



# GOOD SHEPHERD

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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## A message from Pastor Quinn

### I Am the Gate

The “I Am” statements we will consider in April and May are closely related. In fact, Jesus uses two figures of speech in the same lesson to teach the people about his work, and the work of those who oppose him. Jesus calls himself the gate for the sheep, and, then, speaking in the same context he calls himself the good shepherd. This month we want to consider the first figure Jesus uses as he teaches in John chapter ten. What does Jesus mean when he says, “I am the gate?”

“I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10:1,7-10).

If somebody you know was coming over to your house you probably would expect them to come to the front door. Normally they would ring the doorbell or knock. Then you would answer and welcome them saying, “Come in.” If someone came to your house and tried to get into the locked window that person probably is not your friend or acquaintance. If the person had nothing to hide and his intentions for being at your house were good he would come through the front door, not climb in some other way. Your house is your safe haven. It’s a place where you have security. You control who comes in and who goes out.

The sheep pen is the safe place for the sheep. In Jesus’ day these pens were surrounded by walls to keep out predators—both animal and human. There

was generally one gate to the pen—one way in and one way out. No one who knew the sheep and had their best interests in mind would enter the pen by any other way than by the gate. The shepherd of the sheep would enter through the gate. The watchman would let that shepherd in by the gate. These were the people who cared about the sheep. Anyone who climbed the wall was there to hurt and harm, to kill and destroy—not to help and protect the sheep.

Jesus is the gate. He is the only way into the safety of the sheep pen. He is the only way that people come to salvation. He is the only opening to life lived to the fullest. Through Jesus we enter into God’s kingdom where we receive the nourishment that we need. In the fold with Jesus we receive the spiritual blessings that he has secured for us by his life, death and resurrection. Since Jesus is the gate he won’t let anyone harm us. No one can touch his sheep.

There are many who would want to, though. There are false teachers who only have their own interests in mind. They ignore the truths of God’s Word and how they apply to our lives. They try to get into our lives in any way but the gate, not so that they can help and protect us, but so they can kill and destroy us. Their teaching doesn’t bring the nourishment our souls so desperately need, but poison that leads to death. If we were left on our own we would be no match for these thieves and robbers. Just as a sheep has no natural defense against the predator, we have no natural defense against our spiritual enemies. What we do have is the gate—we have Jesus. Jesus will not let the enemies in. He will protect us and keep us safe. He does that protecting through his Word. When we are in his Word we are safe. When we know Jesus and his Word, we easily recognize those who are our enemies. Living in the safety of Jesus and his Word is life lived to the full. Life with Jesus has true meaning and an eternal future. That’s

the life that is ours because Jesus is the gate.

### Coming up in April

April 1	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday
April 2	7:30 pm	Tenebrae Service
April 4	7:00 am	Sunrise Service
	8:00 am	Easter Brunch
	9:30 am	Easter Festival
April 5	Easter Travel Day No LES	
April 6	LES Resumes	
April 11	Examination Sunday	
April 20	7:00 pm	Voters' Assembly
April 25	School Play	

### Voters' Assembly April 20, 2010

Our Voters' Assembly is designed to take care of the business end of Good Shepherd. Expenses, budgets, new programs initiated, the elimination of some programs—all have their beginning in the Voters' Assemblies. As a voter in the congregation you have an obligation to attend such meetings. If circumstances come up and you cannot attend, please excuse your absence to either of the pastors, the president of the congregation (Mike Krueger) or the Secretary of the congregation (Steve Umphrey) The April 20th meeting will begin at 7:00 pm and we hope to see you there.

### Easter

Holy Week begins March 28th with Palm Sunday followed by Maundy Thursday being celebrated April 1st with Holy Communion at 7:00 pm.. Please note that our Tenebrae Good Friday service will begin at 7:30 pm. Then on Easter morning we will have our Sunrise Service at 7 am followed by our Easter brunch. Our Easter Festival Service will begin at 9:30 am.

April 5, the day after Easter, has been set aside by the Board of Education as a travel day so those who have been out of town for the Easter holiday may have an extra day to arrive home. Accordingly there will be no LES on the Monday after Easter

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on that Monday, April 5th. Please see the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board to reserve the time you want to see your child's teacher. Thank you.

### Confirmation Coming Up!

April 11th will be Examination Sunday for the 2010 Confirmands. May 2 will be Confirmation Day for the following young people in our congregation:

Tosha Arthur  
Kiley Brandt  
Sarah Fournier  
Bailey Glessner  
Grace Johnson  
Evan Marquardt  
Liam Pretzer  
Jessica Riggs  
James Westphal

May 9 will be Mother's Day this year and we will also be honoring our new confirmands with cake and punch in the fellowship hall between the 8 o'clock and the 10:45 am worship service. The congregation is invited to participate in this very special welcoming opportunity to greet and congratulate the new members into our communion fellowship

On May 9th we will also have a guest preacher, Pastor Dustin Sievert from Martin Luther College. He will preach and also present at Bible Class. Come and learn about our college of ministry and the important work they carry out at Martin Luther College.

**We serve others in love.**

### Our Shut-Ins

Please see your copy of the newsletter or call our church office for information about our shut-ins.

## We study God's Word

### Scripture Readings for April 2010

#### April 1 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-14  
Psalm 116  
Hebrews 10:15-25  
Luke 22:7-20

#### April 2 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Psalm 22  
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
John 19:17-30

#### April 4 Easter Dawn

Isaiah 12:1-6  
Psalm 30  
1 Corinthians 15:51-57  
John 20:1-18

#### April 4 Easter Day

Exodus 15:1-11  
Psalm 118  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Luke 24:1-12

#### April 11 Easter 2

Acts 5:12, 17-32  
Psalm 16  
Revelation 1:4-18  
John 20:19-31

#### April 18 Easter 3

Acts 9:11-19a  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 5:11-14  
John 21:1-14

#### April 25 Easter 4

Acts 13:15, 16a, 26-33  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

Here are the birthdays and anniversaries for April. If you would like to be included in Good Shepherd's roster, please check with Pam Krueger (835-9467).

#### Birthdays in April are:

April 10	Brian Marquardt
April 10	Nathan Lehman
April 10	Michael Pifher
April 12	Mike Krueger
April 12	Erica Lindesmith
April 13	Gale Krueger
April 15	Laura Cummings
April 15	Daniel Pifher
April 18	Nick Ross
April 19	Jill Butler
April 19	Sarah Pretzer
April 20	Alyssa Scherzer
April 23	Matt Beyersdorf
April 26	Tommy Ross
April 30	Richard Arbury

#### April anniversaries:

April 13	Steve & Leanne Hocquard
April 14	Mike & Pam Krueger
April 27	Don & Dana Schwab
April 29	Tom & Lisa Ross

### Volunteers

Could you volunteer to help with some of the many things that need to be done at Good Shepherd? No organization can function without a certain amount of volunteer time and churches, in particular, rely heavily on volunteers to fill in the corners for various projects. Folding church bulletins, listening to children read, being Picture Lady or Picture Dad, doing the Crusader Connection, and doing copy work for the teachers are just some of the things that volunteers are doing currently at Good Shepherd. If you are available for a couple of hours each week, or even once a month, please call the office at 835-4181 and see if there's something that you can help out with.

## **Eighth Grade Graduation**

June 6th will be graduation day for our eighth graders. This year our graduates will be:

Tosha Arthur  
Kiley Brandt  
Sarah Fournier  
Bailey Glessner  
Grace Johnson  
Liam Pretzer  
Jessica Riggs  
James Westphal

Congratulations to all eight. Our congregation is so proud of you!

## **Capital Gains and Offerings**

If the Lord has blessed you with stock investments which have increased in value and for which you would have capital gains tax to pay, it is possible to give the appreciated stock as an offering. Good Shepherd would not have to pay tax on the gain. If given as a stock, you would not have to pay capital gains tax either.

Good Shepherd has an account with Scottrade into which your stock offering could be transferred. If you desire more information about the Good Shepherd account you can contact either pastor. Be sure to also check with your accountant for any other tax implications.

## **Remember Me**

When you remember me, it means that you have carried something of who I am with you, that I have left some mark of who I am on who you are. It means that you can summon me back to your mind even though countless years and miles may stand between us. It means that if we meet again, you will know me. It means that even after I die, you can still see my face and hear my voice and speak to me in your heart.

For as long as you remember me, I am never entirely lost. When I'm feeling most ghost-like, it is your remembering me that helps remind me that I actually exist. When I'm feeling sad, it's my consolation. When I'm feeling happy, it's part of why I feel that way. If you forget me, one of the ways I remember who I am will be gone. If you forget, part of who I am will be gone.

Frederick Buechner

## **Choir**

The choir at Good Shepherd needs more members. It is always a pleasure to hear the choir sing and if you have been blessed with a good singing voice and the time, why not volunteer and share your talent? If committing to an every week schedule at the present time isn't feasible, would you be able to make practices for special events such as the Easter and Christmas seasons? If you think you might be interested, please contact Amy Lindesmith, our choir director.

## **Chapel of the Christ**

To God's glory  
And for the welfare of his Church

Martin Luther College cordially invites you to celebrate with them at the dedication services on April 10 and April 11 of the Chapel of the Christ.

Saturday, April 10, 2010 Schedule:

11:15-11:45	Children's Choir Mini-concert
1:00-3:00	Organ Open Console Walking History of Campus Worship History of Christian Art & Architecture
1:00-3:00	WELS Ministerial Education
4:30-6:00	<i>Solus Christus</i> Art Exhibit Opening Campus Tours
7:00	Chapel Dedication Service
8:30	Chapel of the Christ Art & Furnishings Chapel of the Christ Pipe Organ

Sunday, April 11, 2010 Schedule:

2:30	Chapel Dedication Service
4:00	Chapel of the Christ Pipe Organ

To reserve your seat(s) for one of the dedication services, please call Michelle Gartner at 877.MLC.1995 or email her at [gartneml@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:gartneml@mlc-wels.edu).

Chapel of the Christ seats about 1000. A reservation ensures that you will have a seat for the service you choose. A Saturday evening service has been added for those coming from a distance. If you need handicap access, please let them know, and they will be happy to assist you.

*Because it was in your heart to build a temple  
for my Name, you did well to  
have this in your heart.  
2 Chronicles 6:8*