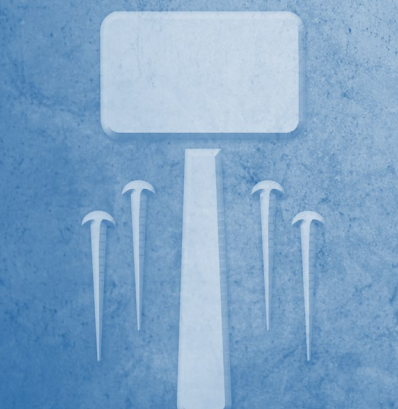


LENT

I TURNED MY FACE
TO THE LORD GOD.

DANIEL 9:3, ESV



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter March, 2023

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

We are once again in the season of Lent, a "wilderness" time to reflect on our lives in relationship with God and with one another as we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross. It is the season for searching our souls, for reading and listening to the Scriptures, and for proclaiming God's Word and how our lives of faith intersect with the message God speaks to us. We are blessed this year, as we begin again the Wednesday evening Lenten Holden Evening Prayer liturgy, with reflections being shared from members of Good Shepherd. Judy Casto, Austin Stalsberg, Randy Page, Joan Schultz and Steve Stelzl will be sharing their personal journeys and how God and the church have made a difference in their lives.

The worship services with Holden Evening Prayer will begin at 6:30pm and go through the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday begins our Lenten journey. It is my hope that each one who listens to these very personal accounts may be touched in a way that inspires her or him to a new and deeper life with Christ. At the end of this Lenten season, Easter comes again as the climax of God's revelation to us. It is God's proclamation of hope through the victory of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Easter message promises us hope for a future on the other side of death.

Along with adding a Lenten discipline of including a Wednesday worship, I would also like to encourage each of you to take time to learn more about our

companion synods. You can find information about them at lacrosseareasynd.org. Put your cursor over the "Ministries" tab and move down to "Companion Synod - Czech Republic" or "Companion Synod - Peru."

Companion synod relationships of the ELCA connect Lutheran churches throughout the world with ELCA synods and congregations. These relationships are concrete expressions of communion and fellowship with the more than 140 Lutheran member churches of the Lutheran World Federation. During this Lenten season, I encourage you to look into these relationships based on "accompaniment" which has its roots in the values of mutuality, inclusivity, vulnerability, empowerment and sustainability. All these are important values that all healthy relationships are built on. Over the years, groups of people from our Synod have visited and been visited by the Lutheran Church of the Czech-Republic and the Iglesia Luterana del Perú (the Lutheran Church of Peru). If you have interest in being part of a team visiting these Companion Synods or simply want to learn more about them, let someone at the Synod office know so they keep you informed about these possibilities. I hope listening to members from our Church and learning about our Companion Synod congregations may be a blessing to you on your Lenten journey.

God's blessings,
Pastor Harald



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse



GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

Give Volunteering Within Church

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

Sign up on the bulletin board in the concourse to sponsor the weekly bulletins or flowers in honor of a loved one or a special event. Please give us the reason you are sponsoring them. If you do not give us a reason, the bulletin will

only have your name as the sponsor.

If you wish to sponsor the chancel or pulpit flowers, you are responsible for ordering and paying for them directly. Please be sure the flowers are delivered to the church office on or before Friday at noon.

Readers & Ushers always Appreciated!

Readers and Ushers are always valued at our worship services. Please consider signing up on the sign up sheet in the welcome area at the back of the sanctuary. You can sign up to read for a

time and day that works for you. The readings will be sent (either by mail or email) to you early that week. Interested in ushering? Contact Kathy (608)788-0450. We really do need your help!

Women Who Wrestle With The Word (W5)

If you would like to be a part of a regular gathering of Christian Women, you are always welcome to join W5. For info contact Judy Casto at (608)385-1410.



Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1pm in the quilting room. All women are welcome!

If you have any questions, contact Carol Abraham at (608)787-0679.



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 a part 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



Lead

Raising Up Spiritual Leaders

Calling All Musicians!

Our "Sounds of Praise" worship band invites you to help us lead the worship here at Good Shepherd. "Sounds of Praise" is intended to bring together the greatest number and variety of instruments possible, presenting special music and enhancing our wide variety of

hymn styles. Whatever type of instrument you play, "Sounds of Praise" welcomes you! Please call Randy Lyden at (608) 792-1305 or email randy@gslacrosse.org to be a part of this growing and exciting praise band!



Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

The Sanctuary Choir

The Sanctuary Choir rehearses between services every Sunday from September through May and new members are always welcome!! If you would like to join our Sanctuary Choir, please contact Karl Greenfield at 790-3785 or at karl@gslacrosse.org

High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

Good Shepherd Youth Group provides a chance to meet other awesome teens just like yourself. We meet weekly in the youth room of Good Shepherd on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. Come when you are able, during Lent we meet after the

Sunday School Choir

We rehearse as part of our 8:30 Sunday School program 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 608-769-1499 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.

Wednesday Lenten Service. We also have social events throughout the year along with a yearly mission trip. Want to learn more? Contact Jen Servais at (608)797-9301 jen@gslacrosse.org or you can Contact the Brianna Ceaser at (321)223-8972 briannaceaser1@gmail.com for more information.

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 did 8 weeks for Mobile Meals throughout the 2022 calendar year and we will be doing 9 weeks in 2023!

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.

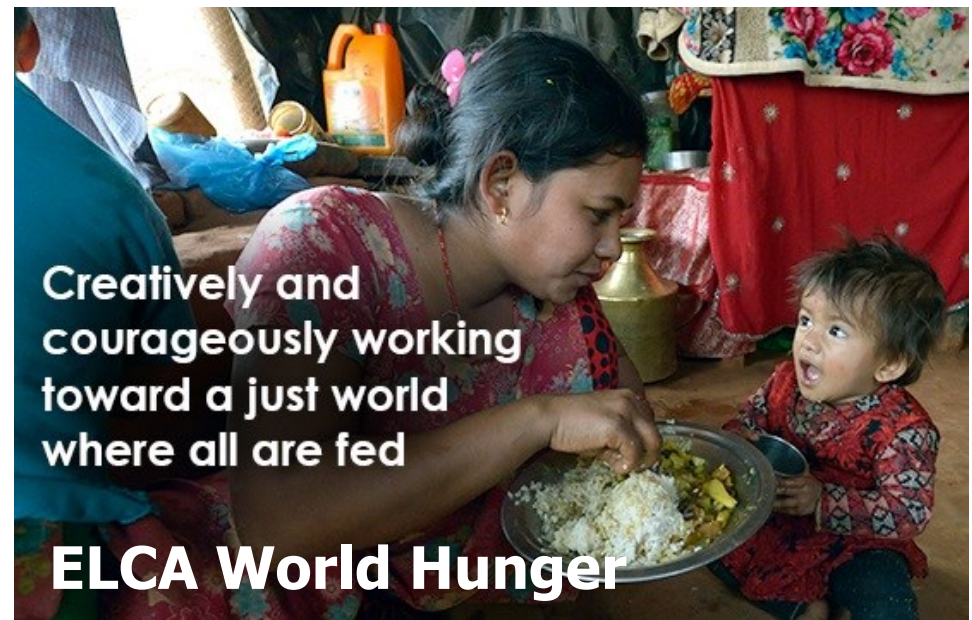
Please allow 1 1/2 to 2 hours for deliveries. We are route #1.



Local Food Pantry Needs

West Avenue Food Emergency Relief
Food donations for WAFER may be left in the stewardship area in the concourse or you can support WAFER with 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.



ELCA World Hunger

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 January 22 through February 20.

WAFER

John Wood

Carol Anderson Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
Shirley Holman

Dave Solie Memorial

Shirley Holman

Glen Patzwald Memorial

Barb Hegge
Art & Betty Olson

Ukraine Support

Odell Anderson

memorials
& gifts

Hintgen Food Project

Sally & Mike Lindahl
Jim & Jan Quinn
John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl
Bev Kettler

Giving Tree

Steve & Autumn Stelzl

Bell Choir

Ken & Gretchen Wiese

Building Contingency Fund

Monty & Lois Gilbertson

Arleen Kelley Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Wyman Hilbert Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
Virginia Mannstedt
Kim Dockham

Joseph Becker Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Lutheran Disaster Response

Kari & Steve Ellison

Thank
you



January Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA/Synod Mission Support	\$5,132
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$84
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200
WAFER	\$23

Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
01/01/23	25	25
01/08/23	60	47
01/15/23	92	42
01/22/23	81	55
01/29/23	102	83

Weekly Envelope Offerings

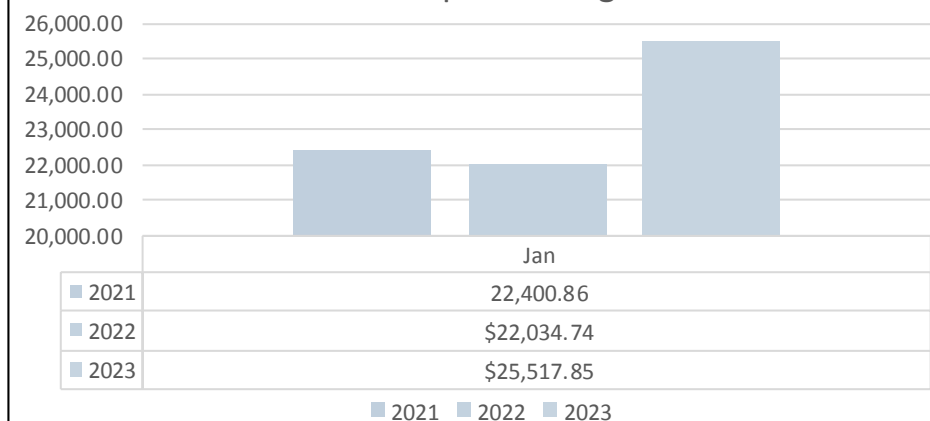
Date	Weekly	% Budget
01/01/23	\$3,983.50	68.3%
01/08/23	\$4,374.50	75.0%
01/15/23	\$3,388.35	58.1%
01/22/23	\$6,015.00	103.2%
01/29/23	\$7,756.50	133.0%
Total:	\$25,517.85	87.5%

Envelope Offering Comparison

January 2023	January 2022	% Difference
\$25,517.85	\$22,034.74	15.8%
YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Difference
\$25,517.85	\$22,034.74	15.8%

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

Envelope Offerings



Around the Parish...

Lent at Good Shepherd

Please join us in worship Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. All Lenten services are in person only so please join us in church, our evening Lenten services will not be streamed. Cake & Coffee will follow.

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

WELCA welcomes all women from our congregation to be part of this committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, March 2nd at 6pm on Zoom and in person in the Mattes Center.

Burrito Breakfast

Join us for our burrito breakfast on March 5th in the Mattes Center. We will be serving breakfast burritos. They can be filled with scrambled eggs, sausage, vegetables, and cheese. If you'd prefer, you can just have eggs on a plate with no shell. We will have coffee, water, and lemonade to drink. A free will offering will be accepted. Come join us in fellowship and food!

Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle will meet Tuesday, March 7th at 1pm in the Quilt Room. All ladies are welcome. Any questions please call Carol Abraham at 787-0679. We hope you will join us for some good chats & always dessert & coffee.

Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd twice a month on the 2nd and 4th **Thursdays**. (Mar. 9th & Mar. 23rd) If you are interested in attending please contact the church office at 788-0450 with questions. All are welcome.

Game Night

Game Night for all ages is Friday, March 10th from 6 - 9pm. Bring your favorite game or learn a new one. Games vary, but include a variety of board, card, and other games. Contact Randy grimmcaf@hotmail.com or Jim at 641-485-6941 with any questions.

Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, March 17th. 6pm Potluck, 6:30pm Bunco & 7:30pm gift exchange. The wrapped gift should be a value of at least \$5.00. March's theme is St. Patrick's Day. Most every thing St. Pat's related will be on sale just before Bunco Night. Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages of 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

Sunday Morning Bible Study

We meet once a month on the fourth Sunday between services in the Library from 9:30am to 10:20am. Our next session will be March 26th. An option to participate via Zoom is offered on our website at <https://gslacrosse.org/sunday-bible-study/>

If you would like to participate, either in person or via Zoom please contact me at 608-397-6747 or email jstennesspidahl@gmail.com. Of course, spontaneous attendance will certainly be welcomed.

2023 Good Shepherd Scholarships

Any Good Shepherd member who is pursuing a technical college degree or 4-year undergraduate degree is invited to apply by sending all necessary application materials to the Good Shepherd Scholarship Committee by **April 1st**. Students may only receive funds one time per educational degree cycle. However, students pursuing higher education degrees, who may have received any of the scholarships for their undergraduate degree, will be considered for The Good Shepherd Trust Foundation scholarships if scholarship funds are available.

Application letters are available on the table in the Welcome Area or on our website at gslacrosse.org/2023-scholarships/

Good Shepherd Men's Group

Our men's group meets Sundays at 6:30pm in the Mattes Center. Simply show up if you would like to join us or contact Randy Page at grimmcaf@hotmail.com for more info.

Around the Parish...

Donate Health Kit Items during Lent!

Visit the Lutheran World Relief table for a Shopping Sheet or Donation Envelope to shop on your behalf. Items can be added to the table display and Donation Envelopes placed in the Offering Basket by April 10th .

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA thanks you for your support of this global mission, which responds after a natural disaster or ensures daily quality of life for humanity.

Sunday School Choir

Our Sunday School Choir is going well!! The children are enjoying singing at the start of each Sunday School session, and I love leading them in songs they know and new songs that we can sing together. We are planning to sing during the Children's time part of Sunday Services on the 1st Sunday of March, April and May. We hope you will enjoy listening to us, as much as we will enjoy singing for you! Singing God's Praises, Darlene and the Sunday School Choir.

Sunday School Lenten Project

We have officially kicked off our Lenten Project. This year we are focusing on the area of giving and our goal is to help fill the **Southern Bluffs Food Pantry**. Southern Bluffs is one of our neighboring schools in which several Sunday schoolers attend. There is a basket near the back of church where the non-perishable food items can be placed. If you would like to donate, we are looking for peanut butter, cereal, crackers, soup, or your favorite non-perishable food! If you would rather skip the shopping and bring money and coins in instead, there will be a bucket for that as well. This project will run from February 19th – April 2nd. Thank you to all who donate!

Ice Cream Buckets

The church kitchen needs your old ice cream buckets & their lids. Please drop them off in the church office

Simply Giving

Good Shepherd offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides financial consistency for the church. Pick up an authorization form from the office, or the information area in the back of the church, or call Rick at 608-788-0450.

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

Stop by our table in the welcome area or get an order form from our website or the church office. Contact Corrine Holtz to place an order. Mobile 608-397-9353 or Email tcjj23511@gmail.com

The office also has Kwik Trip cards available for immediate purchase Mon.-Fri. from 8am - 1pm

Help Feed The Children At Hintgen

Please continue to support the Hintgen Food Project with your donations.

Make your checks payable to church, but remember to indicate HINTGEN FOOD PROJECT in the memo line. Thanks to all who contribute to this program!

Vanco Mobile App For Donations

Give electronically on your cell phone using Vanco's app, **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**. 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 at 788-0450 if you have questions.

Scam Alert

Disregard any emails, texts or any other form of requests from Pastor or the church requesting you to purchase anything, or to give money in any way outside of the church. He, nor any member of the staff would never make such a request, so feel confident in hitting the delete button.

February 2023



Gloria Dei Choir
Meets in Sunday
School each week.



Bell Choir
Meets every Sunday
each week at 5:30pm.



Sanctuary Choir
Meets every Sunday
each week at 9:30am.



Sounds of Praise
Meets as scheduled on
Saturdays at 4pm.

In-person Worship Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 . The 8:30 service is also live steamed on our website at www.gslacrosse.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February 26 8:30am Worship 8:30 Sunday School 9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:30am Worship 6:30pm GS Men's Group	27 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	28 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	March 1 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	2 6pm WELCA Mtg	3	4
5 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	6 10am Before the After	7 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds Mtg 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	8 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	9 3pm Grief Support	10 6pm Family Game Night	11
12 Name Tag Sunday (Media Team) 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3pm Youth Group Pottery Fun 6:30pm GS Men's Group	13 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	14 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	15 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	16 6pm Hospitality Mtg	17 March Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco/Pot Luck /Gift Exchange, Theme St. Patrick's Day	18
19 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	20 7pm Membership Mtg	21 6pm Admin/ Exec Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg 7pm Church Council	22 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	23 3pm Grief Support	24	25 10am First Communion Training
26 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:30am Worship 6:30pm GS Men's Group	27 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	28 6pm Parish Ed Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	29 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	30 6pm WELCA Mtg	31	April 1
2 Palm Sunday 8:30am Worship w/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Egg-stravaganza 10:30am Worship w/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	3 6pm Trust Foundation	4 Polling Day	5 6:30pm Seder Supper	6 Maundy Thurs 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship w/ Communion	7 Good Friday 6:30 Tenebrae Service	8

Church Council Members

- **Sara Wrobel** *President of the Congregation*
Sara@gslacrosse.org
- **Steve Stelzl** *Vice President of the Congregation*
- **Todd Holtz** *Treasurer*
- **Erica Pedrazoli** *Secretary*

Other Church Council Members

include: Tim Knudsen, Karl Noll, Thea Johnson, Mark Skolos, Lori Lowell, Janette Dawson, Matt Heberlein, Mark Bronson, Tom Lynch, Pastor Bringsjord, and Maddy Fergot is our Youth Representative.



- **Rev. Harald Bringsjord** *Senior Pastor*
prharald@gslacrosse.org
- **Rev. John Stennes-Spidahl** *Assistant Pastor*
prjohn@gslacrosse.org
- **Rick Laufenberg** *Office Manager*
rick@gslacrosse.org (608)788-0450
- **Kathy Johnson** *Office Assistant*
kathy@gslacrosse.org
- **Brea Ellison** *Children's Ministry Coordinator* breanna@gslacrosse.org
- **Jen Servais** *Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry* jen@gslacrosse.org
- **Brianna Ceaser** *Volunteer Senior High Adult Youth Coordinator*
briannaceaser1@gmail.com
- **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 (608)790-3785
- **Darlene Lassig** *Volunteer Sunday School Choir Director* (608)769-1499
darlene@gslacrosse.org
- **Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard** *Volunteer Parish Nurses*
Cody_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org
- **Bill Klein** *Custodian*
bkleinpackfan@yahoo.com

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,

March is colorectal cancer awareness month. Colorectal cancer or cancer of the colon or rectum is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S. Early detection is vital, as treatment is successful with 85 percent of colon cancer patients living at least five years. Colon cancer occurs when cells in the body being changing and multiplying at fast rates. The colon is the last part of the digestive tract and plays a large role in absorbing water and storing food waste.

Screening for colon cancer is recommended at age 50 for both men and women. For those at average risk for colon cancer, a colonoscopy is the recommended form of screening and should take place every 10 years. Risk factors such as family or personal history may need a colonoscopy earlier or more frequently. Colonoscopy not only detects cancer but can identify pre-cancerous growths known as polyps. These polyps are removed before they turn into cancer.

Patients with colon cancer may notice symptoms right away. By the time symptoms appear, the cancer may have grown or spread to other organs. Symptoms can include: a change in bowel habits such as diarrhea, constipation, or a feeling your bowel is not empty after a bowel movement, bright red or dark blood in your stool, constant tiredness, stools that are thinner than normal, unexplained weight loss and vomiting.

Screening can save your life. If you have any of these symptoms, are 50 or older, or have a family history of colon cancer you should be screened. Consult with your primary care provider if you believe you need to be screened.

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

Hello everyone!

It has been a busy few months in Sunday School! We just finished up our unit on The Prodigal Son. We learned that even though we may make mistakes, our family and God will always forgive us, love us, and welcome us back. We also presented our 1st graders their prayer block as well as the 2nd graders received their prayer pillows.

We have officially kicked off our Lenten Project. This year we are focusing on the area of giving and our goal is to help fill the **Southern Bluffs Food Pantry**. Southern Bluffs is one of our neighboring schools in which several Sunday schoolers attend. There is a basket near the back of church where the non-perishable food items can be placed. If you would like to donate, we are looking for peanut butter, cereal, crackers, soup, or your favorite non-perishable food! If you would rather skip the shopping and bring money and coins in instead, there will be a bucket for that as well. This project will run from February 19th – April 2nd. Thank you to all who have donated!

Our next milestone within Sunday school will be the 4th graders receiving their Prayer Journals! This will take place on March 26th during the first service. Please register your child for the milestone. It is important because if they are not registered prior to March 26th, your 4th graders journal will not have their name on it. Registration forms can be found on the Sunday School bulletin board. Please try to get them turned in prior to March 22nd.

Sunday School will also be holding an Easter Egg-stravaganza event on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. This event will take place in between the services and includes an egg hunt, games, crafts, and snacks! The sign-up sheet will be at the back of church and on the Sunday School bulletin board. The cutoff date to sign up will be Sunday March 26th, ages Birth to Grade 5, and guests are welcome! We are looking for volunteers

who would like to share a craft or game with the children during this event as well. Please let me know or sign up on the Sunday school bulletin board if interested!

Save the date! Shake it up café: where kids carry out God’s recipe, vacation bible school 2023! VBS will take place August 20th – 24th. For VBS we will be creating a café called “Shake it up!” because Jesus calls us to shake up our lives and become his followers. The Bible gives us the recipe: be ready for God’s call, give happily to God, and to others, believe fully in Jesus as God’s Son, remember Jesus’ life and teachings, and celebrate God forever. Shake it up café introduces the children to stories of biblical festivals that reveal these ingredients and link the Old Testament, the New Testament, and our lives today. The sign-up sheet will be coming out next month!

If you would like to see updates and photos from Sunday school, I encourage you to follow Good Shepherd Lutheran Church’s Facebook page. We post updates regularly on what we have been learning as well as fun activities that we do!

Best Regards,
Brea Ellison

Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

February 26th – March 12th	Doubting Thomas Unit (Game Skills, Cinema, and Computer)
March 19th – April 2nd	Lydia Unit (Kitchen, Art, and Science)
Saturday March 25th	First Communion Training for 5th Graders, in the Mattes Center (10am – noon)
March 26th	4th Grade Milestone
April 2nd	Palm Sunday: Parade, lesson, and Easter Egg-stravaganza in between the services
April 6th	Annual Seder Supper Ceremony 6pm – Mattes Center (Registration Required)



Brea Ellison

Children's Education Coordinator
Breanna@gsllacrosse.org (608)788-0450

Stay Connected!

Receive message alerts for Sunday School at Good Shepherd. Send the message @gs-Sunday 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



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
~Jeremiah 29:11

That's a wrap on another Confirmation year! We explored the stories and lessons of the New Testament through the theme of love and faith. As always, I end the Confirmation year full of gratitude for the time spent with our amazing teens. I have said it before and will say it again, we have some amazing kids, each one figuring out what faith means to them and hopefully, if nothing more, recognizing they are God's masterpiece. We will be Confirming 11 students this year and I pray their faith journeys will continue through all the obstacles and smooth waters. I am confident they will go out and do great things in the world!

As the season of Lent is upon us, I would encourage all youth and their families to attend Wednesday services and implement a way to acknowledge the sacrifice that God makes for us. It doesn't have to be "giving up" something...the best way to honor a sacrifice is to show gratitude. We can take some time to share our gratitude within our families to celebrate the gift that God will give us.

Finally, a huge "THANKS" to everyone who has helped support our Confirmation kids throughout the year. Pastor is always a good sport about letting me pass the buck and having him answer the hard questions, plus the Books of the Bible song is sure to be a top 10 hit soon. Our Guides this year; Shelly, Vicki, Jen, Kim, Ashley and Jaclyn helped control the chaos by leading small group discussions and activities. Kathy, Rick and Bill who all do so much behind the scenes to keep me organized, as well as set up and clean up the Mattes Center every Wednesday. The Holtz family and all their work with the

Kwik Trip cards that help us plan fun activities for the kids. Of course, everyone in the congregation who prays for, encourages, and of course, buys Butterbraids ☐, to help the kids along in their faith journey. It takes a village, and our teens have an amazing one!

Going forward, we are planning a monthly activity for students grade 6-12. It will happen the second week of each month. March 5th will be doing pottery at All Glazed Up from 3-5 and April 12th will be High Rollers from 6-8. Email me if your teen would like to attend! We encourage them to bring a friend too!

In Peace,
Jen



Follow the activities of the G4Squad on Instagram: g4squadlax

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

Contact Corrine Holtz to see what is currently 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.

Corrine's contact information is:

Mobile-(608)397-9353 or Email-tcj23511@gmail.com

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

All Glazed Up!
do it YOURSELF art studio
RELEASE YOUR
INNER ARTIST!



Students grades 6-12
please join us
Sunday, March 5
from 3-5pm
for making pottery
and having fun!

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:

Just As I Am

*Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

"Just As I Am", the signature hymn of the Billy Graham crusades, was written by English poet, hymn writer, and editor Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). Elliott was born in Brighton, England to Charles and Eling Elliott. Her maternal grandfather, the Reverend Henry Venn, was an evangelical preacher and her parents belonged to the evangelical wing of the Anglican Church. She was well educated and developed a passion for music and art early in life. She also became a portrait artist and a well-known writer of humorous verse.

At an early age, Elliott developed an awareness of her own sinful nature and felt unable to face God. She came to live a secular life until, at age 32, she was afflicted with a severe and debilitating illness that left her feeling the need for a personal Savior. Around this time, the Reverend Cesar Malan was visiting her father's residence and asked her if she was at peace with God. She resented the question, but a few days later told him she wanted to cleanse her life before becoming a Christian. Malan told her, "Come just as you are" and she became a Christian that day. Her health improved the following

year, but in 1829 she relapsed and suffered severe debilitation for the rest of her life.

In 1834 Elliott's brother, the Reverend Henry Venn Elliott, was starting St. Mary's Hall, a charity school for the daughters of poor clergy. One day, while her whole family was helping at a church bazaar to raise funds for the school, Charlotte lay at home feeling lonely, useless and depressed. Recalling the words of Reverend Malan, "Come just as you are", she overcame her feelings and penned the very successful poem "Just As I Am" to help raise money for St. Mary's Hall.



Randy Lyden

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



Make customized jelly soaps to banish dirt and grime.

What you need:

- 1 package unflavored gelatin
- ¾ cup very warm water
- 1 tsp salt
- ¾ cup gel body wash
- Food coloring
- Rubbing alcohol in spray bottle
- Silicone baking molds

What you do:

1. In a bowl, stir gelatin and warm water until dissolved.
2. Add salt, body wash and a few drops of food coloring. Stir.
3. Spray molds with rubbing alcohol (to prevent bubbles). Place molds on a tray.
4. Pour mixture into the molds. Refrigerate until set, about two hours.
5. Pop soap out of molds and store in an airtight container.

Puzzle!

Complete the Scripture verses (NIV, unless marked) using letters found in the words



See! The winter is _ _ _ _ ; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come. (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

"Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it _ _ _ _ , it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you." (Luke 11:36)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the _ _ _ _ , which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them ... ? (Psalm 8:3-4)

We all, like sheep, have gone _ _ _ _ _ , each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the _ _ _ _ _ and members of the household of God. (Ephesians 2:19, ESV)

Answer: past, dark, stars, astray, saints



"These are vegetables, mother. You wouldn't want me to eat something I've given up for Lent, would you?"