



GOOD SHEPHERD

L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

The Shepherd's Voice

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

Greetings,

As we cruise into August, I thought it might edifying to consider what to look forward to as we worship each Sunday. The Sundays in August include the Tenth through the Thirteenth Sundays after Pentecost. The Sundays after Pentecost comprise almost half of the church year, stretching from Trinity Sunday to Christ the King. Because the paraments on the altar and pulpit are green for every Sunday but one, it is often called "the long green season" (especially by preachers). Other seasons of the church year celebrate specific events – the time of waiting in Advent, the birth of our Lord, his manifestation as the Son of God in Epiphany, preparing for the great Paschal Feast during Lent, and the glorious resurrection – Easter. The long green season is a time of growth for Jesus followers.

The Scripture lessons during August focus on God's abundant provision for all our needs, such as the feeding of five thousand from Matthew 14 of the invitation in Isaiah 55 to come to God to see your deepest needs fulfilled. We will also hear the story of Jesus walking on water as his followers exclaim, "Truly you are the Son of God." Another theme for these weeks is God's love for the whole world. Jesus discovers great faith in a Canaanite woman and so reveals that his message is for all people. The prophet, Isaiah, proclaims:

"Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the LORD God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered."

As we gather for worship on the Sundays in August, the followers of Jesus have many opportunities to grow in faith and love. We will hear again the good news that Jesus, the Messiah, God's Son has come to dwell with us. His presence calms our fears. He brings us assurance that God cares for us, and that God's love is for all people. I look forward to seeing you at worship.

Pr. John



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse



GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

COME, ALL YOU WHO ARE
thirsty,
COME to the WATERS;
and, YOU WHO HAVE
no money,
COME BUY
and eat!

– ISAIAH 55:1

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 the office at (608)788-0450.



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.



*Thanks to our
Volunteers*

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.

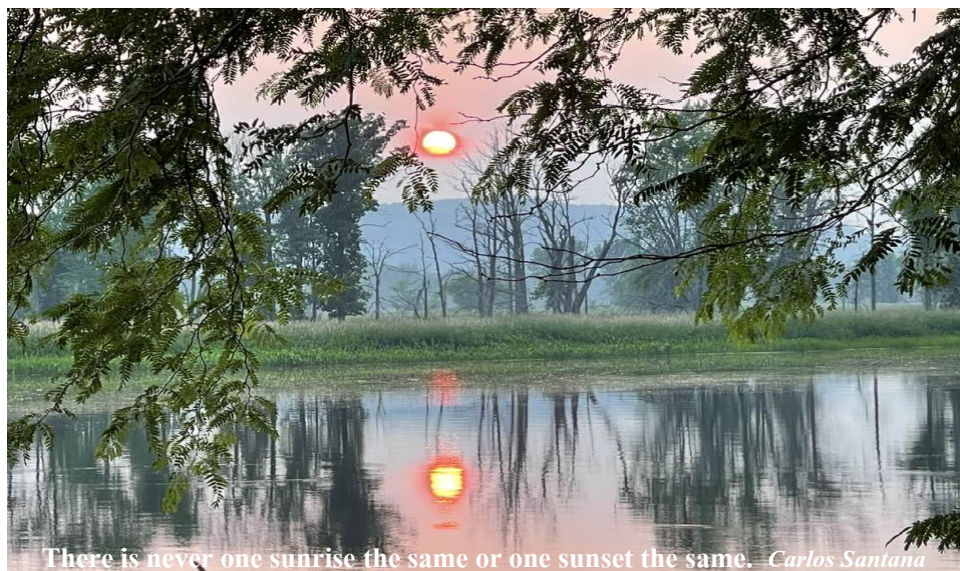
Thank you to Ann Hudson who sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls to bereaved families throughout the year.

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



There is never one sunrise the same or one sunset the same. *Carlos Santana*

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 8:30am 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 info.

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.

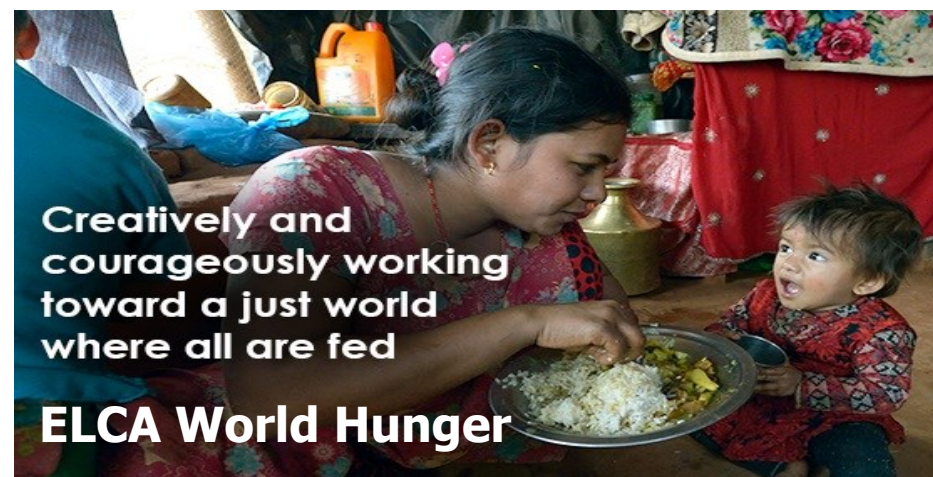


Local Food Pantry Needs

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.



Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts & Scouting for Girls Meet at Good Shepherd

Cub Scouts—Pack 10 meets at 6pm, 2nd & 4th week on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

Scouting for Girls meets at 6:45pm weekly on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

Boy Scouts—Troop 22 meets at 6:45pm weekly on Tuesday's in the Mattes Center. Off over the summer.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 788-0450 and we can connect you with the group leaders.

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 May 23 through July 25.

Hintgen Food Project

Bev Sorenson
Joyce Herlitzke
Dave & Michelle Kranz
Rob & Dianne Hamann
Jim & Jan Quinn

LuMin

Ed & Ann Keuper

Rilla Manske Memorial

Lloyd Manske

memorials
& gifts

Back to School Kits

Rob & Dianne Hamann

Marie Schaefer Memorial

Joyce Felsheim

Harlan McLain Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Ruth Rehban Memorial

Kyle & Andrea Britton
Candie Luehne
Paul & Cindy Patros
David & Judith Bouffleur
Jane Rivera

Thank
you



June Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$2,282
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$1,084
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200
Local Food Pantry Donations	\$984

Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
06/04/23	50	49
06/11/23	Synod	Assembly
06/18/23	54	37
06/25/23	50	47

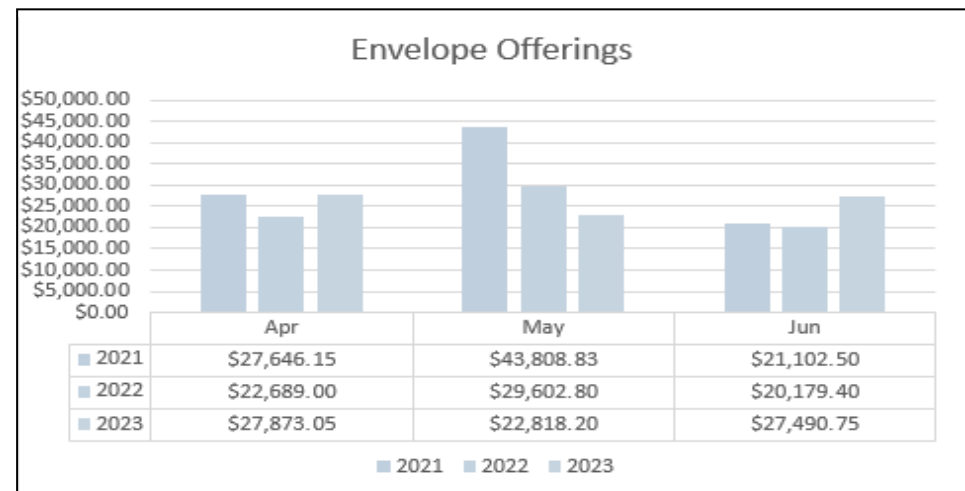
Weekly Envelope Offerings

Date	Weekly	% Budget
06/04/23	\$7,423.05	101.8%
06/11/23	\$9,832.20	134.8%
06/18/23	\$5,653.45	77.5%
06/25/23	\$4,582.05	62.8%
Total:	\$27,490.75	94.3%

Envelope Offering Comparison

June 2023	June 2022	% Difference
\$27,490.75	\$20,179.40	36.2%
YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Difference
\$143,304.23	\$136,090.49	5.3%

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



Around the Parish...

Neighborhood Night Out

Join us Tuesday, August 1st for the Neighborhood Night Out from 5-7pm, rain or shine. There will be kids games, and hotdogs and chips will be provided. Sign up sheets are in the back of the church to bring a salad, dessert, or side dish. We will be collecting personal care items for the kids of Hintgen Elementary (deodorant, feminine products, toothpaste and toothbrushes, laundry detergent, etc.) Free will donations will also be taken and used to buy items in need for the students.

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

WELCA welcomes all women from our congregation to be part of this committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, August 3rd at 6pm on Zoom and in person.

Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 3pm. Our next meeting is **August 10th & 24th**. 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, August 11th 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 Page by email at grimmcaf@hotmail.com or Jim at 641-485-6941 with any questions.

Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, August 18th at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. August's theme is Anything Goes. Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

Sugar Creek Bible Camp Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, August 21st at Viroqua Hills Golf Course. Check-In 11am, Shot Gun Start 12:30pm, dinner & prizes to follow! 4 Person Scramble 18 Holes, \$85/person, 2 Flights with Prizes! For more info go to SugarCreekBibleCamp.org or call 608-734-3113 or email office@sgrcreek.org.

Rally Sunday Car Show

GS Men's Group is sponsoring a car show for Rally Sunday, Sept. 10th. from 8am - noon. If you have a classic or interesting car, and would like to be a part of the show, please contact Randy Page at Grimmcaf@hotmail.com or call 608-782-5827.

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.

Communion Change

Beginning Sunday, August 6th we will begin coming to the front for communion again. Pastor will give the bread, and the wine will be given by the ushers in cups rather than dipping the bread into the chalice.

Thoughts & Ideas Welcomed

If you have an idea of how to improve ministry here at Good Shepherd, or things you would like to see us do or become involved in as a church, pick up a form from the bulletin board in the welcome area. Be sure to sign the form and then place it in the white mailbox in the main hall by the choir room.

Around the Parish...

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

Aluminum Cans Wanted!

Please, aluminum cans only! Other recyclables or garbage must be removed before we take them in. Our 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 cans anytime. Thank you !

Don't Throw That Away!!

Before you throw something in the garbage, pause and think "is this recyclable?". If it is, take an extra moment to put it in one of the recycle bins. They are in the kitchenette, main hallway, kitchen and Mattes Center. Signs will be posted at each bin stating what can be recycled, but it is the same single stream service that La Crosse uses so many of you will already be familiar with it.

PLEASE ONLY PUT RECYCLABLE ITEMS IN THE BLUE BINS- NO GARBAGE PLEASE!

If in doubt, check the listing above the bin and if you're still in doubt, throw it in the garbage.

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 Support LuMin!

LuMin, Lutheran Campus Ministry—La Crosse, is a Christ-centered community. We believe that all people are created in God's image, and we thank you for your support of LuMin—in prayer, through cookies, and through your giving!

1. To make a donation online, go to www.laxcg.org/giving
2. Or make a check out to Lutheran Campus Ministry and send it to La Crosse Area Synod / LuMin, 2301 South Avenue, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
3. Or make a check out to Good Shepherd with LuMin on the memo line and include it with your offering.

Confirmation Info

Confirmation will be starting in early September for our incoming 6th - 8th grades. Families should have received a registration link via email. If you did not receive the link, please email me at jen@gslacrosse.com. The first confirmation class will be Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30pm. This will be a short meeting for parents and kids, going over the schedule and expectations for the year!

2024 National Youth Gathering

The National ELCA Youth Gathering will take place next July 16-20th in New Orleans and the theme is "Created To Be." This event is open to all our youth entering grades 8-12. The Youth Gathering brings thousands of ELCA teens together to celebrate their faith, volunteer in the community, and see how God can work in each of their lives. It is a powerful opportunity to hang out with teens from all over the country and discuss their roles in this crazy, beautiful, and sometimes scary world. If you are thinking about sending your child, please email me ASAP at jen@gslacrosse.com

August 2023



Sunday School 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
July 30 8:30am Worship 10:30am Worship 2pm Ice Cream Social 6:30pm GS Men's Group	31	August 1 National Neighborhood Night out (5 to 7pm) 4:30pm Men's Golf	2	3 6pm WELCA Mtg	4	5
6 8:30am Worship/communion 10am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	7 6pm Stewardship Mtg	8 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion 4:30pm Men's Golf	9	10 3pm Grief Support	11 6pm Family Game Night	12
13 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 6:30pm GS Men's Group	14 6pm Membership Mtg	15 12pm Causeway BOD 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Admin/ Exec Mtg 7pm Church Council	16	17 1:15pm Birthday Party at Riverside 6pm Hospitality Mtg	18 September Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Anything Goes Theme)	19
20 8:30am Worship/communion 10am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	21	22 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Parish Ed	23	24 3pm Grief Support	25	26
27 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 10am Faas Baptism 6:30pm GS Men's Group	28	29 4:30pm Men's Golf	30	31	September 1	2
3 8:30am Worship/communion 9am Burrito Breakfast 10am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	6 6pm 22 Volunteer Mtg 6pm Confirmation Guide Orientation	7 6pm WELCA Mtg	8 6pm Family Game Night	9

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,

World lung cancer day is August 1st. Lung cancer is a type of cancer that can originate in lungs themselves, or can spread to the lungs from other parts of the body. Lungs function to take in oxygen when you inhale and release carbon dioxide when you exhale. According to the Mayo Clinic, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths worldwide.

Those who smoke have the greatest risk of lung cancer, but lung cancer can occur in anyone. Lung cancer typically doesn't cause signs and symptoms in its earliest stages. Signs and symptoms usually occur when the disease is advanced and include: A new cough that doesn't go away, coughing up blood, shortness of breath, chest pain, hoarseness, and headache. Risk factors for lung cancer include smoking, exposure to secondhand smoke, previous radiation therapy, exposure to radon gas, exposure to asbestos, and a family history of lung cancer.

People with an increased risk of lung cancer may consider annual lung screening using low-dose CT scans. Screenings is offered to older adults who have smoked heavily for many years or who have quit in the past 15 years. If diagnosed with lung cancer, there are many treatment options: surgery, to remove the entire lung or an affected portion, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and targeted drug therapy.

If you or a loved one smoke, the best thing you can do for yourself is to quit. Smoking is

an addiction and the brain is hooked on nicotine. Without it, you'll go through withdrawal. Line up support in advance and ask your doctor about all the methods that will help.

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 Summer!

It's hard to believe that the 2023 -2024 Sunday School year will be starting up in a month. The registration sheet for the Sunday school year are out now. The sign-up sheet is posted on the Sunday school bulletin board and will also be on the table at the back of church. I am asking all parents and guardians to please fill out this registration form. It is important to keep our information up to date on birthdays, contact information, and allergies.

This month, I would love to see your child while attending the Shake it up café: where kids carry out God's recipe, vacation bible school! **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. During Shake it up café, children will rotate through stations that include hands on activities focusing on God's word using crafts, outdoor games, music, snacks, science, and more! The sign-up sheets are posted on the Sunday school bulletin board and the back of church! This event is open to children ages four years old to 5th grade! All are welcome! Sunday schoolers can even bring friends!

We are in need of individuals to help run VBS! 3 Chef's Assistants are needed who will follow their group to the different sites and help with the projects. Along with around 5 individuals to run stations in the Café. I will also need help with putting up and taking down the Café! If you would like to help out with VBS please feel free to reach out to me or find me on Sundays! I would love to talk to you about the fun we have!

Save the date! September 10th starting after the 8:30am service, come join us for Rally Sunday! Enjoy a nice breakfast, play some

games, and participate in the treat/cake walk! Kids can also enjoy face painting, bubbles, and slide down the gigantic inflatable slide! Parents and Guardians with children ages 3 to 5th grade, please try and bring your children to Sunday school on this day! We will be introducing them to the Sunday school leaders along with meeting those in their group!

Pre – school milestone will be September 10th during the first service. All 3 and 4 year olds will be receiving their milestone gift of their Sunday School tote bag or music CD. It is very important to register for this milestone! They are posted on the Sunday school bulletin board, or you can email the registration to me at breanna@gslacrosse.org

Best regards,
Brea Ellison



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

June - August	Enjoy your Summer!
August 20 th – August 24 th	Vacation Bible School: Shake It Up Café!
Sunday, September 10 th at 8:30am	First day back to Sunday School!
Sunday, September 10 th after 8:30 service	Rally Sunday! Breakfast, games, treat/cake walk, gigantic slide inflatable
Sunday, September 10 th	3 – 4 year old Milestone
Sunday, September 17 th – October 1st	The Burning Bush Unit (Kitchen, Game Skills, Science)



Brea Ellison

Children's Education Coordinator
Breanna@gslacrosse.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

Can you believe August is here? Summer always seems to fly by. I have always liked the month of August. It is time of preparation for a new school year and new opportunities. For our incoming 6th and 9th graders, it can be a time of anxiety as they look forward to a new building. For all of our students, a new school year is a chance to restart. It is a time to think about what who they want to be and what they can do to get to that place. The journey is different for every one of our kids but the one thing they have in common is knowing that God is with them as they grow and learn about their place in the world. We have spent a lot of time in Confirmation stressing the point that God loves them at all times, in all circumstances, and in all ways. Hopefully, you can remind them of that if they are worried or apprehensive about the new school year and don't forget to remind yourself when you are frustrated that their journey looks different then what you had envisioned for them!

Confirmation will be starting in early September for our incoming 6th -8th grades. Families will be getting an email about registering in August. The first confirmation class will be Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30pm. This will be a short meeting for parents and kids, going over the schedule and expectations for the year! Pastor and I are excited about seeing everyone again! We are working on setting up a time for our high school kids to meet.

After skipping the event due to COVID, next year the ELCA will resume the National Youth Gathering. It will take place July 16-20th in New Orleans and the

theme is "Created To Be." This event is open to all our youth entering grades 8-12. The Youth Gathering brings thousands of ELCA teens together to celebrate their faith, volunteer in the community, and see how God can work in each of their lives. It is a powerful opportunity to hang out with teens from all over the country and discuss their roles in this crazy, beautiful, and sometimes scary world. If you are thinking about sending your child, please email me ASAP. We will be having an informational meeting in September. We will be traveling with other, local church groups! Having participated in the event and having a teen who has also gone, I can promise that it is an incredible experience. Check out the link for more info: <https://www.elca.church/gathering>

Enjoy the last month of summer!

Jen



Follow the activities of the G4Squad on Instagram: [g4squadlax](#)

Fundraising

WHILE YOU Shop®



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

Jen Servais

Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Jen@gsllacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

In the Office: Varied hours



Music Notes

From The Director of Music

How Are Hymns Selected at Good Shepherd?

Perhaps you have wondered how hymns are selected at Good Shepherd Church and what goes into that process. As Music Director of Good Shepherd Church, it is my job to select most of the hymns that we sing for worship services. Pastor Harald or Pastor John can then make changes to the selected hymns if needed to make sure that they most closely match the sermon they will be preaching at a particular worship service.

In selecting the hymns, I rely on a worship planning resource called Sundays and Seasons, which assists worship leaders in all aspects of worship planning, including suggesting a variety of hymns for each worship service to choose from. According to ELCA guidelines, it is most important that the texts of the hymns match and support the readings and theme of any given worship service. In keeping with ELCA guidelines, I try to ensure that the hymns selected encompass the greatest possible variety and diversity of styles, both musically and textually.

The body of Christian hymnody represents the cultures of many peoples, both past and contemporary. Each culture had or has its own unique way of seeing and experiencing the word of God, and singing their hymns enable us to share in their experience. It is important to remember that all cultures, past and present, are part of the body of Christ.

When the recommended hymn choices include a hymn originating outside of America or Western Europe, a hymn in an African American style, a hymn which is in a popular contemporary style, or a hymn emphasizing the feminine aspects of God, I always select that hymn if it is practical to sing in the worship service. If a favorite hymn to many in the congregation is suggested (e.g., "I love to Tell the Story"), I always select that one for the worship service. It is truly a pleasure for me to play the hymns that I know the congregation loves!



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Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

- 12 small, smooth rocks
- An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
2. Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
3. When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
4. Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sandbox or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
5. Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.

Puzzle!

Fill in the blanks with the correct words. Then transfer the letters to the numbered boxes below to complete Psalm 107:1, NIV.

- Shape that symbolizes love 31 15 7 18 5
- Part of a stove used for baking 12 3 24 39
- Color made by red and yellow 28 42 7 8 27 37
- A present 1 32 20 11
- Clothing a girl wears 19 22 43 44 33
- Something you open to go into a room 40 29 17 47
- Opposite of soft (sound) 34 17 41 30
- To take a long walk 14 2 9 38
- A high body temperature 45 50 49 48 42
- Items used to build or fix things 13 35 21 16 26
- Edge of the sea 10 23 46 51 4
- Home for a bee 6 25 36 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51

Answer heart, oven, orange, gift, dress, door, loud, hike, fever, tools, shore, hive; Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1, NIV



"They look like little angels when they're asleep."