



# Shepherd's Voice

*Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.*

June 2020

**From Pastor Harald Bringsjord**

As I'm writing this, the Wisconsin Supreme Court just made a ruling about the authority of our governor to make the Safer at Home order. Because of their ruling the existing Safer at Home order was no longer enforceable and a number of establishments opened up and had people gathering. The Court's discussion was about laws and who makes decisions, it does not change the science.

Covid-19 will be with us for a long time. We will not be safe until 60-70% of the population has been exposed and developed immunity according to Dr. Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Osterholm predicted that something like this would happen and that it would start in China (Deadliest Enemy, ch. 13, March 2017).

We can't turn back the clock. The virus is here and we need to deal with it responsibly, balancing health and the means of making a living. And so we continue to follow the advice of those who spend their lifetime keeping us safe from these pandemics, and as we do we strive to enact the best practices. Wearing masks in public, social distancing, and on a Christian level prayer, giving, sharing, helping, speaking kindly, calling, encouraging, and writing gracious words to one another.

We also partner with one another. I am so grateful for the partnerships that we have had established for many, many

years with other congregations as well as the ELCA and the La Crosse Area Synod. These partnerships have helped me and anyone interested find information about dealing with this COVID-19 pandemic. Together we can look past the partisan agendas and listen to science and our Lutheran Christian faith-based reasoning.

On a basic level, the science tells us how many people would have died and gotten sick if we had not taken the preventive measures. It tells us how the virus spreads and who are the most vulnerable in the community. It tells us how long it usually takes to find treatments and vaccines while scientists already diligently work on measures that can help fight this deadly virus.

From the perspective of faith, as Christians we are called to care for the most vulnerable. Using words from Matthew 25, we wonder "Lord, when did we see you hungry, a stranger, sick, naked, imprisoned, and unemployed," and Christ responds, "When you cared for the least of these you were caring for me."

Our partnerships with local churches have helped us have quality worship services online (thank you Our Savior's Lutheran Church!), and these partnerships have helped our leadership teams be able to gather with others around the Synod and discuss best

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Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse



GSlacrosse.org/voice

To access this and other publications online visit [GSlacrosse.org/voice](https://GSlacrosse.org/voice).

**do not fear,  
for I am with you,  
do not be afraid,  
for I am your God;**

**I will strengthen you,  
I will help you,  
I will uphold you with  
my victorious right hand.**

**Isaiah 41:10 NRSV**

## 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

### 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

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.



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 the church office.



### 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 the church office at 788-0450

**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 May Pat Oliver & Stacy Bendel. For the month of June Al & Kathy Johnson & Sharon Yushta will be on duty if we have any services.

Thank you Kathy Johnson for sending out the "Get Well" cards in May. Kathy Johnson will be sending out the cards throughout the month of June.

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](http://causewaycaregivers.org)



### Ushers Schedule

Apr 5	
Apr 12	All services are canceled until further notice. Kathy will contact all ushers with dates and times as soon as services resume.
Apr 19	
Apr 26	

## 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) 792-1305 or email [randy@gslacrosse.org](mailto:randy@gslacrosse.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@gslacrosse.org](mailto:karl@gslacrosse.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@gslacrosse.org](mailto:darlene@gslacrosse.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@gslacrosse.org](mailto:linda@gslacrosse.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 open hangout is Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm between September & June. 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 the Jen Servais at [Jen@gslacrosse.org](mailto:Jen@gslacrosse.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 to all who delivered in May. Our next week will be June 29th to July 5th we are looking for you to help! I will be sending out emails soon to fill those dates. Thank you everyone for your help!

Mobile Meals of La Crosse delivers 33,000 meals yearly to the homebound, largely through the efforts of local churches like ours.

*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@gslacrosse.org](mailto:Kathy@gslacrosse.org)*

### Local Food Pantry Needs



#### West Avenue Food Emergency Relief

Because church is not open, we are not collecting food for WAFER at this time.

Need more information? Call 784-4623 or go to [mobilemealsoflacrosse.org](http://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 for deliveries. We are route #1.

To continue your support of WAFER, you can give a monetary gift. Simply make your check out to Good Shepherd, indicate WAFER in the check memo, and mail your check to us.

### 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](mailto:kkymmm@gmail.com).

### Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts & Scouting for Girls Meet at Good Shepherd

**Cub Scouts—Pack 10** meets at 6pm, 2nd & 4th week on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

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

**Scouting for Girls** meets at 6:45pm weekly on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

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





# 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 April 20 through May 19.

### WAFER

Jim & Sue Bugge

### Pr. Roger Hjelle Memorial

Jan Crandall  
Don & Jackie Meyer  
Paul & Joyce Herlitzke  
Jim & Jan Quinn  
Karl & Julie Noll  
Kris Bernhardt  
MaryJo Leveraus  
Larry & Nancy Lawrynck  
Norm & Joanne Jerome  
Warren & Irene Nedegaard



### Katie Beran Memorial

Joe & Tami Beran

### Hintgen Food Project

Vern & Margaret Garves  
Tony & Jen Servais  
Patricia Biemiller

Jim & Jan Quinn  
Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

### Victor Garness Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

### Joyce Larson Memorial

Ruth Strand

### Sugar Creek Horse Project

George & Judy Brockman

## Donations of Required Minimum Distributions from Retirement Accounts

Did you know that you can make a donation of all or a portion of the Required Minimum Distribution from your retirement account to tax exempt charities such as Good Shepherd and your donation will be tax exempt?

Here's how it works. If a person is at least age 70½, they must take at least a minimum distribution from their IRA or incur a penalty equal to one-half of the otherwise required minimum distribution amount. They may take more than the minimum at their discretion.

These individuals may instruct their IRA account manager to distribute any amount of their choosing to one or more tax exempt charities such as Good Shepherd.

When that is done, it is considered to be a tax exempt contribution. Good Shepherd would acknowledge to the giver the receipt of that contribution from their IRA. Also, this contribution is tax exempt even if the individual does not itemize deductions for income tax purposes because the IRA account manager would not identify this to the IRS as reportable income in accordance with the tax code.

For more information about Qualified Charitable Distributions, check out the Internal Revenue Service Publication 590-B, "Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)" or speak with your tax advisor.



# Church Numbers

## Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30am	10:30am
04/05/20	No Service	No Service
04/12/20	No Service	No Service
04/19/20	No Service	No Service
04/26/20	No Service	No Service

## Weekly Envelope Offerings

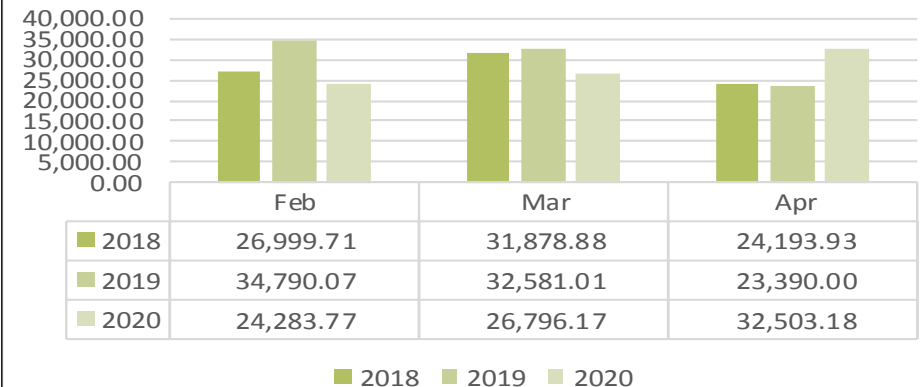
Date	Weekly	% Budget
04/05/20	11,799.50	156.2%
04/12/20	9,225.69	122.2%
04/19/20	8,106.50	107.3%
04/26/20	3,371.49	44.6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32,503.18</b>	<b>107.6%</b>

## Envelope Offering Comparison

April 2020	April 2019	% Difference
32,503.18	23,390.00	39.0%
YTD 2020	YTD 2019	% Difference
125,787.12	114,908.08	9.5%

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](mailto:rick@gslacrosse.org) or by calling the church office (608)788-0450.

## Envelope Offerings



## Around the Parish...

*Pastor's article continued from page 1.*

teams be able to gather with others around the Synod and discuss best practices that have been used around the synod and the country for doing ministry during a pandemic. Thank you, members and friends of Good Shepherd, for your ministry and the mission support that helps us continue to maintain these vital partnerships with the Synod and Churchwide branches of our church.

Stay safe and help others stay safe (which is a twist on "You are blessed to be a blessing.").

In Christ,  
Pastor Harald

### **Doors Faithfully Closed** **Posted on April 18, 2020** **by Bishop Jim Arends**

The Governors of Wisconsin and Minnesota have extended their Safer In Home orders. They are weathering protestors on their lawns demanding the states be reopened. They are listening to conservative members of their statehouses who want churches to be freed. And it will get worse. We have to know our stay at home lives have made a difference. Our two states have so far avoided the spike and flattened the curve. And so we ask, "Isn't it all better now?"

No, it is not. New cases of corona virus continue. More deaths from this pandemic continue. Doctors, immunologists and researchers tell us the virus is still a clear and present danger. Yet, church goers, spurred on by the "it's better" news are getting antsy to bring their church families back together on Sunday morning. And I am getting the question, "Will the bishop allow us to reopen our churches for worship? Or will he force us to keep things locked up?"

Well, first of all, in our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America polity the bishop cannot keep congregations out of their churches. But this bishop urges, with all the authority and influence he can muster, that our congregations follow the lead of our elected leaders. To not do so is foolish in the least and

unfaithful at its worst.

Unfaithful?!?!?!?

YES!!!!

As followers of Jesus, guided by the Living Word of God, we heed the leadership of our government. Unless legal authority is demanding that we do something contrary to the will of God, we obey the law. (The Apostle Paul discusses this in a letter to the Romans.) As followers of the Living Word, we listen to the people with the learning. It is a precept of our faith that wisdom is a gift of God. Wise and trained scientists who have spent their lives studying viral infections and pandemics speak with one voice in saying COVID19 is not conquered, it remains a threat. It would be foolish to ignore their wisdom because we "feel" things are better and we "want" our "freedom" back. As Jesus people faithfully thank God for the wisdom, meant to protect us, that is now guiding our leaders as they aim us toward health.

As followers of Jesus, God's embodied wisdom, we willingly limit our corporate worship for the sake of the least of these. Over and over again, Jesus holds up care for those in most need. Jesus now tells us to not put the vulnerable in need. We don't know who might bring the virus to worship. We don't know who might be exposed. And we don't take the chance – the foolish risk. Instead, we follow Jesus, freely practicing our faith in ways that don't need any church space. As Jesus did, we take time in scripture. As Jesus did, we set aside time to pray. As Jesus did, we tell the old, old story of God's active love in the world. We share our Living Lord with our loved ones, our children, our friends on the phone, in loving notes, on social media. We faithfully touch others with God's love at a time that we cannot physically touch others.

If this bishop could demand anything, I'd ask an end to foolish risks and selfish demands. If this bishop could demand anything, I'd call for the faithful way. I'd call us to love the Lord our God, with all our hearts and minds and souls. I'd make sure we truly loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For Jesus sake.  
Bishop Jim Arends

## Around the Parish...

### **Online Worship**

Please continue to join in worshiping online with us Sundays at 9:00AM. The services are streamed live from Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Members with an email address on file with us will receive an email reminder of the service the day of worship with a link to join. You can also join by going to <http://gslacrosse.org/live/>

### **Church contributions**

For those who are able and wish to continue their regular offerings through these times, you can mail your offering to Good Shepherd at 4141 Mormon Coulee Rd., or give online via our website at <http://gslacrosse.org/give-online/>

You can also download the "GivePlus Church" app for free from the App Store or Google Play. This app will allow you to easily make donations from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.

Another option is to email [Rick@gslacrosse.org](mailto:Rick@gslacrosse.org) and request to sign up for our Simply Giving program. A form will be sent to you to fill out and return setting regularly scheduled electronic transfers from your checking or savings account.

Thank you all for all you do as a friend or member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

God's peace and blessings to everyone.

### **Attention Good Shepherd Members:**

The Annual Rummage Sale is still scheduled for Sat, July 25th in the Mattes Center. Have you cleaned every closet during the stay at home order? Maybe you have found many things to sell that you really don't need anymore. Rent a table for only \$10. You keep all the profits. 15 tables are already sold. It is always a fun day. Please consider joining us. Get a registration form by calling the church office or, if you're reading The Voice online, [click here](#).

### **Good Shepherd Scholarships**

The JL Mattes, Anderson, Good Shepherd Trust Foundation, and WELCA scholarships are available to any Good Shepherd member who is pursuing a technical college, college or graduate degree. Application information is available at <http://gslacrosse.org/2020-scholarships-available/>

### **Hintgen Food Project**

The Hintgen Project is sending backpacks home with food for school children with the greatest needs. There are now 30 families in dire need of additional food. The outpouring of support for this project has been overwhelming. The plan is to continue this until the end of the school year, June 5, and resume again in the fall.

We thank you for all the monetary gifts to make this possible for our community. Good Shepherd should be extremely proud of this effort. We are truly making a difference in these children's lives.

### **Sunday Morning Bible Study**

Pastor John will be leading a Sunday morning Bible Study via Zoom at 10:15am every Sunday. We will continue to meet this way until we can resume services here at church. For more information on joining in our study go to <http://gslacrosse.org/sunday-bible-study/>

### **Shop Amazon Smile instead of Amazon and donate to Good Shepherd at the same time!**

Shop smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Good Shepherd! For more information and to get started, go to <http://gslacrosse.org/6030-2/>

We are listed as Good Shepherd English when selecting your charitable organization.

# June 2020



**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.

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>May 24</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>25 Memorial Day</b> Office Closed <i>As of March 24 the church offices are temporarily closed, but mail and voice messages will continue to be checked daily. Please check your email, our website, and Facebook page for updates as we navigate our way through this next month. Committees are encouraged to continue to meet via email, by phone or by video conference. Please observe all public health and safety recommendations and stay healthy!</i>	<b>26</b> <b>All worship services and face-to-face meetings have been canceled until further notice.</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>June 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>8</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6pm Parish Ed Meeting 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 7pm Church Council Mtg	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>July Voice Articles Due</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21 Father's Day</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>All worship services and face-to-face meetings have been canceled until further notice.</b> <i>As of March 24 the church offices are temporarily closed, but mail and voice messages will continue to be checked daily. Please check your email, our website, and Facebook page for updates as we navigate our way through this next month. Committees are encouraged to continue to meet via email, by phone or by video conference. Please observe all public health and safety recommendations and stay healthy!</i>	<b>July 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4 4th of July</b>

## Church Council Members

- **Jim Bugge** *President of the Congregation* jim@gsllacrosse.org
- **Sara Wrobel** *Vice President of the Congregation*
- **Todd Holtz** *Treasurer*
- **Ellen Klemp** *Secretary*

### Other Church Council Members

**include:** Wayne Atchley, Roger Weeks Jr., Tim Stalsberg, Jessica Addington, Janet Torkelson, Ladd DaFoe, John Krause, Thea Johnson, Mark Skolos, Harlan McLain, Pastor Harald & Mason Roth (Youth Rep.)



- **Rev. Harald Bringsjord** *Senior Pastor* prharald@gsllacrosse.org
- **Rev. John Stennes-Spidahl** *Assistant Pastor* prjohn@gsllacrosse.org
- **Rick Laufenberg** *Office Manager* rick@gsllacrosse.org 788-0450
- **Kathy Johnson** *Office Assistant* kathy@gsllacrosse.org
- **Tammy Klein** *Children's Ministry Coordinator* tammy@gsllacrosse.org
- **Jen Servais** *Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry* jen@gsllacrosse.org
- **Randy Lyden** *Music Director/Organist* randy@gsllacrosse.org (608) 792-1305
- **Linda Jerome Bell** *Choir Director* linda@gsllacrosse.org
- **Karl & Jaime Greenfield** *Sanctuary Choir Directors* karl@gsllacrosse.org 790-3785
- **Darlene Lassig** *Volunteer Gloria Dei Choir Director* 788-5686 darlene@gsllacrosse.org
- **Cody Nedegaard** **Kerstin Gruntzel** *Volunteer Parish Nurses* Cody\_Kerstin@gsllacrosse.org
- **Bill Klein** *Custodian* bill@gsllacrosse.org

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

(608) 788-0450 | office@gsllacrosse.org | www.gsllacrosse.org

4141 Mormon Coulee Rd. La Crosse, WI 54601 (Office hours 8am to 1pm)

## Your Health

*From the desk of our Parish Nurse*

Greetings,

We decided to focus this month's article on the observance of National Stroke Awareness Month. Each year in the US there are more than 800,000 strokes. Stroke is a leading cause of death in the country and causes more serious long-term disabilities than any other disease. Roughly three-quarters of all strokes occur in people over the age of 65.

Stroke is a disease that affects the arteries leading to and within the brain. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood it needs, so it and brain cells die. An easy way to remember what happens during a stroke is to think of F.A.S.T. **F** stands for face, ask the person to smile, does one side of the face droop? **A** stands for arm weakness, ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward? **S** stands for speech, ask the person to repeat a simple phrase, is his or her speech slurred or strange? **T** stands for time to call 911 (time is brain). If you or someone you know experiences any of these symptoms, and you suspect they may be having a stroke, call 911 as soon as possible.

The major risk factors for stroke include high blood pressure, diabetes, high LDL cholesterol levels, smoking, and infections or conditions that cause inflammation, such as lupus or rheumatoid arthritis. Early

treatment with medications, or an emergency endovascular procedure can drastically improve someone's recovery from a stroke. Exercising regularly, eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, managing diabetes, quitting tobacco use, and lowering the amount of cholesterol, and saturated fat in your diet are some of the best ways to help prevent a stroke.

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin



### Cody Nedegaard & Kerstin Gruntzel

*GS Volunteer Parish Nurses*

Cody\_Kerstin@gsllacrosse.org

**Health Questions?**

Gundersen Telephone Nurse Advisor





## Sunday School Update

Pre-school thru Grade 5

Hello from Tammy's House,

I am so excited each week to be on Facebook Live with you for Sunday School. I know it is a little different, and 45 minutes with me is a LOOOONG time, but hope you are enjoying the lessons. I am going to keep going each week this summer until we find a solution to our gathering together.

Our Lent Project is finished and I hope you were able to fill your "Piggy Banks" with your self denials. You should all be proud of what you were able to do and that we were able to do it for a program which is in need. I am still working out a detail plan to drop off the donations as we have someone matching our donation to the Hintgen Meal Program which is our project of giving this year. An anonymous donor who will match up to \$200 raised by Sunday Schoolers as long as at least ½ of our children participate in the giving.

If you have not been getting a weekly email in preparation for Sunday School, please send a message to me at [tammy@gslacrosse.org](mailto:tammy@gslacrosse.org). If there are materials, I email you so you can have them ready. If you have any problems getting materials, please let me know and I will make arrangements to have materials for you to pick up or I can drop them off. I try to do art, maybe science, a story, some songs, etc., each week. I am on right after church services, about 9:45am each week, until 10:30am when Lori Lowell begins her preschool lesson with Zoom.

Finally – for all our 5<sup>th</sup> graders, we have NOT cancelled our First Communion and Seder Ceremony, we are just postponing. As soon as we are able to gather together, we will plan a celebration for you all. This is one of my favorite events each year and my chance to "graduate" you all to Confirmation. I always cringe at the thought of you all getting older, but rejoice in you all growing more in your relationship with God and his words. We will celebrate, just changing up the date.

Remember – you are loved, you are missed, but most of all, you are all healthy and I thank God for that. We have had some strange happenings in the Klein Family, but we are so grateful to have our family healthy and blessed. Things may get a little boring, and stressful, but remember that God is with us and watches over us. And Wash your Hands and Say Your Prayers, cause Jesus and Germs Are Everywhere!

**NOW FOR YOU PARENTS:** If you do not get an email from me, it is because I do not have it. Please send it to me at [tammy@gslacrosse.org](mailto:tammy@gslacrosse.org). If you have any needs, maybe you have some ideas for Sunday School...please let me know. Remember this is temporary! It is our new norm for now, but that is ok. We adjust as we go, for we know that together we will come through this. With that in mind, please note the following:

**Sunday School 2020-2021** staff commitment sign-ups are coming out soon. We begin now hoping to have all our spaces filled by the end of the School Year and before Summer begins. If we do not have enough volunteers for both services, we will need to adjust our schedules a bit. We have over 63 children on our attendance sheets each year. And, there are always friends that attend with kids who pop in now and then. So much fun to see the kids grow in their relationships through the years and to welcome these guests back from grade to grade. If you are NOT a parent of a Sunday Schooler, please consider volunteering. It gives the children a bigger view of their Good Shepherd family. I promise, it is not difficult and with our 3 weeks on/3weeks off schedule, you get plenty of time to attend services!

**Save the Date! PAULS GREAT ADVENTURE – ATHENS VBS – August 16-20.** Imagine leaving a life of privilege, power and influence to angry mobs, agonizing imprisonment, and chain-

## Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

	All meetings and group activities have been canceled until further notice. Please check our website and Facebook page for the most recent updates.

breaking earthquakes—all to share the life-altering truth of God's heart for humanity. Hear the awe-inspiring story of the Apostle Paul...straight from Paul himself! In an ancient "anything goes" culture, Paul will inspire kids to share the truth of God's boundless love and grace! The Mattes Center will be transformed to a Greece Market Place, watch for sign-ups and registrations coming in the next months!

Stay Healthy, stay positive, stay focused on the fact that for our families, we are safe...together in spirit and love.

Tammy, Bill, Kylie and Keith!

See you Sunday on Facebook Live!



### Good Shepherd VBS 2020 ATHENS

#### Paul's Dangerous Journey

Tentatively August 16-20, 2020  
Registration Forms Available Soon!

*God Loves Us All...*

*God Loves us and Takes Care of Us...*

*God Loves Us When Others Don't....*

*God Loves Us and Sent His Son, Jesus...*

*God Loves Us and Wants Us to Share His Love....*



### Tammy Klein

Children's Ministry Coordinator

[tammy@gslacrosse.org](mailto: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)*

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ~Ephesians 6:18*



May is a month of lots of big moments for many of our youth, specifically Confirmation and Graduation. We are planning on having a formal Confirmation ceremony for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders either this fall or next spring as a joint ceremony with the current 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Regardless, we have 11, 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have confirmed their faith through education, reflection, and service activities. They have worked hard and hopefully recognize that their faith is an ever growing and changing journey. We think about it differently as we go through different stages of our lives and this rite of passage is just one more step in their faith journeys. Hopefully, you were able to see the video on social media showing each of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, their crosses and their chosen Bible verse. The 2020 Confirmands are: Caitlin Weeks, Danielle Bahls, Eliza Prentice, Emma Osley, Emily Sanwick, Garrett VandeZande, Grace Blegen, Jakob Bronson, Jordan San Miguel, Lucas Miller and Luke Pretasky. A special shout out to Mark Bronson and Corrine Holtz for their time the last 3 years with this group of students. They are officially confirmation "empty nesters." Their time, along with Stephanie

Andersen's has provided these kids with great faith role models. This year we also had some parents help out. A big "thanks" to Gwen VandeZande, Diane Wilson, Mark Skolos, and Leisa Fergot for helping out. The time everyone puts in is greatly appreciated.

We also have some Good Shepherd kids graduating high school this month. Another rite of passage in life's journey! Although their senior year looked very different than anticipated, these kids have worked hard and will go on to do great things in our community. Our Good Shepherd Class of 2020 include: Megan Lassig, Henry Blegen, Dawson Fredrickson, Cole Denzer, Adian Roth, Genna Bouzek, Braxton Haskey and Aubrya Stalsberg. Please say a prayer that their futures are full of everything good the world has to offer and they know they will always be supported by their church family as they start their new adventures. Stay tuned for a social media video showing these young adults and their future plans.

For all our other kids and their families, I hope the end of the virtual school year comes quickly and the summer is full of safe, meaningful family time. I am already looking forward to next fall and a new school/confirmation year!

Jen

## Quick-Look

*Upcoming Confirmation/Youth Group Events At a Glance*

	All meetings and group activities have been canceled until further notice. Please check our website and Facebook page for the most recent updates.

### Scrip Cards Available!

Even while our doors are closed you can still support the youth of the church by purchasing scrip cards. Need a last minute teacher gift, birthday present, Father's Day gift or just because it's a Monday? Contact Todd or myself and we can set up a time to get you cards. We have the following cards on hand:

Kwik Trip - \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 & \$100

Festival - \$25 or \$50

Wal-Mart - \$25 or \$50

\$10 cards for:

Bath & Body Works, Caribou, Domino's, Noodles & Co, Pizza Hut, Subway, and Wendy's.

\$25 cards for:

Ace Hardware, Applebees, Buffalo Wild Wings, Fazzoli's, Gap/Old Navy/Banana Republic, Marcus Theatres, Pizza Ranch, Red Lobster, Target, & Texas Roadhouse

We are not placing additional Scrip orders at this time, but would consider it if someone has a large order that would justify the shipping. Additional time is needed to process the order.

Our contact information is:

Corrine Holtz: Mobile-608-397-9353 or Email-tcjj23511@gmail.com

### Jen Servais

*Director of Youth and Family Ministry*

Jen@gslacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

**In the Office:** *Varied hours*



## Music Notes

From The Director of Music

### Hymn Focus:

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1819-1886) was born in Bainbridge, County Down, Ireland to John Scriven, a captain in the Royal Marines and Jane Medlicott Scriven. He graduated with a B.A. Degree from Trinity College in Dublin, embracing the teachings of the Plymouth Brethren. He quickly established himself as a teacher and was going to marry his childhood sweetheart in 1843, but the day before their wedding she died in a tragic drowning accident. Grief stricken, he left Ireland in 1845 and began a new life in Canada, settling in Woodstock, Ontario, where he made a living teaching.

In 1855 Scriven received word from Ireland that his mother was gravely ill. Lacking enough money to travel back to Ireland, he composed a poem to comfort her called "Pray Without Ceasing". He later shared the poem with a friend, who took it to a music publisher. It was renamed and set to music by American attorney and composer Charles Converse and published in 1868 with the title "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

Moving to Port Hope, Ontario in 1857, Scriven met Eliza Catherine Roche and the two fell in love, planning to marry in 1860. Again, however, tragedy struck and shortly before their wedding Eliza contracted pneumonia and died 4 months later at the age of 23.

Turning in grief to his faith, Scriven devoted his life to teaching, preaching and helping the poor by sharing all he had with them and regularly cutting firewood for them if they were unable to cut their own. As a member of the Plymouth Brethren, he endeavored to live his life in accordance with the Sermon on the Mount.

Although published in 1868, the writer of the lyrics to this hymn was not known until nearly 30 years later, when a friend visited Scriven and discovered the poem in his papers. When asked about it, Scriven replied, "The Lord and I together wrote the song".



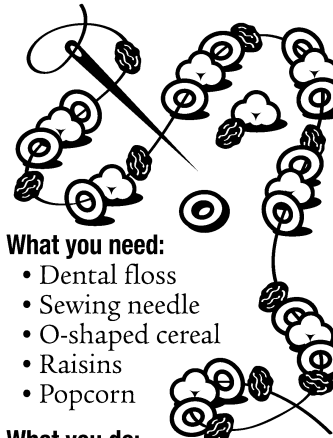
### Randy Lyden

Good Shepherd Music Director  
randy@gslacrosse.org | (608) 792-1305



## ROAD TRIP TREAT

Make this snack necklace to enjoy during summer travels.



### What you need:

- Dental floss
- Sewing needle
- O-shaped cereal
- Raisins
- Popcorn

### What you do:

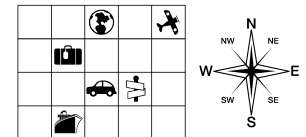
1. Carefully thread a yard of floss through the needle.
2. String a pattern of cereal, raisins and popcorn on the floss until only 4 inches remain on either end. Tie the two ends together.
3. Repeat to make necklaces for your whole family.
4. When you're ready to eat, simply bite off each "bead." Experiment with other non-perishable foods.



## Wherever we go

No matter where we journey, God always protects us.

Directions: Use the map and compass to answer the clues. Then write the boxed letters in order in the spaces below to complete Psalm 121:8, NIV.



### Start at the SHIP.

Move 1 space N, 3 spaces E, and 2 spaces N

### Start at the WORLD.

Move 1 space W, 1 space S, and 1 space SE

### Start at the SUITCASE.

Move 1 space NE, 2 spaces S, and 1 space E

### Start at the PLANE.

Move 2 spaces SW, 1 space S, and 1 space W

### Start at the CAR.

Move 1 space E, 1 space N, and 1 space NW

### Start at the SIGN.

Move 1 space SE, 1 space W, and 2 spaces NW

The \_ ORD will watch ove\_ your comi\_g and go\_g ng both no\_ and for\_ vermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Answer: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

## IT'S SURVEY TIME

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS

### Good Shepherd Survey

Use this survey link to share your own thoughts, ideas and comments with Good Shepherd today! The survey results will help shape Good Shepherd of tomorrow!

[Click here to take the survey.](#)