



# The FLOCK

The official Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
822 Belvoir Ave., East Ridge, TN 37412



## The Singular Treasure Seen Only by Faith

"You don't appreciate something until it is gone." We have all heard that phrase. It applies to health. It can apply to your spouse. Maybe it is your old home and life after you move to a new job. In our world today, it may be simple things like a hug, going out with friends, walking down the street without a mask, going to church, going to visit family out of state, having a job, going to the store and never seeing an empty shelf, going to the parks and talking to strangers and sitting close to them and making new friends, visiting loved ones in hospitals, going on vacations. Our world has changed before our eyes. Yes, people are missing things that we long took for granted here in the USA, things that many around the world did not have. As we experience our world at this time, it can wear on our hearts and our minds. Loss is hard for anyone.

In times like this, invites us to look at gifts that never go away, ones that the world does not see. He was no stranger to loss. He lost his human father, Joseph, at a young age. We never see Joseph after the visit to the

*"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it."*  
Matthew 13:44-46 ESV

temple when he is 12. He would lose other things as well. Most of his family would turn against him during his earthly ministry and mock him. He lost his popularity with the people for simply speaking the truth. He lost some of his freedom to walk around as people like the tetrarch Herod was seeking his life as were the priests and the Pharisees. Jesus foresaw a time when the disciples would lose their land in 70 AD when Rome would destroy Jerusalem. Yes, they would be asked to even lose their life for the sake of the gospel, just as our Lord did. This world is not our home, and nothing here belongs to us. We are passing through and are only stewards of things that will pass away.

So how do we cope with these losses that are real at different times in our lives? The parables above provide that answer. Who is the merchant? Matthew 16:24-26 provides the answer. *"Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"*

What is the cost? Our very lives, that is, the old way of life. It must be lost. It

is repentance and saying no to the old way of life in this world. What waits at the end of the path of repentance, of that giving up the old life by the power of the Spirit who convicts us of the worthless way of sin? The single pearl of great price, Jesus Christ. It takes years to form a pearl. But to form the giant pearl, it is even longer. So it is with Jesus. The value of this pearl is amazing, the one singular way to eternal life. Think about the miracle being proclaimed in this parable, the great ah-hah of the world, the big surprise. God gives us the pearl of great price in exchange for our worthless, broken lives of sin. Jesus is once again teach-



*From the Pastor continued...*

ing the great shocking news of the first beatitude.

*"Happy are the poverty-stricken in spirit. For theirs is the reign of heaven," Matthew 5:3.*

God trades his amazing heavenly completely by grace and gives it to the poverty-stricken soul of lost mankind. Ever been overjoyed at a good deal? Well, marvel at this amazing deal! Marvel at the amazing grace of our God, a gift so rich that the spirit moves us to give up everything in this world, even life in this world. It is the singular treasure of heaven that forever holds our hearts to lose all things for him that we may gain more than this world can ever give.

Yet the other parable is just as important. It is a hidden treasure. How much chance do you have of finding hidden treasure? History is full of people like this wasting their lives away, seeking these so-called hidden treasures. Movies like "National Treasure" are just that, Hollywood make-believe. So how does the merchant in the parable find the treasure? Once again, Jesus is his own interpreter. *"At that time Jesus declared, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children.'" Matt. 11:25.* We have a little help, our heavenly Father. He alone by the Spirit can reveal to us the mysteries of his love, the vastness of the treasure. It is a treasure that can only be seen by faith now that will be revealed at the end of time upon our Lord's return. But the Spirit does reveal that treasure to us in such a way that it is more real than any treasure in this world, *1 Cor. 2:9-10.* Yet, faith is a far greater eyesight that holds our hearts than anything seen with the naked eye. It is why saints down through the ages have been willing to give up all, rather than fall away from Christ. They knew where true treasures were to be found and found peace no matter what they lost. Jesus knew it. Joy was set before him as he endured the cross. He knew the treasure of his Father's love and joy filled him at every turn, no matter the cost of discipleship in this life. How much more us as we face these new losses with our changing world.

So look to the treasure that is everlasting. Look with the eyes of faith by the Spirit. Let him open your eyes to it in the mystery of the sacraments, your baptism, and the Lord's Supper. For there, you meet your treasure by faith, and it is not stuff. It is a person, our Lord Jesus Christ. That is quite a bargain, our old way of life for a new life in and through the one Savior of the world.

*In Christ's love,  
Pastor Sheets*



Several folks have recently asked me when choir and orchestra may be able to start again in the 9:00 am traditional service. The short answer is that it will be a while yet before it is safe for our choir and orchestra to rehearse and perform during our service. The most reliable and objective research study currently being conducted, from the University CO-Boulder, is showing that particles called aerosols and droplets are expelled some distance when people sing or play wind instruments, and these particles can transmit Covid-19. The study will show the potential rate of transmission by singers and specific instruments before the end of July [publication date is after the Flock deadline.] Once I have more specific information, I'll begin work on a plan to reintroduce our musical groups back into our services.

We, our music ministry, greatly miss having our groups play and sing in services so much. I am so appreciative of Sheila Pruehs, Randy Mauritzen, Katie Baumann, Lis Schaefer, and Ron Morris for joining me in sharing their musical talents in a safe, socially distanced manner each week! We want to do everything possible to avoid a Covid-19 outbreak in our congregation, one that would shut down our live services and endanger our brothers and sisters in Christ. In the meantime, Ron and I are working on using new technology to create some virtual choir and orchestra music opportunities that can enhance our services. Of course, a few of us will continue to play and sing in the 9:00 service each week. Stay tuned! Blessings to you all! - *Sandy Morris, Traditional Music Director*

# CHURCH HAS REOPENED!

## SERVICES & TIMES

**Grace Place Service**  
every **Saturday @ 5 pm**  
*in the Sanctuary!*

**Traditional Service**  
every **Sunday @ 9 am**  
*in the Sanctuary!*

**Contemporary Service**  
every **Sunday @ 11:15 am**  
*in the Fellowship Hall!*

*Live-Streaming will be on Facebook as well.*



## Concerning Masks During Worship:

### **MASKS:**

**To Wear or  
Not to Wear,**

**That is the  
Question...**



As you may have heard, the county mayor did issue an edict calling for people to wear masks in public starting on July 10 running through September 8. This was done in response to the recent spike in new COVID-19 cases. The same edict does say that the mayor cannot command the churches to do this based upon the constitution.

However, as has been the case for us all along as we try to cooperate with the governing authorities that God has placed over us according to Romans 13, the leadership team of the church is asking people who attend worship to wear masks for the sake of both yourself and those worshipping with you.

**We do understand there are those who cannot wear masks for various reasons. We are asking those people to please sit up front.** Just as the distance between the pastor and the people in the front is great enough that the chances of spreading the virus are reduced significantly, so people sitting on the front row are facing forward into a large space that significantly reduces the chance of spreading the virus.

If we follow these guidelines, everyone is giving a little with the thought of trying to help our neighbors hear about Jesus. We just want everyone to hear the Word, the most important concern of all. We pray that the same love that led our Lord to the cross where he gave up all for us leads each to sacrifice for our neighbor to help them receive the gift of Jesus.



## THE SERVING OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Holy Communion will be served  
during the worship services  
on the following dates:**

- Traditional Service: Aug. 2 & 16 & 30
- Contemporary Service: Aug. 9 & 23
- Grace Place: Every Saturday



### DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION

Pull your car around to the designated area.

Only 1 car at a time.

Communicants are to bring their own bread and grape wine. Just enough for communion. Please make sure it is grape wine. *GSLC uses Mogen David Concord Grape.*

The pastor will consecrate the elements.

**-Every Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 pm**  
(narthex/front door drop-off)

**-Every Sunday: 12:30-1:30 pm** (fellowship hall entrance)



## **NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES PreK4 - 4th Grade!**

The members of the Board of Christian Education have been talking regularly during this pandemic. We feel, as a group, it is in the best interest of all that we **NOT have Vacation Bible School this summer.**

We have also discussed when W.O.W.  
(*Worship on Wednesdays*) and Children's Church

as well as Children's Sunday School will be reintroduced.

*As of July 31, we have NOT decided on a date yet.*

**However, we NEED VOLUNTEERS to lead Children's Sunday School and W.O.W. groups when these begin!!** Please contact Wendy Wade for more info or to sign up to volunteer. Call/Text: 423-421-1487 or Email: [deedle215@aol.com](mailto:deedle215@aol.com)



**EVERY SUNDAY**

9 am– Traditional Service  
10:15 am– Adult Bible Class  
11:15 am– Contemporary Service  
2 pm– Crossways! Class

**COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: Traditional  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Contemporary  
Every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Both Services  
Every Saturday @ Grace Place

# AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 26	July 27	July 28 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	July 29 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place	July 30 <b>Last Day of Summer Session-</b> 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place	July 31	1 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place
2	3	4 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	5 6:30 pm– Pulse	6	7 	8 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place
9	10	11 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	12 <b>BCA 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School!</b> 6:30 pm– Pulse	13	14	15 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place
16	17	18 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	19 6:30 pm– Pulse	20 10:30 am– Chemo Caps group	21	22 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place
23	24	25 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	26 6:30 pm– Pulse	27	28	29 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place
30	31 <b>First Day Back!</b> 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place	Sept. 1 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place 10:30 am– Bible Study w/ Pastor Sheets	Sept. 2 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place 6:30 pm– Pulse	Sept. 3 9 am – 2 pm– Blessing Place	Sept. 4	Sept. 5 3:45 pm– Bible Study w/ Pastor Rosser 5 pm– Grace Place

# AUGUST Anniversaries

8/4– Bill & Barbara Dautrich

*(Even though Bill passed away on July 17, we would still like to acknowledge their anniversary. They would have celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.)*

8/5– Tom & Sue Manthey (43 yrs.)

8/8– Bob & Sara Newman (39 yrs.)

8/15– Pastor Chris & Brenda Sheets (39 yrs.)

8/17– Malcolm & Jennifer Harvey (8 yrs.)

8/18– Gene & Ruth Ebert (54 yrs.)

8/18– Nolan & Laura Polley (19 yrs.)

8/19– Ron & Sandy Morris (42 yrs.)

8/21– Derek & Tera Pearson (19 yrs.)

8/26– Jim & Ruth Scotchie (53 yrs.)

8/30– Jimmy & Teresa Malone (23 yrs.)

# AUGUST Birthdays

8/1– Debi Cate

8/2– Tabitha Lanning

8/2– William McCall

8/2– Lane McKown

8/3– Sophia Burnette

8/3– Sydney Burnette

8/3– Carla Stutz

8/4– Noah Humble

8/5– Billie Bumgarner

8/5– Jennifer Campbell

8/5– Ayres Sackett

8/5– Kristen Stone

8/5– Angela Williams

8/6– Pat Ortega

8/7– Laura Barrett

8/7– Erin McCall

8/8– Jonathan McKown

8/9– Barbara Daniel

8/9– Skip Hubby

8/10– Ross Hatcher

8/10– Brian Swab

8/11– Derek Babb

8/11– Autumn Clark

8/11– Adam Mullinax

8/12– Gary Bumgarner

8/12– Diane Robinette

8/13– Donnie Graham

8/14– Derek Pearson

8/15– Deacon Webb

8/16– Pattie Henze

8/20– Trey Locklear

8/20– LaDonna Lomenick

8/20– Julie Robertson

8/23– Patti Grace Brannan

8/23– Linda Cole

8/25– Allen Stephens

8/26– Vickie Spiegelhalter

8/28– Cindy Stone

8/29– Louise Fuller

8/29– Lauren Irwin

8/30– Daryle Beam

8/31– Donna Thomas

# PUZZLE

## Jesus gives us *life*

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

*Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.*

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)



Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)



Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)



This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)



Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)



Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)



Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)



While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)



This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)



These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)



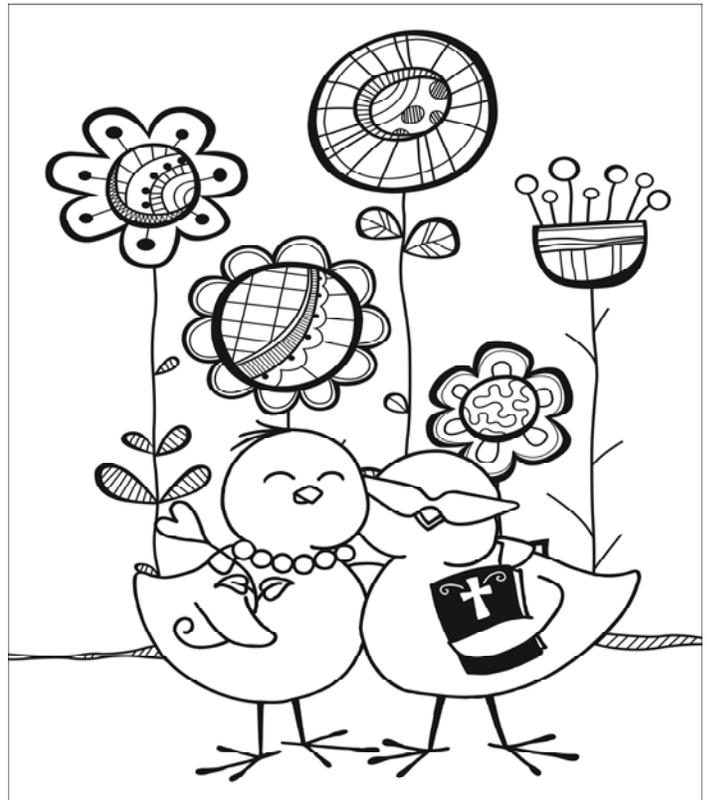
These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)



Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)



Answer: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar on a sponge, stone, linen, silver coins



# PUZZLE

## Beloved children

God our heavenly Father loves us so much that he calls us his.

*Directions: Follow the instructions below. Then read the remaining words, going across the rows from left to right, to complete 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV.*

- Cross out the opposite of blessings.
- Cross out the opposite of found.
- Cross out the disciple who betrayed Jesus.
- Cross out a word for disobeying God.
- Cross out the opposite of love.
- Cross out an animal.
- Cross out a word for jail.
- Cross out a place.
- Cross out what happened to Jesus.
- Cross out the opposite of friends.
- Cross out a book of the Bible.

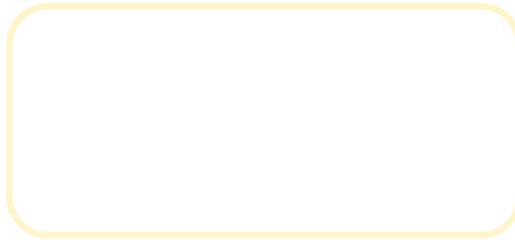
I	enemies	will	be	Judas
hate	a	Father	to	serpent
you	and	you	will	crucified
cursings	be	my	sons	and
sin	Golgotha	daughters	says	the
Lamentations	prison	Lord	Almighty	lost

Answer: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV



PSALM 71:6

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#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Facebook Page:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
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**President of Congregation:** Stephen Meyer  
**Traditional Music Director:** Sandy Morris  
**The Blessing Place/MDO:** Jill Burns  
**AVL Director:** Nolan Polley  
**Treasurer:** Vickie Spiegelhalter



**BCA Operation – Wed., Aug. 12th, 1st day for students.** The Coronavirus remains with us, and Belvoir Christian Academy (BCA) will likely not return to normalcy until there is a vaccine or a cure. A return to school will look and feel different. BCA students and staff will need to be flexible, understanding that protecting the health of our students may require changes in procedures. For details and more information, please visit our website or feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We are in this together.

**BCA Helping Others** - In an effort to help our BCA families who have been financially affected by the virus, our Parent-Teacher League President and music teacher, Dr. Sarah Harr, has started a Go Fund Me page to benefit our BCA families who may need financial help during this time. **If you would like to donate to the fund, please**