

BE
- joyful
ALWAYS,
pray
- CONTINUALLY,
- give thanks
IN ALL
CIRCUMSTANCES
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter November, 2021

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

November is upon us already. When I think of November I think of Thanksgiving – a favorite holiday. Every time we give thanks, even for the smallest blessing, our hearts are drawn to God. Giving thanks is part of unceasing prayer – practicing the presence of God. As we give thanks, as we share our joys and our needs as well as the joys and needs of our neighbors with God, we discover what Paul meant when he said, "In God we live and move and have our being." At Our Savior's, our partner congregation during the months we could not gather in person, there is sign in the welcome area that invites people to think about where they have seen God show up in the moments of everyday life. Other congregations have also discovered that this simple exercise in mindfulness has helped people experience a new vitality in their spiritual lives.

November is also the month that many congregations have an emphasis on stewardship. We ask people to prayerfully consider how they are planning to give a portion of what God has entrusted to them to continue their support of the ministries of their congregation. "Stewardship Sunday" is right around the corner. It has kind of crept up on us this year. The small group of people who work to plan this effort have chosen this year's theme. It is "Focus on the Future." I think that is very appropriate given all we have had to endure through this

pandemic. We are choosing to give thanks and to imagine all that God will do through us. We are asking you to "Find the Good." We are inviting you to rejoice and celebrate how God is at work in our world. A huge example for me is the tremendous response of our community and the whole state to the needs of our guests from Afghanistan. You will have or will soon receive materials from your stewardship committee. Please send in your responses to the questions 1) The Good I Find is; 2) The Good our Church can create is. Your response can be mailed or sent by email. You will have also received a card to fill out with your intent to give. Last year we had a tremendous response thanks to a very generous incentive. I am very thankful that our Sunday worship service is now available online because of this response. Stewardship Sunday is November 7. We hope many will be able to return their intent to give cards then. Despite the many challenges God has continued to bless us. Thank you for your support of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Last year our family observed Thanksgiving via Zoom. We are hoping to be in person this year and that our new granddaughter can come to our home for the first time. "Give thanks in all circumstances."

Blessings,
Pastor John



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdsc



GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

From our Re-opening Committee

Reflects changes from our committee meeting on October 18th

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 still encouraged. Masks are required at all times. A soloist will sing the hymns and the congregation is asked to sing softly and remain masked. The nursery is available for feeding or changing purposes only, 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.

Members are asked to report a positive Covid test result for anyone who was in attendance at a Good Shepherd Worship Service, Sunday School or Confirmation within 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms.

This committee will meet again November 15, 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.

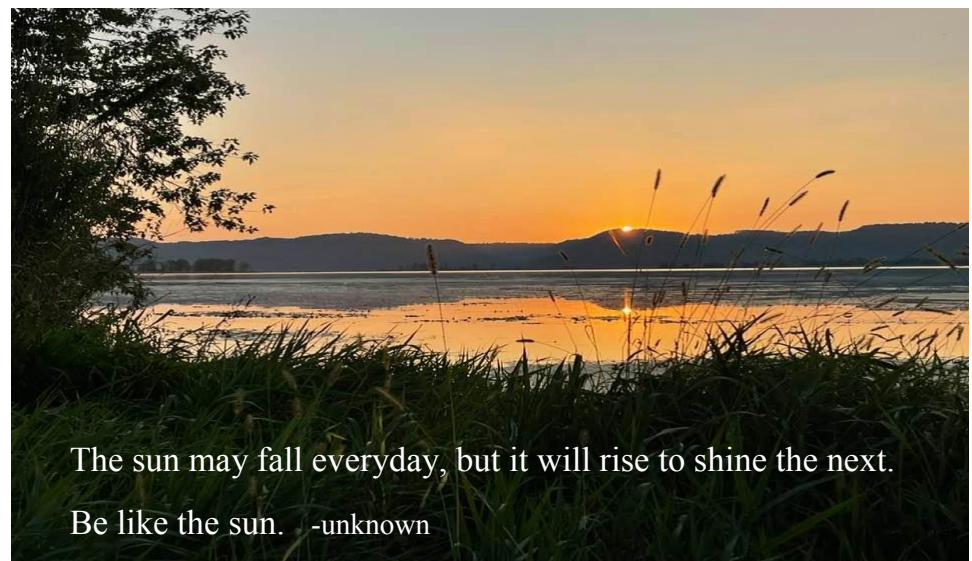
Thank you to Ann Hudson who sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls to bereaved families throughout the year.

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



The sun may fall everyday, but it will rise to shine the next.

Be like the sun. -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 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.

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

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!

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

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.

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.

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.

Walt Hammond Memorial

Sara Smyth

Bethany Riverside

Karl & Julie Noll

Hintgen Food Program

Norm & Joanne Jerome
Karl & Julie Noll
Peg & Vern Garves
Cindy Thurston
John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl
Richard Figgie
Rob & Dianne Hamann
Paul & Joyce Herlitzke

memorials
& gifts

LWR School Supplies

John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Charles Brigson
Linda Brigson
Lois Gilbertson

Margaret Lindahl Memorial

Michael & Diane Griffey
Quinten & Karen Larson
Sara & Jeff Miller
Lorin Wuensch
LaVern & Karen Miller
Ed & Barb Hansen
Deborah Geiger
Caroline Bakkestuen

ELCA World Hunger

John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl

WAFER

John Wood

Thank
you



Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date		9:00am
09/05/21		Online
09/12/21		Online
09/19/21		Online
09/26/21		Online

Weekly Envelope Offerings

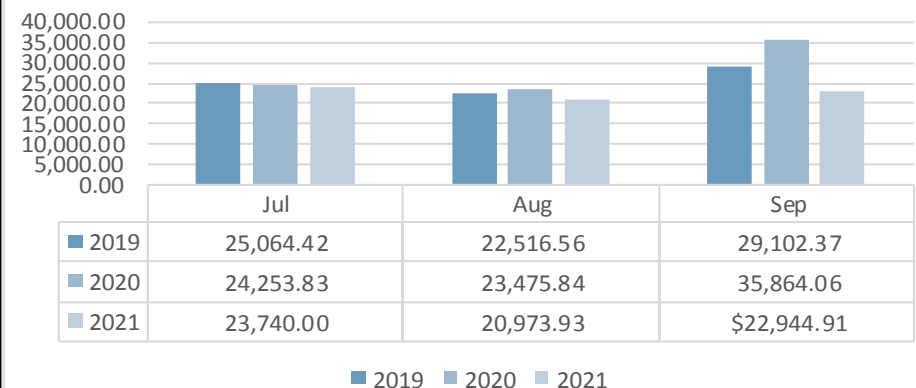
Date	Weekly	% Budget
09/05/21	\$5,192.00	59.3%
09/12/21	\$7,674.00	87.7%
09/19/21	\$7,576.41	86.6%
09/26/21	\$2,502.50	28.6%
Totals	\$22,944.91	65.6%

Envelope Offering Comparison

September 2021	September 2020	% Difference
\$22,944.91	\$35,864.06	-36.0%
YTD 2021	YTD 2020	% Difference
\$242,871.84	\$264,762.12	-8.3%

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

Envelope Offerings



Around the Parish...

Holiday Marketplace

Our annual Holiday Marketplace will be Saturday, November 13th from 9-2. Please see [our website](#) for more information.

Lydia Circle

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, Nov. 2th** 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.

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.

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!!

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 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 or call the office at 608-788-0450 to be a valuable part of our worship services.

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.

Around the Parish...

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.

New Vanco Mobile App!

Thank you to everyone who has been using the GivePlus app to make donations to Good Shepherd! GivePlus will sunset on October 11 and no longer work. To continue using mobile giving to contribute to our ministry, or to begin if you've never tried it, download Vanco's new **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement** app from your app store and get started today!

If you are a GivePlus user, you can simply sign in using your email address and GivePlus password. If you are a new user, set up is easy and only takes a few minutes.

We encourage everyone to download the app for free at the Apple App Store or Google Play. Once downloaded, simply open the app and search for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church then select the one in La Crosse, there are a lot of Good Shepherds out there! Please call Rick in the church office at 788-0450 if you have any questions.

Simply Giving

Good Shepherd offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. Pick up an authorization form from the office or the information area in the back of the church.

Aluminum Cans Wanted!

Please, aluminum cans only in the bags. Other recyclables or garbage must be removed before we take them in. Our recycle bin for aluminum cans is located at the end of the church garage behind the Boy Scout trailer. Feel free to drop off your bagged aluminum cans anytime. Thank you!

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 be available on Nov. 9. Wrapped gifts must be brought back to Good Shepherd by December 10. Thank you in advance for making Christmas special for these special people!

Shop 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 AmazonSmile purchases to Good Shepherd! We are listed as Good Shepherd English when selecting your charitable organization. Or, you can click the Smile.Amazon link on our webpage, www.gslacrosse.org.

Please Remember

As we worship together we ask that for the health and safety of all, please remember:

Masks are required to be properly worn inside the building and throughout the service.

Maintain 3 feet distancing between households while seated in the pews.

Please wear your mask and sing softly during the hymns, or simply enjoy the music and our soloist.

Members are asked to report a positive Covid test result for anyone who was in attendance at a Good Shepherd Worship Service, Sunday School or Confirmation within 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms. Your identity will be kept anonymous.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Nov. 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

[illegible]

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,

With the changing weather comes an increase in viral infections. Viral infections can cause serious exacerbations in those with COPD. This month's article will discuss COPD. According to the Mayo Clinic, COPD is a chronic inflammatory lung disease that causes obstructed airflow from the lungs. It is typically caused by long-term exposure to irritating gases or particulate matter, most often from cigarette smoke. Those who are affected by COPD are at increased risk of developing heart disease, lung cancer and a variety of other conditions. Emphysema (air passaged of the lungs are destroyed over time) and chronic bronchitis (inflammation of the lining of bronchial tubes, which carry air to and from the air sacs of the lungs) are the two most common conditions that contribute to COPD. These two conditions usually occur together.

COPD symptoms often don't appear until significant lung damage has occurred, and they usually worsen over time. Signs and symptoms of COPD may include: shortness of breath, especially during physical activities, wheezing, chest tightness, a chronic cough that may produce mucus, frequent respiratory infections, lack of energy, swelling in ankles, feet or legs. People with COPD are also likely to experience episodes or exacerbations in which their symptoms become worse than their usual day to day variation. Exacerbations can be caused by viral infections, or an increased exposure to irritants.

Risk factors include: exposure to tobacco smoke, which is the most significant risk factor for COPD. The more years you smoke and the more packs you smoke, the greater your risk. Pipe smokers, cigar smokers and marijuana smokers also may be at risk, as well as people exposed to large amounts of secondhand smoke. Asthma, a chronic inflammatory airway disease, may be a risk factor for developing COPD. The combination of asthma and smoking increases the risk of COPD even more. Long-term exposure to chemical fumes, vapors and dusts in the workplace can irritate and inflame your lungs.

Unlike some diseases, COPD typically has a clear cause and a clear path of prevention. There are several ways to slow the progression of the disease. The majority of cases are directly related to cigarette smoking, and the best way to prevent COPD is to never smoke or to stop smoke now. If you feel you are at risk for COPD or want to learn more about the disease, please connect with your primary care provider.

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard

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

November has so many celebrations and traditions – Thanksgiving, Black Friday, NASCAR, Native American Heritage Month, Deer Hunting, Diwali, Macy's Day Parade and the Rockettes. It is the month where the Full Moon is known as the Beaver Moon, so set those traps November 19th if you are living in Colonial times. It is also the month of Weather Folklore predictions: If there's ice in November that will bear a duck, there'll be nothing after but sludge and muck. Or, if trees show buds in November, the winter will last until May. November 7th is also the end of Daylight Savings Time. And of Course, let's not forget THANKSGIVING!

November also brings us to week 7-10 of our Sunday School year. We have been working together with the kids, to talk about Abraham and Sarah along with Hannah and Samuel. They are wonderful stories about prayer and God's Answer. Longing and God's Promise and then Thankfulness.

In fact, Hannah is so thankful to have her son Samuel, that she dedicates him to the church. He becomes a prophet and serves God his entire life. He is a judge and prophet. He also anoints David (yep, that DAVID!) as King of Israel. We will also learn about David's son Solomon and the temple he builds. Then on November 28th we will begin Advent.

Thank you to all the parents and children who have been attending for your support in masking up and attending our safe distance learning in person at 9am. Also thank you for your patience each week as we maneuver through these Covid-19 times. We welcome more to attend with our safety protocols working well and keeping us all safe each week.

Looking forward, December will find us again, gathering together as families to celebrate a blessed season of traditions. Christmas may look a little different for 2021 here in Sunday School at Good Shepherd. Rest assured, we will celebrate Christmas and learn about Advent (The season of waiting) along with the promise of God's Love and

Forgiveness with the Birth of Jesus. But more will be known regarding the continuous updates to Church Re-opening.

Please note that we have plans in the Calendar for Christmas Program celebrations, but that will depend on the safety of both our Church adults and children. But we will continue to safely gather in the Mattes center to be present as part of the Advent season.

Don't forget to get Registration forms in for the 3rd Grade Bible Presentation Milestone which is October 31st during Sunday School. Check the Good Shepherd Facebook page for reminders and updates and the website for Calendar Updates. Make sure we have an email address on file that will allow us to send Sunday School notes and reminders along with any handouts needed to support the faith growth of our students. And sign up for the Remind Text notifications. Directions are available at Sunday School. We have not had to use it yet, but with weather changing, that may happen.

As always, I am so grateful to those who volunteer each week to support Sunday School with time and talent. Bill Klein, Kylie Klein, Colin Smith, Lori Lowell, Julie Foreman, Karina Bronson along with our Confirmation Students Kaylyn Torkelson, Elizabeth Osley, Clair Von Ruden, and Anja Johnson. We could use a couple more...just to rotate in and out and give folks a chance to attend church. Please contact me if you are able. If you want to know more about Children's Ministry at Good Shepherd, perhaps you feel called to take on a larger role, please let me know that as well.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all, blessings to your families and I give thanks for each and every Sunday Schooler.

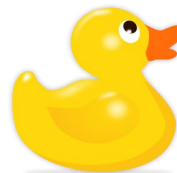
Tammy

Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

10/31	Reformation Sunday and 3rd Grade Bible Milestone
11/7 – 11/21	Solomon Builds a Temple – Kitchen, Art and Science
11/28	Advent Lesson – Art for All
12/5	Christmas Program News/Advent Lessons Continue

See you Sunday!



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)

G4Squad



'Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children
of God.' Matthew 5:9

Like to travel?

Love music and art?

Like hanging out with kids from
around the nation?

Want to help make the world a
better place through
community service?

JOIN US!

National ELCA Youth Gathering

This upcoming July, Good Shepherd will be taking any interested teen to Minneapolis for the ELCA Youth Gathering! What is the Youth Gathering? Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

This is an amazing opportunity and I promise your teen will come back inspired in their faith and the ways they can actively make their communities a better place to live! Early registration needs to be in by mid-November so please email me if your teen (grades 8-11) is interested! The dates are Sunday, July 24-28th, 2022.

CONFIRMATION

What does "peace" look like to you? Where do find peace? How to do promote peace? Not only in the community but within your own life? That is the topic the confirmation teens are thinking about. God tells us a lot about peace throughout the Bible and Jesus showed us how to promote peace through his actions, but how do we apply those lessons to our busy, social media influenced, divided communities? We will look at the things God said, Jesus did, and explore ways we can find peace within ourselves.

SUPPORT THE YOUTH!

GET A JUMP START ON CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

GIFT CARDS FROM A to Z! Amazon to Walmart with everything in between! Stores, restaurants, and more!

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.

The church office has Kwik Trip cards available for immediate purchase, or buy gift cards through our Script Program. Contact Corrine Holtz to place an order. Mobile-608-397-9353 or Email tejj23511@gmail.com



SHOUT OUT!!!

Thanks to all the GS teens who helped with Gods Work, Our Hands. We had several Confirmation students and high school kids work alongside church volunteers to help clean up and maintain Chad Erickson Park. It was a great day to make a difference in the world around us!



Jen Servais

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Jen@gslacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

In the Office: Varied hours

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH!

Below are some volunteer opportunities. Email jen@gslacrosse.org for more information on any of these activities.

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE:
Saturday, November 13th.
Helping vendors and delivering sack lunches.

Landscaping work around GS!

Cooking a meal for Houska Park residents.

WAFER Food Pantry: <https://waferlacrosse.org/>

MENTORS NEEDED!!

We are looking for high school and college students to serve as mentors for our Confirmation teens. Duties include working with a small group and discussing the Confirmation theme of the night. This involves an hour every Wednesday. Contact jen@gslacrosse.org if you are interested!



Music Notes

From The Director of Music

Hymn Focus:

Now Thank We All Our God

When we think of the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God”, we think of singing it at Thanksgiving Eve services with the anticipation of an abundant feast the next day (and left-overs for some days to come). In fact, the circumstances surrounding the writing this hymn were quite the opposite.

The author of this hymn, Martin Rinkhart (1586-1649), was born in Eilenburg, Saxony and served as archdeacon there for most of his career. He attended the Latin school in Eilenburg and in 1601 became a foundation scholar and chorister of the St Thomas’s School in Leipzig. He studied Theology at the University of Leipzig and took his M.A. there in 1616. He was appointed archdeacon of Eilenburg in 1617.

During the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) the walled city of Eilenburg became overcrowded with refugees from all around and suffered from pestilence and famine. Rinkhart’s home was a refuge for the victims even though it was often difficult for him to provide for his own family. During the plague of 1637, after two other ministers died, he became Eilenburg’s sole surviving minister, officiating at over 40 funerals per day (including that of his own wife) and over 4000 in all. The following year he himself became sick and soon after that a severe famine broke out, during which he helped organize emergency relief for the town.

It was in this setting of suffering, sickness and famine that Rinkhart penned the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God”. It is inspiring that, in the face of such hardship and dire need, he remained thankful to God, choosing instead to focus on God’s blessings rather than his own sufferings. The hymn, along with the tune composed by Johann Cruger (1598-1662), appears in the second edition (1663) of Rinkhart’s Jesu Herz-Buchlein (Sacred Heart Book) under the title “Tisch Gebetlein” (“Short Table Prayer”), suggesting it was originally meant to be sung as a meal prayer.



Randy Lyden

Good Shepherd Music Director
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PRAISE-FILLED petals

Create an interactive display of God's provision for a Thanksgiving centerpiece.



What you need:

- Colorful sheets of thin paper
- Scissors
- Black pen
- Dish of water

What you do:

1. From the paper, cut out various shapes and sizes of flowers and petals.
2. In the center of each flower, write a praise to God. Thank him for who he is and for answered prayers.
3. Fold petals inward, toward the center of each flower.
4. Gently place flowers on the water. Petals will slowly unfold to reveal the words.
5. Invite meal guests to participate in this centerpiece that blooms with thanks.

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



F_r by gr_c_ y_ _ h_v_
b_ _ n s_v_d thr_ _ gh
f_ _ th, _ nd th_s _ s n_t
y_ _ r _ wn d_ _ ng; _ t _ s
th_ g_ft _ f G_d — n_t th_
r_s_l_t _ f w_rks, s_ th_t
n_ _ n_ m_y b_ _ st.

_ph_s_ _ ns 2:8-9, NRSV



Answer: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV

