



Shepherd's Voice

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

April, 2019

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

Priorities!!! It is so easy to allow society to determine what our priorities should be. It is so effortless to sell out our Christian values. And that's where Lent comes in. For me, Lent is a time to take a look at my priorities. In this complex world where constant claims and demands are upon our time, money, values, and dreams, I need Lent to get me back on track. The forty days of Lent are a kind of "spring cleaning" of our spiritual home, an invitation to return when we have strayed, and to re-center our lives around Christ and his call to love our neighbor. We can look forwards rather than backwards, and instead of counting all the wrongs we have done throughout the year, we are freed to re-focus on how Christ would have us live. As a congregation, we ask the questions: Do we have our priorities straight? Do we live in Christ's love, or are we holding on to grudges and angers, justified or not? Are we walking in "newness of life (Romans 6:4)?"

There are two more midweek Lenten Wednesdays, in April, along with Holy Week that are an offer to us to

help us get our priorities straight. The message that comes to us is, yes, we are a broken people, but in our brokenness we are also a beloved people, embraced and loved by God. This year, April 21st is the high holy day of Easter which proclaims loudly that marvelous message that though Christ died on a cross for the sake of humanity, the grave could not hold him. And as he rose from the dead and because he lives, we shall live also, not afraid of death but empowered by the Risen Christ to live boldly, our eyes focused on the right priorities.

Halleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Halleluia!



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdls



GSlacrosse.org/voice

To access this and other publications online visit GSlacrosse.org/voice.

Jesus is **RISEN**,
the **VICTORY** is won,
sins are **FORGIVEN**
praise God
for His Son!

Give

Volunteering Within Church

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The flower and bulletin sponsorship charts are on the bulletin board in the back of the welcome area. Sponsoring the flowers or bulletins is an easy way to honor special dates such as birthdays and anniversaries, or the memory of a

loved one. If you have any questions on sponsoring the flowers or bulletins, please contact Kathy or Rick in the church office at (608)788-0450.



Readers & Ushers Appreciated!

Readers and Ushers are always valued at our worship services. Please consider signing up on the sign up sheet in the welcome area at the back of the sanctuary. You can sign up to read for a

time and day that works for you. The readings will be sent (either by mail or email) to you early that week. Interested in ushering? Contact Kathy 788-0450. We really do need your help!

Women Who Wrestle With The Word (W5)

If you would like to be a part of a regular gathering of Christian Women, you are always welcome to join W5. For info contact Judy Casto at 385-1410.



Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1pm in the quilting room. All women are welcome!

If you have any questions, contact Carol at 787-0609.



Good Shepherd Ministries

Altar Guild—Is a very easy commitment and we would be happy to show you how it's done! Simply call Irene Thorelli at (608)787-0242.

Quilting—Quilters usually meet on Wednesday mornings. If you are interested in helping the quilters contact Ann Hudson at 788-1308.

Mailing Crew—If you are interested in helping prepare the Voice newsletter for mailing by adding address labels and stickers, then the crew is for you! We meet the 4th Thursday of each month at 8:30am in the choir room.

Care Ministry—Care Ministers visit the homebound year round to have a small chat, give communion, and have a prayer. Interested in joining this ministry? Contact Don Skibba at 787-0498. If you or someone you know would like a visit from our care ministry team, please contact the church office at 788-0450.

55 Plus—55 Plus is a friendly lunch gathering for the 55+ crowd that meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30am. We gather at The King Street Kitchen located at 1417th St S.

Serve

Enriching Life, Sharing Talents

Thank You All So Very Much...

Altar Guild—Thank you to the members who served during the month of March, Nancy Oelke & Linda Schoen. For the month of April Nancy Oelke & Stacy Bendel will be on duty.

Thank you to Kimberly Young for sending out the "Get Well" cards in March. Candie Luehne will be sending out the cards throughout the month of April.

Thank you to Ann Hudson for sending out cards and prayer shawls year round to bereaved families.

Care Ministries—Thank you to all members who are serving as Care Ministers to the faithful members of Good Shepherd who can no longer come to worship with us. Through you, our Care Ministers, the church comes to them!



Causeway Caregivers

Causeway Caregivers exists to help! Give Causeway a call if you need assistance in or around your home or if you have a few hours to volunteer helping those who do. (608) 775-9999 or visit our website: causewaycaregivers.org



Ushers Schedule

April 7	8:30am: Dave & Barb Foye, Vernon & Peg Garves, Roger Weeks Jr, Tracy Christenson 10:30am: Todd & Teresa Nedegaard, Warren & Irene Nedegaard, Karl Noll, Jane Strangstalien
April 14	8:30am: Steve, Kari Breanna & Angie Ellison 10:30am: Darren & Jaclyn Osley, Todd & Corrine Holtz
April 21	7:00am: Easter Sunday (Please Sign Up) 8:30am: Easter Sunday (Please Sign Up) 10:30am: Easter Sunday (Please Sign Up)
April 28	8:30am: Steve & Gina Fellenz, Cliff Hendrick, Monty Gilbertson 10:30am: LeRoy Geary, Heidi Kwiatkowski, Mark Bronson, Sandra Rockwell

Lead

Raising Up Spiritual Leaders

Calling All Musicians!

Our "Sounds of Praise" worship band invites you to help us lead the worship here at Good Shepherd. "Sounds of Praise" is intended to bring together the greatest number and variety of instruments possible, presenting special music and enhancing our wide variety of hymn styles. Whatever type of

instrument you play, "Sounds of Praise" welcomes you! Please call Randy Lyden at (608)779-9669 or email randy@gsilacrosse.org to be a part of this growing and exciting praise band!



Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

The Sanctuary Choir

The Sanctuary Choir rehearses between services every Sunday from September through May and new members are always welcome!! If you would like to join our Sanctuary Choir, please contact Karl Greenfield at 790-3785 or at karl@gsilacrosse.org

The Gloria Dei Choir

We rehearse between services on Sundays from September through May in the Mattes Center and new members are always welcome! If your children would like to be a part of the Gloria Dei Choir, please contact Darlene Lassig at 788-5686 or at darlene@gsilacrosse.org.

Hand Bell Choir

Practices are on Sunday evenings at 5:30pm from September through May in the Choir Room. If you have any questions please contact Linda Jerome at 317-1335 or at linda@gsilacrosse.org.

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, *Ecclesiastes 12:1*

High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

Good Shepherd's High School Youth Group is a group that meets on Wednesday evenings at 6pm throughout the year. Fellowship and games 6-7p with a bible study at 7p. You aren't the only Christian at your school! Come hangout

with other awesome teens just like yourself. Social events throughout the year along with a yearly mission trip. Want to learn more? Contact Stephanie Andersen at stephanie@gsilacrosse.org or just drop in and check it out for yourself!

Connect

Bridging Our Community To Our World

Mobile Meals of La Crosse

Thank you so much to those who will deliver Mobile Meals in April. Our next time to deliver will be Mon. May 27th to Sun. Jun 2nd. Mobile Meals of La Crosse delivers 33,000 meals annually to the homebound, largely through the efforts of local churches like ours.

Need more information? Call 784-4623 or go to mobilemealsoflacrosse.org. pick-up place is Franciscan/ Mayo at the Market Street door and the pick-up time will be 11am. Please allow 1 1/2 to 2 hours time. We are route #1.



Please consider becoming a part of this very important ministry, our Mobile Meal Delivery Team could really use your help. Please contact Kathy at 788-0450 or Kathy@gsilacrosse.org

Local Food Pantry Needs



West Avenue Food Emergency Relief

(WAFER) is asking for Side Dishes (rice, potato, stuffing, or "helper mixes") during the month of April. Thank you for all the donations given in March!

Please leave all donations in the grocery cart near our bulletin boards in the Welcome Area. A monetary gift may also be given to help support WAFER. Simply make your check out to Good Shepherd, and indicate WAFER in the check memo area.

4-H Club

The Mormon Coulee 4-H Club was first established in 1946 making the club one of the oldest in La Crosse County! 4-H clubs are made up of children from kindergarten through high school. We meet the second Sunday of each month at

4pm in the Mattes Center. We are always looking for eager volunteers. If anyone is interested, or has any questions, please feel free to contact Kimberly Young at (608)796-0099 or e-mail kkymmm@gmail.com.



Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts Meet at Good Shepherd

Boy Scouts—Troop 22 meets at 6:45pm weekly on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

If you have any questions about Scouts, please call the church office at 788-0450 and we can connect you with the group leaders.

Girl Scouts—Troop 4172 meetings are not yet set.



Stewardship

Memorials & Special Gifts

Good Shepherd gratefully acknowledges and sincerely appreciates your gifts over and above your regular giving. The following gifts were received from February 17th through March 18.

WAFER

Jim & Sue Bugge

Frank Johnson Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Millie Hamann

Ione Harder

Mary Johnson

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Bonnie Beitlich

Lora Busch

Norma Green

Margaret Lindahl

Sherrill Munson



Carol Olson Memorial

Jim & Donna Panger

Millie Hamann

Barb Hegge

Evelyn Hammes

Jim & Jan Quinn

Robert & Arlene Purdun

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

World Hunger

Richard Reinholz

Sugar Creek Horse Project

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Herman & Betty Betz Memorial

Carol Stephens

What is Simply Giving®?

The *Simply Giving®* Program is an automated stewardship program that helps church members live generously. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make automatic payments to Good Shepherd through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. Vanco Services, LLC provides electronic payment processing services at reduced rates—so your generosity goes further. Learn more by contacting the church office at (608) 788-0450



Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30am	10:30am
02/03/19	123	128
02/10/19	121	74
02/17/19	86	110
02/24/19	32	45

Weekly Envelope Offerings

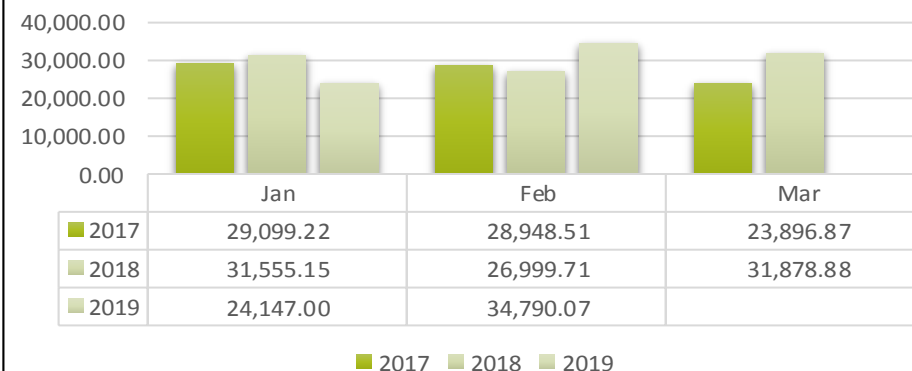
Date	Weekly	% Budget
02/03/19	6,405.11	84.8%
02/10/19	16,733.00	221.5%
02/17/19	3,840.40	50.9%
02/24/19	2,260.00	29.9%
Totals	29,238.51	96.8%

Envelope Offering Comparison

February 2019	February 2018	% Difference
34,790.07	26,999.71	28.9%
YTD 2019	YTD 2018	% Difference
58,937.07	58,550.86	.7%

If you would like to view the complete financial statements that are shared with the Council, please contact Rick in the church office at rick@gslacrosse.org or by calling the church office (608)788-0450.

Envelope Offerings



Around the Parish...

Lenten Worship

Join us in Lenten worship Wednesdays at 6:30pm. We will again be using the Holden Evening Prayer service, as we have done the last few years. We are grateful to the following Good Shepherd members who will share a part of their faith story as we continue our journey through the remaining weeks of Lent:

Allyson Fergot -
Wednesday, April 3, at 6:30pm

Judy Casto -
Wednesday, April, 10, at 6:30pm

Both of them will be reflecting on the question: "How has your church life, your faith life in Christ made a difference in your everyday life and in the life of the people you know?" There will be a coffee and cake fellowship following the services. Please sign up to bring a cake or treat to share.

Easter Sign Up Opportunities

Please sign up on the bulletin board to attend or assist with Easter breakfast.

There are also sheets to sign up for ushering on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Special Guest Preacher On Palm Sunday

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, April 14th. Jeff Barrow, the Executive Director of Sugar Creek Bible Camp will be preaching. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated!

Lydia Circle

Our meeting will be Tuesday, April 9th at 1pm in the quilt room. Ruth Hauge will be leading and the subject will be "God the Creator" as discussed in Chapter 1 of our book. Host will be Sandra Rockwell, devotions will be by Carol Abraham. Please call Carol Abraham 787-0679 if you have any questions. All are welcome!

Blood Pressure Readings

Blood pressure readings will be taken by our Parish Nurse, Bev Sorenson, on Sunday, April 7th at 9:30am.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Our study of Luke's Gospel will continue Sunday, April 14th at 9:45am in the church library. We will focus on Luke 23:26-49. This will be Palm Sunday, or Sunday of the Passion. Our study is titled, very appropriately: "Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?" We are always happy to welcome new learners. Please come to the library at 9:45am, between services, for this inspiring lesson.

Game Night

Game Night for all ages is now meeting monthly on the 2nd Friday of the month. Members of all ages are invited to come play from 6 - 9pm on April 12th. Bring your favorite game or learn a new one. Games vary month to month, but include a variety of board, card, strategy and role playing games. Contact Duane Schoen at 787-1038 or Tom and Stephanie Andersen at 385-7394 with any questions.

Good Shepherd Scholarships

Application information sheets for the 2019 Good Shepherd Scholarships are now on the table in the welcome area. All applications are due to the Scholarship Committee by Sunday, April 28th.

Communion Liturgy In Norwegian

Please join us Wednesday, April 17 at 1:30pm at French Creek Lutheran Church, N23007 County Road T, Ettrick for a communion service in Norwegian. Pastor Harald Bringsjord presiding, Pastor Anna Sorenson preaching (in English). Luncheon to follow and a Norwegian baked good sale will be going on too, so be sure to purchase some goodies while you're there!

Around the Parish...

Feed Our Children

Please donate non-perishable food items to the Hintgen Elementary School food pantry box in the concourse. Your support and help in keeping our local kids fed is greatly appreciated!

Horse Project

The Sugar Creek Horse Project is now up on the rolling bulletin board in the welcome area. This is one of their big annual fundraisers and your financial help is greatly appreciated!

Youth Scrip Cards

Kwik Trip or Festival Foods cards are available in the church office Mon.-Fri., 8am - 1pm. You can also choose one of the many other cards available to order. Thank you for supporting our Youth Program through this fundraiser! The deadline to order cards is the first of each month. A full listing and order form is available at gslacrosse.org/high-school/. Questions? Contact Jennifer Jones at (608) 518-1228 or jones6307@gmail.com.

Come For Supper

Come for Supper provides nutritious free meals every Tuesday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Good Shepherds next scheduled date to help is **Tuesday, April 23rd**. Volunteers are needed for prep work (1pm) and to serve meals (4:30pm) For more information contact Judy Casto at 608-385-1410 or the church office.

Transitional Housing Supper

The Coulee Region Transitional Housing Committee is having their annual spaghetti supper on Thursday, April 11th from 5pm to 7pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 6th & Division Streets, La Crosse. A vegan option is available with the supper and there will also be veggies, dips, bread, and a variety of deserts served. The cost is \$7.00 and includes milk, water and coffee as beverages. Carryout's are available. Please come if you are able. Thank you!

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

GSW-WELCA welcomes women of all ages from our congregation to participate within this committee. Our committee meets the first Thursday of the month at 6pm in the Choir Room. Come and discover all the good our committee does with our church, community, nation and world!

Good Shepherd Trust Foundation

Mission funding is now available from the Good Shepherd Trust Foundation at the request of church members in good standing. Applications for funds are available in the church office or on our website www.GSlacrosse.org. To be eligible, requests must align with the Mission Statement of the Church "We are dedicated as disciples of Christ, to work together, through worship, education, fellowship, and community service, to gather all creation to God's love and grace", as well as our Core Values which are Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Formation, Risk-taking Mission/Service and Extravagant Generosity.



April 14 through April 21

Palm Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 Worship

**Maundy Thursday: 5:30pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Worship / Communion**

Good Friday: 6:30pm Tenebrae Service

**Easter: 7:00am Worship / Communion
8:30am Worship/Communion
10:30am Worship/Communion**

Easter Breakfast 7:30am - 10:30am

April 2019



Gloria Dei Choir
Meets every Sunday
each week at 9:45am.



Bell Choir
Meets every Sunday
each week. at 5:30pm.



Sanctuary Choir
Meets every Sunday
Each week at 9:30am.



Sounds of Praise
Meets every Saturday each
week at 4pm.

8:30am Worship Service, 10:30am Worship Service, Sunday School 8:45 & 10:45am, Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays of Each Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 24 6:30pm GS Men's Group 	25	26 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	27 12:30pm Quilting 6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm Coffee & Cake	28 8:30am April Voice Mailing Crew 1:30pm Grief Support Group	29	30
31 6:30pm GS Men's Group 	April 1	2 Polling Day West Pastor Conference 5:30pm Buildings & Grounds NO BS Troop 22 Mtg	3 12:30pm Quilting 6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm Coffee & Cake	4 1:30pm Grief Support Group 6pm WELCA Mtg	5	6 10am 1st Communion training WELCA Spring Convention Bethany in New Lisbon
7 Name Tag & Cookie Sunday sponsored by GS Women—WELCA 9:30am Blood Pressure Readings 9:45am Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Praise/Worship 1pm Patschull Eagle COH 6:30pm GS Men's Group	8	9 1pm Lydia Circle 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	10 10am Staff Meeting 12:30pm Quilting 6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm Coffee & Cake	11 1:30pm Grief Support Group	12 6pm Game Night	13
14 Palm Sunday Guest Jeff Barrow preaching 12pm EGG-stravaganza Easter Egg Hunt 4pm 4H 6:30pm GS Men's	15 5:15pm Finance 6:30pm MGF Mtg 6:30pm Hintgen Assoc Mtg	16 6pm Parish Ed Meeting 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg 7pm Church Council Mtg	17 12:30pm Quilting 1:30pm Norwegian service in Ettrick 6pm Seder Supper & 5th Grade 1st Communion	18 Maundy Thurs 11:30am 55 Plus 1:30pm Grief Support Group 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship	19 Good Friday May Voice Articles Due 6:30pm Tenebrae Service	20
21 Easter Sunday No Sunday School 7am Sunrise Worship/Comm 7:30-10:30am Easter Breakfast 6:30pm GS Men's Group	22	23 1pm Come for Supper (setup) 4:30pm Come for Supper (serve) 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	24 12:30pm Quilting 6:30pm Youth Group (Gr. 9-12)	25 8:30am May Voice Mailing Crew 1:30pm Grief Support Group	26	27 10am Celebrate Women Brunch by GS Women - WELCA
28 Guest Pastor Ben Morris 9:45am Care Ministry Meeting 6:30pm GS Men's Group 	29 6:30pm W5 To access the most up-to-date calendar visit GSlacrosse.org/calendar.	30 5:30pm New Member Orientation 6:45pm BS Troop 22	May 1 12:30pm Quilting 6pm Confirmation Celebration 6:30pm Youth Group (Gr. 9-12) 7pm Confirmation Rehearsal	2 1:30pm Grief Support Group 6pm WELCA Mtg	3	4 9am The Flair Affair by Causeway

Church Council Members

- **Jim Bugge** *President of the Congregation* jim@gslacrosse.org
- **Sara Wrobel** *Vice President of the Congregation*
- **Todd Holtz** *Treasurer*
- **Ladd DaFoe** *Secretary*

Other Church Council Members include:

Don Skibba, Lori Lowell,
Wayne Atchley, Roger Weeks Jr.,
Sally Lindahl, Tim Stalsberg,
Jessica Addington, Janet Torkelson,
Ellen Klemp, & John Krause



- **Rev. Harald Bringsjord** *Pastor*
prharald@gslacrosse.org
- **Rev. John Stennes-Spidahl** *Assistant Pastor*
john@gslacrosse.org
- **Rick Laufenberg** *Office Manager*
rick@gslacrosse.org | (608) 788-0450
- **Kathy Johnson** *Office Assistant*
kathy@gslacrosse.org
- **Tammy Klein** *Children's Ministry Coordinator*
tammy@gslacrosse.org
- **Stephanie Andersen** *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
stephanie@gslacrosse.org
- **Randy Lyden** *Music Director/ Organist* randy@gslacrosse.org | (608) 779-9669
- **Linda Jerome Bell** *Choir Director*
linda@gslacrosse.org
- **Karl & Jaime Greenfield** *Sanctuary Choir Directors* karl@gslacrosse.org | (608) 790-3785
- **Darlene Lassig** *Volunteer Gloria Dei Choir Director* (608) 788-5686 | darlene@gslacrosse.org
- **Bev Sorenson** *Volunteer Parish Nurse* bev@gslacrosse.org
- **Bill Klein** *Custodian/Maintenance* bill@gslacrosse.org

Questions? Don't know who to contact? Contact the Church Office.

(608) 788-0450 | office@gslacrosse.org | www.gslacrosse.org
4141 Mormon Coulee Rd. La Crosse, WI 54601 (Office hours 8am to 1pm)

Your Health

From the desk of our Parish Nurse

Take time to Relax: April is Stress Awareness Month
By Debbie Baumgartner, Daily News, 4/6/2016

Ah, April is finally here, not only does the month bring us spring, new blooms and beautiful weather, it also brings us Stress Awareness month.

Well, I don't think I need more awareness of stress, but the month is all about increasing general awareness as to the seriousness of Chronic Stress and the damaging effects it can have, so that we can all find ways to lessen it or deal with it better for a long term good health.

What you don't know about stress can kill you. Here are a few things about stress you may or may not know. Stress is directly linked to six leading causes of death. "Seriously!" Accidents, cancer, heart disease, suicide, lung disorders and cirrhosis of the liver. All have studies that show definite links to stress.

1. Stress alters blood sugar levels which pose a threat for diabetes and can cause fatigue, mood changes and blood sugar disorders.

2. As Stress floods the brain with strong hormones that are meant for short term emerging situations, prolonged and chronic exposure can actively damage, shrink and kill brain cells.

3. Stress increases cytokines, which produce inflammation.

4. Stress decreases the body's immune system response to infection.

5. Stress is one of the main causes of insomnia.

One's reaction to stress varies from person to person. Some people consider stress a normal part of life. Truthfully it isn't. Stress particularly when it is prolonged for weeks, months or even years, can be very taxing on your body and can cause damage.

How to Remedy Stress

Laughter is one of the best natural stress relievers. Laughter releases dopamine "The feel good hormone." Isolating your stressors, talking to someone about your stress and many therapies such as massage, aroma therapy, yoga, exercise or walking can help minimize your stress. Sometimes laying down some new ground rules at home or work are necessary to help reduce stress.

Being aware of our stress, isolating where it is coming from and actively working to reduce it for yourself and the people around you - That is April and Stress Awareness.

I hope April brings you stress free days.
Happy Spring Everyone!

Your Parish Nurse,
Bev Sorenson

Bev Sorenson, RN

GS Volunteer Parish Nurse

bev@gslacrosse.org
(608) 792-3962

Health Questions?

Call the Gundersen Telephone Nurse Advisor 24/7 at (800) 858-1050.



Sunday School Update

Pre-school thru Grade 5

"Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the LORD your God and carefully observe all the words of this law" (Deut. 31:12)

When I was working on my newsletter article, I happened upon the verse above. My absolute favorite is Matthew 28:19. "Go to the people of all nations, and make them my disciples. And remember, I am with you, even unto the end." It was in a song my very first VBS as Children's Ministry Coordinator, and one of the first verses I had memorized in a long time! Funny how the two go together and say so much about what Sunday School, Sunday Services and Congregation means. I am working on the new one. But, together, don't they just scream SUNDAY SCHOOL? So though we are winding down the 2018-19 year, we have a lot on the calendar and need all the kids to come each week.

It is April and Holy Week fast approaches as we practice self-denial during lent, celebrate Palm Sunday with Hosannas and the Easter Egg-Stravaganza. Then we move through Holy Week from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday. We are just beginning our final stories of this Sunday School year. We start with the Last Supper and End with Easter. Then, we will wrap up our year with practicing for Education Sunday.

5th Graders will soon celebrate First Communion. Please note that we need their participation in Palm Sunday Bread Making (which is used Easter Sunday for Church Communion), 1st Communion Training on April 6th (training is required before attending Confirmation), and then of course the Seder Meal, which is the official "First Communion" and very moving. We would like to open up the Seder on April 17th, 6pm to anyone in the Congregation who would like to attend. If you have not been to one, or attended one in a while, you will not regret making time for this Good Shepherd Milestone Event with our 5th grade families!

We are collecting ELCA Good Gifts for Lent in Sunday School and this year we are focusing on The Light of the World. In sub-Saharan Africa, only 19 percent of rural households have access to electricity. A portable, solar-charged lantern is a perfect solution. Let that little light shine! This will also tie nicely into our Summer VBS Camp.

We are also still looking for someone to lead our quarterly Birth to 3 group. Anyone interested, please let me know. This would be in the Nursery between services.

Then for summer – we ROAR into the Love of God as we travel to the Savannah. Registrations will be out in March. Sign up for Good Shepherd ROAR- God is GOOD! Summer VBS Camp, August 18th-22nd!

Sign-ups for all the events and next year's Sunday School Volunteers are now out. Please join me in the gathering, celebrating, learning and sharing!

Tammy Klein
Children's Ministry Coordinator



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

Sat, April 6th	First Communion Training for all 5th Graders 10am-noon! Please RSVP by email; Tammy@gslacrosse.org
Wed, April 17th	5th Grade Seder Supper 6pm
Sun, April 21st	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL-EASTER SUNDAY

GOOD SHEPHERD EASTER EGG-stravaganza

Sunday, April 14th Noon - Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Crafts, Movie

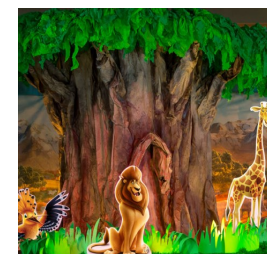
(Ages: 3 years – 3rd grade)

Please sign up on the Sunday School bulletin board across the main office. We would like to know how many and ages of children in order to have enough craft materials and snacks. This is a family event.....everyone is welcome to attend!

Good Shepherd Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Palm Sunday and we are looking for some help. Please sign up on the Sunday School bulletin board across from the main office. We need help to stuff treat bags, set up and serve a snack for our Easter Movie. CONFIRMATION STUDENTS CAN RECEIVE SERVICE HOURS!



Good Shepherd VBS 2019
ROAR! BIBLE CAMP SAFARI
August 18-22, 2019
Registration Forms Available Soon!
When Life is Unfair...
When Life is Scary...
When Life Changes...
When Life is Sad...
When Life is Good...
...God is GOOD!



Tammy Klein

Children's Ministry Coordinator

tammy@gslacrosse.org (608)788-0450

Stay Connected!

Receive message alerts for Sunday School at Good Shepherd. Send the message @rubberduck to the number (608) 807-2784. All parents and children with a cell phone are encouraged to sign-up! Data charges may apply. Must age 13+ to sign up without parental guidance. This service is brought to you by Remind®.



Youth Update

*Confirmation (Grades 6-8)
& High School Youth (Grades 9-12)*

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." Timothy 4:12

It seems like just yesterday Pastor Meredith stopped my husband and I after service to ask us what she had admitted might sound like "crazy question." She also admitted she was going out on a limb, but thought we might be interested in being adult leaders for the youth mission trip that summer. My husband and I had recently completed the Lenten Bible study and had talked a few days prior about how we were good at stepping up when people needed help, but our help always focused on things we were comfortable with or good at. As a married couple with no kids, we had an extra bedroom that had a few times been filled with a friend needing a few days to get on their feet. We were also there to make sloppy joes for a family who was moving or needed a meal. This just didn't feel like enough, but we did not know what else we could do ... until that Sunday.

It did seem like a crazy idea at the time as neither one of us had experience working with youth or a theology background. Then throw in the fact that we were relatively new to church and did not know the youth or their families. Really, who was going to send their kids out of state with people they hardly knew? It was definitely a far cry from offering a bed or a meal, but then again, we were looking to do something more. With just a couple months before the trip, it seemed unlikely, either one of could get the time off work, but it was worth asking. We soon realized the Holy Spirit was at work in the our lives as we were able to get the time off work and round up a couple of air mattresses for the week.

That week changed the lives of the youth we led and in doing so changed my life as well. I was moved by the faith of these young people, their love for the Lord and their willingness to serve others they had never met and never would see again. I remember wondering, where my life would be as an adult had I had those experiences in high school. Although I was raised in the church with parents who

loved the Lord and showed me how to do the same, I never had a youth group or the opportunity to serve as the youth on the trip had. Before we returned home, I pulled my husband aside and told him, it might sound crazy, but I felt like we needed to stay involved in youth ministry after the trip. He looked at me and said, "Of course we are. Why would we stop." In that moment I realized that trip had changed him as much as it changed me.

That moment started us on our youth ministry journey that has truly blessed us individually, as a couple and as a family. That last part may sound a bit odd, but I feel truly blessed that our son, Steven, has had the opportunity to grow up with faith model of all ages. He was born into a church that loved him before he was born and supported him in his earliest moments in the NICU. I have had the opportunity to grow my faith along side so many youth and their families and have become great friends with people I never would have met had I not listened to that calling.

Fast forward 9 years, 2 youth gatherings, 5 additional mission trips and more tears, laughter and inside jokes than I could count, I sit in the church office and write one of my final voice articles. Where do I go from here? Most of you have heard by now that I will be stepping down from my position of Director of Youth and Family Ministry and also the youth ministry program at Good Shepherd. After 9 years, it seems like an impossible thing to do, however, life has changed and I feel God calling me in a different direction.

First I will be devoting more time to being a mother and a wife. Although this is not a new calling, it is one I have not been able to devote enough time to in the recent months. Steven is getting older and more involved in his own activities, which has limited our family time. Tom and I want to soak up as much time as we can while he stills wants us around and we can

Quick-Look

Upcoming Confirmation/Youth Group Events At a Glance

	Confirmation does not meet during Lent Students are encouraged to attend Wednesday evening worship. This is a great time to work ahead or catch up on sermon notes. The weekly message will be provided by a church member and will not follow a traditional sermon format. Students should write down the speaker's name and what stood out to them about the speaker's message.
Wed. March 6th	Butter Braid orders Due
Wed. April 24th	Youth Group resumes at 6:30
Wed. May 1st	All Confirmation Celebration Dinner 6pm Dinner - all Students parents and guests 7pm Confirmation Rehearsal - 8th graders with parent
Sun. May 5th	Confirmation Sunday! 12:30pm Pictures 2pm Confirmation Service
July 21-26th	High School Mission Trip: Quad Cities, Iowa

see that time fading. There have also been a number of church

events we have been unable to attend as a family since we were with the youth. We are looking forward to being able to attend more events as a family.

Second, We have noticed many of the youth we first worked with are busy with of their own lives—work, school and families of their own. Although, they still have a place at Good Shepherd, it seems like we see them less and less. We want to provide a ministry for them so they always feel welcome and continue to have a group of peers they can join in fellowship and worship. After we catch our breath, we will lay the groundwork to implement a young adults bible study.

Although this journey is different than the journey we set off on 9 years ago, I can again feel the Holy Spirit leading us into a ministry that is much needed for the church and I am excited to see where this call takes us.

Although this is not the end, but rather the a fork in an ongoing journey, I would be remiss to end without saying thank you to the many people who have supported me along with journey. First of all, I would like to thank Pastor Meredith for listening to the Holy Spirit and inviting us on that first mission trip so many years ago. I think of that Sunday often and how much that simple question changed our lives in a positive way. I would like to thank the many adult leaders who have accompanied me on the many trips

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Stephanie Andersen

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In the Office: *Wednesday 4-8pm*



Music Notes

From The Director of Music

Taize Worship Music

Our prayer responses this lent and Easter season are from the music of the ecumenical Taize worship community, located in Taize, France and founded in 1940 by brother Roger Louis Schutz-Marsauche. This monastic community is devoted to prayer and reconciliation and is comprised of over one hundred Catholic and Protestant brothers from over thirty countries. Focusing on the youth, Taize is one of the most important sites of Christian pilgrimage. Thousands of people from all over the world visit there each year to study and to worship in the peaceful, contemplative style of Taize worship.

The Taize community gathers three times a day, seven days a week for worship. An important feature of their worship is the use of repetitive prayer set to short musical melodies. As these are sung meditatively over and over, the worshipper is immersed in the faith message that penetrates deeper and deeper into the being of the worshipper, becoming a way of listening to God. A Taize worship service includes Taize songs, a Gospel reading, periods of silence, prayers and meditations.

Eleven Taize songs are included in our Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal. We have been singing "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" as our Lenten prayer response. We will sing "Jesus, Remember Me" on Palm Sunday and our prayer response for the Easter season this year is "Be Not Afraid".

Sadly, in 2005 Brother Roger was stabbed to death during a worship service by a mentally ill woman and was succeeded by Brother Alois Loeser. Brother Roger's funeral was presided over by Catholic Cardinal Walter Casper, which was attended by Brother Roger's community and friends in the monastery church of Taize. Thousands more followed it on large screens in fields outside the church. In his homily, Cardinal Kasper said, "Yes, the springtime of ecumenism has flowered on the hill of Taize" and, "Every form of injustice or neglect made him very sad". For more information on the Taize community, please visit: <https://www.taize.fr/en>



Randy Lyden

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including my husband who has been by my side the entire time. I cannot imagine going on this journey with anyone else. Thank you to the other adult leaders who have become great friends as well: Linda Jerome, Shelby Henkelman, Barb Smyth, Mark Torgerud, Shanon Torgerud and Shawn Brooks. No one will ever know or appreciate the highs and lows of the trips as you guys do. It is an honor to call you friends and have shared these experiences with you. Of course, a huge thank you goes to Alice DaFoe. I know you don't like the spotlight, but you deserve it for this one. Alice has been the treasurer for the youth group since I started and the trips would not be possible without her organization and dedication!

I would like to thank the parents of the youth and confirmation students for trusting me with you children and allowing me to walk with them on their faith journey. Confirmation students and high school youth past and present, thank for showing up even on the days you were busy or stressed or just wanted to be somewhere else. Thank you for being open to God's word in your life. To the congregation of Good Shepherd, thank you for allowing me to take this journey and your kind words along with way. Thank you for always supporting me and more importantly supporting the youth of Good Shepherd. I am proud to be part of a congregation that supports our young people and I look forward to what we can continue to do as congregation to support them.

Sincerely,
 Stephanie Anderson
 Director of Youth and Family
 Ministry















PUZZLE

Jesus gives us *life*

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)	
Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)	
Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)	
This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)	
Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)	
Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)	
Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)	
While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)	
This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)	
These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)	
These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)	
Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)	

Answer: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar on a sponge, spices, linens, silver coins

