

August 2026



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The Shepherd's Staff

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Wrapped in Christ's Love: A New Swaddling Clothes Ministry at Good Shepherd

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When the angel announced the birth of our Savior to the shepherds, he gave them a remarkable sign: "You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). Those simple strips of cloth remind us that our Lord Jesus entered this world in humility, identifying Himself with those in need. He came so that all people might be wrapped in His love, grace, and salvation.

With that same love in mind, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is excited to introduce our **Swaddling Clothes Ministry** to our community. We hope and pray that God will bless this endeavor to show love and care to the people of Fort Dodge and surrounding areas.

Swaddling Clothes at Good Shepherd has been started to support families with young children by providing baby quilts, diapers, and wipes at no cost. Concordia Publishing House is supplying us with Christian children's books to share with the families. Whether a family is welcoming their first child, caring for growing little ones, or simply facing a difficult season, our desire is to offer practical help while sharing the compassion of Christ.

Everyone who walks through our doors will be welcomed with dignity, kindness, and respect. Our prayer is that this ministry becomes more than a place to receive material assistance—it will also be a place where people experience Christian care, encouragement, and the hope found in Jesus Christ.

Just as Jesus did not die only for some, but all, we too show that unconditional love. It does not matter where your income stands, or where you are in life. We invite our neighbors throughout the community to make use of this ministry whenever the need arises. There are no perfect families, only families who sometimes need a helping hand. We consider it a privilege to serve because Christ has first served us.

God started this to help those in need, and at the same time the help this ministry has received from our community is out of this world. If you would like to support the Swaddling Clothes Ministry, donations of baby quilts, diapers, and wipes will be welcomed. Volunteers are also welcome as we seek to care for our neighbors in Christ's name. This is an exciting time, and we welcome all who would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry God has put before us.

At Good Shepherd, we believe that God's love is meant to be shared. Just as the shepherds found the Christ Child wrapped in swaddling clothes, may all who come through this ministry encounter the love of the Savior who came into this world to save you.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Swaddling Clothes Ministry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

God's Blessings to you all
Pastor Nicholas Thackery

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JUNE ATTENDANCE AND OFFICIAL ACTS

	5 pm	9 am	Total
June 6-7	21	84	105
June 13-14	33	80	113
June 20-21	43	93	136
June 27-28	54	73	127
Communion			283

Transfers/Releases: None

Official Acts:

Burials: None
Baptism: None

Newsworthy Notes



Beacon of Hope Meal will be on Thursday, August 6th at 5pm. We will be cooking the meal here in the kitchen starting at 1:30 pm. If you would like to help, we would love to have you.

JOY Group

Please join us August 18th in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30am. We will be having a potluck this month. Invite a friend, bring a dish to pass and come have lunch with us at 11:30am.

Christian Management Meeting

Thursday, August 6th 5:30pm

**4 year old
Open House
w/Centers**

Wed 8/26
5-7pm



**3 year old
Open House
w/Centers**

Thurs 8/27
5-7pm

LWML NOTES

LWML Board

Will meet
Tuesday, August 4th at 6:30 pm



Board of Education

Meeting Wednesday, August 5th at 6:00pm

We are in need of volunteers to help with Sunday School.

Save the Date

Sunday, September 13th
Rally Day/First Day of Sunday School

Contact Roxanne Fevold, Pastor or the church office if interested in helping out.



OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us!

When: Sunday August 23rd, 10:30am
Where: Kennedy Park at the Bob Heun Shelter

Bring a lawn chair for the outdoor service and a dish to pass for the Potluck afterwards.

Produce Table:

The produce table is available now for you to share your fruits, veggies or other items. Donations are very much appreciated.

Thank you for your support!



Swaddling Clothes Drive Thru Donation Collection

When: Wednesday August 5th and Thursday August 6th
5:00-7:00pm

Where: Good Shepherd 1436 21st Ave N
Drive up to the Southwest Corner of the building by the Swaddling Clothes entrance.

What to bring: Diapers and Pull-Ups of all Sizes, Wipes, or Monetary donations

We will have people come to your vehicle to collect donations. Thank you in advance and thank you for supporting this important ministry!

C.I.A.

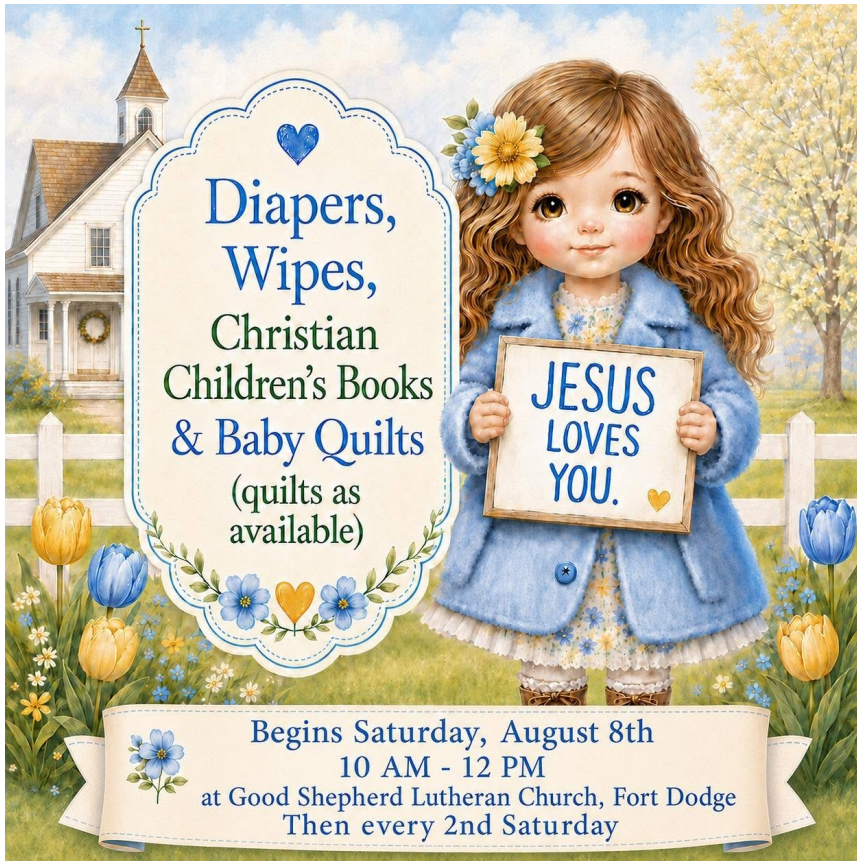
The C.I.A. will be having a Summer Fun day!

Sunday, August 2nd following the 9am service.

It will be held at Twin Lakes
(Hosted by the Kastendieck Family).

We will be having devotions, food, and lake fun.

If you have questions, please contact Tina Kastendieck.



Aug 2 - 7: FAMILY RETREAT II: Family Retreats are designed to provide families an experience that leads toward household & individual faith formation, *strengthening family relationships, and creating an environment for rest and relaxation.*

Aug 9: 9:00 AM WORSHIP: Rev. Dr. Kristopher Morris will lead our worship.

PERSONNEL: *I want to give a big "Kudos" to our Summer Staff this year. We are severely understaffed, and the staff we have are working so hard. Please continue to speak with high school and college youth in your communities and congregations about serving at Camp in the future. We need it to be a constant message amongst our congregations to ensure we have the staff in the future to properly support our mission and ministry!*

NEEDS/WANTS LIST: Sharing opportunities to assist Camp with specific items:

- Brooms
- Gas grills
- Laundry soap, bleach and hand soap
- Queen size mattress pads
- New commercial grade vacuums
- Thrivent Action Team Cards (contact Kel-lie Jones for potential projects; 712-337-3325)

Also, see our Amazon Wish List at:

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U3M>

Are you going away this summer but want to stay current with your weekly offering?

Make it easy with online giving.

It's easy to set up through the Vanco Mobile App on your device. You will need your banking information (routing number and account number) You can set up a recurring offering and choose weekly or once a month or just make a one time offering.

Use invite code **FNUVVB**

Go to your App store on your mobile device and search

Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement.

Download the app and get started today.



Interested in
Serving?
Scan this QR
Code!



Sunday, August 23rd – Kennedy Park:

- 10:30 AM – Outdoor Worship
- Followed by a Potluck (bring a dish!)
- All-day Games & Fellowship

Theme Verse: Psalm 34:8 – Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Come hungry for food, fun, and the goodness of God. Everyone is welcome!





August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5 pm-Divine Worship/HC
2 9:00 am Divine Worship/HC 10:30am-Swaddling Clothes Dedication C.I.A. Summer Fun Day at Twin Lakes after 9am service	3	4 9 am-Sewing 6:30pm-LWML Board Meeting	5 6:00pm-Board of Ed 5:00pm-7:00pm Swaddling Clothes Drive Thru Collection	6 7 am-Men's Bible Study 5pm-Beacon of Hope 5pm-7pm Swaddling Clothes Drive Thru Collection 5:30-Christian Man- agement	7 9:00am-Bible Study at Ardy's Mae	8 5 pm-Divine Worship/HC Swaddling Clothes Distribu- tion Day 10-12
9 9:00 am Divine Worship/HC 10:30 am-Adult Bible Study	10	11 9 am-Sewing 1:30 pm-Fr. Haven Comm.	12 5:00pm- Christian Out- reach	13 7 am-Men's Bible Study	14	15 5 pm-Divine Worship/HC
16 9:00 am Divine Worship/HC 10:30 am-Adult Bible Study	17	18 9 am-Sewing 11:30 am-JOY Group 6:30-Trustees 7:00-Council	19 10:30 am- Lamplighters	20 7 am-Men's Bible Study	21 9:00am-Bible Study at Ardy's Mae	22 5 pm-Divine Worship
23 9:00 am Divine Worship 10:30am Out- door Worship Kennedy Park *Potluck to follow 	24	25 9 am-Sewing 6:30 pm—Elders	26 LL Preschool 4 year old Open House w/Centers 5-7pm	27 7 am-Men's Bible Study LL Preschool 3 year old Open House w/Centers 5-7pm	28	29 5 pm-Divine Worship
30 9:00 am Divine Worship 10:30 am-Adult Bible Study	31 6:00pm- Health & Safety		**Swaddling Clothes Meet- ings TBD**			 September 7th

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

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We're on the web
www.goodshepfortdodge.org
Check us out on Facebook
Good Shepherd Fort Dodge



LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Define Your Life by How You Give
Originally Published in August 2023

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For, giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living have on us. When we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others?” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, nor do we become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the Divine Nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).