



The Good Shepherd's Voice

March, 2024

Newsletter from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School



**Short Stories that
Speak Volumes
for Our Lives**

The Measure of a Mustard Seed

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches" (Matthew 13:31,32).

Who is America's richest man? America's tallest mountain? Largest lake? Largest city? Most populous state? If you answered Elon Musk, Denali (Mount McKinley), Lake Superior, New York City, and California, you are part of the proof that Americans pay attention to big things. We live in bigger houses, eat larger meals, and work longer hours than almost any other people in the world. We tend to live by the maxim, "Bigger is better."

But Jesus takes the "less is more" approach. He says: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed." Have you ever seen a mustard seed? It's so small that you could hold thousands in your hand. Why would Jesus tell us this? Because it's possible to be so focused on what looks big and impressive that we overlook Him and His blessings.

It's a common mistake. At first glance, there was nothing big or impressive about Jesus. When he came to establish his kingdom, he arrived as a child of a poor girl in a conquered country. He was born in a barn. He grew up in an obscure village. His followers were nobodies. He never wrote a book or held a high position. He never lived in a palace or even a

house of his own. After a few years in the public eye, He was killed on a cross like a common slave. On Good Friday, He looked small and powerless.

When Jesus spoke about the mustard seed, He gave us a short story that speaks volumes for our lives. The measure of a mustard seed is not its tiny size but the huge plant that it grows into.

In the same way, the measure of Jesus' humble life and death is not how many people missed its meaning at the time but what He accomplished.

By His perfect life and His innocent death, Jesus has freed the world from the guilt of sin. Countless millions have been drawn by God to put their trust in Jesus, to become part of His eternal kingdom.

When Jesus rose from His humble grave to conquer death on Easter morning, He proved that what seems small and weak can be amazingly powerful. It's Easter time again—why not celebrate by exploring what His life and death and resurrection can mean in your life? You might be surprised!

March Birthdays

2) Melissa Jinsky	13) Jim Timmermann	20) Brad Prey
3) DeeDee Marichal	14) Mike Mittelsteadt	22) Sam Melke
4) Tyler Timm	15) Dawn Spaulding	Kassi Spees
5) Pat Tesch	16) Kiley Savage	25) Lydia Perron
6) Brian Nelson	17) Linda Mohns	26) Karen Deglow
8) Brittany Brison	Bennett Zanow	29) Christi Weingart
10) Sue Etter	19) Andy Hogan	30) Phil Ives
12) Brittany Jinsky	Calvin Martin	31) Adaya Etter

March Wedding Anniversaries

- 16) Kevin and Therese Miller (5)
20) Ken and Wendy Goerke (20)

Welcome New Member



Dolores Solsrud



Heavenly Father, You love the world and gave Your Son to liberate us from sin and death by His obedient death on the cross. We confess that without Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we are lost. We pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick, chronically ill, depressed, lonely, wounded by conflict in personal relationships, victimized by war and injustice. Extend Your generous mercies to all who face the stressors of life with a heavy heart. Grant them Your peace, O Lord, and in Your mercy, be their Guardian and Friend, their Comfort and Hope. Amen

Parish Nurse Notes

This month we continue our journey through the Lenten season. At the end of the month, we celebrate Easter. I do realize we celebrate our resurrected Lord all the time, but Easter Sunday is special. If you are on a social media platform such as Facebook, you may receive Easter greetings. I pray they are Christ-centered greetings. This month I would like to talk about social media and its impact on mental health.

At the end of January 2024, chief executive officers of social media companies testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee. The hearing focused on the effects of social media on young people's lives. That is what prompted me to pick this month's topic.

Social media does not only impact the youth, but it also impacts people of all ages. The impacts are not entirely negative. Social media can enhance connections to others particularly to people with similar interests. For example, Good Shepherd Ev. Lutheran Church & School is on Facebook.

It allows members and friends of Good Shepherd to learn of upcoming events and see pictures of past events. It allows everyone following the church's page to remain connected and develop a sense of belonging. Social media can be useful in connecting with family and friends who live far apart. God said, "It is not good for man to be alone."

In addition to staying connected, social media can provide quick access to information. You can learn something useful like changing a faucet or baking an apple pie. It can be useful in promoting an event like a Christmas worship service or a fundraiser for a child with cancer.

Mental health can be impacted by social media. At times social media can lower depression and anxiety, but it can have the opposite effect. Other negatives have been identified. Some individuals experience the fear of missing out or FOMO. This causes a person to frequently check their social media. It becomes a compulsion. Social media can be addictive. Getting a "like" can be a reward. The desire for that reward causes a person to go back again and again.

This does not only apply to youth as adults can also be addicted to social media. Self-image problems tend to increase as the amount of time spent on social media increases. That doesn't mean that the main factor causing self-image problems is social media; but it provides a medium which elevates the problem. While bullying is not a new concept, social media and technology have brought it to a new level.

Adolescents, ages 10 to 19, are undergoing a highly sensitive period of brain development. Negative impacts of social media can be more pronounced. Based on their individual strengths and vulnerabilities, different children and adolescents are affected by social media in different ways. The full impact of social media on mental health is not known. More research is needed. The "Social Media and Youth Mental Health: The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory" booklet does provide an overview of current research. A pdf of the booklet can be found online. In addition to the impacts of social media, it includes information on what policymakers, technology companies, parents/caregivers, children/adolescents, and researchers can do.

Here are a few suggestions for parents. Set rules about media use with a family media plan. Create tech-free zones. Encourage children to foster in-person friendships. Teach kids about technology and how to use it safely. Model responsible social media behavior. Teach kids that online harassment or abuse should not be kept a secret. Encourage your child to talk with you about cyberbullying and report it. Keep the lines of communication open between you and your children so they talk with you regarding what they read and see online. I'm running out of space, so I would suggest reading the Advisory booklet.

Use social media wisely and teach your children to do the same. There are benefits, but unfortunately the negatives can be deadly.

And on a happy note, blessed Easter,

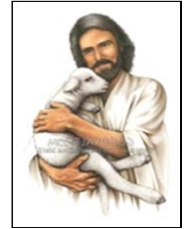
Kathy Lee, RN



"News from Your School"

March 2024

Good Shepherd Lutheran School, 10611 Hwy 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
PH: 715.325.3355 WEB: 1goodshepherd.org/school/
Email: 1goodshepherdschool@gmail.com



Please enjoy the following Parenting article from December 27, 2022, FORWARD IN CHRIST. In a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on more and more technology, listening to one another is becoming more and more important. May you be encouraged by the following article.

Joy in Christ! ~ Mrs. T & Mrs. Irwin

HOW CAN WE MODEL GOOD LISTENING SKILLS FOR OUR KIDS?

As a working mother with three children, I empathize with the struggle between balancing work responsibilities and family life. As a marriage and family therapist, I also understand the importance of regular family communication. So, when my high school football player comes home from practice, I make sure to stop and ask him how his day was, even though my computer is still open, work is waiting, and I'm secretly watching for e-mail notifications. He typically says everything is fine, school was OK, and then proceeds to carbo-load.



I reassure myself that I stopped working long enough to talk to him and he responded... family communication accomplished! I rationalize my behaviors by reminding myself that he is a teenage boy and probably doesn't have much to say to his mother anyway.

Parents, the truth is our actions really do speak louder than words. Even though I stopped to talk to my son, he was very aware that I was not fully present or ready to listen to anything important.

A few days later, my son came home while my husband and I were cooking dinner. Once again, I asked him how his day was. His response spoke volumes. "Well," he said, "since I can see both of you aren't very busy, I want to talk to you about something." He noticed that because we weren't distracted by work or our smartphones, we appeared to be more available.

So how can we as parents be better listeners for our children? How can we model for our children how to be good listeners to others? While there are entire books and courses devoted to teaching listening skills, here are three easy-to-remember principles, the ABC's of good listening.

A is for availability. In a July 2020 report from the Pew Research Center, approximately 70% of parents reported being somewhat distracted by their smartphones when spending time with their children. How often are we talking face-to-face with our spouse or a friend and find ourselves distracted by the text message on our smartwatch or what our neighbors just posted on Facebook? Being available means making yourself mentally and physically available to listen. Close the computer, turn to whom you are speaking with, and be fully present. Being available means making time to listen, clearing away distractions, and preparing your mind and body to engage with another person. Work will always be



Cont.

there. Dishes and chores will always be there. That specific moment when your child wants or needs to tell you something may not always be there. Be available to listen.

B is for listening behaviors. Body language and behavior are the nuts and bolts of communication. Ask yourself, “Does my body language exhibit a listening attitude? Is my face relaxed? Is my tone calm? Am I tense? Am I glancing at a screen or my smartphone? Am I doing three things at once? Am I fully present in this moment?” Take notice of your body language at your next important company meeting or parent-teacher’s conference. You will likely notice that you are paying careful attention to the speaker, maintaining good eye contact, and perhaps asking follow-up questions. Now ask yourself if this is the same way you interact with your children.




C is for commitment. When was the last time you wrote down a personal goal and committed to it? I mean, really committed. You probably read about why this goal was important, and you kept yourself accountable, continuing to work on it until you achieved your goal.

What if you committed to improving your communication with your children and spouse? While reading an article in a Christian magazine is a positive first step, what would commitment to good listening really look like in your home? It would most likely require daily practice, daily commitment, and an evaluation by asking yourself, “Is this working? How can I improve?”

Perhaps you read another article about listening. Perhaps you ask a friend or your spouse to provide feedback about your listening skills. Ask them what you did that was helpful and what you might improve on. While this is difficult, it also demonstrates a serious commitment to good listening.

Why is listening so important for our children and family life? God tells us, “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak” (James 1:19). Parents, don't just ask your child a question and check a box that you've communicated today. Follow the ABC's of good listening and commit to improving communication in your family.

- Laura Reinke; *Christian Family Solutions*, Milwaukee, WI; 12.27.22





MOVIE NIGHT

Here at Good Shepherd
Friday, March 15th 6:30pm
Refreshments will be provided

Free babysitting during the movie!

Text “babysit” to Amanda at 715-459-7024

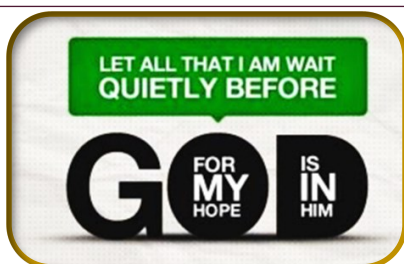




Palm Sunday and Confirmation

Sunday, March 24, 2024

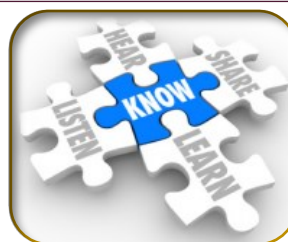
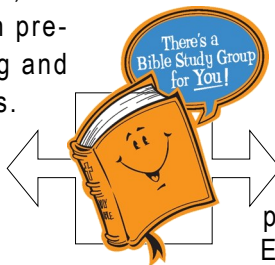
OFF CAMPUS Woman's Bible study "1st Peter" God's letter of **HOPE.**



You are warmly invited, and yes, **all are welcome** (and friends). Dawn has been preparing with Pastor to share this exciting and practical letter from God's heart to ours.

This study is held off-campus at our McMillan Public Library in Wisconsin Rapids on the second floor from 10 to 11:30am.

We just began on March 1st. So come on over, pop in, as God encourages us through His letter! Looking forward to learning with you.



ON CAMPUS—After Easter Woman's Bible study on **PARABLES.**

God's Word sometimes used common everyday activities and items to illustrate how His Word works in our heart.

"Putting Together Puzzle Pieces of God's Parables."

Kathy, who is also our Parish Nurse, has been working on this with pastor and plans are to begin leading these studies after Easter. She appreciates your input on how best this could be shared with you and your friends.

Please, share your thoughts on a good time and day to meet to learn together about God's parables. Thank you!



Hello from your church secretary, Julie Bunt! I have been helping in the office since Andrew entered our grade school in 2009. I am the "Office Coordinator".

I assist our pastors as they shepherd our congregation from day to day. I help field office calls, capture current up-to-date member records, file our Synod reports, etc.

a) When you have a change of address, phone number, etc, please text or write to let me know your new family info.)

b) Your birthday/anniversary, let text us your wishes if you **want** or **do not want** those events celebrated as part of our announcements,

c) Your church office is a work space accessible to our called workers, staff and church families during the day, afternoon, evening. Many souls make use of this space.

d) My on-site office hours are Tuesdays & Thursdays from about 8 to 1. These hours fluctuate, depending on our Pastors' needs,

and congregational worship activities. Additional worship services or events require more time and planning.

e) If you **LEAVE SOMETHING** in the office specifically for my attention, please sign and date the note. This way I am able to help in a timely manner.

f) If you **TAKE SOMETHING** from the office to use elsewhere in the building, please return it when finished. (Currently I am missing both of my personal box-cutters and some pens. It would save a ton of search time to know where they may be.)

g) I do not have access to the office email outside of the building.

I appreciate serving God's family of faith here. You can leave messages with me at:

office@1goodshepherd.org

Humbly serving,

Julie Bunt

Coordinator's Corner

Women's Bible Study Survey

At Good Shepherd, we are interested in resuming a women's Bible Study. The challenge is determining the time and day that meets the needs of women connected to our church. To that end we are seeking your opinion on this survey. so please return the survey to Kathy Lee's mailbox (since drop-boxes in the church entryway tend to move around) You can also email your responses directly to K.LEE.RN@CHARTER.NET. by March 10th. Thank you!

What time of day to you prefer to attend a Bible Study?

____ Mornings

____ 9 AM

____ 10 AM

____ Afternoons

____ 1 PM

____ 2 PM

____ 3 PM

____ Evenings

____ 6 PM

____ 6:30 PM

____ 7 PM

____ I'd prefer this time: _____



Which day (or days) of the week works best for you?

Holding the Bible Study at church may be the best option as it is centrally located. Members can live over 20 minutes in any direction from church. **If it was held at an alternative location, what would you suggest?**

Would you like the Bible study available via Zoom? _____

Your name: _____

Camp Philip

Registration
for **Camp
Phillip Sum-
mer Camps**
opened on



February 1st. On that day over 500 registrations occurred within the first 3 hours and over 600 by midnight. But there is still time to register your child. Check out the camp programs here:

[https://
www.campphillip.com/
summer-programs](https://www.campphillip.com/summer-programs).

Good Shepherd is a congregational member of Camp Phillip. That means our members receive a 10% discount on all camp programs.

In addition to the summer camps, the Ladies Group



offers a \$50 registration fee reimbursement for Good Shepherd children registered for a summer camp.

Talk with Kathy Lee, Ladies Group Treasurer if you have registered your child for camp.

*"The apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, and abundant grace was on all of them.
There was not a needy person among them.*

1...For from time to time those who owned lands or houses

2 sold them,

3 brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet,

4 and it was distributed

5 to anyone as he had need."

Acts 4:33-35

1) Who owned the lands or houses?

2) What did some of them do with some of their property?

3) Instead of reinvesting their own money from their own sales of their own properties, what did some anonymous Christians do?

4) After each anonymous gift to God was publicly received, what happened next?

5) What behavior did God require from the families who benefitted from this generous Gospel ministry?

This is not a political creed.

This is not a social activist directive.

Rather this is radical evidence of God-working in the hearts and lives of His family of faith. **As you went through that 5 question study, think about what was NOT taught.**

God **did NOT** command any action to give anything.

God did **NOT** any specific manner of giving.

God did **NOT** make a policy rule.

God did **NOT** impose a tax on a small group of the believers.

God did **NOT** assess a cover charge to get a better understanding of Jesus' Word.

No congregation member or leader commanded it, suggested it, expected it, or charged for it.

No fees were assessed to ensure the givers felt appreciated.

No restrictions on the use of the gifts by those who received them

No expectation of any behavior was required in exchange **after receiving** the distribution.

So how in the world did this ever happen? Firstly, it is not of the world. It's a heaven-thing.

Secondly, God's Gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, warmed the cold-souls of God's own people. God's people just did what they could, how they could.

God 1) blessed His Gospel of Christ to be preached and taught; 2) God's family of faith heard and trusted God's loving-kindness; 3) each believer assessed his/her own gifts from God; 4) with Gospel-warmed hearts and God-blessed plans, each responded; 5) in their own time 6) with amounts each personally chose 7) to honor Jesus.

When recalling the Gospel, Dr. Luther was overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the Lord's generosity and daring boldness at how this all started. In 1536, Dr. Martin Luther reminded his congregation that the Lord had sent eleven beggars out in the world. Christ commanded them to publicly, freely, joyfully proclaim God's glorious message of salvation. There never has been a command like that command! Never! Jesus commanded nobodies, with nothing, and no plans, to give without resenting, without begrudging, what God called them to do.

Martin Luther added some practical counsel for his hearers:



"For us here this is a comforting sermon. For in these words of Christ **we** are included. Christ says: Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. "All the world" includes **us**, wherever **we** are and how many or how few **we** may be. The world is where people are. Thus the Gospel must be on the run, continually on the run." "Even though it may not remain [if it bears no fruit] at some places, it must run to every place and be heard everywhere."

Jesus supports His Gospel ministry in an non-transactional, non-businesslike manner. Instead He said, *Freely you have received, freely give.* Matthew 10:8 In other words, it is *not* "I MUST GET THIS, SO I GOTTA GIVE." **Jesus' plan is as generous as His heart, "I GOT IT FROM YOU, GOD, NOW, PLEASE HELP ME GIVE IT AWAY."**

In every generation, the Holy Spirit raises up just a handful of public servants of the Word to proclaim and teach God's good news. So, Jesus reminded His disciples of this ongoing gift from God in Matthew 10:10 *"...the worker is worth his keep"*.

God's workers are worth it not because they learned a lot at school, dress smartly. Pastors and teachers are not worth it because they are charismatic leaders, or love sports or crafts, or are musicians or have good manners.

God's called workers are worth it because heaven has set them aside to publicly preach and teach the Gospel in Christ's place, for His purpose. Our **called workers, Pastor Tullberg, Pastor Melke, Donna Tullberg, Amanda Irwin**, serve Jesus here with heaven's confidence.

The Holy Spirit provided **Hannah Cook** to be our Principal and Educator in Donna's place. Donna Tullberg will be stepping out of her role as our 3k-8 principal and teacher.

Good Shepherd has been enabled to do this because the Lord has moved you to be faithful and generous in your support of His Gospel. We pray Jesus blesses you with joyful confidence as you continue to provide for the workers He sends for His ministries.



This year, Katelyn, Arabella, Elise & Hannah's confirmation is planned for Palm Sunday. Their classes will resume after their confirmation day as they grow deeper in their understanding of the remaining portions of the Luther's Small Catechism: Prayer and the Ministry of the Keys.

Jesus keeps blessing us. God keeps His Word that He will open up hearts and homes in this unique place and time.

God uses old and new ways to carry out His Gospel ministries. Our special **Digital Outreach** gift for Easter is approaching, along with ongoing **Bible studies** at Grace's, and after Sunday morning worship service. Two **Women's Bible study opportunities are on the horizon:**

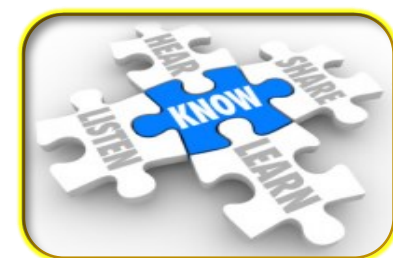
GOD'S LETTER OF HOPE is First Peter. Dawn is leading that learning opportunity off-campus at McMillan public library.

PUTTING PARABLE PUZZLE PIECES IN PLACE is another women's Bible class held here. Kathy is leading this one perhaps with this study on-site after Easter.

In the near future, an off-site **Spanish-emphasis outreach** is planned. More information to come...

God keeps blessing others through us. The daily question is: how does God move me to respond to such generosity from Him? From my family to you and yours, happy blessings from Him and to Him. Alive in Jesus!

Pastor T



We continue to lift up Pastor John & Karla Melke family in our prayers. The grief of his mother's passing is cushioned by God's comforting promise of seeing her again with our Good Shepherd, Jesus.



OUTREACH & EVANGELISM

beyond the four walls of the church

Five years ago this month you extended to me a divine call to serve as an associate pastor with an emphasis on outreach. Thank you for the privilege to serve you and the Lord in this vital ministry! Someone may ask to define the terms evangelism and outreach. In simple terms, evangelism is a message while outreach is an action. For example, your pastors preach a specific evangelism message/sermon encouraging us to act. God's Spirit has led you to respond with actions as together, we have and will continue to be *"always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you"* (1 Peter 3:15).

Working closely with Pastor Tullberg and the Evangelism committee, we have taught several Bible studies on evangelism (still available on our church website and new ones coming soon), set up a booth at the Rome Farmers Market (plan to do it again this summer), canvassed the community (2 summers and the Rome community is next), delivered Christmas and Easter flyers (see plans for March 16 in this newsletter), conducted individual Bible information classes for prospects (some have become members of Christ's Church and this is an ongoing task your pastors love to do), and

continue to use technology to reach beyond our local area to proclaim God's Word.

Mark's Gospel says, **"The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God"** (EHV). *Then Mark tells the story to show who Jesus is and why He matters. During the Thursday Lenten worship services, we are watching a video of the Passion History of our Lord as recorded in Mark's Gospel.*

Let Mark evangelize us and energize us for evangelism. Let him tell us about Jesus. Evangelism isn't about a what, but a Who. Jesus Himself is the Good News—His character, accomplishments, and intentions for us. Maybe that's why God has given us so many ways to evangelize. May He use us to speak His Word so that God the Holy Spirit may open the eyes of our family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to see the wonders of His love. May the Lord bless our effort in whatever way we evangelize so that more souls seek Him and find Him according to His timetable.

Because He lives!

Pastor John Melke



Life and Library News

Yes, it's a combination article in that we would like to point out a particularly interesting, informative book now on our library shelves. It is titled **"Empty Arms"** and contains more than 60 life-giving stories of hope from the devastation of abortion.

(Some of the stories are written by men!) The book concludes with several stories of adoption, to show that this LIFE-GIVING CHOICE is happening all over the world.

Planned Parenthood and its pro-choice supporters are rapidly moving forward to make abortion a "right", calling it "healthcare" or "reproductive freedom".

Christians need to amplify our pro-life voices. We need to demonstrate that pro-lifers are compassionate and care deeply about both mother and baby.

We have pregnancy centers and homes such as "New Beginnings" that educate expectant mothers in how they should care for their babies, care for their homes, obtain further education and, most importantly, learn about how very much God loves them.

As Heather Weininger, Executive Director of Wisconsin Right to Life stated in a recent news article, "So much has changed since the Dobbs decision over-

turning Roe v. Wade, and it's clear we need to CHANGE THE CULTURE.

We need to demonstrate to all of Wisconsin that abortion takes a human life and being pro-life means walking with mothers both before pregnancy and after."

If you know of someone contemplating abortion, PLEASE advise her of New Beginnings, our local pregnancy center, and other centers that are waiting to assist in all aspects of her pregnancy and God-loving future.



The second Saturday of the month is Good Shepherd Day at the Dime and Dollar Thrift Store in Wisconsin Rapids (1351 8th St South).

Volunteers are needed from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm to:

- Cashier (training required)
- Bag items
- Sort the donations
- Price donations
- Put merchandise on the shelves

There are experienced volunteers who can guide you. This is a great way to get to know other members of our church family. Talk to Cindy Loechler or Kathy Lee with questions. It is fine to just show up.





BAPTIZED INTO HIS DEATH

In the 2024 Lenten Season, the pastors at Good Shepherd and St. Paul have been focusing on one of the Catechism's sections (Holy Baptism) of Dr. Martin Luther. What is the connection that God makes between our baptism and Christ's passion? Why does Spirit make that connection?

Lenten Schedule

(Fellowship Meals at 5:30 pm)

Worship at 6:30 pm

March 7: Baptism Is Needed by All

March 14: The Right Tool for This Job

March 21: Reliving Your Baptism Every Day



Welcoming Miss Hannah Cook



We are accepting free-will offerings to fund the moving costs for our new teacher, **Miss Cook**. She will be arriving this summer and a moving company will transport her belongings to her new location. Your help is appreciated! You can use the yellow envelopes in the narthex for this fund and write in "For Hannah's move"

Speaking of new location....if anyone hears or knows about a rental in our area that will be available around July 1st, please let Mrs. T. know. The moving company has to unload her somewhere ! :-)





Easter Outreach

On **Saturday, March 16, at 9:00 am** we are meeting at Good Shepherd to go out into our community and distribute Easter flyers similar to what we have done. It is a warm invitation to our neighbors and friends to join us for our Easter Sunday worship services, breakfast and egg hunt.

You don't need to sign-up. You can speak with Pastor John if you have any questions. Thank you for supporting our Gospel ministries!

EASTER MATTERS BECAUSE HE LIVES!



CALENDAR MOMENT: YOU ARE INVITED! WELS Convention for Seniors

Hosted by the River City OWLS, Omaha 40 YEARS OF SERVICE!

WHEN AND WHERE?

Omaha Marriott in Regency-10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114-402-516-3620

Monday, October 14, 2024 to Thursday, October 17, 2024

Last Day to Book: Monday, September 23, 2024

Hotel offers a special group rate: \$128 a night!

If you want to just come for one day to include lunch and a banquet, that also is available!

If you want to just come for the one-day workshops with no food, that is also available!

WHY?

To enjoy fellowship with Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors! To go on a fabulous tour of SAC Air Force Base! To go to 3 super interesting workshops!

SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN ON ATTENDING!

Financial Secretary Report

Thru January 2024

Attendance Summary for January

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
# weeks	5	5	5	4
Average Sunday	46	63	70	83
Avg Sunday On-Line	114	73	68	65
Total Attendance	907	784	883	690
Average Mid-Week	11	0	17	9
Avg Midweek On-line	16	0	21	4
Total Avg Weekly:	196	157	177	173

On Line numbers = # of computers watching X 1.65

Planned Giving & Income through January for current and previous Fiscal Years

Planned Giving & Other Income	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Unified Budget Envelopes	\$154,821.70	\$154,902.49	\$170,323.70	\$191,321.15
On-line Offerings - net (note 1)	29,711.29	24,269.25	25,913.08	19,284.00
Spec Services Envelopes	6,585.00	4,620.00	5,640.00	12,360.00
Initial Offering Envelopes	245.00	185.00	200.00	315.00
Plate	7,330.01	2,834.50	2,443.69	5,136.18
Other Income/Gifts (note 2)	7,806.56	3,508.89	2,167.93	359.98
Bank Account Interest	86.63	20.21	176.04	263.67
Actual YTD Total	\$206,586.19	\$190,340.34	\$206,864.44	\$229,039.98
Actual YTD vs Prior YTD	-----	(\$16,245.85)	\$16,524.10	\$22,175.54
Planned YTD Total	\$206,293.50	\$206,860.50	\$217,717.50	\$219,118.67
Changed Plan vs Prior Yr	-----	\$567.00	\$10,857.00	\$1,401.17
Actual YTD vs Plan YTD	\$292.69	(\$16,520.16)	(\$10,853.06)	\$9,921.31

Planned Giving & Other Income for FY 2023/24 as of January 31, 2024

Planned Giving & Other Income	January	Fiscal YTD	Fiscal Year % Complete
Unified Budget Envelopes	\$31,886.00	\$191,321.15	58.3%
On-line Offerings - net (note 1)	2,705.00	19,284.00	Total Planned Giving for the Fiscal Year \$375,632
Spec Services Envelopes	0.00	12,360.00	
Initial Offering Envelopes	295.00	315.00	
Plate	405.63	5,136.18	
Other Income/Gifts (note 2)	261.98	359.98	Fiscal Year Planned Giving % YTD
Bank Account Interest	49.79	263.67	
TOTAL GIVEN	\$35,603.40	\$229,039.98	
Less PayPal fees (note 1)	\$35,518.86	\$228,438.50	61.0%

Notes:

- 1) This month PayPal Fee: \$84.54 PayPal Fees YTD: \$601.48
- 2) This month: Thrivent Choice \$54.00, Church Mutual Dividend \$207.98
- 3) \$100 Memorial IMO John Estlund - Video Equipment (fund 728)
- 4) Total Contributions to ALL Special Funds YTD include a \$8,155 undesignated contribution



Financial Secretary

Alan Shepard
Alan Shepard



GOOD SHEPHERD EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL







10611 Highway 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Pastors: John T. Melke & Paul A. Tullberg
Educator/Principal: Donna L. Tullberg
ECM Teacher/Director: Amanda Irwin



Web Site: 1goodshepherd.org
Phone: 715-325-3355
Email: 1goodshepherdchurch@gmail.com

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Scrip Orders Due Mar 3rd Scrip Orders Delivered Mar 10th	Watch Services: Sunday's on Solarus Channel 3 or Spectrum Ch 985 at 2:00 pm					
9:00 AM Worship Service w/Communion 10:15 AM Bible Class and Sunday School	4 11:00 AM Coffee w/Christ 1:00 Pastor Circuit Mtg 6:30 PM Choir	5 10:00 AM Board of Elders	6 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	7 5:30 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service w/Communion	8	9
10 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Bible Class and Sunday School	11 11:00 AM Coffee w/Christ 1:00 PM Ladies Group 6:30 PM Choir	12 6:30 PM Church Council	13 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	14 5:30 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service	15 Newsletter Deadline 6:30 PM Movie Night	16 9:00 AM Easter Outreach
17 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Bible Class and Sunday School	18 11:00 AM Coffee w/Christ 6:30 PM Choir	19	20 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	21 5:30 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service	22	23
PALM SUNDAY 24 9:00 AM Worship Service w/Communion CONFIRMATION	25 11:00 AM Coffee w/Christ 6:30 PM Choir	26	27	28  5:30 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service w/Communion	29  GOOD FRIDAY 6:30 PM Worship Service	30
31  EASTER 7:00 AM Son-Rise Service 8:00 AM Easter Breakfast 9:00 AM Worship Service						Usher Teams Team 1: Dwight Gilbert Ron Ercles Team 2: Conrad McCherry Larry Kellinger Team 3: Chris Rhein Bruce Mohr Team 4: David Hoppe Andy Hogan Team 5: Jim Krab Adam Timmerman Jim Timmerman Jerry Blum



Worship Schedule
Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 am
Bible Class: 10:15 am
Thursday Worship: 6:30 pm

Or Current Resident

Come and See! Go and Tell!
Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
and School—WELS
10611 Highway 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: 715-325-3355
www.GOODSHEPHERD.ORG
Pastor Paul A. Tullberg | Pastor John T. Melke
Principal Donna L. Tullberg

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