



Built on a rock  
the church shall stand



# GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

## The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter October, 2021

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

*Built on a rock the church shall stand,  
even when steeples are falling;  
crumbled have spires in every land,  
bells still are chiming and calling –  
calling the young and old to rest,  
calling the souls of those distressed,  
longing for life everlasting.*

*Christ builds a house of living stones:  
we are his own habitation;  
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,  
granting us life and salvation.  
Where two or three will seek his face,  
he in their midst will show his grace,  
blessings upon them bestowing. ELW #652*

This great old hymn always reminds me of a favorite Scripture passage – Ephesians 2:19-22: “So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.” I had the privilege back in 2003 of serving as a teaching pastor in our former companion synod in the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesu. “Mekane Yesu” means dwelling place of Jesus in their language. And the Christians I got to know there truly believed and embodied that concept. They practiced holistic ministry – ministry to the whole person. So that wherever they lived and served they were indeed the body of Christ. I have the EECMY on my mind because yesterday when I led worship at Hillview my sermon spoke about Ethiopia. In that country Holy Cross Day (the 14<sup>th</sup> of

September) is a national holiday and since I was preaching on September 14<sup>th</sup>, it seemed natural to talk about Ethiopia.

Being part of the companion synod program over the years gave me a strong sense of the interconnectedness of Christ's church. Today I was able to participate via Zoom in a meeting of retired pastors from the La Crosse Area Synod. It was great to see faces of friends and hear updates of their lives. But the best part of the meeting was getting to know our new bishop, Rev. Felix Malpica. It is exciting to think of how his ministry among us has the potential to truly invigorate our synod and our congregations. I believe he will especially inspire young people to become more committed to all we do together as the household of God. Bishop Felix is a gifted musician. He has a deep understanding of the body of Christ as a global church. I think he will also help us to value being part of the ELCA, our national church body. Our local congregation gives us a sense of community, of belonging to a group of people who work together to share the love of God. Our synod gives us ways to serve with other congregations who are on the same road with us. The national church expands the impact of our generosity to our nation and internationally. Today I am thankful for the work of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services doing God's work in so many places. I am thankful to be a baptized child of God, part of the body of Christ alive and active in the world today.



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdsc



GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

# From our Re-opening Committee

(Reflects changes from our committee meeting on Sept. 20th)

## Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Church Council, the Re-Opening Committee has an update for the plan for opening 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 update to the interim plan for this church building and property. This committee remains vigilant in keeping staff and members of the 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 in the building and during worship services. Leaders of the service may lower or remove mask during speaking or singing. The organist, based on distancing may remove mask while seated and playing.

Sunday Worship- 9am until further notice.

Indoor seating is every other pew. Persons of the same household may be seated together and social distancing of 3 feet between households is recommended. Masks are required at all times during the service. A soloist will sing the hymns and the congregation is asked to not sing along, but rather just enjoy the soloist. The nursery is available for feeding or changing purposes only and mask and distancing recommendations apply.

Keeping our commitment to grow ministry, the indoor 9am Sunday service of Good Shepherd can be viewed on your computer or electronic device online at gslacrosse.org. Archived church services of Good Shepherd can also be found on the church's website!

Church Groups and Committees may meet in the building, but meeting outside or through Zoom is the safest. The Mattes Center will be used for all meetings held indoors. If a group or committee wants to meet in person, contact the Church Office. The Chairperson or Leader of the Group or Committee will need to provide the date/time of the meeting to the Church Office to allow adequate time for set-up and sanitizing.

Large community groups are restricted from using the church for meeting space at this time.

This committee will meet again October 18, 2021 to review the current COVID conditions, the Interim Plans, and church use to further update its recommendations.

The success of the re-opening plan is 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)

Assistant Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

Kathy Johnson (Office Assistant)

Dr. Karl Noll (Church Council)

Rick Laufenberg (Office Manager)

Janet Torkelson (Church Council)

Sara Wrobel (Congregation President)

Due to COVID-19, the World Health Organization, federal, state, local governments and agencies recommend social distancing and the use of personal safety equipment such as masks and sanitizer. Good Shepherd strives to be compliant and promotes safety for attendees. We have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but we cannot guarantee that attendees will not become infected with COVID-19. By participating in programs, services, and activities of Good Shepherd you agree to the following: On behalf of yourself and your children, you hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to your participation in our programs, services or activities. You understand and agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of this organization, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any such program, service or activity.

# Serve

## Enriching Life, Sharing Talents

## Thank You All So Very Much...

**The Altar Guild.** With worship being limited and with restrictions due to COVID Altar Guild has not been active. In the fall they will start planning on how to proceed with new ways to serve. If you are interested in being apart of this ministry, please contact the office.

Thank you to Ann Hudson who sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls to bereaved families throughout the year.

**Care Ministries**—Thank you to all members who are serving as Good Shepherd Care Ministers! By bringing 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.

**Prayer Chain Ministry**—Thank you to all the members of Good Shepherd’s Prayer Chain. Prayer ministers pray daily for Good Shepherd intentions, special/urgent requests, the community and the world beyond. Call Kathy at the office to serve through prayer.

## 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)



“Sunsets are like God’s paintings in the sky.” –

Unknown



## Lead

### Raising Up Spiritual Leaders

*The following groups will resume meeting once approved by the reopening committee.*

#### 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!



#### 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).

#### 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!

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

## Connect

### Bridging Our Community To Our World

#### Mobile Meals of La Crosse

**We are doing 10 weeks for Mobile Meals throughout the 2021 calendar year and we have filled almost all of them. Thank you to everyone who has signed up!**

Remember that many of the people that our meal drivers deliver to may see no

*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

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

one else but 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.

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.



## 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 August 6 through September 17.

#### Hintgen Food Project

Norm & Joanne Jerome  
Ladd & Alice DaFoe  
Karl & Julie Noll  
Jerry & Virginia Larsen  
Rob & Dianne Hamann  
Rich & Barb Doering

#### Giving Tree Donation

Steve Stelzl

#### ELCA Disaster Response

John & Naomi Stennes-  
Spidahl  
Kathie Vongroven

#### Ann Van Dyck Memorial

LeeAnn Lyden  
Ruth Strand  
Lori Lowell  
Art & Betty Olson  
Darlene Lassig  
Irene Thorelli

memorials  
& gifts

#### Paul Onsrud Memorial

Dean & JoEllen Blegen  
Vicki Burritt  
Kyle Dahl  
Carl & Farrel Deml  
Larry & Doris Dahl  
Barb & Dan Diebold  
Marla & Boyd Engbloom  
Karen Gatzloff  
Rohnda & Gary Hanan  
Deb & Larry Hanan  
Joanne & Doug McPherson  
Robert & Shelly Onsrud  
Martha Sesvold  
Bonnie Thoreson  
Lois Ulrich

Lori & Paul Ulrich  
Jean & Howard Wiggert  
Russ & Grace Butman  
Howard & Jean Olson

#### Clarence & Ann Aberg Memorial

David Aberg

#### Thrivent Choice Donation

Monty Gilbertson  
LeeAnn Lyden

#### WAFER

John Wood

#### Lutheran Campus Ministry

Tom & Phyllis Lynch



## Church Numbers

### Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date		9:00am
08/01/21		Online
08/08/21		Online
08/15/21		Online
08/22/21		Online
08/29/21		Online

### Weekly Envelope Offerings

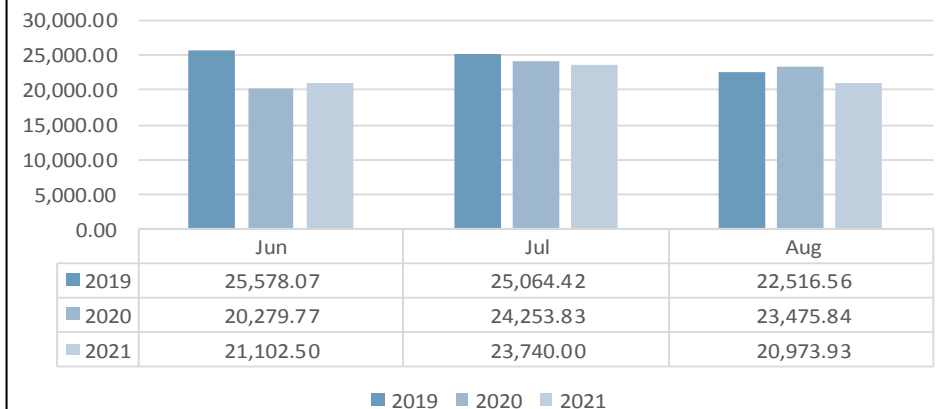
Date	Weekly	% Budget
08/01/21	4,412.50	63.1%
08/08/21	4,219.22	60.3%
08/15/21	7,829.50	111.9%
08/22/21	2,352.50	33.6%
08/29/21	2,160.21	30.9%
Totals	20,973.93	59.9%

### Envelope Offering Comparison

August 2021	August 2020	% Difference
20,973.93	23,475.84	-10.7%
YTD 2021	YTD 2020	% Difference
219,926.93	228,898.06	-3.9%

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](mailto:rick@gslacrosse.org)

### Envelope Offerings



## Around the Parish...

### Live Worship at Good Shepherd

In-person Sunday Worship begins at 9am and is also live streamed on our website <http://gslacrosse.org/live/> for those who cannot attend in person.

Precautions with social distancing and proper mask wearing once inside will be required to attend.

Only the front doors under the canopy will be open and you will be able to sit where you wish accept in the pew that are taped off. After the service is over you may leave as you wish. But please maintain the 3' distance from others. If you want to socialize with others please do that after the service is over and do it out side. The main restrooms are open if needed.

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 9am on our website <http://gslacrosse.org/live/>. If you do not have a computer, you can call 1-877-552-3468 to listen to the service from Our Saviors at 9am.

### Welcoming Donations!

We are accepting monetary donations to help with purchasing gifts and prizes for residents at Bethany Riverside. If you can help us, make your check out to Good Shepherd, but make note on the memo line that it is for Birthday Parties & Bingo. Thank you!!

### Lutheran World Relief Kits!

LWR helps those in need around the world. Please make a monetary donation so we can purchase the supplies for school kits, healthcare kits & baby kits. Make your check out to Good Shepherd and on the memo line please write that it is for LWR Kits. Thank you all so much!

### 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 "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" 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.

### We Need You!!

Please join our media Team! Members will assist with the service by running the PowerPoint 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 every-other-month commitment to any one individual.

If you are interested, please email [Rick@gslacrosse.org](mailto:Rick@gslacrosse.org) or call the office at 608-788-0450 to be a valuable part of our worship services.

### Lydia Circle

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, Oct. 5** at 1pm in the Mattes Center. You may bring your own snack or beverage for personal consumption only. Masks are required in the building. Please call Carol Abraham 787-0679 if you have any questions.

## Around the Parish...

### 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.

### We Are Hiring!

Our **Community Action Advocate** will work part-time (up to ten hours per week), 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-are-hiring/>. Return the application by email in .pdf format to [Rick@gslacrosse.org](mailto:Rick@gslacrosse.org)

### 2022 National Youth Gathering

The ELCA National Youth Gathering is happening next summer. All teens currently in grades 8-11 are eligible to attend! This is an amazing opportunity to hang out with thousands of teens from all over the country, celebrating our faith. If you have a teen who is interested, email [jen@gslacrosse.org](mailto:jen@gslacrosse.org). There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, October 6th at 6pm.

### Give from Good Shepherds Caring Tree!

Share some joy this Christmas by requesting a tag from Good Shepherd's Caring Tree. The tag will have the name and Christmas gift suggestions for a local nursing home resident, perhaps the only gift they may receive this year.

You can request a tag (or tags) by calling the church office at 788-0450. The tags will not be available until later, but you can still make the request now and be put on our waiting list. The date you will need to have the wrapped gifts brought back to Good Shepherd will be posted in the November newsletter and Sunday bulletins. Thank you in advance for making Christmas special for these special people!

### ELCA "God's work. Our hands." Sunday

October 3, 2021, from 1 - 4pm.  
at Chad Erickson Memorial Park  
3601 Park Lane Drive in La Crosse, WI

Members of Good Shepherd are welcome to volunteer their time and talents for our 9th Annual Event. Some of the projects we will be working on include: weeding, sweeping, trimming, and replacing wood chips with new wood chips.

Barb and Dave Erickson would also like the volunteers to be able to relax and enjoy the beautiful park afterwards by fishing in the ponds.

I would like to keep family members together; however, masks are encouraged when not socially distanced.

This year there will only be prepackaged snacks and bottled water served during the event.

Please contact Lori Lowell at 608-386-3388, 608-788-7315, or [lori@gslacrosse.org](mailto:lori@gslacrosse.org) with any questions or to register.

Please volunteer for this wonderful opportunity to help one of Good Shepherd's church families!

# Oct. 2021



**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.

*In-person Worship Sundays at 9A.M. This service is also live steamed on our website at [www.gslacrosse.org](http://www.gslacrosse.org)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>September 26</b> 9am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group	27	28	29 6:30pm Confirmation	30	October 1	2
<b>3</b> 9am In Church Service 1pm Gods Work, Our Hands 6:30pm GS Men's Group	4 6pm Trust Foundation	5 1pm Lydia Circle	6 6:30pm Confirmation	7 No WELCA Meeting	8	9 3:30pm Sorenson/Hansen Wedding (offsite)
<b>10</b> 9am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group	11	12 1:45pm Hillview Communion	13 6:30pm Confirmation	14	15 <b>November Voice            Articles Due</b>	16 12:45pm Kendhammer Baptism 1pm Lindahl Graveside Service, Viroqua Ceme- tery
17 9am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group	18 5:15pm Finance	19 6pm Parish Ed Meeting 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 7pm Council Meeting	20 6:30pm Confirmation	21	22	23 10:30am Marciniak Baptism
24 9am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group	25	26	27 6:30pm Confirmation	28	29	30 6pm Trunk or Treat in church parking lot
<b>31</b> 9am In Church Service 6:30pm GS Men's Group	November 1	<b>2 Polling Day</b> 5:30pm Buildings & Grounds	3 6:30pm Confirmation	4 6pm WELCA Meeting	5	6
<p><i>Attendance will be limited to 70. Properly worn medical masks are required to enter the building and social distancing must be maintained. Other than for worship services, the building will remain locked. Committees and groups are encouraged to continue to meet via Zoom, but can meet in the church by calling the office to schedule a meeting time. All meetings will take place in the Mattes Center.</i></p>						

*In person worship services at Good Shepherd*



## 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.)

## Meet Our CHURCH STAFF

- **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,

October is national dental hygiene month. According to the CDC, dental hygiene refers to the practice of keeping the mouth, teeth, and gums clean and healthy to prevent disease. Dental hygiene and oral health are often taken for granted but are essential parts of our everyday lives. Poor oral hygiene can lead to dental cavities, gum disease, and has also been linked to heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

Your oral cavity collects all sorts of bacteria, viruses, and fungi. Some of them belong there, making up the normal flora of your mouth. They're generally harmless in small quantities. But a diet high in sugar creates conditions in which acid-producing bacteria can flourish. This acid dissolves tooth enamel and causes dental cavities.

Bacteria near your gum line thrive in a sticky matrix called plaque. Plaque accumulates, hardens, and migrates down the length of your tooth if it isn't removed regularly by brushing and flossing. This can inflame your gums and cause the condition known as gingivitis.

Increased inflammation causes your gums to begin to pull away from your teeth. This process creates pockets in which pus may eventually collect. This more advanced stage of gum disease is called periodontitis.

Going to the dentist twice a year will usually allow them to catch a problem before you even notice any symptoms of disease. If you experience any of the following warning signs of dental health issues, you should make an appointment to see your dentist as soon as possible: ulcers, sores, or tender areas in the mouth that won't heal after a week or two, bleeding or swollen gums after brushing or flossing, chronic bad breath, sudden sensitivity to hot and cold temperatures or beverages, pain or toothache, loose teeth, receding gums, clicking of the jaw, or pain with chewing or biting.

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard

National Dental Hygiene Month

**OCTOBER**

It's Simple.  
Health Habits For a Healthy Smile.



### Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard

GS Volunteer Parish Nurses  
Cody\_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org

**Health Questions?**  
Gundersen Telephone Nurse Advisor  
24/7 at (800) 858-1050.



## Sunday School Update

### Pre-school thru Grade 5

Happy Fall Y'All!

As I sit here, putting my thoughts to paper, I am filled with the joy of seeing all the Sunday Schoolers again. I am so grateful to have been able to learn virtually with them during the past 18 months. Milestone gifts handed out at the "drive-in services", VBS for a weekend outside and Sunday School lessons over Facebook Live and Zoom. It has been a "season" of different. And the different continues as we will be working hard to keep our volunteers and children healthy while gathering together in the Mattes Center.

So if you don't see children in church during the 9am services each week, we will be busy in the Mattes center with our Sunday School stories and our activities which will include our rotation lessons. We are going to start with Abraham and Sara, Hannah and Samuel and Solomon Builds a Temple. Advent will wrap up our year with plans to be determined for Christmas events. I am so looking forward to other activities, but the planning of these will happen month to month. Please watch emails and your voice articles for updates and announcements.

And, as always, all are welcome. HOWEVER, this year it is imperative that we get a registration form completed for all children attending Sunday School. Safe gathering means true counts for safe distance, careful distribution of individual supplies and continued diligence for communication on happenings throughout our church family. PLEASE, complete the registration form and bring with you or send it in by email.

I am also beginning to use our Text Club and have the information to register for this following my article. The reason for this is so that urgent notifications do not get lost among emails or rely on Announcements. It gives us the opportunity to use ALL these sources to let you know when weather, illness or other needs arise during the coming year.

Milestones will also be different for now. They will be given out during a presentation

during Sunday School and then a Picture presentation will be on the screens during the church service(s) the following week.

We have had many discussions during the summer on how to bring our kids back together after so much time away. And no, our church is not the building. But, 4141 Mormon Coulee Road offers the opportunity to be able to gather, whether inside, in the parking lot, out in front on the lawn or in cyber space. How fortunate we are to have Space – welcoming space – where all can come. But also to have learning online, gathering through Zoom or virtual Church. And though I am grateful have had those opportunities when needed, I am SOOOOO grateful to be back, live and in person!

Gratefulness – Gratitude – it has been a topic that has been talked about much at my day job where I watch nurses that serve our sickest and smallest of our community – our babies and children. At several meetings, we have been encouraged to end each night with Gratitude. Gratitude reframes your thinking toward more positive emotions, allowing you to develop connectedness, humility and a sense of indebtedness. Gratitude has been shown to improve sleep, reduce cortisol levels, and treat depression better than Prozac! It can even prolong your life. So I am doing it. After all, I have warned my children I plan to live forever. It scares them a bit.

So here it is: I am grateful for my family and that they are healthy and have been throughout the past year. I am grateful for my coworkers, past and present, who always show compassion and support and trust in me as team member. I am grateful for Sunday School children, parents, and volunteers who have shown me grace and love during the past 18 months as I grappled with my own fears and feelings of sadness.

Well, that was not difficult and it covered a lot of gratefulness. Perhaps tomorrow, I will be grateful my socks are clean, Kwik Trip had

## Quick-Look

### Upcoming Events At a Glance

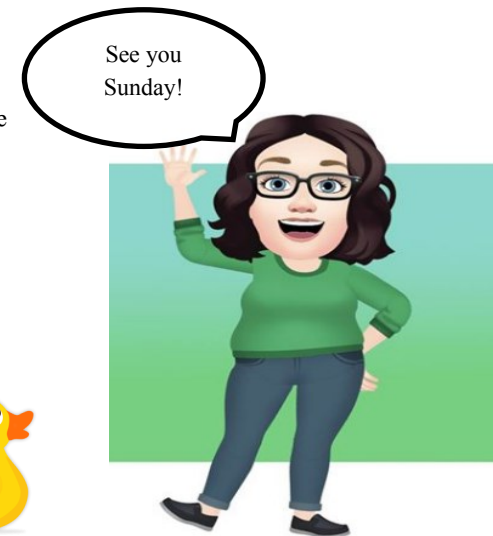
9/26 – 10/10	Abraham and Sarah – Kitchen, Art and Science (Kitchen will be "non-Edible" recipe projects)
9/26	Preschool and Kindergarten Milestone Gifts (Presented in Sunday School with Slide Show following week in Church)
10/17 – 10/24	Hannah and Samuel – Game Skills, Cinema/Computer
10/30	Trunk or Treat 6pm in the Parking Lot (Watch for Updates)
10/31	Fellowship Sunday/Reformation Sunday, 3rd Grade Milestone
11/7 – 11/21	Solomon Builds a Temple – Kitchen, Art and Science

my favorite coffee and that the elevator to the 5th floor showed up quickly on a morning I woke up a bit late.

Or, maybe my Gratefulness will be bigger. Maybe it will be that my kids grew up to be adults in this current world, that the sky is clear and blue and crisp, and that I have witnessed the great kindness of medical staff that has outshined the cruelties.

I do feel better already! I double-dog-dare you to try it. 21 days ....

See you all on Sunday!  
Tammy  
tammy@gslacrosse.org



### 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)

*And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*



For the last year, we have been wishing good things for our neighbors by fist bumps and peace signs. Although it isn't the same as a hug or handshake, the message of love and goodwill towards each other through those actions remains the same. We are bringing this idea to our 2021 Confirmation year! This year, our Confirmation theme will be Peace, Love, and Hope! We will talk about each aspect, what God says about each, how Jesus demonstrated each, and how we can live our lives of faith embedding the three ideas into our lives and the community around us. Confirmation will start with a celebration of togetherness by tie-dying shirts with our 2021 logo. The colors represent all that we bring to the world and reinforces the idea we are all God's masterpiece. There are 23 students signed for Confirmation this year. We will be doing all that we can to keep the kids safe and healthy so we can continue to meet face to face, growing each week in our faith.

Speaking of growing in faith...There are few ways that can grow faith more powerfully than surrounding yourself with hundreds of other Lutheran teens. We are actively looking for 8th-11th graders to join us at the ELCA National Youth Gathering this next July in Minneapolis.

An informational meeting will be on October 6th for parents and teens. If you ask anyone who has attended the National Youth Gathering, they will tell you how life changing the event can be. I know this year will be no different...so join us!

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-tcj23511@gmail.com

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



### Jen Servais

*Director of Youth and Family Ministry*

Jen@gs lacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

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



## Music Notes

### From The Director of Music

#### "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

*Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.*

Born in Yorkshire, England John Fawcett (1739-1817) was orphaned at the age of 12. He was largely self-educated and served as a tailor's apprentice to survive. At the age of 16 he was exposed to the preaching of George Whitfield and became a Christian. He first joined the Methodist Church and three years later became active in the Baptist Church in Bradford, where he was often asked to preach.

At the age of 25, the newly married Fawcett was invited to serve as pastor at the small Baptist Church in Wainsgate, Yorkshire and was ordained as minister there. The small town of Wainsgate was populated by people who were mostly farmers and shepherds, poor and uneducated. Since the people could pay Fawcett little in salary, they would help by bringing John and his wife, Mary, wool, potatoes and other produce. As Mary began having children, they found it very difficult to make ends meet. The Fawcett's, nonetheless, embraced the poor people of Wainsgate and grew the congregation by engaging families house to house, developing a strong bond with the townspeople.

In 1772 Fawcett accepted an invitation to serve as pastor at Carter's Lane Baptist Church in London. Carter's Lane was a

large church offering a much higher salary, which would relieve John and Mary's struggling financial situation. They packed up their household belongings and prepared to move. John preached his last sermon at Wainsgate and concluded with the hymn he wrote for this occasion, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds". However, after seeing the people's outpouring of love and tears, Mary later told John that she didn't think she could leave these people whom they had learned to love and John allowed that he shared her sentiment, so they unpacked the wagon and John served as pastor there for the rest of his life.



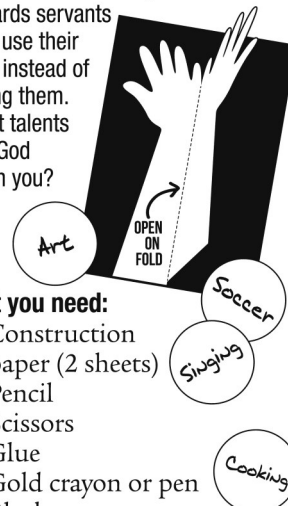
#### Randy Lyden

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



## FULL OF TALENT

In Matthew 25:14-30, the master rewards servants who use their gifts instead of hiding them. What talents has God given you?



#### What you need:

- Construction paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Gold crayon or pen
- Black pen

#### What you do:

1. Fold one sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Trace your hand and lower arm so your arm touches the folded edge. Cut out the arm and hand, keeping the folded edge uncut.
2. Glue the folded hand to the other sheet of paper.
3. In gold, draw five coins in the hand. In black, write the skills and gifts God has given you.
4. Open the fold and draw 10 gold coins in the two open hands. In black, write how you can use your skills and gifts to help others and honor God.



## MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

Directions: Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.

5 x 3 =	6 x 6 =
7 x 4 =	9 x 3 =
4 x 6 =	3 x 8 =
2 x 10 =	10 x 4 =
9 x 5 =	11 x 8 =

#### KEY

A = 28 J = 50 S = 88  
B = 35 K = 21 T = 45  
C = 14 L = 63 U = 64  
D = 25 M = 15 V = 32  
E = 33 N = 24 W = 80  
F = 72 O = 77 X = 96  
G = 40 P = 54 Y = 20  
H = 36 Q = 9 Z = 48  
I = 27 R = 16

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of \_\_\_\_\_

Come and share your master's happiness!"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answer: 15, 28, 24, 20, 40, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88; many things

