - Net Ordinary Income (\$211)
- Dedicated Accounts: Month End Balances
 - Checking for General Operating \$11,542
 - Money Market for Dedicated Funds \$17,543
 - Mortgage Balance \$21,512
- Profit & Loss: Pre-Year Comparison January through May
 - General Income 2022: \$57,322 General Income 2021: \$54,831
 - Total Expenses 2022: \$66,144 Total Expenses 2021: \$61,587
 - General Income up \$2,492 Total Expenses up \$4,557
 - Deficit 2022: (\$8,821) Deficit 2021: (\$6,756)
- Profit & Loss: June 2022
 - June Income \$11,324.85 Expenses \$12,486.98
 - Net Ordinary Income (\$1,162.13)
- Profit & Loss: January through June 2022
 - YTD Income \$68,647.29; YTD Expenses \$78,630.80
 - Current DEFICIT for the year is (\$9,983.51)
 - From Financial Committee Meeting 7/12/2022 (cont'd)
- Dedicated Accounts: Month End Balances
 - Checking for General Operating \$12,290.49
 - Money Market for Dedicated Funds \$15,738.69
 - Mortgage Balance \$17,333.50
- Other Points of Discussion
 - Summer Challenge funds temporarily held in new Dedicated Fund to allow for better tracking. Will be transferred over to General Operating in mid-September.
 - Electrician Cost \$300 for GFI outlets in bathrooms and light by exterior cross
 - Need to get a check for \$4,500 from RCU Kitchen Fund, to reimburse the Capital Reserve fund used to pay electrician for work done.
 - Matching Gift up to \$4,000
- Motion was made to file treasurer's report for audit made by Alison Young, 2nd made by Kris Jenson. Motion carried.

New Business:

- Benevolence Funds: As of the end of June the balance is \$300.59. Council members did not have any recommendations at this time it was decided to table until next meeting.
- Pop-up Pantry: Pop up pantry through Stepping Stones:
 - One hour pop up food pantry that would run out of a truck in our parking lot. It is on the 1st Tuesday of the month. SOTH would have to provide one driver that would have to pick up a truck and drive to SOTH and then on to another location. They would then return the truck. This would be a 4 hour commitment. A couple of volunteers would have to help at the church to unload the boxes. This is completely free for the individual's receiving food. The box contains produce, frozen items, meat, dairy and non-perishable.
 - Council members are interested in participating. Sue will get more information.
- Need to update Signers/Contact Names for RCU, Thrivent, Mission Investment
 - Remove Melisa Topper and Heidi Schiszik as signers and replace Steve Sweeney, Sarah Larson and Pastor Mary **Motion made by Kris Jenson, 2nd by Marshall Fuhrman, motion carried.**
 - Update Contact/Read Only from Kim Studinger to Kim Holten: **Motion made by Alison Young, 2nd by DiAnna Scheffler, motion carried.**
- Approve opening an RCU Business Credit Card (Limit \$1,000) signers Pastor Mary Eide and Steve Sweeney and Sarah Larson **Motion made by Alison Young, 2nd by DiAnna Scheffler, motion carried.**

- Ice Cream Social: August 11th Edie Litzkow, Linda O'Mara and Tracy Clemmens will help organize this youth fundraiser; donation list will be posted at church; email going out to families; sign already posted in front of the church; flyers going out soon. *Changes: Free will offering instead of individual prices and 10% of proceeds to be distributed to a charity or organization the youth designate.*
- Sustainability of the Church: Council members discussed some important topics involving the sustainability of the church. Using *Canoeing the Mountains and Holy Conversations* council members tried to come up with some ideas obtain information from church members that are attending church services and from those members who we haven't seen in a while. Council decided to compose a letter to send to members..
- Congregational Meeting: Waiting to hear if Rev. Erin Nelson would be available to present to the congregation about the top 3 choices we are looking at, provide examples of how other congregations have worked through this process, and answer congregational members questions.
- Future Dates:
 - Sunday, August 7th Elizabeth Jorde Baptized
 - Thursday, August 11th Ice Cream Social
 - Wednesday, September 7th 7pm Confirmation Parent/Student meeting
 - Sunday, September 11th 9am Rally Day
 - Wednesday, September 14th First Confirmation class
 - Sunday, September 18th 8:45am First Sunday School Class
 - Sunday, October 2nd Autumn Fest 11am – 2pm
 - Sunday, October 9th 10am Bluegrass Music Worship
 - Sunday, October 30th 10am 9th Graders Confirmed
 - Saturday, November 12th 2-4pm Open House for Carol Heimstead's 80th birthday
 - Sunday, December 18th at 10am worship Sunday School Christmas program

Old Business:

- Update on Kitchen Fund Project: Ad Hoc Kitchen Committee members include Carol Carlstrom, Tim Jenson, Stephany Grossbier, Sue Suechting and Keith Lee. The electrical work was completed. Huge thanks to Tim Jenson who spent countless hours at the church supervising and working alongside the contractors. Next step is for the committee to present an option regarding viability of either the dishwasher or three-sink set up to allow for proper cleaning procedures.
- Thrift Sale netted \$1,459.55. Linda Eder and others put a lot of time into sorting, folding, selling and then hauling items off to be donated. Thank you for the many people who made this happen...including those who donated items as well.
- Autumn Fest committee met again in June and July to move forward with plans, fliers already printed and shared in the last newsletter. NOTE: Menu changed from last year, we have a Raffle License and will raffle off 5 items, and Children's price correction to \$4
- **Committee Reports:**
 - A. EDUCATION
 - Vacation Bible School will be August 1st – 4th from 6pm-8pm. Come join us and Make a Splash with Jesus - Pool Party. August 4th will be Family Pool Day at Wakanda Park Pool from 6-8pm. VBS children/volunteers will be free. Adults and other family members will be \$3.50 each. Luther League funds will be used to pay for VBS students' pool fee.
 - Sunday School Sun. Sept. 11th will be Rally Day using a similar set-up as last year to engage parents/grandparents, students, and teachers in activities together. Regular class begins 9/18th. In-person Christmas program is scheduled for December 18th.
- **Pastors Report:**
 - Continuing to *stay in touch with homebound* and those working through illnesses at home, nursing homes or hospitals.
 - *Working with Sunday School/VBS and Autumn Fest committees* for planning and promoting activities.
 - Thoroughly enjoyed the Women's Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp and was excited to be there with fellow women from Shepherd of the Hill. All together I believe 132 women attended the retreat either for 1 day or both days.
 - Working to meet with High School Senior families to touch base before their big year begins.
 - Working to meet with 9th grade families to help students with Faith Statement.
 - I will be on vacation beginning Wed. Aug. 17th and returning for council meeting Mon. Aug. 22nd. Keith Lee will be leading worship on Aug. 21st.
- **Next Meeting:** August 22nd @ 6:30 pm **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 8:30 by DiAnna Scheffler, 2nd by Marshal Fuhrman. Motion Carried. **Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.** Respectfully submitted by Alison Young, Secretary

September 2022

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
					10am-Noon Food Pantry	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10am Worship w/ Communion	<i>Labor Day</i> Office Closed 7pm AA Meeting	4-6pm Food Pantry	PARKING LOT SEAL COATING 7pm Confirmation Parent/Student meeting	STAY OFF PARKING LOT	10am-Noon Food Pantry	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Rally Day 9am Sunday School students and anyone else 10am Worship Blessing of the Backpacks; 3 rd gr. Bibles 11am Fellowship	7pm AA Meeting	4-6pm Food Pantry	Noon Ladies Meeting 3:20-4:30pm Confirmation Class 6pm Autumn Fest Meeting	6pm Finance Meeting	10am-Noon Food Pantry	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:45am First Sunday School Class 10am Worship w/ Communion	6:30 Church Council Meeting 7pm AA Meeting	4-6pm Food Pantry	3:20-4:30pm Confirmation Class		10am-Noon Food Pantry Homecoming Parade	
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1 st
10am Worship 11am Fellowship	7pm AA Meeting	4-6pm Food Pantry	3:20-4:30pm Confirmation Class 6pm Autumn Fest Meeting		10am-Noon Food Pantry	8am Tent Set Up For Autumn Fest
Oct. 2nd Everything goes over to the park 10am Worship 11-2pm Autumn Fest						



AUTUMN FEST

October 2, 2022

11:00-2:00

HOSTED BY SHEPHERD OF
THE HILL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN ELK MOUND

MENU:

PULL PORK
HOT DOGS
BAKED BEANS
CHIPS
COLE SLAW
BEVERAGE
DESSERT

\$8 ADULTS
\$4 CHILDREN

PART OF THE
PROCEEDS WILL
SUPPORT THE
LOCAL
WEEKEND MEAL
PROGRAM FOR
CHILDREN

RAFFLES

SILENT AUCTION

**GAMES FOR
CHILDREN**

CAR SHOW

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE
AWARD \$50**

LOCATION: ELK MOUND PARK
S405 HOLLY AVENUE, ELK MOUND, WI

*“Encouraging faith and
Gathering, Growing and*



*proclaiming God’s love by
Giving.”*



**Sunday, September 11th
10am worship.
Kids bring your backpacks
and join in the celebration.**

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church
207 University Street
Elk Mound, WI 54739