



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH ΗE R ΑΝ The Shepherd's Voice Monthly Newsletter April, 2021

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

On April 25th, we held our first in-person worship in over a year. The re-opening team along with staff has been working diligently to keep everyone safe. We have certainly lost some of the usual feel of worship because of the rules in place to keep everyone safe, but we gathered in the building at 10:30am on Sunday and the following Wednesday at 6pm. I have truly been looking forward to gathering together with you for worship in person again. As an exciting new feature, the cameras are in place, so if you are not feeling comfortable coming in person yet, you are able to watch the live-stream at 10:30am on Sundays except for the third Sunday of each month, as that will be held as a parking lot worship. Details on how to watch can be found at gslclacrosse.org and will be sent out through the weekly e-news. If you haven't signed up for the weekly e-news yet, please do so.

I will continue to work together with the other pastors in our Conference for the live-streamed worship service on Sundays at 9am through Our Savior's Lutheran Church live-stream system.

Good Shepherd's Confirmation Celebration will take place outdoors on May 2, at 2pm. Please pray for the confirmands as they take this big step in their lives. More information on this service can be found on the youth page with Jen Servais.

On May 23rd, we enter the season of Pentecost. Pentecost is a season of the church focused on the Holy Spirit growing faith in people. There is something

mysterious about faith and about the way faith takes root in our lives. We can't prove that the object of our faith even exists. Yet faith exerts a strange and irresistible power over us. C.S. Lewis wrote that he resisted faith in Christ for years, and that one day as he and his brother were going to the zoo, he didn't have faith. But when he got home, he did. The Word of God comes to us and reveals God's grace to us in Christ. This Word works its way past our defenses, into our hearts, and plants a seed that grows into this thing we call faith. One day we find ourselves caught up in the net of God's love, and gradually, our trust in that love defines our whole existence. As we enter into the season of Pentecost, may our hearts be open to God's Word for each one of us and for the entire world.

Thanks be to God for his amazing love! Pastor Harald

At the 2020 Congregational meeting, we approved a church community advocate position. The job description and application can be found on our church website under "We Are Hiring." This position would open up many different ways for us to be engaged in both the church and the community. Please consider applying for this job opportunity

Sugar Creek Bible Camp Spring Work Days will be May 7th-8th. If anyone would like to participate in this fun and helpful event with Pastor Harald on one or both of the days, please contact Pastor Harald at (608) 788-0450

Facebook.com/GSlacrosse

Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse

GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

From our Re-opening Committee

Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Church Council, the Re-Opening Committee is writing to you with an update for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. With safety and your cooperation foremost in reinstating services and activities in the church, please read and understand your role in the process.

This is an interim plan, a starting point for this church building and property. Changes may be made to this plan if La Crosse County COVID-19 and/or any variant(s) cause a "spike" or rise in positive cases. In that instance communication will be sent by the Church Office to members.

This committee remains vigilant in keeping staff and members of this church safe. In the process of re-opening, a variety of service options are available, allowing for personal choices for attending. Masks, even if attendee is vaccinated, are required to be worn properly while on church property.

Sunday Drive-In Church- 10:30am (Week 3) Outdoor, weather permitting Sunday Worship- 10:30am (Week 1, 2, 4, 5) Indoor Wednesday Worship- 6pm (Week 1, 2, 4, 5) Indoor

Indoor Seating per service is limited and persons of the same household, entering together, may be seated together. To attend services, call the church office to reserve your place at one of the weekly services.

Keeping our commitment to grow ministry, all services of Good Shepherd can be viewed on your computer or electronic device online at gslacrosse.org and/or oursaviorslutheranchurch.net/live-stream/ Our Savior's online service is available to listen by phone at (877) 552-3468.

All Committees and Groups of Good Shepherd are advised by this committee to remain meeting via Zoom because business can be conducted without being in the church. An exception is the Quilting Group. The Quilters are highly encouraged to vaccinate and must wear a mask on church property, but may meet since needed machines and materials are housed in the church. If a group or committee needs to meet in person, contact the Church Office. The office will notify Interim Re-Opening committee to review request.

Large community groups who use the church for meeting space will not be allowed to convene yet. This committee will re-meet in July 2021 to review the current COVID conditions, numbers, and church use to further update its recommendations.

These plans are dependent on the cooperation of all when coming together to hear the word of God and celebrate our faith. We have a church that has remained strong through a pandemic because of each of you. Thank you.

Re-Opening Committee: Jessica Addington (Secretary, Church Council) Jim Bugge (Vice President of Congregation) Pastor Harald Bringsjord Kathy Johnson (Office Assistant)

Dr. Karl Noll (Church Council) Rick Laufenberg (Office Manager) Janet Torkelson (Church Council) Sara Wrobel (Congregation President)

Serve Enriching Life, Sharing Talents

Thank You All So Very Much...

Who sets up & cleans up after communion? The Altar Guild. This Guild is an amazing group of people working behind the scenes in their dedicated way to make worship go smoothly. With worship being limited and the drive in service, the Altar Guild has had a chance to think about new ways to serve during this pandemic. So far a schedule has not been sent out, but this group continues to do ministry.

A special thanks to Kathy Johnson for and sending out "Get Well" cards in April and through May, and to Ann Hudson who through out the year sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls, by volunteers, to bereaved families.

Care Ministries—Thank you to all members who are serving as Good Shepherd Care Ministers as you bring communion and care to those who are shut in their homes or in care facilities. You truly are reflecting "God's work, Our hands" through this ministry. One person said it truly is a gift to get a visit with communion through my care minister, it makes me feel connected to the church.

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



Maya Angelou



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



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

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

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

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 to be a part of this growing and exciting praise band!

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.

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, or

just drop in and check it out for yourself!

Connect Bridging Our Community To Our World

Mobile Meals of La Crosse

We have the new 2021 Mobile Meal schedule and because some of our loyal mobile meal drives we have filled the first 4 weeks of 10 weeks we have throughout the 2021 calendar year.

Remember that many of the people that our meal drivers deliver to may see no one else but the you that day, so please give them a big Hi and a Smile from you and Good Shepherd!!

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

While we are under Covid protocals for worship we will not collecting food for WAFER. To continue your support of WAFER, you can give a monetary gift.

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 Simply make your check out to Good Shepherd, indicate WAFER in the check memo, and mail your check to us or drop it in the offering basket if you attend one of our in person services.

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. **Don Faulhaber Memorial**

Mark Schaefer Memorial

Paul Boarman Memorial

John & Naomi Stennes-

Spidahl

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Tom & Phyllis Lynch

Don & Delores Abbey

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 March 19 through April 23.

Hintgen Food Project

Rob & Dianne Hamann John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl Jim & Jan Quinn Karl & Julie Noll Ladd & Alice DaFoe Tom & Phyllis Lynch Jackie Meyer



Barb Hegge Jim & Jan Quinn Ruth Strand



Thrivent Choice Dollars

Bonnie Beitlich Harold Beitlich Vernon Garves Geri Hammes Margaret Lindahl



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Tax Considerations

In 2020 there were two tax implications from the CARES act that all should consider taking advantage of when you fill out your taxes. They are:

- The ability for people to claim \$300 as a charitable deduction (even if you use the standard deduction)
- An increase in the amount that family can claim as a charitable deduction. While usually capped at 60% of income, for 2020 it was raised to 100% of income.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 brings those advantages forward into 2021.

Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30am	10:30am
03/07/21	Online	Online
03/14/21	Online	Online
03/21/21	Online	Online
03/28/21	Online	Online

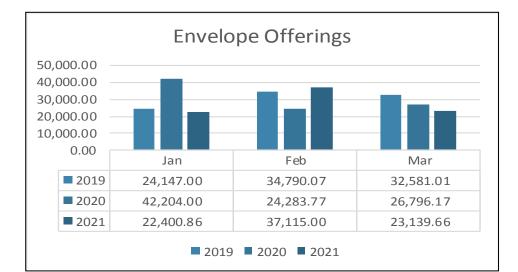
Envelope Offering Comparison

March 2021	March 2020	% Difference	
23,139.66	26,796.17	-13.6%	
YTD 2021	YTD 2020	% Difference	
82,590.52	93,283.94	-11.5%	

Weekly Envelope Offerings

Date	Weekly	% Budget
03/07/21	10,091.00	115.3%
03/14/21	5,900.50	67.4%
03/21/21	3,352.66	38.3%
03/28/21	3,795.50	43.4%
Totals	23,139.66	66.1%

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



Around the Parish...

In person Worship at Good Shepherd

We have resumed indoor in-person worship services! For those who feel comfortable worshiping in person, we are having sevices Sunday mornings at 10:30 and Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm.

Precautions with social distancing, proper mask wearing, and santizing will be required to attend. You will also need to call the church office (608) 788-0450 to pre register to attend either service as our capacity is limited to 70 people. Registration for the upcoming Sunday and following Wednesday services will begin Monday morning of that week. You will need to register for each service you plan to attend and you can only register for services that Sunday and following Wednesday, no pre registrations for dates beyond that will be taken.

Only the front doors under the canopy will be open and you must wait for an usher to seat you in order to maintain social distancing. Masks must be properly worn throughout the service and you must remain seated until an usher dismisses you at the end of the service. The main restroom is open but we ask that it only be used if absolutely necessary.

Our goal is to provide a safe environment for worship. Regardless of your vaccination status, if you or anyone in your family has Covid, has had a known exposure to Covid within 14 days of the service, or if you are otherwise not feeling well, we ask that you please do not attend.

Online Worship

Join us in online worship Sundays at 10:30am on our website http://gslacrosse.org/live/ You also can continue to worship online Sundays at 9am from Our Saviors by going to https:// www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net/livestream/ If you do not have a computer, you can call 1-877-552-3468 to listen to the service from Our Saviors.

Drive-In Worship Service

We will be holding our next Drive-In service at 10:30am Sunday, May 16th. Please arrive early to allow time for parking and tune your radio to 107.1 FM.

Church Contributions

For those who are able and wish to continue their regular offerings when you cannot attend services, 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

<u>Rick@gslacrosse.org</u> 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.

We Need You!!

If you have interest helping Good Shepherd provide our in house worship and Sunday live streaming services please join our newly forming media Team! Members will assist with the service by running the PowerPoint Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings, and controlling the camera's for our live stream service on Sundays.

Both are relatively easy tasks and no great amount of computer skills are needed, we will train you and when you are comfortable add you to the schedule. We are hoping to get at least 8 people involved in this so it would only be a once everyother-month commitment to any one individual.

If you are interested, please email Rick@gslacrosse.org or call the office at 788-0450 to be a valuable part of our worship services.

Around the Parish...

Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Sunday Morning Bible Study with Pastor John has ended for the summer. The studies will resume in September. Thank you to everyone who participated, we look forward to seeing you again in the fall!

"52 for Heath" Thrivent Action Team Challenge

Thrivent and The Chaseburg Sole Burner committee lost a terrific young man this year, Heath Gilkes. In memory of his 52 years of life, Thrivent is working on doing 52 "Action Teams" in honor of Heath throughout the year.

Supporting your community is easy with Thrivent Action Teams. Apply to lead a group in a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. Then, gather a team of volunteers to make an impact together. Thrivent provides a customized kit of resources to get you started. Your team provides the passion to bring it to life. For more information on Thrivent Action Teams and how to create one visit <u>https://</u> <u>www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/</u> <u>generosity/thrivent-action-teams.html</u>

Please label the action team "52 for Heath" in his memory.

We Are Hiring!

Good Shepherd is seeking an outgoing individual to fill a new position here at the church. Our **Community Action Advocate** will work part-time (up to ten hours per week) fulfilling a stewardship roll, designing cohesive, positive marketing for the church and connecting members to volunteer needs and community participation. For more information please see our full job description and get your application on our website at https://gslacrosse.org/we-arehiring/

If you are interested, please fill out our application and return it to the church office by mail at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 4141 Mormon Coulee Rd. La Crosse, WI 54601, or by email in .pdf format to Rick@gslacrosse.org

Sugar Creek Bible Camp

Summer Camp is just around the corner. Whether it's your first summer or your tenth, we have a program designed just for you! Read all about our exciting, new programs and register on our website http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/

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/ or https:// smile.amazon.com/

When selecting your charitable organization search 23-7014481 or use and bookmark the following link: https://smile.amgzon.com/ch/23-7014481

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7014481

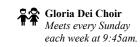
Help Feed The Children At Hintgen

Please continue to support the Hintgen Food Project with your donations. As the pandemic drags on many families continue to struggle to make ends meet.

The children are back in school and we are now sending home backpacks of food every Friday. This costs us about \$250 each week. Because we are sending the backpacks home weekly with the kids, instead of making deliveries to their home, we must buy smaller (slightly more costly) versions of food items so the kids can carry them on their backs.

Hintgen has let us know how very much families appreciate this service. Please continue to support the project by making your checks payable to church, but remembering to indicate HINTGEN FOOD PROJECT in the memo line. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we have been able to maintain this project throughout the pandemic." God Bless the Children who are hungry through no fault of their own.

May 2021



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.

Online Worship Sundays at 9A.M. from Our Savior's and 10:30A.M. from Good Shepherd. Join us at www.gslacrosse.org In Church Worship at Good Shepherd Sundays at 10:30 A.M. & Wednesdays at 6P.M. Drive-in service the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 25	26	27	28	29	30	May 1
10:30am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom			6pm In Church Service			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:30am In Church Service / Communion 2pm Confirmation (in Courtyard) 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom		5:30pm Buildings & Grounds	6pm In Church Service / Communion	6pm WELCA Mtg. via Zoom		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:30am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom			6pm In Church Service			8am Church Spring Clean Up
16	17	18 6pm Parish Ed Mtg. via	19	20	21	22
10:30am Drive In Service / Communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom		Zoom 6pm Admin/Exec Mtg. via Zoom 7pm Church Council Mtg. via Zoom	No In Church Service		June Voice Articles Due	4pm Weingart/Mikrut Wedding (Offsite)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:30am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom			6pm In Church Service			
30	31 Memorial Day	June 1	2	3	4	5
10:30am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group via Zoom	Office Closed	5:30pm Buildings & Grounds	6pm In Church Service	6pm WELCA Mtg via Zoom		
	In p	erson Sunday and Wednesa	ay evening worship servi	ces have started!		
Attendance will be limited to 70. Prop locked. Committees are encouraged t	perly worn medical masks o continue to meet via Zoo	are required to enter the buildin in or other electronic means at t	g and social distancing must his time. This policy will be r	be maintained. Other than for v eevaluated by our Reopening C	orship services, the bui ommittee in July.	lding will remain

Church Council Members

- Sara Wrobel President of the Congregation Sara@gslacrosse.org
- Jim Bugge Vice President of the Congregation
- Todd Holtz Treasurer
- Jessica Addington Secretary

Other Church Council Members include: Tim Knudsen, Roger Weeks Jr., Roger Christians, Ellen Klemp, Janet Torkelson, Karl Noll, John Krause, Thea Johnson, Mark Skolos, Harlan McLain, Pastor Bringsjord, and Karina Bronson (Youth Rep.)



- 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 Nurses

Greetings,

GSlacrosse.org

This month's article will focus on cataracts. Cataracts are the clouding of the lens of your eye, which is normally clear. For your eye to provide you with vision, light needs to pass through a clear lens. The lens is behind your iris (which is the colored part of your eye). The lens focuses the light so that your brain and eye can work to process information into a picture. When a cataract clouds over the lens, your eye can't focus light in the same manner. This leads to blurry vision.

Cataracts are caused by the breakdown of protein in the lens over time. As proteins break down, they linger and make your lens cloudy. Some things can speed up the formation of cataracts such as: diabetes, steroids, radiation, and spending a lot of time in the sun without eye protection.

Cataracts are a common part of the eyes aging process. Eventually, they can cause: Vision that's cloudy, blurry, foggy, or filmy. Sensitivity to bright sunlight, lamps, or headlights. Glare (seeing a halo around lights), especially when you drive at night with oncoming headlights. Prescription changes in glasses, including sudden near sidedness. Double vision. Need for brighter light to read. Difficulty seeing at night. Changes in the way you see color. Cataracts are diagnoses when an eye doctor dilaters your pupil to see inside your eye. Your doctor can see if you have cataracts or other problems and find out how much of

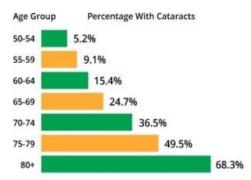
Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard

GS Volunteer Parish Nurses Cody_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org

Health Questions? Gundersen Telephone Nurse Advisor 24/7 at (800) 858-1050. your vision is blocked. If your cataract symptoms are mild, you might just need a new prescription for glasses. Eventually, your doctor will likely recommend surgery to remove the cataract. During this procedure your doctor makes a small opening in the eye to reach the clouded lens. Using ultrasound or a laser, your doctor breaks the lens into pieces. The doctor suctions lens fragments from your eye and puts in a new plastic lens.

Take care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard



Source: National Eye Institute (NEI), U.S. National Institutes of Health



Sunday School Update Pre-school thru Grade s

And 2020-21 Sunday School year comes to a close as May begins. Seems like just yesterday we started our "Safe at Home" lessons on Facebook live and now we finish with our Zoom interaction.

We have one more week of Doubting Thomas, No Sunday School on Mother's Day and then our version of Education Sunday. Many of the children have earned ducks, or have not been able to pick up this year's Milestone gift from Good Shepherd. I will be at church, outside, on Education Sunday which is May 16th to hand out these items before church service starts. I will be at the Birch Street entrance with my DUCK POND STAND. Please come and see me on your way to church, or as a drive up visit if you will be watching from home. I will be there from 9 to 10:30am, rain permitting, outdoors ready to see smiling faces.

We are still formulating a VBS Plan for August along with a plan to celebrate our 5th Graders from last year and this year with the Seder Ceremony. This is the Jewish Passover meal and we morph it to the Last Supper to incorporate when Jesus shared the very first Communion with the disciples. It is a very moving ceremony and if you have never been to it, I recommend sharing in the experience. This will be announced once we have a date and format finalized.

Do we have your email contact on file? If not, please send that to the church office. We need reliable emails for our Zoom meeting set ups. These may continue, post COVID 19, as a means to include additional teaching opportunities for Sunday School. Should there need to be a touch base for Christmas Program, or extra coaching for faith, I can see Zoom Meetings staying as part of our future. Of course, it will not replace in person Sunday School when we are able. But it has been great to learn this new technology and be able to use it for other possible opportunities for faith growth.

We have been spending the past few weeks delving into the story of Doubting Thomas. We have learned all kinds of things about Thomas himself. Did you know his knickname was Twin? We have had art, Science and stories along with videos and this has been a great way to transition from the story of Easter to the "What Next"....

So here is one of our examples that I thought I would share. Our memory verse for the story is John 20:29 – Blessed are those who haven't seen me and still believe. Most of us are familiar with Betty Crocker. The lovely lady that runs the world of Baking. There are cake mixes, pancake mixes and cookbooks. Her radio show, The Betty Crocker Cooking School of the Air, began in 1924, was on the air for 24 years and had more than 1 million listeners. Betty Crocker has served as the official Home-baker's guide by answering questions on cooking and has sold more than 50 million cookbooks. She is always missing one very important ingredient though! SHE, Betty Crocker, never really existed. She is entirely made up.

In 1921, the Washburn Crosby Co. of Minneapolis was getting a lot of letters each week from women who needed baking advise. In an attempt to help them and be very personal, the company, which later became part of General Mills, invented a lady to answer the letters. "Crocker" was the last name and was in honor of William Crocker. He was a retired company director. "Betty" was chosen because, well, Betty sounds nice and friendly. They had a "handwriting" competition with all the secretaries in the company to create a signature and when the radio show began, they hired an actress.15 years later, they needed a picture for the cookbooks. Sooo, a portrait was painted using the combined features of all the companies' women employees. It was updated over the years, giving Betty 8 different images, each one younger than the one before.

So why did we talk about Betty Crocker? Well, because before 1921 no one had heard of her. Then, after that they never saw a picture of her, but were sure she was real because they "knew" her from her cookbooks and radio show. Isn't it amazing, that people

May 9th to 16th	Education Sunday/Service to Others	

have known for centuries what Jesus said in the Bible, but still resist believing in him because they have never seen him. Yet, his words, his actions, his gift. How blessed we are by all of them. Yet, we are blessed. Because Jesus gave us this gift that when we die, and come face to face with God, we can have faith that we are forgiven. And we are blessed, because God, sent his son with the purpose of showing his love for us in the way that only God has.

Our years in Sunday School give us the opportunity to explain this one thing to the kids, in a way that they can understand, trust and grow up with God's Love all. And in turn, they can share that with others. That is our Gift and the gifts of each of our Children.

Soon, we will again be gathering at Good Shepherd for Sunday School and VBS and all our other activities. And I feel Blessed to be able to do that and be safe, knowing that you are all able to gather with me. I have faith that God will be with us as we do because that is how I see him, in each and every smiling face. I can't wait to see you all again and share that time with you as we discover more of God's Stories in 2021-22.

Tammy



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®.



Quick-Look Upcoming Events At a Glance

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

"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthian 16:13-14



On May 2^{nd} , we will be celebrating the Affirmation of Baptism with this year's 8th and 9th graders. Otherwise known as "Confirmation", the Affirmation of Baptism is the culmination of years spent in Sunday school and Confirmation classes learning about God, Jesus, and the many people and stories that have been shared in an attempt to understand God's love. Starting in 6^{th} grade, our teens start this deeper exploration into their faith. The ultimate goal is to see their faith grow over the three years of the program. The students discuss how the stories in the Bible can teach us things in our everyday life, how the lessons of God's love goes WAY back, can still be seen today, and will continue in the future, and discuss questions about faith and religion. Students are required to do community service, work to connect different sermons to their lives and the gospel, and complete different projects depicting what faith looks like in their world. Their families create faith squares with loving messages and favorite Bible verses for the confirmands to be reminded of all the love surrounding them. Finally, they sit down and have a meeting with me and Pastor to discuss their faith statements. These individual meetings are intended to for them to tell us how their faith has grown, but in the end, those discussions ultimately make my own faith grow. Our confirmands are incredible kids...full of questions, ideas, thoughtfulness, love and so much faith. In a world that seems claustrophobic with tragedy, these kids shine God's light into the world in a way that I know will pave the way for a better, more hopeful world. Their parents, grandparents, and villages have done an amazing job and Pastor and I are grateful we get to bask in their faith journeys for a short time.

After a canceled ceremony last year, this year we will be celebrating the faith journeys of 15 students from last year and this year. If you see them around town, congratulate them and pray their faith continues to grow and shine.

2020 Confirmands:

Caitlin Weeks Danielle Bahls Eliza Prentice Emma Osley Emily Sanwick Garcet VandeZande Grace Blegen Jakob Bronson Jordan San Miguel Lucas Miller Luke Pretasky

2021 Confirmands:

Annabelle Flores Caden Wilson Emerson Place Luke Wrobel

In Peace, Jen Youth Update Confirmation (Grades 6-8) High School Youth (Grades 9-12)

Support Good Shepherd's Youth Group by purchasing scrip cards!

Contact me to see what I currently have on hand or fill out an order form to request cards from Amazon to WalMart with several store or restaurant options in between. The three easy steps to order are:

- 1. Print and fill out the Order Form from the church website.
- 2. Write your check out to Good Shepherd Youth Group for the amount you wish to order.
- 3. Submit your completed order form and payment to the church office or me. The orders will be compiled and placed the first week of the month.

My contact information is: Corrine Holtz: Mobile-608-397-9353 or Email-tcjj23511@gmail.com

The church office has Kwik Trip cards available for immediate purchase.



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: It Is Well with My Soul

Of all the hymns in our rich worship music tradition, one of the most moving is the hymn "It Is Well with My Soul", written by Horatio Spafford (1828-1888). Spafford was a prominent and successful Chicago lawyer, devout Christian and Presbyterian church elder. He and his wife Anna had four daughters and a son, and were friends and supporters of evangelist Dwight Moody.

Tragedy began to strike as their young son died of pneumonia in 1871. Also that year, the Great Fire of Chicago destroyed most of Spafford's sizable real estate investments in Chicago, dealing him a severe financial blow. The economic downturn of 1873 made things even worse. The Spaffords decided that year to travel to England to recover from the tragedy and join friends Dwight Moody and Ira Sankey on an evangelical campaign there. An unexpected business problem forced Horatio to remain behind, so his wife and four daughters set out to England on the SS Ville du Havre, with the intention that he would join them there shortly. While at sea, the Ville du Havre struck the iron-hulled Scottish vessel Loch Earn and sank in 12 minutes, killing 226 people, including the four Spafford children.

Anna, who was rescued, sent her husband a telegram from England, which began, "Saved alone, what shall I do?" Spafford took the next available ship to England to join his wife. With the ship about four days

Randy Lyden Good Shepherd Music Director randy@gslacrosse.org | (608) 792-1305 at sea, the captain called Spafford to his cabin and told him that they were over the place where the Ville du Havre sank. It is said that he penned the words to this hymn as the ship passed by where his daughters had died.

Composer Philip Bliss (1838-1876) was very impressed with Spafford's life and the words to this hymn. He wrote a beautiful piece of music to accompany these lyrics and the hymn was published in 1876 by Bliss and Sankey. It bears the tune name Ville du Havre.







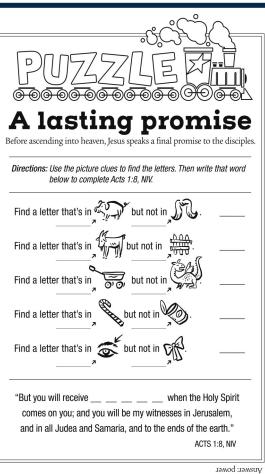
witnesses. This craft is a reminder to reach out to all our "circles."

What you need:

- 5 bowls or cups (assorted sizes)
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Brad fastener
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

- Place the bowls and cups upside down, each on a different color of paper. Trace around the circles and cut them out.
- 2. With a pencil, pierce a small hole atop each circle. Layer circles on each other from largest to smallest, aligning the holes. Insert the brad through all layers.
- 3. Starting in the center, label the circles *my house, my city, my state, my country, the world.* Draw a picture on each one.
- 4. Pray, asking Jesus how you can spread his message.





"I'm going into all the world to make disciples of all nations. So I might be a little late for dinner."