Pastor’s Perspective

Last month, I found this article in the ELCA magazine “Lifelines.” It reminds me how we as a church are making a difference in El Salvador, in the Virgin Islands, and throughout the world. It reminds me that our church’s slogan, “God’s Work, Our Hands” is not just words.

Peace to you,
—Pastor Tom

Just Keep Trusting the Lord

Inez Walker worked as a cook for Queen Louise Home for Children, a Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands (LSSVI) children’s home, for more than 40 years. Last summer Inez, now 84, had left St. Croix with her daughter, Lorraine, to seek medical care in Florida.

“I’m glad we got here when we did,” Lorraine said. Hurricane Maria, one of the strongest storms in recent history, came shortly after Inez reached Florida.

“It destroyed everything,” Lorraine says.

When the hurricane hit, Inez had just finished renovating her home with new carpeting and furniture. The storm blew off portions of the roof, dumping water all through the house and destroying most of her belongings. She had been in her home for almost 50 years.

While the Walker’s family memories remain, Inez hasn’t been able to return home. Their house is one of many in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico that was damaged by the hurricanes. The home had an estimated $91,000 in damage. While Inez was offered a loan for a portion of that, she can’t afford the payments and insurance on her fixed income.

Tarps as temporary roofing can prevent further damage to homes, but tarps are hard to come by on the island, and continuing rains are adding to the damage already done.

“Ever since the storm, my brother Joseph has been busy trying to do whatever he can to secure tarps,” Lorraine says. “It’s very hard for him, but Mom is confident. One thing she keeps telling us is, ‘Just keep trusting in the Lord.’”

Lutheran Disaster Response, through local partner LSSVI, is helping people like Inez get back into their home. Earlier this year, Lutheran Disaster Response approved a grant for $1.16 million to support a three-year volunteer rebuild and repair program for St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through the work with LSSVI, Lutheran Disaster Response will accompany Inez and other survivors as they create and implement their recovery plans. This could include leveraging volunteer hours through a volunteer program to help rebuild her home or connecting her to resources for other unmet needs.

The road ahead is long for survivors of hurricanes and other disasters, but thanks to your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, this church can accompany them and provide practical support and refreshed hope.
Turkish-born visual artist Şakir Gökçebağ likes to play with everyday objects and alter them in such a way that we have a difficult time remembering the objects original use. Gökçebağ’s latest installation chops the front toe off of various types of workplace shoes and work boots then arranges them to almost seem like an optical illusion.

The types of shoes we wear tell a story about our journey. They talk about the kind of work we do and the things we enjoy doing. It would be humbling for some of us to think about how many miles we have walked in our lifetime in various pairs of shoes. But did most of those miles bring healing, forgiveness, and life to others in Jesus’ name?

In the Gospel of Mark Jesus is teaching the disciples ON THE WAY. His classroom is the world in which they live and work. Each lesson isn’t carefully crafted, but instead spontaneously presented as they pay attention to where God is at work in each person’s life that they encounter. Shoes lead to people. Shoes tell a story. Think of the thousands of shoes that are on display at the Holocaust Museum and Memorial in Washington D.C.. There is a reason they are so powerful, they tell a story. But instead of death, our shoes can be a sign of life for those in this world.

Jesus teaches us to walk and pay attention. It doesn’t take long on campus to notice that many students don’t walk and pay attention. Many drivers are the same way. We have found a way to travel all over the world and actually be nowhere. Jesus offers an alternative that will make our feet hurt and our legs tired. I want to invite you to travel with Jesus.

Starting on October 4th I will be leading the first of 3 sessions called Thoughtful Thursdays. We will explore a the theme in Mark’s Gospel: Discipleship alongside Jesus happens ON THE WAY. Good shoes won’t be required for this class but they may be needed for the work the Holy Spirit is calling us to do after we listen to God’s Word. Pizza will be provided and this class is open to all interested students young and old. I am looking forward to joining you ON THE WAY this fall on October 4th, 11th, and 18th.

Jason Fisher
The Shepherd’s Scroll
October 2018

Youth Events

The Great Pumpkin Uploading!
Friday, October 5, 5pm
GSLC Parking Lot

Middle & High School youth and their families are asked to come help us unload pumpkins that will be part of our fall fundraiser. Youth who help sell pumpkins during October will get a percentage of the profits put into their accounts for future youth trips. Sign up online or at church.

God created us to create. Kids and adults of all ages are invited to meet and interact with some of our community’s finest innovators and tinkerers. There will be lots of interactive projects and things to learn. Come make something as we ponder the infinite ingenuity of our Maker.

Sunday, October 7, 6:30—8pm
Fishers’ House (2906 Blair Dr., Champaign)

All high school youth are invited to Jason’s house for the month of October for games, snacks, and bible study. This will be our chance to dive into current events and relevant questions about life and faith in our world today.

Sunday, October 14, 3-5pm
Scovill Zoo, Decatur

Families with children 5th grade and younger can get a head start on Halloween by joining us at the Scovill Zoo at 71 S. Country Club Rd. in Decatur on Sunday, Oct. 14th. Kids can wear their costumes and do some early trick or treating as they visit the animals. We will cover the $5 entrance fee if families meet us there between 2 & 4pm.

Wednesday, October 17, 6:30-8pm
707 Country Fair Dr., Champaign

Middle & High School youth can come get their jump on at the new trampoline park here in town. $5 will cover admission and socks for you and your friends and we will pay for the rest. Be sure to have your parents fill out the online waiver beforehand.

Lincoln Square Mall
Saturday
Oct. 13th
9am – 2pm

ELEVATE TRAMPOLINE PARK

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Parents’ Night Out
Friday, November 2
5—8pm
GSLC Fellowship Hall

Hardy’s Reindeer Ranch
Sunday, November 4
3—6pm
Families with kids 5th grade & younger can join us at Hardy’s Reindeer Ranch from 3-6pm for a hay ride, pedal carts, and the corn maze. Afterwards we will have a cookout with hot dogs, chips, drinks, and S’mores! Reservations can be made with Jason.

Carlinville Retreat
November 9—11
Lake Williamson
Middle & High school youth at Good Shepherd will spend the weekend in small groups, worship, and service together. This is a great chance for our students to get to know one another and God. Forms have been mailed out and extra copies are on the bulletin boards outside the youth room.

T-Shirt sizes, Medical Forms, Signed Covenant, and $100 due Sunday, October 14!

Robb’s Odyssey
The Mennenga Story
Sunday, October 28, 4pm
Faith United Methodist Church
1719 S Prospect Ave, Champaign

Former youth group member of Good Shepherd, Robb Mennenga, died last summer from using a synthetic opioid. His parents Ellen & Lowell will be sharing their story of struggle alongside their son as he battled through his opioid addiction. If you or someone you know is struggling with an opioid addiction, reach out by meeting Ellen & Lowell or contact them by calling 377-0881.

Do you love to cook for others? Would you like to support our local campus ministry? Students at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Campus Center meet weekly on Wednesdays for Chat & Chow but have a kitchen facility that IS NOT accessible to all their students.

If you would like to help by cooking for them during one of their Wednesday evenings, simply follow this link: https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/4wmkg5 or call Rachel at St. Andrew’s at 344-1593 to schedule a time that works for you!

All October is Pastor Appreciation Month
Join Us for **Adult Forum**

Adult Forum Discussion 10:15-11:15am
Join Sunday School for Closing 11:15-11:30am

The Adult Forum Committee has planned a variety of topics for this fall in which we explore important issues, and how we as Lutherans respond. High school students are welcome and encouraged to attend! If you have ideas for future topics, please email Erin Wilding-Martin at emartin@parkland.edu.

**OCTOBER ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE**

4-week series on the Refugee Crisis (Vance Martin):

- **10/7** The Refugee Crisis: History and Impact
- **10/14** The Refugee Crisis: Our Role
- **10/21** The Refugee Crisis: Facing Our History
- **10/28** The Refugee Crisis: Sharing God’s Love

**Women’s:**

- **Anna Circle** meets the first Wednesday of the month. Next meeting: Oct. 3, at 4:30pm, in the choir room.
- **Rachael Circle** meets the fourth Monday of the month. Next meeting: Oct. 22, at 4:30pm, in the choir room.

**Men’s:**

Men’s Bible Study meets every Friday at 7:00am at The Original Pancake House.

*All men and women of Good Shepherd are welcome to join any of the Bible study circles.*

**October 11 at 9:30am, in the Choir Room**

**October book:** *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

This is an enthralling new historical novel about two women (a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947) who are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption. It has mystery, history, adventure, drama, romance, and wit.

**A sneak peek at November:** *Ship of Brides* by Jo Jo Moyes.

Contact: Jan Nuss at jannuss3@sbcglobal.net or 356-1298. New members are always welcome!

**Lutheran World Relief**

**InGathering**

October 26, 2—3:30pm

Once again, Good Shepherd is hosting this exciting event! Churches from all over Central Illinois bring the LWR contributions that they gather over the past year to our parking lot. The boxes are loaded into a semi-truck and the LWR warehouses get replenished! Shipments are then made in the spring around the world where they are most needed. You can visit [lwr.org](http://lwr.org) to see how this ministry is lived out daily in communities across the world.

**OUR NEED:** Volunteers and refreshments!

Mark your calendar for Friday, October 26, from 2:00-3:30pm. As the host site, we have the opportunity to greet folks, share refreshments, and make new friends. We always need able bodies to help load boxes. Youth of all ages are encouraged to help. (October 26 is a no school day for some local school, so please check your calendars!) Contact Jodi Davis with any questions (jodidavisillini@yahoo.com or 217-840-5078). Sign up on the WELCA Board.
**Thoughtful Thursdays IN OCTOBER**

**Begins Oct. 4th**

Our first 3-week series is a study of the gospel of Mark led by Deacon Jason Fisher. We’ll meet in the choir room from 6 to 7:30pm. Pizza will be provided so come enjoy the food and learn more about the Gospel of Mark.

**Hospitality: God’s Love Made Visible**

Good Shepherd has a reputation in our community of being a hospitable church. We have a very welcoming policy when it comes to groups using our building. And I imagine that most of us do a very good job inviting others to our homes. How are we at inviting others to church—to come and see? In a survey of members of a former church I attended, we discovered that most people came because someone invited them. Are we inviting others to come to worship, to Sunday School and Adult Forum, to Bible studies during the week, or to come to service activities and events? The Pet blessing is coming up soon, who are you inviting besides your pet?

Blessings and Joy,

— Marilyn

**Fall Retreat**

**October 19-20**

**Champaign/Urbana**

Friday, October 19, 3:30pm - 8pm
St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church in Urbana
Saturday, October 20, 9am - 3pm
Grace Lutheran Church in Champaign

The 2018 C/SIS Women of the ELCA Fall Retreat will be hosted in Champaign and Urbana this year! Woman from across the Synod will be coming to town! Good Shepherd will be helping provide breakfast on Saturday morning. We hope to have a large turnout of Good Shepherd ladies for this weekend filled with Bible study, service, fellowship, yoga, songs, and games! Details of all of the events and the registration form are available in a flier in the narthex and on the WELCA board. Carpooling will be arranged for attendees. **Registration by October 15** is required for these events and there is a cost of $10 per day. Contact Jodi Davis with any questions (jodidavisillini@yahoo.com or 217-840-5078).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Outreach Committee is asking for help delivering food to our neighbors in need. Each week, two scheduled volunteers gather items from Good Shepherds, Loaves and Fish pantry, and the grocery store. The team then completes a delivery to a family referred by Empty Tomb. Team A is scheduled for the first half of month. Team B, second half.

New volunteers will be paired and receive help from current volunteers. Scheduling is done through the church office with advanced notice to volunteers for easier planning.

The opportunity to help our neighbors, to share our bounty, is a worthy effort. For more information please visit [www.gslc-cu.org/members/volunteer.php](http://www.gslc-cu.org/members/volunteer.php).
Eat Smart for Your Hart  
Notes from the GSLC Parish Nurses

Heart healthy diet is important for keeping your cholesterol and blood pressure at safe levels. Do you have a diagnosis of elevated cholesterol or blood pressure or know family or friends who do? We need to keep our heart and blood vessels healthy.

New discoveries, when it comes to heart healthy foods, is continually available. How can we tell Fact from Fiction?

**Fact or Fiction:** Can eating whole grain foods lower your risk of heart disease?

**Fact or Fiction:** Are vegetarian diets always heart healthy?

**Fact or Fiction:** Are trans-fat-free foods healthier for you?

**Fact or Fiction:** If you have high blood pressure, should you stop using salt?

**Fact or Fiction:** Is coconut oil a healthy type of fat?

The answers these questions will be in the next Scroll, November, 2018, and posted on the bulletin board in church narthex after the October, 2018, issue is distributed to the congregation.

Good Luck with your answers! Or, if you just can’t wait for answers, email swr4007@aol.com and I will send you an attachment to your email. -- Sandy

**Good Shepherd Exercise Group**

*Right Here in Our Fellowship Hall!*

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday**

8:00am

This group has been meeting at our church continually for 38 years. All three days utilize music, and hand weights. Some days chairs, stretch bands, and core training balls may be used. Everyone works at their own pace and no one is too fast or too slow.

Mondays and Wednesdays have low-impact aerobics, core strengthening, balance training, some floor positions.

Friday is chair day, with the activity mostly seated. Stretching, endurance, strengthening, balance training.

All adults welcome, both male and female. $4 per session

Come try our group, we truly enjoy our time together. For questions, contact Myrna Johnson at 305-5668.

**DAILY BREAD YOGA**

**Gentler Beginning Yoga:** Mondays, Oct. 8 - Nov. 10, 7-8:15pm @ Wesley United Methodist Church

**Saturday Morning Retreat:** Oct. 13, 9am at noon @ Philo Presbyterian Church

**Yoga & Your Spine with My Chiropractor!** (donation-based class) Wed. Oct. 25, 6:30-8pm @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Questions? Contact Rachel at rachel@dailybreadyoga.life.
Church Staff
Pastor…………………………………...Thomas Hillertz
Pastor Emeritus…………....Edward D. Schneider
Youth & Family Minister.................Jason Fisher
Office Manager..........................Yvona Vlach
Parish Worker...........................Marilyn Dudley
Parish Media Intern.....................Mary Corkery
Treasurer.................................Dana VanDeveer-Jones
Organist.................................Linda Pein
Choir Director............................Emilie Williams
Parish Nurses............................Sandy Rueter
Elizabeth Kakoma
Celeste Coverdill

Office Hours
Mon-Thu: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
(lunch hour: noon—12:30 pm)
Fridays: 8:00 am to Noon

Scroll Deadline
The deadline for the November Scroll is Friday, October 19.

Bulletin/Announcements Deadline
Wednesday at noon, each week.

Come Worship the Lord!
Weekly Morning Service:
Sundays at 9 am
(with Holy Communion)

Next Evening Service (Evensong):
Sunday, October 14th
5:30-6:30pm  Potluck supper
6:30-7pm  Evensong Service

Mark Your Calendar!
➢ Thoughtful Thursdays
  6-7:30pm October 4, 11, & 18, led by Jason Fisher
➢ The Pumpkins Are Coming!
  Friday, October 5, 5pm, GSLC parking lot
➢ Annual Pet Blessing
  Sunday, October 7, 4pm
➢ Blood Pressure Screening
  Sunday, October 14, following worship
➢ Potluck & Evensong Worship
  October 14 — 5:30pm potluck, 6:30pm worship
➢ CROP Walk
  October 14, 2pm, Faith United Methodist Church
➢ WELCA Fall Retreat
  October 19-20
➢ LWR InGathering
  Friday, October 26, 2pm, GSLC parking lot
➢ Reformation Sunday—Wear Red to Church!
  October 28

Annual Pet Blessing
Sunday, Oct. 7
4pm
All are welcome!

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.