December 2020 Newsletter Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church 2903 State Hwy. 155 Sayner, WI 54560-9698



Please consider accepting an email link to this newsletter in place of a hard copy! Contact secretary@SOTLSayner.com with your email address.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Worship Service: Saturday 5:30 AM

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ROOTED IN THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE A LOVING COMMUNITY THAT FOLLOWS JESUS, AND SEEKS TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND PRACTICE IT IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

Ministers: The People of the Parish

William Wendorf LLM: Cell 715-617-6477

Council President: Sharon Geist Cell 715-892-7486

Church Telephone: 715-542-3701

On the World Wide Web: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org www.nglsynod.org



Council Members:

Bill Wendorf, LLM, Cell 715-617-6477 Sharon Geist, President, Cell 715-892-7486 Jack Carlson, Cell 612-889-1250 Bill Sima, Home 715-542-4375, Cell 612-710-8946 Jeanne Kroll, Home 715-542-2797 Lyn Hurbanis, Home 715-542-2308 Mike Pockat, Home 715-356-1058 Joan Ebert, Cell 239-910-3986 Tracey Ahlborn, Cell 612-716-6008

Office Hours

Bill Wendorf LLM's office hours:
Wednesdays 9 AM to 12 noon
Thursdays 9 AM to 12 noon
Fridays 9 AM to 12 noon
Or by Appointment

Next scheduled printings of this newsletter!

Month	Date Articles are Due (Thursday)	Printing Date (Saturday)
December 2020	17 th	19th
January 2021	14 th	16 th
February 2021	18 th	20 th
March 2021	18 th	20 th

Email articles to secretary@SOTLsayner.com Thank you.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

In-person services beginning again with the first Sunday of Advent – November 29, 2020, at 9:00 am.

RECORDED SERMONS: Sunday services at Shepherd of the Lakes are recorded and put on YouTube and will be available for viewing later on Sundays. Go to shepherdofthelakeschurch.org and on the Home Page, look for the YouTube link. Previously uploaded services are available on the link.

If you would like a copy of the current worship guide (Advent) and the weekly bulletin, please look for the "**Bulletin**" page on the Church Website. You can open the files and print.

ONLINE GIVING: Also available on the Church website is a link to PayPal for online giving.

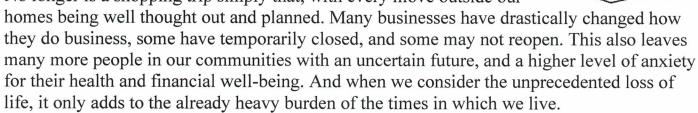
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Sayner, Wisconsin

Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

To say it has been an extraordinary year is, I believe, an understatement. Many things and services that we had assumed would always be there, the way they always have been, simply is no longer true. No longer is a shopping trip simply that, with every move outside our



Through faith and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we as God's children and people of faith, find the consolation, comfort, and strength to persevere in an ever-changing world. Being thankful for what we have, and still able to reach out to those that are in need, finding different ways of making a difference, serving Christ in and through the needs of our neighbors.

One other way in which we have made a difference is the Pastor's Discretionary Holiday Fund. Entering its fourth year, this fund receives donations starting now, and up to and through Christmas, to be distributed to those in need by the holidays. The history of this fund is quite simple and yet powerful. Four years ago, I was contacted by an old friend feeling blessed, wanting to give something back, and yet struggling with how to do that. He wanted his gift to make a difference by Christmas, all of it, and entrusted that gift to me, to find a way to do just that. After conferring with a handful of members at church, the PDHF was born.

Now SOTL has a number of different ministries. Some through our synod, others directly from Shepherd, that impact people's lives all over the world. What makes the PDHF different is all the donations from this fund stay local (Vilas and northern Oneida Co.). These funds help to support those organizations that see to the needs of our veterans, the homeless, the hungry, and those in a time of transition, with the bulk of the donations going directly to needy individuals, couples, and families in the form of gift certificates for food, clothing and gifts. This fund, as with all of our ministries, has no administrative cost, so the fund is 100% in, and 100% out, and all the gift cards that go to individuals and needy families, are distributed in time for Christmas.

The support for the PDHF has grown steadily over the last three years, leaving me thankful, humbled, and (if you can believe this) at times, speechless. ② As I stated earlier, this has been an extraordinary year, with no one left un-affected. But as always, Christmas will come and go as it always does, and it is this time of year we remember, celebrate, and tell again the story of the greatest gift ever given, the beginning of the greatest story ever told, the birth of our Lord Jesus the Christ.

Being always thankful for the past support of this fund, it is my hope and my prayer that in keeping with the spirit of the season, and being thankful for God's great gift of his Son, the support this fund has received in years past will continue, and we as the people of God will continue to serve Christ in and through the needs of our neighbors.

May the Lord bless and keep us all and may we all be a blessing to those in need.

Yours in Christ,

Bill †

THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY DINNER

44 Thanksgiving meals from Save More were handed out or delivered on Thanksgiving Day. A big thank you to those of you who supported this project. Hopefully we will be back in the kitchen for this service next year.

CHURCH COUNCIL SUMMARY

There are no minutes available as the last few council meetings were cancelled. The next council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 10:30 am.

2021 BUDGET MEETING

The budget meeting has been re-scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2020 at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at church, the location in the building will depend upon how many attend, in an effort to keep to the social distancing guidelines. Please consider attending so that your voice will be heard concerning how your money will be spent.

PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION

We are collecting pill bottles, DARK BROWN ONLY. Please remove the labels and put the bottles in the container in the coat room.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Please continue to save cancelled stamps throughout the year. There is a collection box on the coat room shelf.

Tina was having a little trouble with her prayer: "Give us this day our delibread! Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Whole East Coast.

DEVOTIONS

thankful
tl

"In everything I give You thanks, God, for this is Your will concerning me in Christ Jesus."

(I Thessalonians 5:18)

The story is told of an old widow. She arrived at her church during a harvest festival in India with an extraordinarily large offering of rice --- far more than the poor woman could be expected to afford. The itinerant pastor of the church did not know this widow well. But he did know that she was very poor; so he asked her if she were making the offering in gratitude for some unusual blessing. "Yes," replied the woman. "My son was sick, and I promised a large gift to God if he got well." "And your son has recovered?" asked the pastor. The widow paused. "No," she said. "He died last week. But I know that he is in God's care; for that I am especially grateful."

Dear Lord, for this	I am especially grateful.
	Thank You. Amen.

QUILTING

Please join us! The women of Shepherd of the Lakes will be quilting on the third Thursday of each month starting at 11:00 a.m. You do not have to be a quilter or own a sewing machine. If you can tie a knot, we want you. Everyone is welcome.

Our quilting ministry is community oriented. Finished quilts are donated once a year to the Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence in Rhinelander. We would like to increase our ministry and our sewing circle. Come and join the fun.

Dates:

Future Dates on Hold We hope to begin Meetings at church in January.



We have all the supplies, We just need your smiling face.

Church bulletin blooper: Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I Will Not Pass This Way Again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

A Thanksgiving Prayer in Time of Pandemic

On this Thanksgiving Day like no other even now,
O God, Your name is worthy to be praised,
for in Your mercy and kindness no thought of ours is left
unguarded, no tear unheeded, and no joy unnoticed.

For the blessings we have known and for those we yet have to gather, to You we give our grateful thanks.

For life that reminds us how fragile we are and also how strong we can be, we thank You, O God.

For sheltering that urges us to rediscover what truly matters: we thank You, O God.

For communication that allows us to connect in ways old and new: we thank You, O God.

And for mindfulness that shows us

how much we rely on one another: we thank You, O God.

Watch over Your family, Lord, gathered here and at tables separated by miles, and bless those who must work closely to serve, keep them safe.

Though we may be kept apart

on this day that calls us together, We know Your Spirit draws us close.

Lord, we ask You to ease the pain of empty chairs that bring to mind our beloved dead,

Let our grieving find its rest in Your Son, Jesus, In Whose Resurrection is our Hope.

Grant Your Spirit to be present here

that this meal may become a foretaste of Your heavenly table where every tear shall be wiped away, every hunger fed, and no distance can separate us from Your love in Christ, from Whom all good things come.

Amen!

(used with permission from Diane Macalintel 2020)

Thank You!

THANK YOU'S

Thank you notes received from:

Awakening Lives to World Missions

Caritas Community Food Pantry

Fortune Lake NATH (Frederick House)

Plum Lake Library Vilas Food Pantry

PRAYER CONCERNS

We are looking for someone to take over leadership of the Prayer Chain. Please let Bill or Sharon Geist know if you are interested.

Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Larry & Joannie Stephenson, Arlene Dreyfus, Rich Kysiak, Julie Smith, Elaine Kuhlmann & Family, Meri, Ray, & Carolyn, Elaine Kuhlmann & Family, Chris & Ed (Evie's family), Sharon Brooker, Tracey Ahlborn family, Gus Tarre, and Tom & Carol Miles.

<u>Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces</u>: Jeff Hammer, Brian Krieck, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Sgt. Keara Kangas, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Noah Storaasli, and Zachary Raatz.

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Ramona Schaeffel, Mel & Barb Harvey, and Elisabeth Jacobsen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Your church family would like the opportunity to pray for you, make arrangements for you to receive Holy Communion, or support you by other means. Please contact us:

- ...if you or someone in your family are ill at home or hospitalized.
- ...if you are anticipating surgery or another medical procedure.
- ...if you have a birth or death in your family.
- ...if you want to request prayers for someone else, ask their permission first.
- ...if you have any other significant event in your family.
- ...if you would like to schedule a visit with Bill Wendorf LLM or another church member.

Never forget that each of you are valued, loved, and cared for by your church family. Please notify Bill Wendorf LLM at 715-617-6477 (pastor@SOTLsayner.com) or Jean Maines (secretary@SOTLsayner.com) if you need prayers for any reason. *Prayers can also be requested thru Barb Maines*.

After listening to a sermon about heaven, the rich old billionaire went home and picked up his Bible for this first time in many, many years. He spent hours and hours in his den, reading it slowly and carefully, page by page.

His wife was both shocked and pleased. "I've never seen you read the Good Book like that before. Are you looking for a particular passage?"

"No," he told her. "I'm looking for an address. If I can't take my money with me, maybe I can ship it ahead of time."

RECIPE CORNER

by Jan Specht

Here is a recipe for the holidays that is a break from candy and cookies. I was introduced to this, believe it or not, in high school home economics class. Remember those days? I had not thought of it in years, but came across it several years ago and have made it part of my holiday baking since then. This is a sweet bread — no yeast involved.

Christmas Fruit Bread

2 cups flour

1/2 cup sugar

2 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon salt

1 large egg yolk

1 cup milk

12 red candied cherries chopped

12 green candied cherries chopped

2 Tablespoons candied fruit

1/4 cup chopped nuts.

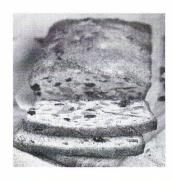
Mix all dry ingredients, then adding the cherries, fruit, and nuts.
Mix together the egg yolk and milk, and add to dry ingredients
Mix thoroughly and put in lined bread pans (or 2 smaller pans)
Let stand for 20 minutes
Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or less for smaller pans. Check for doneness with a toothpick

Do line the bottoms of the baking pans and spray with cooking spray or it will stick to pans.

Cool for 5-10 minutes before removing from pans.

The last few years the candied

The last few years the candied cherries have become very expensive so I just buy one color, maybe some candied pineapple or use some raisins.



Church sign in River Forest, Illinois:

Live as if Christ Died yesterday, Rose this morning, and will be back tomorrow.

Some thoughts on a traditional Thanksgiving hymn: Now Thank We All Our God

It is possible even to be thankful during the most difficult of circumstances in life. It's true! We see an especially inspiring example of a brave and thankful heart in the story behind one of the Church's most popular hymns, "Now Thank We All Our God." This particular hymn was written during the Thirty-Years War in Germany, in the early 1600s. Its author was Martin Rinkart, a Lutheran pastor in the town of Eilensburg in Saxony.

Now, Eilenburg was a walled city, so it became a haven for refugees seeking safety from the fighting. But soon, the city became too crowded, and food was in short supply. Then, famine hit, along with a terrible plague; Eilenburg became a giant morgue.

In one year alone, Pastor Rinkart conducted funerals for over 4,500 people, including his own wife. The war dragged on; the suffering continued. Yet through it all, he never lost courage or faith. Even during the darkest days of Eilenburg's agony, he was able to write this hymn:

Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In Whom this world rejoices.....(So) keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

Even when he was waist-deep in destruction, Pastor Rinkart was able to lift his sights to a higher plane. He kept his mind on God's love when the world around him was filled with hate. He kept his mind on God's promises of heaven when the earth was a living hell. Can we not do the same? ---we whose lives are relatively trouble-free, compared with the man who wrote this hymn? ... To whom will you and I say "Thank you"? Karen Carter

CHILDRENS CORNER

Dear Parents and Children,

Church School in-person will not happen until after the new year begins. There is too much uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 at this time. However, you will continue to receive the Gospel lesson activities in the mail. If you know someone who would like to have these lessons, please contact me at (715) 542-4049 or kcarter@nnex.net.

This is disappointing news for us, but these are strange times. We will continue to pray for you and will look forward to the time when we will once again be together on Wednesday afternoons. Remember: ice-cream sundaes will be our snack for the first time back!

God continue to bless you and your family with good health and peace.

Love,

Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Pierce, Mr. & Mrs. Carter

Thanksgiving Cornucopia Snack

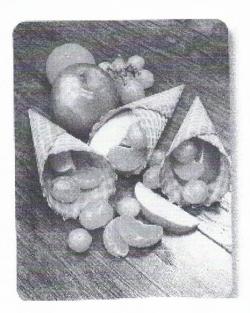
This fun snack will give the kids a chance to reflect on this crazy year and discuss what makes them grateful.

Materials

- Waffle cones
- Grapes, clementine wedges, and apple slices.
- Plates for serving

Instructions

- Stuff the cones with the various fruits so they look like a cornucopia.
- Put one on each plate and serve.
- 3. Have kids pick fruit out to eat and say one thing for which they are thankful.



WORD SEARCH

Things for which to be Thankful

Below are things to be thankful for. Some are easy to be thankful for—some are not! But God says "In everything give thanks!"

Words:

HOUSE, TOYS, LEARNING, INTELLIGENCE, HOPE, COURAGE, MEDICINE, AUTOMOBILE, SMARTPHONE, LOVE, GIVING, SERVICE, PETS, NATURE, SUNSHINE, CLOTHING, FOOD, ELECTRONICS, PATIENCE, PERSEVERANCE, ENDURANCE.

IMEDICINEWEBAHHNU LHVOROHZMWLWUGHZBI FULGAKD BE FK RC GAC KCOE D WBKJHAUTOMOB L ENS N E P UEDKEW GAJSMAR T PHO D F Z B Q O X G N Q B M G G V O X W I BGN KE ESNLNJS OJMAT GEVRA X UYVE NMHPN HGDCHT OFORC G LL NE CNE NY D EUEASRU L Z DRONQ IXZAOR GARUOC BHU EWGRSCS VL AUX NYGHAXUC CONLYUN BUNR SS FUMKOQULE F N MJODTMSZRILCEQJEXKCK

LEARN-ALONG SHEET

9 Items of Gratitude

On Thanksgiving 2020, here are nine things I am thankful for to God:

1,		
3		
4.,	Special and the special and th	
5	3	
6,		
7		
8		
9		

GOD, THANK YOU FOR THESE BLESSINGS IN MY LIFE.

HELP ME TO SHOW MY GRATITUDE BY TRYING

TO MAKE OTHERS HAPPY, USING YOUR LOVE.

TREASURER'S NOTES

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church General Funds

Budget vs Actual Report

For the Ten Months Ended, October 31, 2020

	Jan - Oct 20	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Contribution Income			
4100 · General Fund Contributions			
Total 4100 · General Fund Contributions	88,653.67	107,500.00	-18,846.33
4400 · Other Restricted Funds			
4499 · Other Designated Contributions	150.00		
Total 4400 · Other Restricted Funds	-150.00		
5000 · IRA Contributions			
Total 5000 · IRA Contributions	2,000.00		
Total 4000 · Contribution Income	90,503.67	107,500.00	-16,996.33
6000 · Other Income			
Total 6000 · Other Income	9,077.27		
6900 · Investment Income (Loss)			
Total 6960 · Unrealized Gains & Losses			
Total 6900 · Investment Income (Loss)	-475.63		
Total Income	99,105.31	107,500.00	-8,394.69
Expense			
6999 · Budgeted Expenses			
7000 · Administrative Expenses			
Total 7000 · Administrative Expenses	35,804.43	36,293.26	-488.83
7300 · Benevolence, Budgeted	10 507 00	10.550.00	40.00
Total 7300 · Benevolence, Budgeted	16,537.08	16,550.00	-12.92
7400 · Learning	202.00	222.22	22.50
Total 7400 · Learning	366.90	333.32	33.58
7600 · Pastoral Ministry	74,870.09	76,721.68	-1,851.59
Total 7600 · Pastoral Ministry 7800 · Witness	74,670.09	70,721.00	-1,001.09
7900 · Worship			
Total 7900 · Worship	3,071.34	4,395.82	-1,324.48
Total 7500 Worship Total 6999 · Budgeted Expenses	132,069.84	135,669.08	-3,599.24
8000 · Unbudgeted Expenses	102,000.04	100,000.00	0,000.24
8200 · Unbudgeted, Special Items			
Total 8200 · Unbudgeted, Special Items	748.52		
Total 8000 · Unbudgeted Expenses	748.52		
Total Expense	132,818.36	135,669.08	-2,850.72
Net Ordinary Income	-33,713.05	-28,169.08	-5,543.97
Net			
Income	-33,713.05	-28,169.08	-5,543.97

NOTE:

This report concerns only the general operating funds and does not reflect any information concerning benevolence giving or donations. The negative amount listed under Account 4499 is due to reclassifying the income to another account.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns. The best email for me is treasurer@SOTLsayner.com.

Respectfully, Jean Maines

The following item, written anonymously, was found in the newsletter of St.Luke's Baptist Church:

12 reasons why a local pastor stopped attending sports events

- 1. Every time I went, they asked me for money.
- 2. The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly.
- 3. The seats were very hard.
- 4. The coach never came to call on me.
- 5. The referee made a decision with which I could not agree.
- 6. I was sitting with some hypocrites---they came only to see what others were wearing.
- 7. Some games went into overtime, and I was late in getting home.
- 8. The band played some songs I never heard before.
- 9. The games are scheduled when I want to do other things.
- 10. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
- 11. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches, anyhow.
- 12. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

December 2020 CUTDUTED OF THE I AKECI ITHER AN CHIRCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December – Bak including sugar, fowder, baking sugar, powdered spices, cookie cut decorating items.	December – Baking items including sugar, flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, brown sugar, powdered sugar, other spices, cookie cutters, cookie decorating items.	1	2	6	4	vo.
9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
9 AM Worship Service						1 PM 2021 Budget Meeting
13	14	15	16	17 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	18	19
9 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Council Meeting						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 AM Worship Service				4 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service		
27	28	29	30	31		
9 AM Worship Service						

December Birthdays:

e^{th}	Joan Stephenson	10^{th}	Michael Krieck
9 th	Cheri Biedermann	11 th	Barb Harvey
10^{th}	Mary Sutor	15 th	Samantha Thompson

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fanty kitch	January – Storage items includin kitchen size plastic garbage bags, Please place your items in the appropria	January – Storage items including Ziploc bags, wax paper, aluminum foil, kitchen size plastic garbage bags, disposable kitchen storage containers. Please place your items in the appropriate containers in the cloak room.	ig Ziploc bags, wax paper, aluminum f disposable kitchen storage containers.	inum foil, ainers.	_	2
	4	5 G DM Dible Childy	9	7 O AM Text Shidy	8	6
9 AM Worship Service	11	o rivi bible study	13	14	15	91
9 AM Worship Service		6 PM Bible Study		NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 AM Worship Service		6 PM Bible Study		9 AM Text Study 11 AM Quilting		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 AM Worship Service		6 PM Bible Study		9 AM Text Study		
31						
9 AM Worship Service						

January Birthdays

8th	Marney Mann	25 th	Amanda Farrow
5th	Jan Lundin	27 th	Barb Cashman