

Here's what's happening at Good Shepherd!



## January 2017 Newsletter

[www.goodshepherdlink.org](http://www.goodshepherdlink.org)

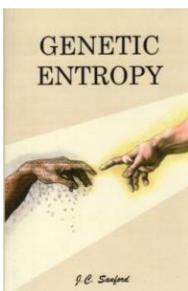
In addition to visiting the Good Shepherd's website, if you are on social media, you might want to visit and "like" both Good Shepherd's Facebook page and the Facebook page for Lifetree Café Circle Pines."

If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter and other news from Good Shepherd via e-mail, please go to [www.goodshepherdlink.org](http://www.goodshepherdlink.org) and "join our e-mail list" or contact the church office.

**Happy New Year!!!!** One more year, one more turn of the calendar. We have just celebrated the coming our Savior as a little baby in the manger and we are now bravely taking on the challenges and blessings of a new year.

One of the blessings of the New Year is using the gifts that were given during this season of giving. This is true for Good Shepherd also. Last year, a member of our congregation had a gift card to a book store and wondered if there were any books that could be bought and donated to the library. And so I recommended several books, which have been given to the church for that purpose (thanks Doug). I would like to highlight these books over the next few months so that you may be aware of some of the resources we have available to us.

A 3D rendering of the year "2017" in red, with the numbers "2016" in white below it, suggesting the transition from the old year to the new one.



This month's book is "**Genetic Entropy**"

by Dr. John Sanford.

I requested this book, because it's about a topic very near and dear to my heart. It's about genetics! In fact, the author was a scientist of whom I had indirect relationship with before I became a pastor. The company that I worked for used one of his inventions. John started out as an atheist in academia, then through logic and reasoning (and the help of the Holy Spirit) became a Christian, and eventually a young earth Christian believing in a literal 6 day creation less than 20,000 years ago.

This book presents an argument that was instrumental in convincing John that the classic theory of evolution did not make any sense, which moved him in the direction of a creation by God. What classical evolution tells

us is that the human race and other species are constantly getting better and more advanced as we evolve into higher 'beings'. The story is promoted by cartoon and movies like XMen and Spiderman, where people mutate and receive some higher power.

But what John saw in the real world was biological and genetic decay. Mutations don't improve the population; they decrease the fitness of the population. It fits with the biblical idea that the world was created perfect, and then fell into decay. Mutations are mostly neutral or bad, and as they accumulate, the overall population becomes LESS healthy.

This decay theory fits the real world data so much better (which suggest classic evolution theory is not true). Organic foods are so popular in the world today, because chemicals are perceived as bad. How are they bad? They create mutations. But wait, aren't mutations going to make us evolve into something better? Everyone intuitively knows that to be incorrect. Mutations are not desirable, and it takes a crooked twist of logic to argue that all forms of life come from this process.

In his book, John gives estimates of mutations going on in the human population today, and explains why so many diseases seem to be on the increase in these last few generations. The book is semi technical, but I think that many of you would be able to understand the main ideas and benefit from it. It should provide a great resource to share with skeptics and non-believers, and it will also provide some insight into the genetic future of the human race. Check it out!

In His Service,

Pastor Ted

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## WINGS Bake and Craft Sale Update!

A big thank you to everyone who donated, shopped, helped set-up and take-down for the annual WINGS Craft and Bake Sale held in December.

We are happy to announce that we cleared \$1,820. With the proceeds we have purchased the Alb (long white robe) and accessories for our seminary student; purchase \$500 "Giving Tree" gift cards; and will be able to continue updating our altar paraments as needed.

Again, thank you so much for your support!

If you have any questions, please contact Charlene Behne, WINGS Chairperson, at 763-784-8320.

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## The Giving Tree

A warm THANK YOU to everyone who generously donated gift card through the "Giving Tree." These cards will go to families in need within our congregation and our community now and throughout the year.



# Couples Weekend Get-Away

## Register early for the BOGO offer!



*Wouldn't it be great if "Happily Ever After" really were the end of the story?*

**Good Shepherd is sponsoring an opportunity for all couples to experience Family Life's... "A Weekend to Remember" get-away.**

### What is it?

A Weekend to Remember is an opportunity for you and your spouse to get away from life's distractions and just focus on each other. This gives you opportunities to talk about things you would not otherwise discuss that are important for developing, maintaining, or growing your relationship. You have the chance to listen to gifted speakers talk about things that every couple faces, learn time-tested tools to help strengthen your marriage and hear real-life stories from the speakers about their own marriages.

Our marriage is fine why should we go?

Great marriages require intentionality and investment-just like a garden that must be watered in order to grow. "We have attended multiple events. ... Every time ... we have come away refreshed. We always learn something new about our spouses and ourselves." (married 10+ years)

### Does it work?

WOW! So much more beneficial than I ever could have imagined. We left our 5 children at home to come and rediscover one another. The tools we were given, the sessions, the projects, are the most useful tools we've been given in 17 years of marriage. Our marriage has been ignited! - Married 17 years, Sunriver, OR

This event was definitely life changing. My marriage could have been completely over and this weekend literally saved it. The timing was a God given miracle. Thank you so much to all the speakers and the entire staff at FamilyLife. - Married 23 years, Tulsa, OK

### When and where is it?

Friday, March 3rd, 2017 (7pm, registration begins at 5pm) through Sunday, March 5th, 2017 (12:15)  
Minneapolis Marriott City Center, 30 S 7th St, Minneapolis, MN 55402-1601

### How much does it cost?

Conference - \$149 per person - **BOGO special \* (with this discount the cost is \$149.00 per couple)**

**\*\*\* Starting Monday, January 2 through January 23, any couple who registers for "Weekend to Remember" using your group name, GSistilldo, can attend for half the price!**

Hotel - \$114 per night - please make your own reservations

Parking - \$9 per day

Meals - not included in conference fee

### How do I register?

Register online AT:

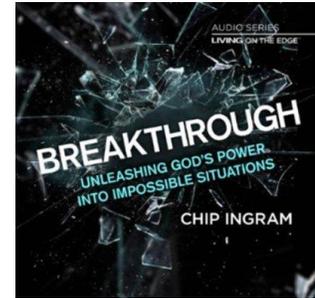
**[https://shop.familylife.com/p-4633-minneapolis.aspx?utm\\_campaign=Events](https://shop.familylife.com/p-4633-minneapolis.aspx?utm_campaign=Events)**

"Happily Ever After" is possible with God's help. Give the gift of love to each other for 2017! (You can also send another couple - your children, grandchildren - as well.)

For more information go to [www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember](http://www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember). If you have questions and would like to talk to someone from Good Shepherd's Family Ministry leadership team please contact Ann Wellmann at (651)-717-0056 or Carrie Hoshaw at 763-784-8417 or [carrie@goodshepherdlink.org](mailto:carrie@goodshepherdlink.org).

# Wednesday Evening Cross-Generational Bible Study

New Wednesday Evening Bible Study...  
*Breakthrough with Chip Ingram*



Everyone 9th grade through adult are invited to take part in this Wednesday night Bible Study opportunity beginning January 4, 6:00-7:30 pm.

What do you do when a circumstance or relationship in your life is so hard, so big, so overwhelming that it truly seems impossible? You may be struggling with a relationship, an addiction, a lie you believe, a painful event in your past or a difficult work environment. Regardless of what it is, you desperately need God to dramatically intervene in your life. Sound familiar?

Here's an essential truth. Breakthrough is not something we sit around and wait for. It happens when we trust God to supernaturally accomplish the impossible! In this series, Chip Ingram shares how to take the first steps toward spiritual breakthrough so you can unleash God's supernatural power in your home, relationships, and workplace.

Breakthrough will meet 6-7:30 PM on Wednesdays (January 4 -February 22) in the Lifetree Café area. A sign-up sheet is available in the church lobby. Childcare provided for children (ages infant to 5th grade) of those adults attending. Please prayerfully consider joining us for this important DVD Study.

Contact our facilitators, Gary Hoshaw at (612) 990-0390 or Ann Wellmann at (651)-717-0056 if you have any questions.

10 Sessions including:

- Unleashing God's Power into Impossible Situations
- Making Room for a Breakthrough
- Courage - The Catalyst to Breakthrough
- The Birthplace of Breakthroughs

What's Next? Making Breakthrough Your "New Normal"

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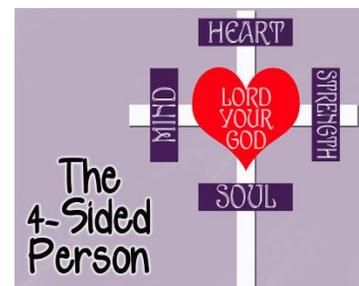
## First Place 4 Health

**Spiritual Health Bible Study Group starting  
Wednesday, January 11.**

First Place 4 Health is a Spiritual Bible Study group that focuses on whole body health. A new study will start on January 11 at 9:30 am in the lower level Conference Room B. We will meet every Wednesday morning for 12 weeks. Our winter study is called "Moving Forward Together", it will teach you how to be free from the past, handle day to day pressure in the present and move forward to the future God has planned.

Come to learn more about this study and to meet our group.

Any questions? Please contact Lisa Ost at 651-484-9337; Cathy Netland; Darlene Sandbakken; or Lissa Marcello.



## Lifetree Cafe

**Tuesdays at 7:00 pm and  
Thursdays at 10:30 am**



- Week of January 1 - *"Be Yourself"* - Everyone else is taken.
- Week of January 8 - *"Playing God"* - Is science going too far?
- Week of January 15 - *"Losing a Loved One to Alzheimer's"* - A daughter's dilemma.
- Week of January 22 - *"Why Did I Survive?"* - Questions from natural disasters and other scrapes with death.
- Week of January 29 - *"Confronting Evil"* - One man takes a stand.

Please invite your friends and acquaintances. Fliers are available at the display outside the church sanctuary. We're also on Facebook!

If you have any questions, please contact: Carrie Hoshaw, Darlene & Marty Leiding, or Ann Wellmann.

Reminder: Host and Friendship Teams, please arrive one hour early.

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## Men's Bible Study

***The Reason for God***  
by Timothy Keller

The Men's Bible Study has begun this 6-part DVD series and any men in the congregation are encouraged to join them at any time. They meet in the conference room in the lower level.

Selected dates:

- January 9 & 23; February 6 & 20; March 13



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## Breakfast, Bibles, & Blessings

**Saturday, January 28 - 9:00-11:30 am**

Ladies, please join us for a morning of delicious food and beverages, warm fellowship (with the fireplace going!) and an informal Bible study with discussion time. You will certainly be blessed!



Visit the display in the church lobby in January for more information and invitations. All women are welcome, and we encourage you to invite others to attend as well. If childcare is needed, please register so we can be properly staffed.

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## Women's In-Depth Bible Study

Our current study is called "DAVID: Seeking a Heart Like His." This Bible study is focused on the life of David and his relationship with God, by Beth Moore.

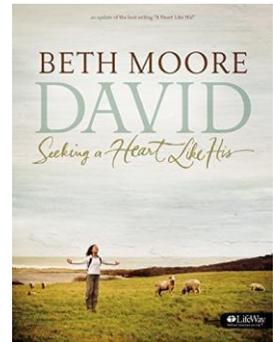
In-Depth Bible Study meets on select **Monday evenings, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the lower level of the church.** DVD lessons, discussion time and prayer round out this deep study of God's Word. The workbook homework takes you even deeper into the Scriptures throughout the week.

These are amazing lessons that will personally apply to your own faith journey and you will grow, no matter where you are on the path~ just beginning to walk with the Lord, or far, far along on your journey.

Whether you just come a time or two in order to check it all out, or you commit to the rest of the study you are welcome!

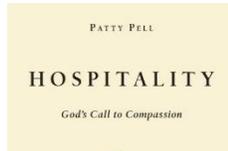
DATES:

- January 9 & 23
- February 6 & 20
- March 13



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## Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study

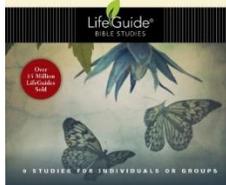


The Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study meet is the lower level Lifetree Cafe area from 9:30-11:00 am

January dates: 10, 17, 24, & 31

We will continue our study "Hospitality: God's Call to Compassion" by Patty Pell.

All women are welcome, whatever your Bible Study experience is. If you have any questions, please call Charlene Behne, 763-784-8320.



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## We're Making Soup Again!

January Soul Food pre and cook sign-up is available on the Welcome Center in the church lobby.

- **Friday, January 6: 5:30-7:30 pm** - chopping vegetables and measuring ingredients.
- **Saturday, January 7: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm** - cooking, packaging and freezing soups.

Teens through adults are welcome to help. If childcare is needed, please complete the registration so we can be properly staffed to care for children.

The Soul Food Ministry Team is designed to serve others with the love of our Lord Jesus.

Volunteers periodically gather together and prepare homemade soups. We then freeze them, so they can easily be delivered to individuals and families who could be blessed by the love-gift of a ready-made meal and a short visit. We also make soups for our congregational Soup Suppers.

If you know of someone who may be blessed by the love gift of a Soul Food meal delivery, please let us know. Also, if you have a heart to serve in this ministry or have any other questions, please contact Darlene Sandbakken at 763-780-4614 or Val Hicke at 763-780-8398.

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## Food Shelf Volunteers Needed from Good Shepherd



Good Shepherd volunteers take pride in the part they play in helping our local community food shelf in Circle Pines. We are in desperate need of volunteers from Good Shepherd to help serve once a month (Thursday). We are looking for at least 6 to 8 people to fill our team. Our goal is get a large team, that way you would only have to serve every other month.

Our new team lead from Good Shepherd is Darlene Leiding. If you have the heart and willingness to serve in this capacity, please contact Darlene at (651) 484-0119 or [drdleiding@comcast.net](mailto:drdleiding@comcast.net).

Here is some information on the Centennial Community Food Shelf:

The Food Shelf is a Christian ecumenical organization supported by the community and the following churches: Bridgewood Community Church, Church of St. Genevieve, Eagle Brook Church, Gethsemane United Methodist Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Living Faith Church, Living Waters Lutheran Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, St. Joseph Catholic Church, and St. Mark Lutheran Church.

Centennial Community Food Shelf and Powerpack would not operate without our approximately 150 volunteers who do all the things we need to run the Food Shelf and Powerpack.

### Volunteer Opportunities - Food Shelf

- Greeting clients (3:45-6:15 Mon & Thurs)
- Assist clients and carry groceries to their car (3:45-6:15 Mon & Thurs.) Note: we often need student groups to assist.
- Help with regular deliveries (2nd Harvest Heartland - every 2 weeks, Breads & Pastries weekly)
- Food Drive Organizer (times and dates vary)
- Holiday Basket setup and distribution (Saturday mornings one week before Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas).

## WINGS NEWS

**WINGS** (Women in God's Service) will meet on Saturday, January 21 at 9:00 am. We will begin with a light breakfast with the program and meeting to follow. We will be meeting for the winter on Saturday mornings. For those of you who would like to find out more about what we do and don't care to come out at night, come and join us that morning.



The program for the morning will be "Heavenly Treasure - Our Number One Priority" led by Ruth Halverson. Hostess will be Charlene Behne. Join us in the Lifetree Cafe area.

Please contact Charlene Behne with any questions at 763-784-8320.

We would like to thank everyone who helped set-up, clean-p, serve, and donated food for the funeral of Joshua West. It was greatly appreciated by the family and our women's group.

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## Quilting News

Join us as we continue to quilt for Lutheran World Relief and other purposes, and the make pillows for our soldiers.

No experience is required. Quilts are given to those who need encouragement and a reminder of how much they are loved and cared about by Jesus Christ and that He is always with them as they travel along life's journey.



If you would like to help or provide material, please contact Lissa Marcello at 763-783-3790 or just come on the designated Thursday evenings.

**January dates: 12, 19, & 26**

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Place: Lower level of church

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## Recycle your Aluminum Cans!

Thank you to everyone who contributed cans to the WING'S aluminum can drive this year! A check in the amount of \$125.00 has been forwarded to the Centennial Communion Food Shelf to assist people in our community in need. Thank you for making this possible! Keep savings cans for pick-up next spring!



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## Mom's Prayer International

Attention Centennial High School and Middle School Moms!

Do you worry about your children? Come experience God's peace and hope when you pray alongside other moms. Moms in Prayer International (formerly Moms In Touch), gathers moms together to pray for God to transform our children and schools. Won't you join with us in prayer for this next generation?



Please contact Leanne Abraham at 651-766-7442 or MIPICentennial@gmail.com for information about our local group. For more information about Moms in Prayer International visit [www.momsinprayer.org](http://www.momsinprayer.org).

# Monthly Prayer Gathering at Good Shepherd



Last Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm  
All are welcome!

Praying in daily life is as important as breathing. Just as we all need oxygen to live, we need God's presence in us for us to be fully alive.

"We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don't want to wait for God to resolve matters in His good time because His idea of 'good time' is seldom in sync with ours." Oswald Chambers, Scottish teacher, writer and minister, 1874-1917.



## Power of Prayer

*Do you have the heart to pray? Do you have compassion for others?*

If so, we are asking you to prayerfully consider being part of the Good Shepherd "Prayer Chain."

The power of prayer is an instrumental way to lift up your brothers and sisters in Christ who are requesting prayers. Good Shepherd invites and encourages you to be part of the Prayer Chain. This can be done in your own private prayer time.

These prayers would come from those submitted from Sunday Worship as well as prayers emailed or called in directly to the church.

What is the Power of Prayer? Never underestimate the power of prayer. When you are praying according to God's will, your prayer is unstoppable. Therefore, we should never give up or back down. We need to keep praying. That is why Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7).

**Mark 11:25** - *Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.* **1 John 5:14-15** - *And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.*

### How do I sign-up?

1. Go to the Good Shepherd website at [www.goodshepherdlink.org](http://www.goodshepherdlink.org) click on Prayer Warriors and go down to "Join the Prayer Chain." Enter your information and submit.
2. After you submit your information you will receive prayer requests via email as they come in.

### How do I submit a prayer request?

1. Go to the Good Shepherd website at [www.goodshepherdlink.org](http://www.goodshepherdlink.org) click on Prayer Warriors and go down to "Prayer Request." Enter your information and submit.
2. E-mail your prayer into the church office at [office@goodshepherdlink.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdlink.org).
3. Call your request into the church office at 763-784-8417.

Submit a prayer card request on Sundays.

# Get Connected & Keep Connected

Help us keep up-to-date on your current contact information.

Keeping connected to your church home and family is crucial to busy day-to-day schedules.

Forms are available on the "Welcome Center" in the church lobby for whenever your information changes (address, phone, email, etc.).

If you would like to have your picture in the directory or would like to have a more current one, contact the church office at [office@goodshepherdlink.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdlink.org) to arrange a time to have one taken. It only takes a minute to do and can be done on a Sunday when you are already here or during church office hours.

Thank you for helping us keep you CONNECTED to Good Shepherd!



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## Electronic Giving

Contributions made simple. Good Shepherd wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. "Simply Giving" offers convenience for members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. Consider scheduling a recurring contribution today.



You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Simply complete an Authorization Form and place it in the drop off box, both are located at the Welcome Center. Donations will be debited automatically from either a checking or savings account.

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## Community Food Shelf

The Centennial Community Food Shelf is located at 200 Civic Heights Drive (in the lower level City Hall building). Good Shepherd continues to support and thanks everyone for their generous contributions.

If you would like to donate to the local food shelf, please make checks payable to: Centennial Community Food Shelf and mail to:

Centennial Community Food Shelf  
c/o Gethsemane United Methodist Church  
7330 Lake Dr; Lino Lakes MN 55014

The food shelf provides emergency foods (3-5 days supply) for about 250 local households each month. Volunteers are always needed to serve on the first Thursday of the month from 3:45-6:15 at the Centennial Food Shelf. Team members come together with a driving compassion to serve the community by meeting the needs of others.

Please contact Darlene Leiding at 651-484-0119 if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.