



# Shepherd's Voice Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

**July 2020** 

#### From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

As I'm writing this article, the last few days the La Crosse COVID-19 case numbers have been increasing for the past two weeks. While some local churches and businesses have begun to reopen, the Good Shepherd Church Council has continued to emphasize and prioritize safety. You can read more about that in the article from our Congregational President and Vice-President, Online worship and meetings will continue to be the norm, but this month we are gearing up for an outdoor drive-in worship service. It may remind you of the old drive-in movie theater, but this will be worship in a different form. This service will take place on Saturday, July 11th, 2020, at 4pm in the big Birch Street church parking lot. We will be using the familiar liturgy from "Now the Feast and Celebration," and the words will be printed in the bulletin. A localized FM transmitter that Tim Knudsen is letting us use will help us with the sound, and you will be asked to tune in to FM 107.1 when you arrive. Should there be any station change, we will keep you updated.

The service will include communion, but to avoid passing on the coronavirus you are asked to bring your own bread and wine (since you are in the car I would encourage grape juice or an alcohol free wine that we use at church). The bread can be leavened or unleavened bread, you could even use a saltine cracker. We will bless the elements during the worship service asking everyone to hold them up at that particular time in the worship service and then you will commune

vourself if you are the only one in the car or you will commune one another if there are multiple people in the vehicle. If you forget to bring the bread and wine/grape juice we have ordered it in individually wrapped containers. We hope to receive them by the time the service is held but they have not arrived

We will see how this goes and perhaps do it again. Until then, let's be grateful that we live in a time where we have an amazing ability to communicate with one another electronically. If you have questions as to how to connect online, please let us know in the church office and we will we try to help. A few days ago, I came across some sidewalk art. In light of all that is going on in the world, I thought these words written by children are worth repeating.

"Be the Light".

"Knowledge is Power".

"Understanding is the key".

"Love is Free to Give".

"Analyze and correct".

"Ignorance will Divide".

God's peace be with you all and "may justice flow like waters, and righteousness like an overflowing stream." Amos 5:24

Pastor Harald



Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse



GSlacrosse.org/voice

## From our President and Vice President

Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

In maintaining communication with all of our church family, we wanted to update you on the current status of the church. We will share with you guidelines provided by the La Crosse Area Synod's Task Force for Re-Opening and based on the State of Wisconsin Badger Bounce Back Plan, and the Wisconsin Council of Churches, Retuning to Church document. These documents have all been reviewed by the Church Council of Good Shepherd as well as preparing our own plan within the Good Shepherd Pandemic Response Plan.

Currently, the church remains in Stage 3 of Good Shepherd's Pandemic Response Plan where the church is in total shut down with the building locked. Everything is closed until further information from health and government organizations on how to reopen. We will continue to monitor La Crosse County Health Department and CDC recommendations and guidelines. COVID-19 remains very contagious and local data tells us that we should continue to limit our interactions with others as much as possible to protect ourselves and our congregation to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The church staff is communicating with local church leaders to develop a plan for opening together. As soon as conditions improve for the required timeframe, then an established plan for reopening buildings can be followed.

We thank you for your phone calls, emails and most of all patience as we navigate this unprecedented time. We know this is hard on everyone to not be together as a church family. Please find spiritual sustenance with the online bible study that Pastor John is holding, joining Pastor Harald on Sundays at 9am for online worship, give the church office or another member a call for a friendly visit and most of all visit the website for up to date information on what's happening in Good Shepherd. An exciting event to add to your calendar is Saturday, July 11th at 4pm Good Shepherd is having a Drive-In Church Service with communion. See Pastor Harald's Voice article for more details!

Yours in Christ,

Jim Bugge, President of the Congregation

Sara Wrobel, Vice President of the Congregation

## **Serve**Enriching Life, Sharing talents

#### Thank You All So Very Much...

Altar Guild—Thank you to the members who served during the month of June Al & Kathy Johnson & Sharon Yushta. For the month of July Arlene & Dewey Dreves & Linda Schoen will be on duty if we have any services.

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

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**

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

## **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 vou! Please call Randy Lyden at (608) 792-1305 or email 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

#### 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.

#### **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.

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

iust like vourself. Social events throughout the year along with a yearly mission trip. Want to learn more? Contact the Jen Servais at 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 June. Our next week will be Aug 3rd to Aug 9th 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.

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 for deliveries 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@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.

To continue your support of WAFER, vou 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.

#### 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.

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### 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 May 20 through June 24.

#### 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 Lawrynk
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.

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### Church Numbers

#### Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30am	10:30am
05/03/20	No Service	No Service
05/10/20	No Service	No Service
05/17/20	No Service	No Service
05/24/20	No Service	No Service
05/31/20	No Service	No Service

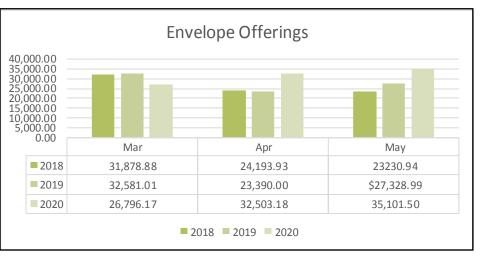
#### **Envelope Offering Comparison**

May 2020	May 2019	% Difference
35,101.50	27,328.99	28.4%
YTD 2020	YTD 2019	% Difference

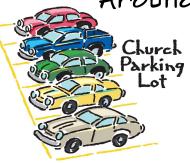
#### Weekly Envelope Offerings

•	•	C
Date	Weekly	% Budget
05/03/20	7,454.50	123.4%
05/10/20	6,751.50	111.7%
05/17/20	8,425.36	139.4%
05/24/20	9,733.64	161.1%
05/31/20	2,736.50	45.3%
Totals	35,101.50	116.2%

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.



### Around the Parish...



#### Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, July 11th at 4pm for Good Shepherd's first Drive-In Worship Service with Communion. The service will be held in the parking lot across from Church.

Come a bit early to get your parking spot and tune your car radio tuned to 107.1 FM

#### **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 <a href="http://gslacrosse.org/sunday-bible-study/">http://gslacrosse.org/sunday-bible-study/</a>

#### **Rummage Sale Canceled**

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, Church has wisely decided that it is too dangerous to hold a public gathering like a Rummage Sale or the Holiday Marketplace Sale this year. Hopefully, the new year brings us a vaccine that will help deter the spread of the virus and we will be able to return to safe gatherings and fundraisers. A great deal of effort has already been put into these two events; however, after careful consideration, the realization that the loss of even one member would be too great a price to pay to hold a fundraiser at this time. The Rummage Sale and Holiday Marketplace Committee agrees with this decision and will return in 2021 with both events when it is safe to do so. Thank you for your support and understanding. - Sally Lindahl

#### **Online Worship**

Please continue to join in worshiping online with us Sundays at 9am. 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 <a href="http://gslacrosse.org/live/">http://gslacrosse.org/live/</a>

#### 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 <a href="http://gslacrosse.org/give-online/">http://gslacrosse.org/give-online/</a>

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 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.

## 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.

### Around the Parish...



On August 22nd, 2020, Mariah Forster Olson will be celebrating 40 years from her childhood cancer diagnosis with Mariah's Celebration Fundraiser. This event was originally scheduled to take place at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, but positive COVID-19 cases have dramatically increased in La Crosse County and for everyone's safety and protection, all events have been cancelled indefinitely at the church. Mariah's Celebration Fundraiser is still going to take place on August 22nd from 1–4pm, but it is now going to be a virtual event, consisting of a program and silent auction. (Further details about how to attend and join will be published on our Facebook page and website soon!) The majority of the proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to two nonprofits - the Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. The remainder of the proceeds will go to C.O.U.R.A.G.E., a local childhood cancer organization, and the American Cancer Society.

Many generous businesses and individuals have donated incredible items and baskets, which you can get a "sneak preview" of soon on our Facebook page. You can also make a donation on the Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/events/175496773718812/ or our website, www.mariahscelebrationfundraiser. com. Thank you so much for your interest, and we sincerely hope that you will be able to make time for Mariah's Celebration Fundraiser. Please attend, and invite your family and friends!

#### Holiday Marketplace canceled

I am so disappointed to let you know that due to COVID19, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will no longer be holding its 2020 Holiday Marketplace Sale.

Until a vaccine is readily available for this disease, we cannot take on the liability of holding a large public gathering. We know this is a huge let down for everyone, but safety has to be our first concern. No one expects a vaccine to be available by November, so we will err on the side of caution and cancel now, in order to allow you to find other venues to sell your products.

I am still taking reservations now for the 2021 sale which will be held November 13th, 2021. If you are alright with this plan, let me know and I will keep your deposit and send you a confirmation of your spot for that sale. If you wish to have a refund, let me know and I will mail out a check. Refunds given mean that your spot is no longer guaranteed and it is open to others to reserve.

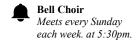
This means Good Shepherd WELCA will not be holding a fundraiser this year which backs many deserving programs throughout the year. We really wanted to find a way to offer the sale, but with so many older members who help put on this sale, there is no safe way to do it. We deeply regret our taking this action. I look forward to hearing from each of you in regard to your decision to book a spot for 2021 or to request a refund.

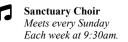
Thank you, Sally Lindahl E2154 Hamburg Ridge Road Stoddard, WI 54658-9764 608-799-0263 sally@gslacrosse.org

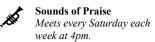
#### **Hintgen Food Project**

The Hintgen Project will resume again in the fall. We thank you for all the monetary gifts to make this possible for our community. We are truly making a difference in these children's lives.

## **July 2020**







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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4 4th of July
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom		5pm Men's Golf				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom		5pm Men's Golf				4pm Drive In Church Service
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom		5pm Men's Golf			August Voice Articles Due	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom	5:30pm Finance	5pm Men's Golf 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting				
26	27	28	29	30	31	August 1
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom		5pm Men's Golf				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9am Online Worship 10:15am Bible Study via Zoom		5pm Men's Golf				
		ip services and face-to-face	_			
As of March email, our we to meet via ei	24 the church offices a ebsite, and Facebook p mail. by phone or by v	re temporarily closed, but m eage for updates as we naviga ideo conference. Please obse	au and voice messages wi ite our way through this n rve all public health and	uu continue to be checked next month. Committees a safety recommendations a	aany. Piease check yo re encouraged to com ind stav healthv!	ur inue

### Church Council Members

- Jim Bugge President of the Congregation jim@gslacrosse.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.)

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- Rev. Harald Bringsjord Senior Pastor prharald@gslacrosse.org
- Rev. John Stennes-Spidahl Assistant Pastor prjohn@gslacrosse.org
- Rick Laufenberg Office Manager rick@gslacrosse.org 788-0450
- **Kathy Johnson** *Office Assistant* kathy@gslacrosse.org
- Tammy Klein Children's Ministry Coordinator tammy@gslacrosse.org
- Jen Servais Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry jen@gslacrosse.org

- Randy Lyden Music Director/ Organist randy@gslacrosse.org (608) 792-1305
- Linda Jerome Bell Choir Director linda@gslacrosse.org
- Karl & Jaime Greenfield Sanctuary Choir Directors karl@gslacrosse.org 790-3785
- Darlene Lassig Volunteer Gloria Dei Choir Director 788-5686 darlene@gslacrosse.org
- Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard Volunteer Parish Nurses Cody\_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org
- **Bill Klein** *Custodian* 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

Greetings,

July 28th is world hepatitis day. Hepatitis is broken down into three diseases. Hepatitis A, B, and C. Hepatitis is simply inflammation of the liver, that is caused mostly by viruses. Drug and alcohol use can also cause hepatitis. The liver is the largest organ inside your body and helps digest food, store energy, and filter blood.

Those who are affected by hepatitis may experience the following symptoms: loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, dark-colored urine and pale bowel movements, stomach pain, and jaundice or yellowing of the skin and eyes. Hepatitis cases can be mild, and others can be serious leading to cirrhosis, or liver cancer. Hepatitis can be treated with medications. In some instances, the bodies immune system can fight off the virus on its own, and in some cases, it can last a lifetime.

Hepatitis A is highly contagious and can spread from person to person in many different settings. It typically causes mild illness, and many never realize they are sick. Most often hepatitis A is spread through food or water. Those who get hepatitis B often have mild symptoms for a short time and then get better on their own. Over time, hepatitis B can lead to serious problems, such as liver failure and liver cancer. You can get Hepatitis B through contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected person. Those who get hepatitis C often carry the virus in their body for the

long term. Chronic hepatitis C can cause very serious complications. Hepatitis C is spread through infected blood.

Blood tests can determine whether you have viral hepatitis, and if so, which kind. The best way to prevent Hepatitis A and B is through vaccination and avoiding contact with someone who may be infected. There is no vaccine for hepatitis C.

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard



### **Cody Nedegaard & Kerstin Gruntzel**

GS Volunteer Parish Nurses

Cody Kerstin@gslacrosse.org

**Health Questions?** 

Gundersen Telephone Nurse Advisor



Happy Summer Everyone!

Well, another Sunday School year has come and gone. What's Different This YEAR? SOOOO much! First of all, we have put Explorer's Day and Sugar Creek on hold until they open for guests again. I am looking forward to Sugar Creek alternative programs this summer.

Also, Sunday School usually ends the week after Mother's Day. But I have been learning so much and had fun with Facebook Live, that I have decided to continue through the summer with Sunday School. Tune in on Sunday to me, send me a friend request and make sure I have your email. I try to tie in with Sunday Services online, and we start after Services are done. If I go over, feel free to shoot over to Lori Lowell and ZOOM Preschool. She has continued this with her kiddos as well.

Speaking of 5<sup>th</sup> graders, what a blessing this year's group of future confirmands have been. I know we are in different times and I am sure you are all wondering when your Seder will be. The truth is, we are not sure. With this in mind, feel free to have communion with your family. July 11<sup>th</sup> will be a great time to do it. I am hoping we can do a refresher for you on Communion soon. Somehow, we will get Seder in; maybe we will do a double. I have not forgotten and neither has your church family.

Our Final Thank you for all the teacher and parent volunteers this year were also put into the, "future celebrations" file of our re-opening drawer. Thank you to everyone who helped during this past year. Special Thanks also to Julie Foreman who sews our Prayer Pillows, Dave Kilmer who made the beautiful Prayer Blocks and our Christmas Angel who never lets us down, or go without, during our Christmas Program. I hope I haven't missed any one!

We are also waiting to gather and collect our Lenten donation for Sunday School for the Hintgen Meals project. Everyone took a piggy bank home so hang on to those!

All of this means future plans are PENDING! But I urge you not to think about what we are not, or cannot, do right now. Think about, instead, what we can do. Our family has been in "safe distancing" mode since Mid February, when Bill became ill. Since then, we have been doing Sunday School in a new way, built and planted our first raised gardens (so excited to try our home grown tomatoes), redone some treasured furniture, tried new recipes, Discovered PBS, new grill suppers, and more. We have been busy! Soon it will a new season with new challenges and new adventures.

As you can see, the end of Spring was not quite the end...It was more of a beginning! Beginning to explore some other ways to connect, spend time "together", and celebrate our homes and families.

If you have any thoughts about Sunday School, Summer Connections, and projects or maybe you would like to do a Sunday School lesson, let me know. I am open to almost anything. I am working from home and I do practice save distance and have my mask on in public. But let me know if you need anything and I can help. Some days are easy, and some days I need Chocolate, but all days, I pray. I am never alone and neither are you!

A safe and healthy July to all! Tammy

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## 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.



#### **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)

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being." Job 12: 7-10



Happy summer! This is my favorite time of year as I love being outside and enjoying all the beauty of this area. This summer is definitely different from previous ones with all that is happening in the world. But because of these events, we are in a position to take advantage of all that our area has to offer in terms of outdoor entertainment. There are so many fun family activities we can participate in that are relatively safe and usually free! Below is a list of three activities to consider as well as websites that will help guide you.

John Muir is quoted as saying "Into the forest I go to lose my mind and find my soul." There are so many great places to hike in this area with varying degrees of difficulty. It is easy to find trails that will suit anyone in your family! The website https://www.explorelacrosse.com/morethings-to-do-in-la-crosse-wi/hiking-lacrosse-wi/ will give you lots of options as well as maps of the trails. You could try and do a new trail each week with the family! It is great exercise and an opportunity to unplug and converse with your kids.

**Biking:** If you want something a little more active than a hike, then check out all the

biking trails in the area (https:// www.explorelacrosse.com/more-things-todo-in-la-crosse-wi/biking-la-crosse-wi/-). Again, a great way to enjoy the Earth we have been blessed with. There are several trails listed for all kinds of ages and fitness levels. You don't have to be a professional to enjoy biking...there are many flat trails that are easy rides. There are also some great trails by the weather station for mountain biking.

**Kayaking/Canoeing:** Love the water? Want a more adventurous activity? Try kayaking/canoeing. There are a ton of paddling trails around the area and it is a great way to see the beauty of the river. This option will require renting kayaks/ canoes but the rates are reasonable. Here is a link to maps and rental sites https:// www.explorelacrosse.com/more-things-todo-in-la-crosse-wi/paddling-in-la-crosse-

This summer doesn't have to be a disappointment despite not having pools and summer sports. Use it as opportunity to be witness to the amazing environment around us. Immersing yourselves and your families in nature is good for the soul and a reminder of all we have to be thankful for.

In Peace. 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!

GSlacrosse.org

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: Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

One of the great challenges for sailors at the time this hymn was written was the maintaining of a spiritual routine that included regular church attendance. Worship services did not exist on most ships unless the captain or a crew member chose to lead them. To help sailors in this, the Church of Sea and Land was established in 1864 in New York City, not being dissolved until 1972.

Edward Hopper (1816-1888) wrote the text to "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" with sailors well in mind. A graduate from New York University (1839) and Union Theological Seminary (1842), Hopper served as pastor of the Sag Harbor Presbyterian Church on Long Island for eleven years, but served most of his time as pastor at the Church of Sea and Land, remaining there until his death in 1888.

While at the Church of Land and Sea, Hopper wrote the poem "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me". It was published anonymously in *The Sailor's Magazine* in 1871. Composer John Edgar Gould (1822-1875) saw the poem and, unknown to Hopper, wrote music to accompany it. When asked to write a poem for the anniversary of the Seaman's Friend Society, he brought the word's of "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" to the meeting and discovered that many people there already knew both the poem and the accompanying music. It was only then that people discovered who had written this poem.

"Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" was written with the life of the sailor very much in mind. It refers to things well known to sailors, such as charts, compasses and the need for a competent pilot. It also references dangers well known to sailors, such as "unknown waves" and "treacherous shoal". Directly citing Scripture (Matthew 8:23-27), the hymn text quotes Jesus' command to the sea, "Be still!", revealing Jesus to be the "wondrous Sovereign of the sea". In the final verse, we pray to hear Jesus say as we near death, "Fear not--I will pilot Thee".



#### Randy Lyden

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



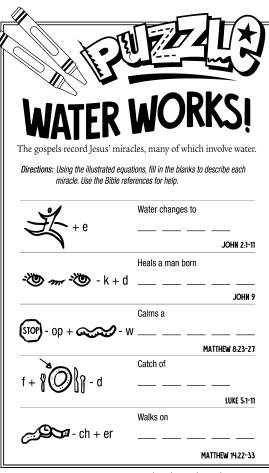


This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



#### What you do:

- 1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
- 2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
- 3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
- 4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.



Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

