



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

September 2015

Pastor's Message

“Appreciative Inquiry”

One of the workshops I attended at the Reconciling Works “Until all are Free” Assembly in Minneapolis was about “Creating the Beloved Community,” led by Pastor and jazz trumpet player Michael Cobbler. Cobbler grew up in the Bedford Stuyvesant neighborhood in Brooklyn and preached at Pastor Anita Hill’s “extraordinary” ordination in 2001 – and frankly is someone at whose feet I’d be delighted to sit for hours.

As part of his workshop, Cobbler outlined for us 8 steps of a community-building method called “Appreciative Inquiry.” It is particularly useful when a group is seeking to be more inclusive of folks who might be thought of as the “other” – those of a different age group, race, nationality, denomination, sexual orientation or gender identity. I thought they might be good for us to keep in mind as we continue our journey of faith together.

1. In every group, *something works*.
2. What we focus on becomes our reality. Is the church in decline or getting ready for new birth? We choose.
3. Reality is created in the moment; there are multiple realities. It is important to assume others have a different reality and to honor that.
4. The act of asking questions of the group influences the group’s present and future. The most important question is “tell me” – which puts one in the “gloriously risky” position of listening.
5. People have more confidence to travel to the future (unknown) when they carry parts of the past (known) with them.
6. If they carry parts of the past, they should be the best parts.
7. It is important to value differences. Not

just acknowledge or tolerate them, but value them. This has special challenges for those of us in majority cultures who tend to expect everyone to “be like us” rather than opening ourselves to new and different ways of being. (A great example of this is expecting the audience at a graduation to “withhold your applause until all the graduates’ names are read.” This is a typically European American cultural behavior - and is in stark contrast to the African American culture, which is noisy when it is joyful and doesn’t find it necessary to “hold back” when one is happy.

8. The language we use creates our reality. (See number 2, above).

Throughout our time together, Cobbler challenged us all to claim “the art of possibility”, to learn how to live a life which finds joy in possibility, knowing that each day will most likely go differently than we imagine.

I was inspired, encouraged, and enlightened, and hope that we can find ways to use this type of “appreciative inquiry” with one another and those with whom we engage as individuals and as a group.

Peace and love be with you all!

Pastor Daphne †

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 9/12 | “Crazy Stewardship Event” |
| 9/13 | Sunday School begins
Worship changes to 10:30am |
| 9/20 | Voters’ Meeting |
| 9/23 | Book Club |
| 9/24 | Council |

www.goodshepherdhamden.org/calendar

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Council Members
1/1/15—12/31/15

President	Lisa Ball-Goodrich
Vice-President	Linda Kapitan
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Joy	Marianne	CindyLu	Pam
Harold	Arnold	Catherine	Mike
Rex	Gertrude	Howard	Barbara
Barnes family	Linda & Darryl	Amanda	John

*Members of Good Shepherd who are homebound
Family and friends whom we name in our hearts
Military personnel
Pray for the mission of the church*



Pastor wall climbing on her recent vacation

NEW DIRECTORIES

A new congregational directory is in the works – complete with family photographs! Pastor Daphne has been taking “candid” shots over the years and most of our families have fairly recent group photos. Draft copies are available on the table in the narthex and in the fellowship hall. Please take a moment to check and see if all the information is correct. If you would like to have a more recent photograph included, please send a digital copy to Pastor Daphne at pdblogs@gmail.com, or bring in a print which she will scan and return!

September 13

* Sunday School starts *

* Worship begins at
10:30am *

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

The Music Director Search Committee is meeting at the beginning of September, and candidates will be interviewed and auditioned during the month. As with our last search, each candidate will accompany the liturgy, teach the choir an anthem, and interview with the committee. Feedback forms will be available for choir and congregation members to assist the committee with their recommendation to the Council.

Please pray for the candidates and the committee, that we will be able to have a new Director by the beginning of October.

THE BEAUTIFUL PLANTINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

We are so blessed that the Goodrich family has continued to maintain the plantings around the church which were initially David's Eagle Scout project. They have spent many hours watering, weeding, and planting. It's beautiful!

BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the Book Group will be on Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 pm at the parsonage. We are reading *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee.

New members are always welcome!



Following discussion of *To Kill A Mockingbird*

FELLOWSHIP

Thanks to everyone who volunteered and provided goodies for our fellowship hours this summer.

Upcoming events in the fall include an OctoberFest and a possible congregational hike! Stay tuned for more details.

Lisa Martinell, Fellowship

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

DATE	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	READER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
9/6	Nicholas Papa	Mary Lou Knoob	Barbara Kuslan	Goodrich family	Starr O'Connor
10:30am 9/13		Jonathan Goodrich	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Lisa Martinell John Downs	Liane Moreland
9/20	Aoife Weishedel	Paul O'Braonain	Ken Watson	Dottie Podgwaite Ken Watson	Chuddy Watson
9/27	Elizabeth Ingerson	John Downs	Barbara Kuslan	Sue Hartley James Learned	Starr O'Connor
10/4	Aidan Weishedel	Linda Kapitan	Linda Kapitan	Goodrich family	Liane Moreland

*If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please find a substitute, and make the change on the master schedule.
Thank you for your service!*

There are several opportunities for people to serve our congregation. We need at least one more reader and another person to serve on Altar Guild. See Pastor or Ken Watson if you are interested.



John, Jim, Pastor & Lisa enjoying the Rock Cats game

THANK YOU, JIM

While the rest of us have been enjoying our summer vacations, Jim Learned has been busy taking care of our property, including finishing the installation of the new sanctuary windows, fixing the forward ceiling fan in the sanctuary, creating “dutch doors” for the Blue Room so that our children can play safely, as well as coordinating the replacement of the parsonage porch roof, making sure our lawns are mowed (with help from Lisa Martinell, Reggie Chang and Jonathan Goodrich) and fixing/replacing our riding lawn mower. We are blessed and thankful!

FINANCIAL RESULTS THROUGH JULY, 2015

	2015	7/12 of 2015 BUDGET	Over (Under) BUDGET	Prior year Comparative 2014 through July
Receipts thru July	\$49,638	\$49,061	\$577	\$41,851
Expenses thru July	\$50,890	\$49,061	\$1,829	\$52,256
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$1,252)	\$0	(\$1,252)	(\$10,405)

Our total Operating giving for JUNE and JULY 2015 was \$7,725 and \$3,945 respectively for a total of \$11,670. Our expenses were \$7,358 and \$6,685 for a total of \$14,043 giving us a deficit of \$2,373 turning our prior surplus of \$1,122 into a deficit of \$1,252 . This compares to a deficit of \$10,405 last year. With a monthly budget of \$7,392 it appears that we will be short of budget with one week left in the month. An update thru August will be available at the September Voters Meeting .

John E. Downs, Treasurer



New member, Reggie, and Pastor

**“Bishop Hazelwood’s Crazy Stewardship
Event”**

September 12

9 am

All are invited!

Bishop Hazelwood will be at Good Shepherd on Saturday, September 12 at 9:00am to lead a 102 minute stewardship consultation for members of the council and *all interested congregation members*. He has held these consultations for congregations throughout the Synod as a way to encourage healthy stewardship and ministry support.

To prepare for the meeting Council members are reading the book ***Ask, Thank, Tell*** by Charles Lane (twice). Everyone else is welcome at the meeting whether or not you have read the book.

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

5-William & Sylvia Wakefield	62 years
6-Paul & Jodi O’Braonain	1 year
7-Ken & Chuddy Watson	47 years
15-Tom & Brenda Samal	36 years
25-James & Mary Lou Knoob	50 years

Birthdays

5-Leo Goodrich
 8-Richard Rosa
 9-Byron Dinkla
 9-Christine Edgar
 11-Katherine Chapman
 14-Kristine Knoob
 22-Kathy Dube'
 24-Jonathan Goodrich
 29-Michaela Rowold



Baptisms

Sheila Keating, Thomas Knoob, Tyler Knoob

**NARRATIVE LECTIONARY –
 The Gospel of Mark!**

We begin Year 2 of the Narrative Lectionary cycle on Sunday, September 13. (There are four years, one for each Gospel). We will hear of God’s acts in human history as told in the Hebrew Scriptures during the fall, beginning in the Garden of Eden and including stories about Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Ruth, David, Elijah, and Isaiah. Beginning the fourth Sunday of Advent, we hear the stories of Jesus’ birth (from the Gospel of Luke, since Mark does not mention the nativity of Jesus), and from the first Sunday after Christmas until Easter Sunday, we will follow the life of Christ as told in the Gospel of Mark.

The readings in September are:

September 13: Genesis 2:4b-25
 (Human beings in the Garden of Eden)

September 20: Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7
 (the birth of Isaac)

September 27: Genesis 32:22-30
 (Jacob wrestling with an angel)

Council Notes



Council met on 7/23. *(Council did not meet in August due to lack of quorum.)* Pastor has been making more home visits and connecting with area clergy. Bishop Eaton will be hosting a live web cast on 8/6 about racism. Pastor talked about Cathedral in the Night—worship services held outside all year long and then dinner served inside. The financial reports showed a small profit in June. *(The July report on page 5 shows a deficit.)* Jim has been busy replacing the ceiling fan in the sanctuary, working on the blue room door and working to keep the riding mower working. Council authorized the property committee to purchase a new one using capital improvement funds.



8/16/15 Brunch and cake for Tyler’s last day as our music director/organist

As called Christians responding to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20), we commit ourselves to nurturing the spiritual growth of our congregation by proclaiming the Gospel, bearing witness to God's saving grace, being stewards of the earth, and serving others, in our congregation, our community, and in all the world.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
MISSION STATEMENT**

Worship
Summer Worship Schedule
7/5/15—9/6/15
9:30am
Beginning 9/13
Worship 10:30am



THE STAFF

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