



Woodlawn Ev. Lutheran Church

2217 S. 99th Street
West Allis, WI 53227
414-321-2126

Pastor Thomas W. Kneser * Pastor Benjamin B. Wessel

April 30, 2020

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This weekend's lessons focus on Jesus as the "**Good Shepherd.**" Though hardly any of us here in Wisconsin have much familiarity in dealing with sheep, the Bible's use of this picture provides us with a great deal of comfort. Psalm 23 is a favorite for many Christians. One of its themes is of God providing for us, his sheep, "I shall lack nothing... You set a table for me... My cup is overflowing..." These phrases lead us to remember all the physical gifts we have from him, even when there is an economic downturn. Then there are all the spiritual blessings – restoration for our souls through Christ's righteousness; fear removed in the face of death; the promise that we will live in the house of the Lord forever. As you watch our online service this weekend, you will also be reminded that our God protects us, using "his rod and staff" – the precious promises of his Word – to ward off our spiritual enemies and to preserve us in our faith until we reach our home in heaven. Read Psalm 23, study John 10:1-18, sing hymns 360, 374 and 375, all of which emphasize these thoughts. Then continue to follow our Good Shepherd.

Teachers and students of our **Lamb of God school** continue to work hard in order to provide a Christian education as part of our ministry. The School Board meets next week to determine how to conduct a "virtual" graduation for the five 8th grade students.

Northwestern Publishing House is offering a free digital copy of the May issue of "**Forward In Christ**" magazine for both subscribers and non-subscribers. FIC is the synod's official magazine. Just hover your mouse over the following words, **free digital access** press the Ctrl key (the cursor becomes a hand) and click. Then follow the instructions. Do you know someone who could benefit from spiritual comfort right now? This is the perfect time to share with them the strength from God's Word found in *Forward in Christ*.

Update on Evelyn Bauer: she was discharged from the hospital after the surgery to remove a blood clot from her foot. She is now back at the Lutheran Home (76th and North Ave.) for a few weeks of rehab.

For the kids, Pastor Kneser is recording a new Children's Chapel message. It should be posted sometime on Friday, May 1, so check out the website under videos.

Finally, you can still join our **Wednesday Bible Class**. We are studying 1 Samuel. Attendance has averaged around 30. Just let one of the pastors know you would like to be in on the video conference and we will send you the materials and the link to get on. Classes are at 3:00 and 7:00pm. Even if you do not have a camera on your computer you can still participate. You will be able to see and hear the teacher and other class members, and even type in your comments and questions. Pastor Wessel is the one to ask for answers to your technical questions about it.

That's all for now. Stay safe, and God's blessings to all of you!

Pastor Kneser and Pastor Wessel