

THE SHEPHERD'S LOVE

New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Church • 315 Main Ave South • New York Mills, MN 56567 Vol 3 No. 37

From the Pastor's Desk

August 2023



"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ."

"Whom do men say that I the son of man am?" Jesus asks his disci-

ples. There is a lot to be learned by the response. There are many today who would answer the same way the disciples report. How often have you heard people say something to the effect of "Jesus was a good moral teacher but he wasn't God."

It's common to hear that today. People concede that Jesus had some really good teachings. C.S. Lewis, the prominent author and theologian, argued against this idea in his radio show that was later published into a book entitled "Mere Christianity". I encourage everyone to pick it up and read it. Lewis rightly points out that calling Jesus a good moral teacher but denying His divinity is quite foolish. He states "*I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you*

can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. ... Now it seems to me obvious that He was neither a lunatic nor a fiend: and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God"

-C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, London: Collins, 1952, pp. 54–56.

Lewis captures the real miracle behind Peter's response. Jesus asks "Who do you say that I am?" And God reveals to Peter the correct answer "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God". Jesus doesn't leave room for any other view. He can't simply be a prophet or a teacher. He can only be God, try as we might on our own devices, this truth is only revealed to us by God Himself.

So who do you say that He is? May our lives of faith reflect our response to this most important of questions. Jesus was God and He died for all of our sins. May God continue to give us the faith to believe and confess this before Men.

God'sPeace,
Nicholas Kandoll



The Scandinavian Group

The group singing HEMMA I HIMLEN, which means HOME IN HEAVEN at church and they sang several songs at the convention. They spent 3 nights in Kingston, MN; 3 nights in Lake Norden, SD; 5 nights in New York Mills and at the convention and 3 nights in Spruce Grove, MN.

Psalms 92:1-2 "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To show forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night."

We are so thankful to the Lord for providing all the help that was needed to host the Convention. He did it every morning, all day and even at night. Thank you to all who so faithfully served in the kitchen, with cleaning and garbage, technology and internet, registration, music and song leaders, advertising and signs, lodging, youth group, announcements, nursery, first aid, scripture and prayers, ushers and collection, parking, communion and those who helped with the Scandinavian group. It took all of you to get it done.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the New York Mills Convention. We thank the New York Mills School for all the wonderful support they gave us. Let us all give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

With Love and God's Blessings!

Jim and Elma Keskitalo

The family of Beatrice Muckala would like to thank Pastor Nick for his his message and organization of Mom's funeral. We appreciated Rev Don Salo's message and Rev Andy Tumberg's readings of the Footprints poem. The members who worked in the kitchen were greatly appreciated. Thank you, also, for the many greetings and messages from our fellow congregants. Your words and gifts meant a great deal. All gifts in Mom's name were donated to the Church, Woodland Cemetary and the Senior Citizen Center.

Also, this poem was shared with us, and I think it is a good one for anyone who is grieving a loved one.

A Death Has Occurred

by Paul Irion

A death has occurred and everything is changed.

We are painfully aware
that life can never be the same again,
that yesterday is over, that relationships once rich have ended.

But there is another way to look upon this truth.

If life now went on the same,
without the presence of the one who has died,
we could only conclude that the life we remember
made no contribution, filled no space, meant nothing.

The fact that this person left behind a place
that cannot be filled

is a high tribute to this individual.
Life can be the same after a trinket has been lost,
but never after the loss of a treasure.

From the book, Remembering with Love by Elizabeth Levang, PhD and Sherokee Ilse, Fairview Press, 1992.

The Ninety and Nine. 59

Furnished by IRA D. SANKEY. P. P. B.

1. There were ninety and nine that safe · ly lay In the
shel-ter of the fold, But one had wandered far a way,
In the des-ert so lone and cold; A way on the mountains
wild and bare, A way from the Shepherd's tender care; ten der care.

2 Shepherd, hast thou not here thy
ninety and nine;
Are they not enough for thee?
But the Shepherd replied, "This one
of mine,
Has wandered away from me;
The way may be wild and rough and
steep,
I go to the desert to find my sheep."

3 But none of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed,
Nor how dark was the night the Lord
passed through

Ere he found the sheep that was lost.
Away in the desert he heard its cry,
So feeble and helpless and ready to die.

4 And afar up the mountain, thunder
riven,
And along the rocky steep,
There arose the glad song of joy to
heaven,
"Rejoice, I have found my sheep!"
And the angels echoed around the
throne,
"Rejoice, for the Lord brings back his
own!"

It was in the year 1874 that the poem "The Ninety and Nine" was discovered, set to music, and sent out upon its world-wide mission. Its discovery seemed as if by chance, but I cannot regard it other-wise than providential. Mr. Moody had just been conducting a series of meetings in Glasgow, and I had been assisting him in his work as director of the singing. We were at the railway station at Glasgow and about to take the train for Edinburgh, whither we were going upon an urgent invitation of ministers to hold three days of meetings there before going into the Highlands. We had held a three months' series in Edinburgh just previous to our four months' campaign in Glasgow. As we were about to board the train I bought a weekly newspaper for a penny. Being much fatigued by our incessant labors at Glasgow, and in-tending to begin work immediately upon our arrival at Edinburgh, we did not travel second or third class, as was our custom, but sought the seclusion and rest which a first-class railway carriage in Great Britain affords. In the hope of finding news from America, I began perusing my lately purchased newspaper.

This hope, however, was doomed to disappointment, as the only thing in its columns to remind an American of home and native land was a sermon by Henry Ward Beecher.

I threw the paper down, but shortly before arriving in Edinburgh I picked it up again with a view to reading the advertisements. While thus engaged, my eyes fell upon a little piece of poetry in a corner of the paper. I carefully read it over, and at once made up my mind that this would make a great hymn for evan-gelistic work—if it had a tune. So impressed was I that I called Mr. Moody's attention to it, and he asked me to read it to him. This I proceeded to do with all the vim and energy at my command. After I had fin-ished I looked at my friend Moody to see what the effect had been, only to discover that he had not heard a word, so absorbed was he in a letter which he had received from Chicago. My chagrin can be better imagined than described. Notwithstanding this ex-perience, I cut out the poem and placed it in my musi-cal scrap-book—which, by the way, has been the seed-plot from which sprang many of the Gospel songs that are now known throughout the world.

At the noon meeting on the second day, held at the Free Assembly Hall, the subject presented by Mr. Moody and other speakers was "The Good Shepherd." When Mr. Moody had finished speaking, he called upon [Dr. Bonar](#) to say a few words. He spoke only a few minutes, but with great power, thrilling the immense audience by his fervid eloquence. At the conclusion of Dr. Bonar's words Mr. Moody turned to me with the question, "Have you a solo appropriate for this subject, with which to close the service?" I had noth-ing suitable in mind, and was greatly troubled to know what to do. The Twenty-third Psalm occurred to me, but this had been sung several times in the meeting. I knew that every Scotchman in the audience would join me if I sang that, so I could not possibly render this favorite psalm as a solo. At this moment I seemed to hear a voice saying: "Sing the hymn you found on the train!" But I thought this impossible, as no music had ever been written for that hymn. Again the impression came strongly upon me that I must sing the beautiful and appropriate words I had found the day before, and placing the little newspaper slip on the organ in front of me, I lifted my heart in prayer, asking God to help me so to sing that the people might hear and understand. Laying my hands upon the organ I struck the key of A-flat, and began to sing.

After this experience, Sankey sent the text to his colleague [P.P. Bliss](#) in Chicago. Whether Sankey sent a sketch or description of his new tune is unclear, but Bliss wrote his own version and published it in his *Gospel Songs* (1874 | Fig. 2), which was released in late November or early December. Bliss's tune has not endured.

Church Information

Apostolic Lutheran Church
315 Main Ave South
New York Mills, MN 56567

Pastor Nicholas Kandoll
Cell: 218-316-1365
Church: 218-385-2166

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-noon

Church Website
www.nymalc.org
View live or archived services

Federation Website
www.apostoliclutheran.org

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If you want to be added or removed from our mailing list please contact me. All newsletter items to be considered can be emailed to me at the above address by the 20th of each month.

Echoes of Mercy
Radio Broadcast
920 AM KWAD

Sunday mornings
English at 8:05 am

*Sponsored by
New York Mills, Spruce Grove
and Menahga Apostolic
Lutheran Churches*

Worship Hours

Worship @ 10 on Sundays

If you choose to watch the services online and would like to donate to the church please send checks to:

Louise Amberg-Jokela

206 South Broadway #107 New York Mills, MN 56567.

Thank you to everyone that has taken the time to send contributions. It is greatly appreciated!

Meals/potluck, will be served on the
first Sunday
Group 8 in August
Group 9 in Sept

The serving group will make the main dishes for **potlucks** (unless announced otherwise) and others are asked to bring salads or desserts.

There is a sign up sheet for Sunday coffee in the dining room.



NYM Emergency Food Shelf

FOR EMERGENCY HELP CALL NYM
CULTURAL CENTER 218-385-3339

CONNIE WARNER

218-385-2853 (work)

218-385-3669 (home)

TERESA MUCKALA

763-843-3269

KAY TOUGAS

218-298-0272

ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION:

400 S WALKER AVE

NYM MN

FOOD SHELF HOURS

HOURS 9-NOON & 4:30-6:30

June 26, 2023

July 31, 2023

August 28, 2023

Sept 25, 2023

Usage limit 1 time

per month