

**MAY 3, 2020**

**THE ROLE OF A SHEPHERD**

**JOHN 10:1-10**

It was 2 a.m. and a knock on the parsonage door. It was winter and bitterly cold. A young man, no more than age 20, wearing a light summer jacket, asked if we had any food. The parsonage was a few blocks away from the train tracks. He had been on the freight train from Seattle to Minot. I woke Jan and she quickly got some food. He held up a crude (penciled in) map of the US. It had 3 cities on it...Seattle, Fargo and Kansas City. He was going to KC and wondered where he now was. He coughed. I could hear the pneumonia rattling in his lungs. I insisted that I take him to the hospital. He said he had no money. I was on the hospital Board and decided to use any authority I had. However, for now, he only wanted to eat and sleep. So we fed him, gave him a place to sleep, gave him extra food, and I said "tomorrow it's the hospital." When I awoke in the morning, he was gone.

Jan and I were thrust into the shepherd's role. We were at least temporarily a gate through which he could receive food and shelter. Jesus is that gate for us. He is the gate for the ultimate food and shelter of life, even life eternal. Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly.

As we seek shelter from the corona virus, we are like that young man, desperate for help. Great medicine and great faith in Christ will be our shelter.

Prayer: The Lord is my shepherd...yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me...Amen.

Pastor Lee