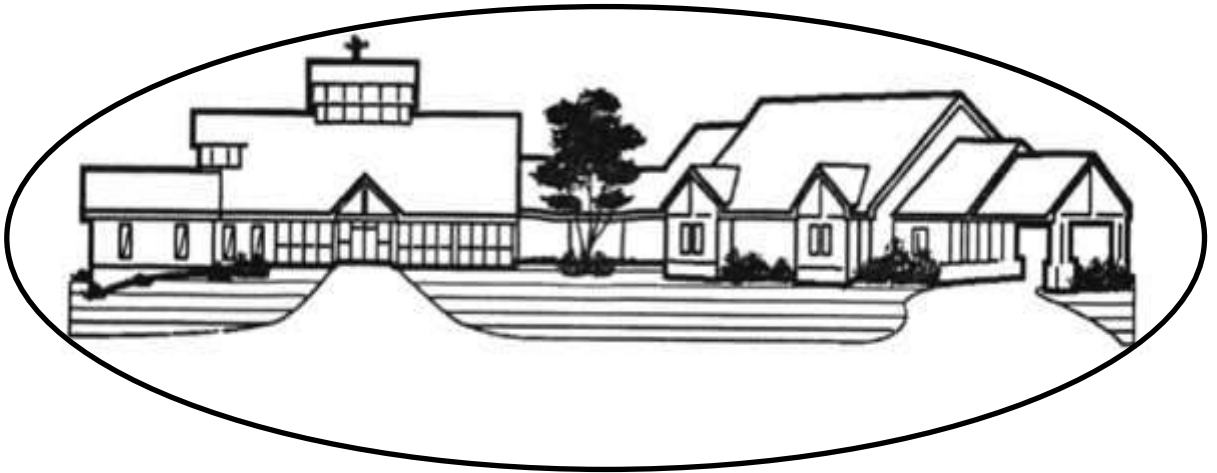

Agapegram

September 2023



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
220 Carson Road
Seneca, South Carolina 29678
www.eternalshepherd.org
office@eternalshepherd.org
Office: 864-882-3209 or 864-882-5512
Little Lambs Preschool: 864-882-3202



Meeting with God

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! Psalm 95:6 ESV

In an email newsletter dated August 21, 2023, Lutheran Pastor Jack Cascione gives us challenging food for thought when he writes, in part:

A striking similarity between many of the religious denominations' national conventions during the summer of 2023 was the need to address the shocking decline in church membership. Apparently, a lot of people are no longer interested in assembling or *meeting with God* in worship. ... Religious denominations have been straddling so many different issues that they have simply lost their credibility. ... They say, "Come to church," but have difficulty saying why people should come.

On August 1, 2023, even the Wall Street Journal took notice of the unprecedented collapse of church attendance and published: "*Why Middle-Aged Americans Aren't Going Back to Church.*" All demographics are down, Gen. Xers, Millennials, Boomers, and Elders, but the Millennials took the biggest hit (the WSJ didn't even bother with Gen. Z (of which more than a third already claim no religion).

... When was the last time you heard a religious denomination say, "Come to church and *meet with God*"? ... All worship is a meeting with God. If God is not there to meet with the worshiper in the church service, there is no point going to church. Sure, God is everywhere, in beautiful mountain forests, clear sparkling streams, behind every manure spreader and present in every chemical spill, but everywhere is not a meeting with God in a worship service. God has certain unalterable requirements to *meet with Him* as a church.

"...in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
Ex. 20:24 (NASB)

"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst."
(Matt. 18:20 NASB)

and "...when you come together as a church,..." (1 Cor. 11:18 NASB)
...not forsaking our own assembling [gathering] together... (Heb. 10:25 NASB)

... The religious denominations are rejecting their own existence by rejecting [Scripture's] prerequisite of the visible church being a gathering. ...notice too who it is who is initiating the meeting...

And there **I will meet** with you; and from above the mercy seat... (Ex. 25:22).
at the doorway of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where **I will meet with you**, (Ex. 29:42).
And **I will meet there** with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory. (Ex. 29:43).
in front of the mercy seat that is over *the ark of the testimony*, where **I will meet with you**. (Ex. 30:6).
in the tent of meeting, where **I shall meet with you**; it shall be most holy to you. (Ex. 30:36).
in the tent of meeting in front of the testimony, where **I meet with you**. (Num 17:4).

The purpose of all these meetings is receiving the forgiveness of sins and God's blessing. ... The Hebrews went to the *Tent of Meeting* to meet with God. All meetings with God at the *Tent of Meeting* were acts of worship. In other words, all Israel understood that when they went to the Tabernacle, and later to the Temple, they were *meeting with God* for the purpose of hearing about and receiving the forgiveness of sins.

... If God is not in the text and in the church service, there is nothing in the church but purposeless communal consolation and grade C entertainment. Churches once filled with statues, stained glass, paintings, and relief educating worshippers on the content of their faith now resemble empty auditoriums.

... All church gatherings in the Bible are substantive. Zoom-meetings do not make the participants omnipresent. ... A church is where two or three are gathered in agreement with the correct teaching and preaching of the Bible and Baptism and the Lord's Supper are practiced according to Christ's institution. ...

... We recommend the "Jesus" method of evangelism and outreach. First show them miracles and then tell them what they need to hear to save their souls from hell. If there is no hell, what is there to be saved from? The Bible is the miracle from God that creates faith.

...

For this End Time era of the church before the Second Coming of Christ, God has given His church the most phenomenal literary miracle of all time. The message is the miracle, and the miracle is the message. Christ Himself said, "*If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead*" (Luke 16:31 NASB). ... [End of quote.]

So, in case you never noticed it in the preaching and teaching before, let me give you a clear invitation now: Come, gather in church and meet with God! Come hear his living and active, authoritative Word read and proclaimed. Gather to praise the One who comes to meet with you. Gather in His Divine Service for you to be blessed by His promises and fed with the Holy Supper of our Savior's forgiving body and blood.

In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them. Matt. 18:20 ESV

Pastor David



"I will meet with you."



Deaconess' Musings

Never Me.

“It’s not about you.”

Words that, while perhaps a bit blunt, are a daily necessity. And in reality...it’s quite true.

It’s not about me. It’s never been about me. It’s never going to be about me.... or you.

It’s all about *Jesus*.

What does it say that “it’s all about Jesus” change for us, in us, and from us?

(I’ll give you a hint, but it should be quite obvious.) *Only everything changes.*

I think, as good Christians within the Lutheran tradition, we are quite confident in saying Jesus did it all for me (or you) and that we bring nothing to the “table” in terms of deserving/earning salvation and forgiveness. On account of Christ’s death and resurrection, we now stand fully forgiven and made right in the sight of God our Creator. Eternal life was granted to us through the waters of our baptisms and we now live in the full hope of the world and age to come.

So, what? What’s the big deal about all of this?

It’s no longer about us (it never was about us to begin with, being dead in our sins and all – Romans 6:23), but about what Jesus did *for* us. And now we live our lives...*for others*.

So, what? What about others?

Your life – actions, words, behaviors – now becomes a witness to the world around you. This world, full of sorrow, pain, brokenness, confusion, anger, apathy, does not know the Jesus that set you free. This world sees no need for the Christ who paid the steep price for its very sin. This world does not understand why. They see evil and call it good. They see the good and call it evil.

But you, dear brother and sister, know why. You have seen the difference Jesus makes. You know and rejoice in the Lord who will one day wipe away every tear and make all things new (Revelation 7:15ff). You rest in the blessed assurance that your sins are forgiven.

Show them. Show the cold, unbelieving world that this Jesus, whom has claimed you and whose name you claim, makes a difference in your life. Show them that this Christ, the God made Man who dared to love the world that He *died* for it. That He did not stay dead, but rose back to life for *them*. Not just you. Not just your family. Not just your church. *For the world.*

It’s not about you. And that’s ok. It’s about *Jesus* for you and for you to show to the world.

While we yet breathe, we have work to do. Confident in our Savior’s saving forgiveness, we turn to a world lost within its own self and proclaim Jesus in our words and in our daily actions.

May it always be all about Jesus and never me...or you. ~*D eaconess H olly*

ESLC Board of Stewardship Hosts a Financial Seminar

**Saturday, September 16th
from 9 am -1:30 pm
at Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church
in the Fellowship Hall**



You are never too young or too old to learn how to better manage your money. This Seminar will include a Biblical view of financial management.

Please sign-up for this special event. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. We hope to see you there. ~Board of Stewardship



**Please join us for Wonderful Wed. Night
potluck dinners and conversation at 5:30 pm
in the Fellowship Hall.**



We would like to start this ministry in October but still do not have enough volunteers. Please consider becoming a Greeter.

GREETERS NEEDED:

We are hoping to restart Sunday morning greeters in Oct. If you are interested in doing either 8:30, 11:00 or a combination fitting your schedule, please contact Celeste in the front office as soon as you can. Hope to see your smiling faces serving. ~Sue Blount

NEW GOSPEL ADVENTURES SHOW NOW AVAILABLE! The Gospel Adventures Show is a weekly audio kids' program created in partnership by Lutheran Hour Ministries and Group Publishing. Through Bible stories, songs, storytelling, and activities, kids will encounter clear and compelling Gospel themes. Join our hosts, Ben and Noah, as they teach listeners about Jesus and His love for us. Learn more at gospeladventures.org/show.asp. (You can find this anywhere you get your podcasts.)

SUPPORT OUR LITTLE LAMBS: Do you shop at Ingles? Do you use a printer? If so, you can help our school! Connect your Ingles card to Little Lambs. You can do this online at Ingles Tools for Schools or by signing the sheet in the Narthex located on the wood table by the Scrip box. Our school ID number is 11415. If you need help with this process, please stop by the Preschool Office and I can help you or see Jane Fireovid after church service for assistance. *Please be aware that you must sign up for the Ingles Tools for Schools Program every year.*



PLEASE NOTE—CAUTION

Little Lambs Preschool classes are in session. Please make sure to **drive slowly** when driving around the church between the hours of 8:00 am and 12:00 pm Monday through Friday. *Thank you for helping keep our Little Lambs and their families safe.*

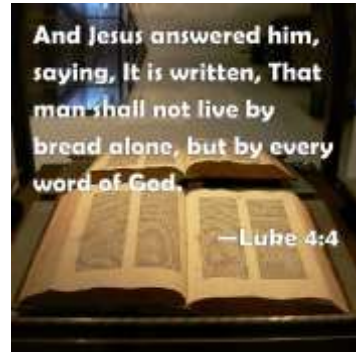
Studying the Bible

By Bob Massa, Head Elder

Recently I came across an article that detailed 14 Principals for studying the Bible which I found interesting and helpful. Some of the principals are very esoteric, but all are helpful. I will list all 14 but because of space only explain a few of them in detail.

The principals are:

1. Start with prayer.
2. Stay with prayer.
3. Look Godward.
4. Keep Christ as the center.
5. Look for Biblical-Theological themes.
6. Hear the Melodic Line.
7. Trace the Argument.
8. Read through the lens of love.
9. Let scripture interpret scripture.
10. Be changed by your Bible reading.
11. Think of the original readers.
12. Grasp the Genres.
13. Study the Context.
14. Read in community.



What does it mean to look Godward? (#3) Generally, when reading the Bible our objective is application, i.e., “How should we live in light of what I have learned?” Excellent, but prior to this we should look upward or “Godward.” In reading we should question and answer things like: “What is revealed about God and His character? What does He say or do, love or hate, in this reading? What is His motivation for His actions?”

Number six, “Hear the Melodic Line,” is something I have never formally considered and in music is the tune within the tune. Simply, it is the notes regularly repeated to bring unity to each song giving it a distinctive sound. The Bibles individual books have their own “unique melodic line” and for a clearer understanding of the book we need to discover these key words or themes. The article gave the example of the Gospel of Mark and *arise and follow the Son* as a possible melodic line. Son is the key word, see Mark 1:1. He repeatedly at strategic points uses this word. Another theme present is in the phrase *arise and follow* and it is one of discipleship. This gospel is replete with Jesus calling people to follow him.

Finally, number 10 says we should be changed by our Bible reading. How? For readers, the Bible was created to give us saving faith, to train us “in righteousness,” and to prepare us for “every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

For a more fulfilling and comprehensive reading of the Bible attempt to incorporate these fourteen principals as you study God’s word.

Source: Crossways: 14 Principals for Studying the Bible; by: Douglas Sean O’Donnell

Thoughts on “Basic Morality”

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Luke 6:31

Looking at the pages of even the most modest local newspaper or listening to almost any local newscast causes most of us to shake our heads in disbelief at the outrageous breaches of basic morality perpetrated in our towns, our neighborhoods, our businesses, and even in our churches. Basic morality, common to most human societies, tells us (among other things) not to:

- murder (at least I haven’t done that)
- injure (you know he had it coming)
- steal (he has too much to even miss it)
- sexually exploit (she asked for it)
- lie (it was just a little one)
- defraud (some folks are just stupid)
- deceive (he’ll never know the difference).

But while we are quick to shake our heads at the shameful state of a fallen world, is there just a chance that we should be taking ourselves to task for our own violations of basic morality that fortunately didn’t make the local news? Did we even bother to think about the lie we told to get out of work or a boring meeting last week? What about defrauding the insurance company when we misreported how our car got busted up? Or how there came to be 20 bags of mulch in the truck instead of the 10 bags that were paid for? Or why someone’s daughter-in-law never lets them to babysit the grandchildren? Part and parcel of the larger fallen world is our own contribution to its degradation. Part and parcel of its redemption is the repentance of the people of God.

As followers of the Christ, consistently applying the principles of basic morality to ourselves is one way to make a difference in a world that is foundering in sin. Indeed, this adherence to basic morality was one of the almost universally recognized foundations of character not too long ago, and was highly appreciated among both religious and non-religious people. Somehow most folks seem to think we’re “beyond that” now. They are wrong. Basic morality matters, just as character matters. Because that basic morality springs from the source of good: God himself.

Admittedly, it is somewhat disconcerting to find that even if you try, you’ll find you can’t do it by yourself. Scripture acknowledges that the spirit of man is willing but the flesh is weak (*Mark 14:38*), making repentance a necessary and constant companion. What is not weak is the Spirit living within us if we are His people, and that same Spirit will urge and help us to bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness and self-control (*Galatians 5:22*). Trust the One who wrote the principles of basic morality for all time. His Spirit is standing by to help.

Or do you have so little regard for his rich kindness, his restraint, and his patience, that you ignore the fact that the purpose of God’s kindness is to lead you to repentance? (Romans 2:4)

Comfort Dog Team News

The Seth Comfort Dog team is scheduled for our second annual visit to Lutheran Towers, in Midtown Atlanta, on Friday, November 17, 2023.

Last year's successful "Stuff the Bus" campaign provided much needed basic items such as laundry detergent, sheets, blankets, pots and pans, and more, for the 200+ residents. Of course, this was in addition to the many hugs and lots of love from Seth. We were also joined by Hope Comfort Dog of Faith Lutheran Church in Marietta, GA.



Since 1972, Lutheran Towers has been a refuge for very low-income seniors in need of quality housing in Midtown Atlanta. Its continued mission is to provide affordable, quality homes with person-centered supportive services that empower residents to thrive. Lutheran Towers fills a critical need in Atlanta and brings hope to people who are at risk of homelessness.

We have spoken with the Lutheran Towers leadership team and learned that residents are in desperate need of clothing for both warm and cold weather. **This year we would like to hold a "Gently Used Clothing Drive" from Mid-September through the end of October. If you have gently used clothing and shoes for adults that you would like to donate, please bring to Room 210 (room across from the Fellowship Hall).** As the date gets closer, we will sort all donations by gender and size. Then we will take these items with us on November 17th for distribution. **PLEASE – NO Children's Clothing. And to respect the dignity of the recipients, please donate gently used clean clothing.**

In addition to the gently used clothing, we will bring handmade quilts thanks to the generous donation of our ESLC Mission Quilters. These quilts will not only keep the residents warm but will wrap them up with love and comfort!

Thank you in advance for your donations! We look forward to distributing these much needed items when we visit in November! If you have any questions, please contact Sue McCart at susanmmccart@gmail.com.

To God be the Glory,
Sue McCart and Kyra Carbone



Please help us stuff the bus!

STARLIGHT AT TAMASSEE

We are a residential program for mothers with elementary age children (8 and under upon admission), who are currently in recovery from substance use with a duration of 18-24 months. We can accept women who currently have their children, are pregnant, or seeking to gain custody of their children. During the program, moms will work through Christ-based curriculum in a faith centered program. The first year will be focused on healing, parenting, and fostering a strong bond with their children. The second year will be focused on education and job skills while moms learn budgeting, save for the next step, and life skills. Children will attend our on-site day care or academy for school aged children. To help or for more information contact us.



Ina Doyle, LBSW
Family Advocate and Case Manager
Starlight Program
Tamassee DAR School
864-944-1390, ext. 111
Email: idoyle@tdarschool.org
starlight.tdarschool.org



As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Our Vision Statement: The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. For more information about this inspiring group please contact Kathy Bergeson at (901) 508-0936.

GOLDEN CORNER'S VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: It is with sincere thanks that the Golden Corner Food Pantry has received the support of this congregation through donations and volunteers. We are at this time, in need of a few more volunteers since we are moving from a pre-packaged delivery to a more client-based shopping experience. The day most in dire need is Fridays. The hours would be from 9-12. For more information, please call Juanita Dettman at 864-718-8904 (email sapajett@aol.com) or Tammy Wood 864-380-3875 (hapeekampr@aol.com).



Please help us continue to serve those in need in our community.

Operation Christmas Child News

This month starts a busy season for Operation Christmas Child! **The Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Season Kickoff Event for the Western Upstate will take place here at Eternal Shepherd on Friday, September 8, in the Fellowship Hall. It will run from 6:30 - 8:00pm. If you'd like to know more about Operation Christmas Child, then you should make plans to attend. All ESLC members are invited to this special event. There will be a baked potato bar for dinner and a personalized video from a shoebox recipient, along with other videos from the ministry.** There will be information about shoebox packing and our own Ray Ramsburg will talk about how to start a "Toys For God's Kids" chapter for those churches in attendance who might be interested in making their own wooden toy cars for kids.



October 28th is the date of our Church-wide Shoebox Packing Party. That will take place on Saturday, October 28th from 2-4pm in the Fellowship Hall. This year we'll be filling 300 shoeboxes with much needed school supplies, hygiene items and toys! Please plan to join us for snacks, fun and fellowship as we prepare our GO (Gospel Opportunity) Boxes to find and bless their chosen children all around the world! And we're not done yet...

This year will be the first year **Eternal Shepherd will operate as a Community Drop-off Center from Monday, November 13 – Monday, November 20.** We'll staff the Fellowship Hall and Portico for 2 hours each day in order to receive shoeboxes from the community, that we will then transport to Rock Springs Church in Easley on the 20th. The collection of more than 10 million shoeboxes nationwide is no small undertaking, and Community Drop-Off Centers are an integral part of that process. Thanks to all those who signed up to help. There will be training offered in early November and the details for that training will be emailed or phoned to everyone who signed up. Keep an eye open for an initial email (or phone call) from me in September.

God continues to do amazing things through this ministry, both here at Eternal Shepherd and all around the world. Thank you for being a part of it, supporting it, and keeping it in your prayers. God is up to something good and we are blessed to be participants with Him in His work.

~Terri Baumann



Haiti Mission News

Pas Bonbon Haiti Summer VBS

Another shipment of 50 Bibles and 50 Luther's Small Catechism is distributed. We now have these books in the homes of 130 students. The school lunch continues through the summer feeding 400 per day. Wow!



As we build up our designated funds we continue to supply the books and school supplies to the 400 children. The meal shown (below) was from our donation to purchase enough rice, beans, and vegetables to feed lunch to both the children and the staff throughout the summer VBS program. For most, this is their only meal for the day. For more information on our Missions contact: Lars.Helland@edgewaterautomation.com



Honduras News Mission 2024

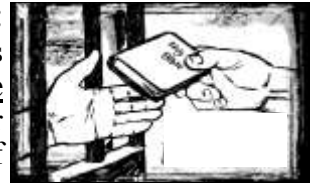
Planning for our mission to Honduras for 2024 is about to begin. We will be sending a team deposit this month and team members deposits the following month so it is time to be praying about you decision to be part of this year's team. **The dates are February 24, 2024 to March 2, 2024.** The mission continues to be Medical with an Evangelistic outcome. In a few days I will be sending more information to those who have already expressed a desire to be part of the Mission as I have just received the Handbook for this year. If you would like more information please contact Pastor Ray Ramsburg. Join us in this exceptional opportunity to respond to God's call to "go and make disciples of all nations."

Dios te bendiga (God Bless You), Pastor Ray



DETENTION CENTER OUTREACH MINISTRY:

Saturday, September 9th ESLC is planning a visit to the Men's and the Women's sides of the Detention Center in Walhalla. **We will need cookies for this ministry** (30 baggies with regular cookies – 4 cookies to a bag). These cookies are a small way of sharing God's love and are much appreciated by those who receive the goodies. **We will meet at ESLC Sat., Sept. 9th at 10:00 AM** for logistics & prayer and then on to the Center to make our 11:00 AM appointment. *Thank you for your support of this ministry.* **If you are interested in serving our Lord in the important ministry, or have any questions please contact Ann Miller at (864) 637-8353 or asjohn315@gmail.com. ~Thank you**



Needs Mentors!

Our mission is to empower children to reach their full God-given potential and to break generational poverty.

Mentors are needed for 3rd-12th graders. Come

and share life changing skills with our children! For more information see the contact info listed below.

Visit our website at www.rippleofone.org
For more information, email Ria Dawkins at: ripple.terria@gmail.com



ESLC CARD CART!

If you have a chance, stop by the **Card Cart Ministry Display in the Fellowship Hall**. You might find a card that is just perfect for someone you know! There is a wide variety for all kinds of occasions and the price is perfect!!! \$.50 for all cards and \$5.00 for a box of 12 found on the bottom of the cart.



Volunteers Needed for BabyRead

BabyRead desperately needs volunteers to read one-on-one to moms and their babies or toddlers at public venues twice a month for one hour each time. We currently have 10 new families who are waiting for a volunteer reader. All of our current readers are assigned to other families. To become a BabyRead volunteer, visit www.babyread.org. Please consider serving in this ministry.



FOOD BANK NEWS: Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month to help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves. **September's** preferred product is **"Canned Vegetables"** (Please place your items in the containers marked Food Bank down by the Fellowship Hall). ~Thank you for your generosity and support.



ON-LINE GIVING Remember you can give on-line. Just go to our church website at www.eternalshepherd.org and click on the On-line Giving bar in the top right corner on the homepage. ~Thank you for your faithful support.



Scrip Cards are available and make ***great gifts*** as well as **earn money for Eternal Shepherd** at the same time. Please note we have Publix, Ingles and Walmart gift cards available. For orders please contact **Beckie Rau** at (864) 944-6096. After the order is received one of the Scrip ladies will contact you to make arrangements for delivery. Scrip Card Team: **Beckie Rau, Libby Dunlap, Elisabeth Baker & Sue Hauser.** ~Thank you for



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Habitat For Humanity is in need of volunteers throughout the organization. There are jobs for men and women in all areas. Please consider helping in this worthwhile organization. Find out more about serving with us at <https://www.oconeehabitat.org>.

Hospitality Happenings for September

9/3 – Cara Murray
9/10 – ???
9/17 – Kerry & Sue Blount
9/24 – ???



Hospitality is going forward full speed. We have provided for Memorial Services and Sunday Bible Study. We always remain committed to our church and are always looking for new members. This requires as little or as much as you would like to help with: providing food, set-up, serving and clean-up. All these are helpful and needed.

If you are new to any of these, please contact me at 864-784-0421 and I will gladly help. ~Colleen Wakeman

September Birthdays

1 – Kerry Blount Laura Broderdorf	16 - Kay Raasch 17 – Lucas McKay Evelyn Seigler
2 – Jim Clack Katrina Madden Ted Wanthal	18 – Carrie Haenggi Sam Hamrick Mike Scott
3 - Ann Cochell Carole McIntyre	19 – Phillip Welte Judy Hammer Ann Miller
5 – Carl Sitler	20 – Chris Christensen
7 – Lisa Hill	21 – Scott Robirds
8 – Pat Milz Jerry Seiff	22 – Katie Getchell
9 – Pete Thoma Paul Wilson	23 – Keith Phelan
10 –Terri Baumann	24 – Jacob Zirbel
11 – Frank Kieninger	27 – Kayla Fireovid
13 – Raz Rysinski	29 - Don Del Priore III Jean Hippchen
14 – Kaylee Phelan Scott Toussaint	30 – Kailynne Wood
15 – Karen Eckersley Scott Krueger	



September Anniversaries

1 – Kim & Sue Wennermark
7 – Alec & Teresa Todd
17 – Carl & Katherine Sitler
21 - Fred & Debbie Bell
23 – Pete & Laura Thoma
29 – Larry & Ann Miller
30 – Phillip & Beth Cornine



SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS



In July the following gifts were given:

**In loving memory of *Gloria Christopherson*
the General Fund received a gift of \$24.23**

**In loving memory of *Colleen Hesemann*
The FCC Baby Bottle Drive Fund received a gift of \$400.00,
and the General Fund received a gift of \$100.00**

**In loving memory of *Mike Peterson*
the Elders Fund received a gift of \$100.00,
and the General Fund received gifts of \$100.00**

Other Gifts:

The Alaska Mission Fund received a gift of \$150.00

The Church Bus Fund received a gift of \$24.23

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$262.51

The Disaster Response Team Fund received a gift of \$24.06

The Elders Fund received gifts of \$324.23

The Food Bank Fund received gifts of \$172.37

The Foothills Care Center Baby Bottle Drive received gifts of \$2131.78

The General Fund received a gift of \$800.00 from Blessings Shared Grant

The Haiti Mission Fund received gifts of \$2198.73

The Honduras Mission Fund received a gift of \$624.23

The Little Lambs Preschool Fund received a gift of \$96.71

The Lutheran Witness Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received a gift of \$3,3330.07

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund received a gift of \$300.00

The Property Contingency Fund received a gift of \$700.00

The Youth Fund received a gift of \$24.14

Little Lambs Tales

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12

As I write this article we have finished our first full week of preschool. It has been a good start! We only have a few crying children leaving their parents in the morning but after a few minutes they all are settled into their routines and the happy faces return. Our school is bustling with activity, and we are all so happy to be back in session.

Watching and observing the children, I am once again reminded how even though our preschool children are so young, they set a great example for us on how to live as Christians.

They love one another without bias. They speak words of kindness to one another and encourage us to likewise use encouraging words. As they listen to the Chapel message, they listen with an open heart, trust, and have faith in the message they are hearing.

We are blessed here at Little Lambs Preschool to be using the Concordia Press Curriculum materials which will guide our lessons through the messages we hear during our Chapel time each week. How fortunate to be able to base our academic lessons on our Christian faith. It is such a gift, and we love to share this gift with our beautiful children.

Some dates to keep in mind for September:

- **September 4 Labor Day (no school)**
- **September 15 Farm Day**
- **September 22 Picture Day**



Please be mindful when driving through the parking lot during Farm Day and Picture Day. We will be hosting our animals under the portico on Farm Day and our photographer loves to take the school pictures outside by the big playroom. Thank you!

As we begin our school year, we ask for your continued prayers for all of us at Little Lambs Preschool. We appreciate all the support you continue to give to us and know that it is because of your support that Little Lambs Preschool continues to thrive!

*Blessings in Christ,
Gina*

Easy Applesauce Muffins

This healthy recipe will make a great start to your day, a great snack or a great gift for your teacher and classmates.

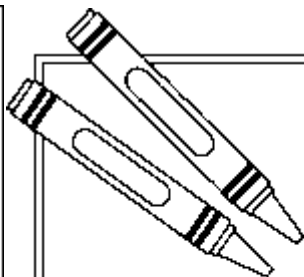
What you need:

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cups chunky applesauce
- Baking cups



What you do:

1. With an adult's help, heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with baking cups and set aside.
2. In a small, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter on high for about 30 seconds; set aside to cool slightly.
3. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt in to a large mixing bowl.
4. In another large bowl, whisk together the eggs and brown sugar. Stir in the applesauce and melted butter until the mixture is smooth.
5. Pour the apple mixture over the flour mixture. Stir with a wooden spoon just until the flour disappears. (This will produce muffins with a nice, crumbly texture.)
6. Fill the baking cups about two-thirds full with batter. (For mess-free muffins, use an ice-cream scoop to spoon batter into the baking cups.)
7. Bake for 20 minutes or until light brown. Test for doneness by inserting a toothpick in the middle; if it comes out clean, the muffins are ready to eat. Makes 12.



Just for KIDS

Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.



SERVICE TIMES

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays)

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
& Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)



THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor: David Hammer

Deaconess: Holly Cox

Secretary: Celeste Entrekin

Preschool Director: Gina Cote

Choir Director: Rick Schmidt

Choir Accompanist: Michelle Rowland

Organist: David Phillips

MISSIONARIES

Joanna Johnson, Taiwan

Nate Esala, Lutheran Bible Translators

David & Dr. Arianna Shirk, Kenya

S.E.D. Missionaries to Peru

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