



Christ Is Risen!

CHRIST
IS RISEN
INDEED

Alleluia



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter April, 2023

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

This year, the journey through Holy Week falls into the first week of April. It is a time when we reflect on Jesus' agonizing journey to the Cross. It isn't easy to do, focusing on Jesus' last days that involve unpleasant things such as emotional and physical suffering, pain, loneliness, fear, and death. One can easily understand why some church denominations simply ignore Lent and Holy Week and move straight to the Easter celebration. Why dwell on the negative? Why immerse oneself into something we would rather not deal with? As you know, this is not the case for us Lutherans. Lutherans are cross and resurrection people. Both are important for us. By following Jesus through his painful last days, we come close to the God who suffers for us and with us. Christ's cross and resurrection belong together. Without Christ's suffering and death, there is no resurrection.

This year, the month of April really holds that tension between suffering and victory. For after Holy Week, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday and for the next 50 days afterwards. The first week of Easter is just plain joy as we proclaim, "Praise God, Christ is risen!" This joy shines through in the 150th psalm: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Psalm 150 is a Psalm of Praise. In the short six verses of the psalm, the Psalmist moves from praising God in the sanctuary and the world to praising God with everything that they have, and doing it loudly with trumpets, lutes, harps, tambourine, dancing, strings, pipes and especially the loud clashing cymbals. We can praise God with all our breath, our voices, our instruments, our whole lives. And this is what we are planning on, on Easter morning and the weeks following.

Yet sometimes praising God can be difficult to do. We return to the routine of life and often those routines aren't very life-giving. Vacuuming, doing the dishes, cleaning the bathroom, going to work, dealing with people who may not always be easy to deal with. Or we may be entering the trauma of seeing a child die, or dealing with a diagnosis of cancer or some other life-sapping illness, or losing a job. These are times when praising God doesn't come easily. But as Christians who are also Lutherans, we live knowing the struggles of life but nevertheless live in the hope of the resurrection promise. As we see in some of the other Psalms,

Continued on page 2.



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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.



Pastor's article continued from page 1.

even in the midst of lament, the Psalmist still clings to God's love and grace and eventually moves on to praise God whom he has experienced as steadfast and reliable in the past.

Let us remember that Christ is risen and live in that promise and joy each and every day. And perhaps on Easter, when we sing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today! Alleluia," you might want to think about your younger days, when perhaps you or your children, or grandchildren were walking around the house with a pot cover and a spoon making a loud clanging noise. And if any of you so choose to bring those kinds of noisemakers

to church on Easter Sunday and make a loud clanging noise during the singing of Alleluia in that song, you will put a smile on my face and I trust on others' as well, and for those who haven't read this article you might shock them in a good way.

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pr. Harald

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

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.

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

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.

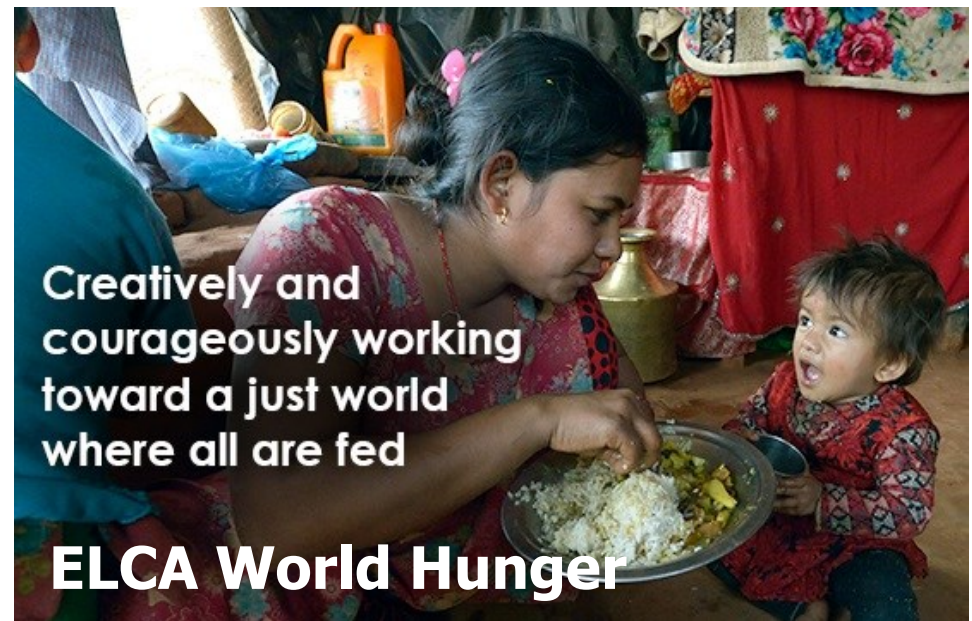
Please allow 1 1/2 to 2 hours for deliveries. We are route #1.



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.



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 February 22 through March 16.

Lutheran Disaster Response

Karl & Julie Noll
Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Lutheran World Relief Kits

Jim & Sue Bugge
Rob & Dianne Hamann
Barb Hegge
Dave & Barb Foye
George & Judy Brockman
John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl

Building Contingency Fund

Monty & Lois Gilbertson

memorials
& gifts

Southern Bluffs Food Pantry

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
Dave & Barb Foye
Barb Smyth
Rob & Dianne Hamann
George & Judy Brockman

Carol Anderson Memorial

Ed & Ann Keuper
Ruth Faulhaber
Joyce Herlitzke
George & Judy Brockman

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
02/05/23	101	53
02/12/23	78	56
02/19/23	87	38
02/26/23	92	54

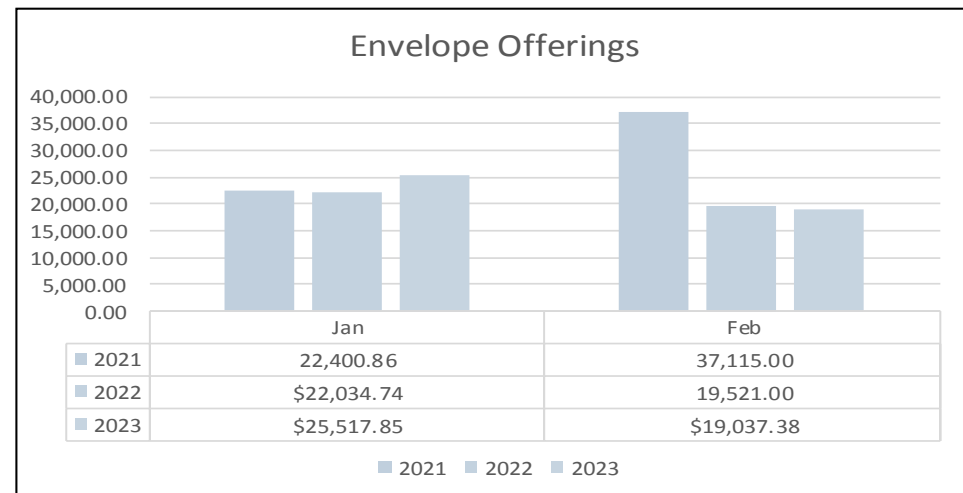
Weekly Envelope Offerings

Date	Weekly	% Budget
02/05/23	\$7,609.88	104.4%
02/12/23	\$4,066.50	55.8%
02/19/23	\$4,058.00	55.7%
02/26/23	\$3,303.00	45.3%
Total:	\$19,037.38	65.3%

Envelope Offering Comparison

February 2023	February 2022	% Difference
\$19,037.38	\$19,521.00	-2.4%
YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Difference
\$44,555.23	\$41,555.74	7.3%

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



Around the Parish...

Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle will be **Tuesday, March 28th** 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.

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

WELCA welcomes all women from our congregation to be part of this committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, March 30th at 6pm on Zoom and in person.

Easter Eggstavganza

Join us on Sunday, April 2nd (Palm Sunday) from 9:30 to 10:30am in the Mattes Center. We will have an Easter egg hunt and other games, crafts and snacks for the kids.

Burrito Breakfast

The April burrito breakfast will be on April 2nd from 9:30-10:30 and will be served from the kitchenette in the welcome area. Pastries and breakfast burritos with your choice of scrambled eggs, sausage, veggies and cheese will be served. If you'd prefer, you can just have it served on a plate. A free will offering will be accepted.

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

April 6th, from 5:30-6:30pm. Homemade chicken noodle soup and Louisiana sausage soup will be served. Desserts, while they last, will be served after the service. There is a sign up sheet for salads and desserts in the back of church. Volunteers needed! Please contact Lori@gsilacrosse.org if you can help.

Easter Breakfast

Please join us for Easter Breakfast in the Mattes Center from 7:30 - 10:15am on Easter Sunday. All are welcome! A free will offering will be accepted to support various ministries of Good Shepherd.

Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd twice a month on the 2nd and 4th **Thursdays**. (Apr 13th & Apr. 27th) 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, April 14th 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, April 21st. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. April's theme is Easter. Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

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 through April 2nd. Thank you to all who donate!**

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.

Ice Cream Buckets

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

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

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.

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.

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!



April 2 through April 9

Palm Sunday: 8:30am Worship/Communion (In Person / Live Stream)
10:30am Worship/Communion

Maundy Thursday: 5:30 - 6:30pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Worship/Communion
Desserts after the service

Good Friday: 6:30pm Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday: 7:00am Sunrise Service
7:30-10:15 Easter Breakfast
8:30am Worship/Communion (In Person / Live Stream)
10:30am Worship/Communion

April 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
March 26 8:30am Worship 8:30 Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11am Pack 17 Pinewood Derby 6:30pm GS Men's Group	27 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	28 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Parish Ed Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	29 6:30pm Lenten Worship Cake & Coffee will follow	30 10am Weisse Visit 11am Weisse Funeral 6pm WELCA Mtg	31	April 1
2 Palm Sunday 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast 9:30am Egg-stravaganza 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	3 6pm trust Foundation	4 Polling Day 6pm Buildings & Grounds	5 6pm Seder Supper	6 Maundy Thurs 3pm Grief Support 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship /communion Desserts follow	7 Good Friday 6:30pm Tenebrae Service	8
9 Easter Sunday 7am Sunrise Worship/communion 7:30am Easter Breakfast 8:30am Worship/communion 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	10 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	11 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	12 6:15pm Youth Group High Rollers Fun	13 3pm Grief Support	14 6pm Family Game Night	15
16 Name Tag Sunday, Volunteer Appreciation 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	17 5:15pm Finance 7pm Membership Mtg	18 6pm Admin/ Exec Mtg 6:15pm Hintgen Meeting 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg 7pm Church Council	19	20 6pm Hospitality Mtg	21 May Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Easter Theme)	22
23 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 0:30am Worship 6:30pm GS Men's Group	24 6:15pm Cub Scouts Pack 17	25 6pm Parish Ed Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	26	27 3pm Grief Support	28	29 10am Serleth Baptism
30 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2pm Confirmation 6:30pm GS Men's Group	May 1	2 Noon Lydia Circle Potluck 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	3	4 6pm WELCA Mtg	5	6

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,

April is national Parkinson's awareness month, and we decided to focus our article on such. According to the Mayo Clinic, Parkinson's is a progressive nervous system disorder that affects movement. Often, symptoms start gradually and usually accompany a tremor that may be barely noticeable. In the early stages of Parkinson's, your face may show little or no expression. Although Parkinson's can't be cured, medications are aimed to significantly improve your symptoms. Occasionally, your doctor may suggest surgery to regulate certain regions of your brain and improve symptoms.

In Parkinson disease, nerve cells in the brain gradually break down. Many of the symptoms one may experience are due to a loss of neurons that produce messengers in your brain called dopamine. When dopamine levels decrease, it results in abnormal brain activity. The exact cause of Parkinson's disease is unknown but genes, environmental trippers such as toxins may increase your risk of Parkinson's. An age of 60 or greater, being a male, and having a close relative with Parkinson's all increase your risk factors.

Signs and symptoms of Parkinson's can be difference for everyone. Symptoms often begin on one side of the body and usually remain worse on that side. Symptoms may include tremor, slowed movement, rigid muscles, impaired posture and balance, loss of automatic movements such as blinking or smiling, slurred or hesitated speech, and

writing changes.

Treatment for Parkinson disease aims at controlling your symptoms. Medications such as carbidopa-levodopa, and dopamine agonists may be prescribed by your doctor. A surgical procedure in which a deep brain stimulator is implanted and can help those who have unstable medication responses. Deep brain stimulators can help reduce or halt involuntary movements, reduce tremors and improve slowing of movement.

If you have further questions surrounding Parkinson's disease, please reach out to 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

Happy Spring!

We have had some exciting milestones and events that have happened and are coming up within the next few months! We just finished our unit on Doubting Thomas. The disciple Thomas did not believe that Jesus rose from the dead until he saw it with his own eyes. We learned that we need to still believe in Jesus even though we cannot physically see him. Our 4th graders also received their prayer journals, and the 5th graders had their first communion training.

Our Lenten project is coming to a close on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. A huge thank you to families and everyone in the congregation that helped support us within the project by donating to the Southern Bluffs Food Pantry! I loved hearing about all of the ways the children were helping out and completing acts of kindness to help give to a neighboring school!

Just as a reminder that on Sunday April 2nd, in between the services, the Sunday schoolers will also be holding the Easter Egg-stravaganza event. This event includes an egg hunt, as well as crafts and games will be set up for children to play. We currently have around 10 tables of games and crafts, and a big thank you to everyone who volunteered to help out with this event!

On Wednesday, April 5th, at 6pm, we will be having our Seder Supper event in the Mattes center. This special event is to celebrate the 5th graders in their first communion. This is a very unique and special experience that anyone can attend. If you are interested in attending, please email me at breanna@gs-lacrosse.org as registration is required.

It is crazy to think that the Sunday school year will already be ending in the end of May, but with our final Sunday school day comes Education Sunday. The Sunday schoolers will be sharing some of the stories that we have learned throughout the year during the first and second services on

Sunday, May 21st. Parents and Guardians, I sent out an email and survey regarding information on Education Sunday. If you have not done the survey yet, please do so as soon as you can.

Save the date! Shake it up café: where kids carry out God’s recipe, Vacation Bible School 2023! VBS will take place Sunday, 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 this month! Look for it in the coming weeks on the Sunday school bulletin board. If you have been interested in seeing what Sunday school is all about and would like to help out with VBS or Sunday school for next year feel free to reach out to me or find me on Sundays! I would love to talk to you about the fun we have!



Happy Easter!
Brea Ellison

Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

Sunday, March 19th – April 2nd	Lydia Unit (Kitchen, Art, and Science)
Sunday, April 2nd	Palm Sunday: Parade, lesson, and Easter Egg-stravaganza in between the services
Wednesday, April 5th	Annual Seder Supper Ceremony 6pm – Mattes Center (Registration Required)
Sunday, April 9th	Happy Easter! No Sunday school
Sunday, April 16th	Spirit Sunday – Blanket Making
Sunday, April 23rd – May 7th	Unit on Love is (serving others project and art)
Sunday, May 14th	Education Sunday Practice
Sunday, May 21st	Education Sunday (skits during the services)



Brea Ellison

Children's Education Coordinator
Breanna@gs-lacrosse.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



"Then he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.'" Luke 9:48

We had a great outing in March at All Glazed Up. The kids were given a pottery lesson and were able to create bowls. As the kids sat down to create their masterpieces, the instructor told them the importance of being centered on the pottery wheel. Being centered keeps the clay even as the wheel spins. Pastor pointed out that the same can be said of our faith. When we stay centered and focused on our faith, our lives can be spun into the masterpiece God wants for us.

For me, finding that center, involves being outside. I love this time of year as the season changes. The grass is getting greener, the sky feels bluer, and the sun seems to be warming everything.

As spring starts to come around, I can't help but get excited about the possibility of summer. This year we can look forward to some of our favorite summer activities as well as new adventures calling our names. Did you know we have an amazing facility just up the river? No planes required...lots of outdoor space...a perfect option for all kinds of summer adventures.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp was incorporated in 1966 and has been a memory-making, faith-building place for so many of our families. Check out some of these options:

Elementary Programs: Explorer, Pilgrim, and Seeker Camps which can be 1-3 day adventures! Activities include daily faith-based devotions, swimming, games, crafts, and campfires, and pony/horse rides.

Middle School Programs: Wagoneer Camp has kids living life like pioneers on the Oregon Trail. The Adventurers Camp involves sleeping in platform tents, canoeing, archery and other outdoor adventures in faith. There is a Horse Camp and Art Camp. For the extra adventurous, try the Elevated or Night Camp, which involves hammocks in

trees, epic campfires, star gazing, and nighttime games!

High School Programs: River Boaters, Jr Wranglers, Leadership and Peddle and Paddle camps.

Sounds amazing...but there is more! Sugar Creek offers several family camps options. What an amazing way to spend time together, fairly close to home, while growing in faith as a family unit. It's the perfect place to put the phones down and reconnect with nature and each other.

These camps are filling up fast so go to the Sugar Creek website and start planning for a summer full of trees, campfires, water, adventures, and faith. <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/>

The Tri-Synod Youth Gathering, called Journey will take place at UW-River Falls. We had several students attend last year and it was an amazing experience. This is for grades 6-12. Students will be staying at the University and can room with one other student/friend! We are currently looking for a chaperone to take the kids to this event, so if you are interested, let me know. Check out the website for more information. If your student is interested in attending, give me a call/email so we can make all the arrangements! Good Shepherd is committed to funding these activities for our youth! <https://nswi.org/journey>

Finally, Prince of Peace in La Crescent has invited our kids to join them on their summer mission trip. They are going to Westerfield, Indiana from June 17-24th. If your student is interested, let me know and we can discuss the logistics!

It is exciting to have so many opportunities for our kids to grow in their faith!

In Peace;
Jen

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-tcjj23511@gmail.com

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

April 12th, grades 6-12
Roller skating party at
High Rollers 6:15-8:15



CONFIRMATION



2023 Confirmation Ceremony

Sunday, April 30th 2pm

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

Hymn Focus:

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

*Now the green blade rises
from the buried grain,*

*Wheat that in the dark Earth
many days has lain;*

*Love lives again, that
with the dead has been;*

*Love is come again like
wheat arising green.*

The Easter hymn "Now the Green Blade Rises" is a hymn filled with vivid imagery and metaphorical references to the risen Christ. In John 12: 23-24 we see that Christ is the green blade that rises: "Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds'". In 1 Corinthians 15: 37-38 this image is connected to the resurrection: "When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. 38 But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body".

In singing "Now the green blade rises", we remember that Christ is risen now, just as on that first Easter. In the third line, Love is used as a metaphor for Jesus, reminding us why He came to Earth in the first place: "For God so loved

the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3: 16).

"Now the Green Blade Rises" was written by English Anglican priest John MacLeod Campbell Crum (1872-1958) and set to the hauntingly beautiful French carol melody NOEL NOUVELET. It first appeared in the 1928 edition of the Oxford Book of Carols. Crum wrote extensively on a wide range of topics, ranging from biblical theology to children's books. His hymn work includes colorful children's hymns, which reflect his ability to capture the imagination, as in "Now the Green Blade Rises".



Randy Lyden

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



SUNRISE SURPRISE

The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center — just like Jesus' empty tomb!



RESURRECTION HOPE



Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.



Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.

2+2 = ___ united	2x3 = ___ death	7+6 = ___ resurrection
3x3 = ___ certainly	18-16 = ___ have	4-1 = ___ been
0+1 = ___ if	2x4 = ___ we	13-1 = ___ him
2+3 = ___ in	20-6 = ___ like	2+5 = ___ his
2x5 = ___ be	8+3 = ___ with	

"For ___ we ___
1 2 3 4
with him ___ a ___ like ___ ,
5 6 7
___ will ___ also ___ united
8 9 10
___ in a ___
11 12 13
___ his." Romans 6:5, NIV
14

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV

