



# News of the Flock



## From the Pastor

### GSLC—One Family Together in the Word

On December 1903, after many attempts, the Wright brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright finally succeeded in getting their “flying machine” off the ground for the first time. Overjoyed, they telegraphed a message to their sister Katherine that said: “We have actually flown 120 feet. Will be home for Christmas.” Katherine hastily hurried over to the editor of the local newspaper and showed him the message. The editor glanced at it once and said, “How nice. The boys will be home for Christmas.”

Turns out he had totally missed the big picture: Man had flown! He had misplaced the focus.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, when we gather for worship together as a congregation, where should our focus lie? Is it centered on the storms that we face in life that beat us down? Is it centered on persons and individuals? Is it centered on a football game that afternoon or other activities and interests?

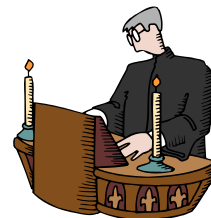
We can confess together that oftentimes we find ourselves to be a very distracted people. Yet, when this be the case, the Word of God reminds us once again of what is most essential to our life and where our focus ought to lie: Christ Jesus and His cross. While we may

look to all manner of individuals and worldly things for comfort and happiness, the Word of God reminds us that our true source of comfort, joy, and security is found in Christ Jesus alone. It is He alone who safely navigates us through each and every storm we face in life...it is He alone who has saved us by His body and blood...and it is He alone to whom we look to in faith.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths” Proverbs 3:5-6.

As I have said many times before, when I look at the folks of Good Shepherd, I see a people dedicated and focused upon Christ Jesus. They are a people dedicated to the mission of our church. Through good times, as well as times of testing (when the devil has been unleashed on our congregation), God has kept them grounded in the Word, and they have not abandoned the church and her mission. May God continue to bless the faithfulness of our congregation!

For the Joy...  
Pastor Vierkant



## Sunday School

### Fall Sunday School Begins

**Sunday, September 11**

**at 9:00 a.m.**

*Classes are provided for all ages.*

CONFIRMATION  
CLASS BEGINS  
SEPTEMBER 11~  
11:15 A.M.

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### Special points of interest:

- PEP, Thursday, September 1, 11:00 am
- Choir begins Wed., September 7, at 7:30 pm
- Sunday School begins Sunday, September 11 at 9:00 am
- Confirmation Class begins Sunday, September 11 at 11:15 am

## Church Council Highlights

The Church Council met on August 10 with 11 members in attendance.

Pastor Vierkant opened the meeting with prayer.

Offerings for the month of June were \$10,971.71; July was 10,707.60. Expenses for June \$12,798.41 and July \$12,948.35.

The Stewardship Committee has received the requests from the Memorial funds and the money has been distributed as directed. Our website now has a Prayer request button.

The average worship attendance was 89 for June and 75 for July. Dr. Michael Wilson and family transferred out and we had the baptism of Daniel Steven Vierkant.

Trustee Report—Electricity has been run to the garage/shelter; so we have lights out there now. Changed and sharpened the

mower blades. Water sample tested ok. Continue to monitor the water system.

Larry will replace the heater in the Ladies restroom by the kitchen before cold weather.

Board of Education—Summer Sunday School is drawing to a close. The Fall session will begin on September 11. We are hoping attendance increases.

Angela Coy will be teaching Children's Church for the next couple of months. Michelle & Eleanor Coner are continuing to send out the materials for the Growing in Christ nursery roll program.

Deacon's Report—Have assisted Pastor with four services in June and five services in July. Working on a more complete membership list and hope to have it completed soon. We also recommended that all confirmed adult transfers into

GSLC receive a review of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod beliefs.

Photo Directory pictures will begin to be taken soon.

*(The complete minutes are posted on the bulletin boards.)*



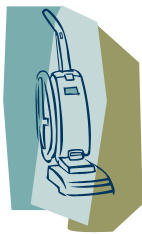
## Announcements Thank You

**College Addresses Needed:** Please turn in your college address to the church office as soon as possible. We'll keep in touch during the year and hopefully send you a care package to help ease the pain of studying for final exams.

After our summer break, **Choir Practice** begins Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm at the church. If you enjoy singing praises to the Lord, come be a part of our choir. We have lots of fun as we learn to sing the choir anthems. New members are always welcome and appreciated.

## Church Cleaning

As you know the cleaning of the church building has been on a volunteer basis. We would like you to consider helping in this area. A sign-up sheet and what to clean is on the bulletin board. Individuals, groups, or several people at once can cut the time down. Day or evening cleaning is at your discretion. We appreciate your help in this matter.



I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and phone calls during the recovery of my broken arm.

Sylvia Kessler



## LWGS

**LWGS' next member meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at 7 pm.** We will be discussing our booth at *Franklin's Fall Festival, LWML Sunday, a mission speaker event and our annual fundraisers*—Uncle Al's Pecans sales and precinct meals in November, among other things. If you haven't been to a meeting before and are interested to see what happens, please join us!

We have collected \$121 through August

14th for the Seminary Food Pantry at Ft. Wayne's Theological Seminary. Thank you to those of you who have donated and if you haven't yet, please leave your donation in the display's box in Narthex the first Sunday of September as that will be the last day we are collecting. Last year we were able to collect over \$600 for CTS! May God guide and direct our thoughts so that all we say and do is pleasing unto Him!

## Financial Secretary~~

A word from your Financial Secretary—a big thank you to those folks who help count our offerings each Sunday; Joyce & daughter Kris Bauman, Jeff & Kathy Hawkins, Roland & Virginia Pollert, Tracy & Suzy Rakow, Vic & Helen Rinehart and Jim Schultz. If you would like to volunteer to help count, please see me, Anne Hartman (738-2290) and I will get you on the schedule. We meet right after church and it takes approximately 20-30 minutes to complete this task. Lastly, let us all be cheerful givers of our first fruits!

## Stewardship Corner ~ ~ Mike Hartman, Chairman

### A Month of New Beginnings

Next to January, September is probably one of the biggest and busiest start over months in the year. A number of congregational ministries which may have been on a summer break start up again. A new school year has started. It is interesting to note that September opens with Labor Day when we pause to thank God for honest and fruitful labor. Perhaps that is appropriate since things pick up after vacations and other summer activities and we have more opportunities for service.

September also marks the beginning of autumn and that will be a welcome change for many people who this past summer were impacted by a record number of tornados, serious flooding around major rivers, heat and drought that broke many records, along with many wild fires that caused so much destruction.

In spite of all the above problems God still richly blessed much of our country with seasonable weather so that seedtime and harvest

prevailed and the activities of agriculture, commerce and transportation continued so that the earth was fruitful and yielded its increase to supply food for all of God's creatures. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

God's stewards appreciate new opportunities to start over again after life has become like a long, hot summer. In September many of God's faithful stewards can get involved with new and exciting volunteer activities in their churches and communities. In September many of our students can begin one of their best years of learning. In September many of our churches and schools can get involved with some of the most exciting ministries in their history. A fresh start is always appreciated. The past is behind us; the future is still in front of us but the present is where we do our work as God's stewards. God has some great things in mind for us as His stewards. He wants us to use our talents, our time, our resources and our relationships in ways that honor Him and bring blessings to those around

us.

Sometimes we may feel like we just can't get started! We may feel inadequate to take on new challenges. We may remember when we have tried some bold ventures before and they didn't work out. We can chase those negative thoughts away when we remember words like these from one of our well-known hymns:

**Let none hear you idly saying, "there is nothing I can do," While the multitudes are dying and the Master calls for you. Take the task He gives you gladly, let His work your pleasure be; Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I, send me, send me."**

So, keep your eyes open for some new opportunities to put your time, talents and resources to work for the Lord and His people, and when those opportunities come, **GO FOR IT!**



## Larry's Notes

*(Printed as submitted)*

At the time of this writing the State Fair accident has just happened that claimed the lives of 5 people and physically injured more and left memoirs for may more that will not soon be forgotten. As we all know our Lord does not guarantee a given time on this earth to any of us, to our likening, believers and non-believers alike.

Therefore we must always be prepared of that unexpected event and be ready to face our Lord. To that end it is our responsibility to spread the word to all so they can enjoy

eternal life with the Lord. (There is no second chance) We get the strength to proclaim that Good News by regularly attending worship and bible study.

Here at Good Shepherd I think we have something that is a hidden jewel. Our worship is a Lutheran traditional / liturgical service. The sanctuary is special place where we feel the presence of Our Lord (this is not to mean he is only there). We come to pray for forgiveness, hear the Bible readings plus a sermon that has both the law

and gospel, in a surrounding that is worshipful and for an hour or so, away from the world outside.

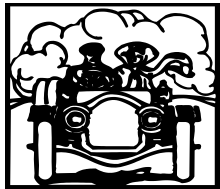
On my list of things to do is to be able to web cast our Sunday service live.

Something to ponder "If Peter had been run through with a Roman sword right after he denied Christ would he have been saved?" this was "lifted from a book of a favorite author" next time I have adult class we can discuss.



## PEP

The PEP Group will meet Thursday, September 1st at 11:00 a.m. at the church for a topic and discussion with Pastor Vierkant. The group will then carpool to lunch at "Flap Jack's" on 135 in Bargersville.



*All 50 + men and women are invited to join us.*

Come for good food and lots of good conversation.

## Camp Can Do

For four weeks this summer, Good Shepherd hosted Camp Can Do. The Johnson County Autism Support Group created this summer day camp for middle-school-age kids with autism. Camp was divided into 2 two-week sessions and served ten boys the first session and twelve the second. Campers filled their days with cooking, science experiments, sports, games and fun. Given the overwhelmingly positive feedback from campers, parents and staff, Camp Can Do was a great success.

## Care & Concern

Remember in Your Prayers: We pray for continued healing and recovery for Eleanor Coner, Shirley Marten, John McClain, and Gary Haddock (Don Haddock's brother).

The prayer chain is available to all members and their families. Contact Gerda Martin with requests at 736-9471.





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*Where Faith is Born, Nourished  
and Extended.*

*We pray God's blessings on:*



## Board of Education

Summer Sunday School is drawing to a close. The last Sunday will be Sept. 4 and the Fall classes will begin Sept. 11. They will explore Bible stories from Genesis. Our openings for Sunday school include music, review of memory verses and learning parts of the church liturgy.

**Children's Church**—Angela Coy has volunteered to help with teaching Children's Church for the next few months. The lessons are based on the designated Gospel readings for the worship service.

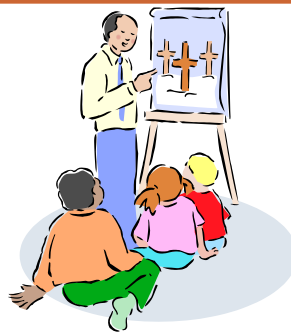
**Sunday Adult Bible Study Class**—The Adult class has begun a study of Revelations.

**Women Bible Study**— This group meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. The current Bible study is on Colossians and Philimon.

**Men's Bible Study**—The Men's Bible study group is taking a break during August, but will meet again in September at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings.

**Nursery Roll**—Thank you to Michelle and

Eleanor Coner for taking care of our Growing in Christ nursery roll program. Materials, books and CD's are sent out periodically to our church families with infant to 3 year old children.



**Other**—Camp Can Do, a 4-week summer day camp for middle school age kids with autism used our facilities in June and July. It was reported that this program, sponsored by the Johnson County Autism Support Group, was a great success. The group has donated \$500 for carpet cleaning and etc. They wish to extend their appreciation for our support.

Linda Haddock  
Board of Christian Education

## Jack's Walk

The 8th Annual Jack's Walk for Autism is being held on Sunday, October 2 at Province Park in Franklin. Registration is at 1:00 p.m. with the walk beginning at 2:15 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Johnson County Autism Support Group. If you have any questions, please call Angela Coy at 317-346-0930 or email [angela@jcasg.org](mailto:angela@jcasg.org) or visit the groups website at [www.jcasg.org](http://www.jcasg.org).

