

Luther's Life

When observing a bird in
the family garden, Luther said,

*'Oh you dear little bird, do not fly away,
I love you with all my heart if you could
only believe me. But thus we also
lack faith in our God.'*



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter October, 2023

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

Friends in Christ,

The new group of confirmands has already begun exploring, in their Wednesday meetings, what it means for them and their lives to be a Christian, and in particular, a Christian in the Lutheran confession. Our focus this year in confirmation will be on the Catechism. Many of you studied Luther's Small Catechism during your growing-up years in your own confirmation class, and maybe other times as well. The Small Catechism was a small but meaningful and influential part of what Luther wrote throughout his life.

If one wanted to read all that Martin Luther wrote, it would take a long time. The American edition of Luther's Works fills a whopping 55 volumes and represents only a fraction of his total writings. Much of what Martin Luther wrote isn't all that noteworthy or earthshattering, and Luther would be the first to agree. But there are some "gems" amongst his writings that have become well-known and far-reaching, and that is because they carry a vital witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, even more than 500 years later.

There are also conversations collected by some of Luther's friends and students who enjoyed the privilege of being regular dinner guests at his home. Some of these gems come from those gatherings. Notes were taken and parts of conversations were jotted down by different guests and were ultimately gathered into what is called Luther's "Table Talks," and they provide us with

a very personal glimpse of the man Luther, his faith, and his times. These talks show that Luther was at ease talking about politics, the weather, his foes, his family, and of course, about how faith is a part of all matters of life for believers.

Here are a couple of glimpses from Luther's Table Talks, this one from June of 1532, 15 years after the Reformation:

"When some birds built a nest in his garden and flew away when we passed by, Luther said, "Dear little bird, don't fly away. I wish you nothing but good. If only you'd believe me." Then he turned from the nest and said, "This is how we should believe God – that God wishes us well with his whole heart."

In September of 1542, after Luther's daughter Magdalene had died, he said: "I am joyful in spirit, but I am sad according to the flesh. The flesh doesn't take kindly to this. The separation (caused by death) troubles me above measure. It's strange to know that she is surely at peace and that she is well off there, very well off, and yet to grieve so much!"

And from February 16, 1546: Luther's last observations left in a note talk about how nobody can understand Vergil... unless they have been a shepherd or a farmer for five years, and nobody can understand Cicero unless they have engaged in public affairs for 20 years, and let nobody suppose that they have tasted the Holy Scriptures sufficiently

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 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.

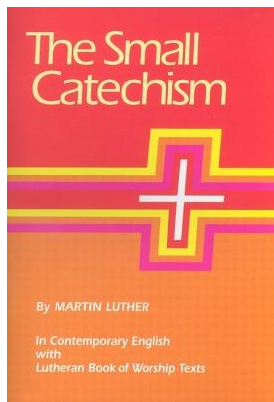


Pastor's article continued from page 1.

unless they have ruled over the churches with the prophets for a hundred years.... Lay not your hand on this divine Aeneid but bow before it and adore its every trace."

And, as you certainly know, his very last words were: "We are beggars. That is true." I'm looking forward to sharing bits and pieces of Martin Luther in different ways, but especially through the Small Catechism this year in confirmation. Please keep the confirmation students, Jen Servais, and the confirmation guides in your prayers.

Pastor Harald



Serve Enriching Life, Sharing Talents

Thank You All So Very Much...

The Altar Guild. We are up and running again. With a few changes. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact the office or Ellen Klemp at 608-397-2139 or klempellen@gmail.com

Thank you to Ann Hudson who sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls to bereaved families throughout the year. If you are interested in making Prayer Shawls, please contact the office.

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



Sunsets are the artwork of God. — Unknown

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 email 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.

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.



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.

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 August 23 through September 18.

LWR Kits

Tracy Stoll
Sherri Petras

Patricia Potts Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
James & Marilyn Potts

Harlan McLain Memorial

Tom & Phyllis Lynch

memorials
& gifts

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Linda Brigson

WAFER

John Wood

Food for Schools Project

Jim & Jan Quinn

LuMin

Tom & Phyllis Lynch

Thank
you



August Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$2,207
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$84
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200
Lutheran World Relief	\$460
Hintgen Elementary School	\$115
Sugar Creek Scholarships	\$198

Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
08/06/23	53	29
08/13/23	86	45
08/20/23	41	32
08/27/23	53	60

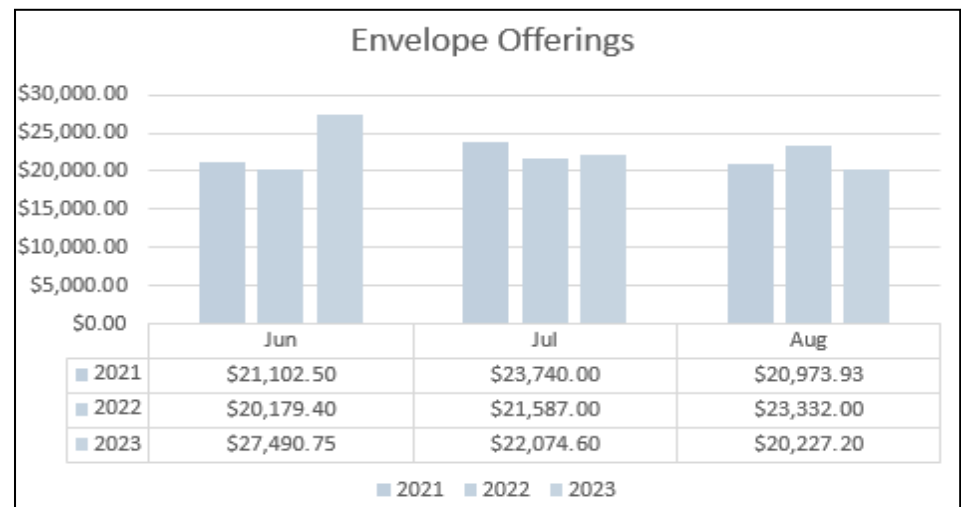
Weekly Envelope Offerings

Date	Weekly	% Budget
08/06/23	\$6,848.05	93.9%
08/13/23	\$4,416.05	60.6%
08/20/23	\$2,821.05	38.7%
08/27/23	\$6,142.05	84.2%
Total:	\$20,227.20	69.3%

Envelope Offering Comparison

August 2023	August 2022	% Difference
\$20,227.20	\$23,332.00	-13.3%
YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Difference
\$185,606.03	\$181,009.49	2.5%

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...

Burrito Breakfast

Join us for a Burrito breakfast Sunday, October 1st from 9:30 to 10:30am in the Mattes Center. We will be serving breakfast burritos. They can be filled with scrambled eggs, sausage, veggies and cheese, or if you'd prefer, you can just have it served on a plate. A free will offering will be accepted.

Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle will meet again on Tuesday, October 3rd 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, October 5th at 6pm on Zoom and in person.

New Member Orientation

New Member Orientation will be Tuesday, October 10th at 6pm. If you are interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd, or are interested in finding out more about us, please let the office know you plan to attend. New members will be welcomed during worship on Sunday, October 15th.

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 meetings are October 12th & 26th. 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, October 13th 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, October 20th at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. October's theme is Halloween. Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

Trunk Or Treat

Save the date and join us Saturday, October 28th at 3pm for Trunk or Treat! Decorate a car, or just bring the kids for treats. Watch for more information in future bulletins.

Church Fall Clean Up Day (Outside Only)

Join us from 8am—Noon on Saturday, October 28th as we work together to clean up the church grounds. Donuts, coffee and juice will be served.

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.

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

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

Stop by our table Sundays or get an order form from our website. Contact Corrine to place an order at 608-397-9353 or Email tcjj23511@gmail.com

The office also has Kwik Trip cards available for immediate purchase!

Around the Parish...

Advent Luncheon

Saturday, December 2, 2023 11am

Good Shepherd Women WELCA will be hosting the Advent Luncheon this year for the women of Our Redeemer and Mary Mother of the Church Parish.

The service will be followed by salads and desserts in the Mattes Center. If you are interested in attending, would like to volunteer to help, or could contribute a salad or dessert, please sign up on the sheets in back of church.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori at 608-386-3388 or Lori@gslacrosse.org

Puzzles Wanted

Riverside Transitional Care is looking for puzzle donations for our residents. Please drop off new or gently used 300-piece puzzles. Your donation can make a big difference in the lives of nursing home residents! Any questions, please call Tracy at (608) 406-3900.

Giving with QR codes

- ◆ Point your smart phone camera at the QR code for the fund you would like to donate to.
- ◆ Click on the link that appears on your screen and you will be taken to our secure Vanco donations page for that fund.
- ◆ Enter the amount you wish to contribute, then select a one time or recurring payment. If it is to be a recurring payment, select the frequency of the payment and the start date.
- ◆ Select "Add to Basket".
- ◆ Review your contribution then select "Continue to Payment".
- ◆ Enter your payment information. A 2.75% fee will be added to your contribution to cover processing costs. You can turn this off if you would like, then select "Continue to Review".
- ◆ If everything is correct, select "Submit" to make your payment. You will receive a receipt via email, and your contribution will also appear on your Contribution Statement.

2023-24 Stewardship Appeal

Stewardship information has been mailed out, and we are doing things a little differently this year. Our focus is on Time and Talent as well as Treasure.

Please look through all of the information. Fill out and return the Time, Talent, and Treasure Survey, along with your 2024 Giving Intent card, on Sunday, Oct. 8th. Both can also be mailed or dropped off in the office if you cannot attend on the 8th.

While Treasure is needed to sustain the ministry of Good Shepherd, we are challenging all members to get involved by also sharing their Time and Talents around the church.

We are also offering ways to make giving easier. Electronic giving through the Simply Giving program, Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app, and the use of QR codes throughout the church.



Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Please use one of the QR codes below to make a donation to that ministry.



General Fund

General Fund Offerings cover all of the operating expenses of the church.



Building Contingency Fund

Used for unplanned repairs and maintenance, and long term building projects like a new roof.



Memorials & Special Gifts

Funding that may be requested for projects and expenses for our various ministries.



Good Shepherd Youth Group

Support the youth of Good Shepherd!



Food for Schools Project

Help stock the food pantries of our local schools.

Gathered in Christ to Give, Serve, Lead and Connect.

October 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
October 1 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9am Burrito Breakfast 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	2 6pm Trust Foundation	3 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	4 6:30pm Confirmation	5 6pm WELCA Mtg	6	7
8 Name Tag Sunday—WELCA 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 6:30pm GS Men's Group	9 6pm Membership Mtg	10 1pm Lydia Circle 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6pm New Member Orientation 6:45pm NO Boy Scouts	11 6:30pm Confirmation	12 3pm Grief Support	13 6pm Family Game Night	14 7am LWR Semi Drop Off
15 New Member Litany 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	16 5:15pm Finance	17 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg 7pm Church Council Mtg	18 6:30pm Confirmation	19 6pm Hospitality Mtg	20 November Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Halloween Theme)	21
22 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 10:30am Denstad Baptism 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 6:30pm GS Men's Group	23	24 6pm Parish Ed Meeting 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	25 6:30pm Confirmation	26 3pm Grief Support	27	28 8am Fall Clean Up 9am Active Threat Training 3pm Trunk or Treat
29 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 6:30pm Bible Study	30 6pm Active Threat Training	31 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	November 1 6:30pm Confirmation	2 6pm WELCA Mtg	3	4
5 All Saints Sunday 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9am Burrito Breakfast 10:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	6	7 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds 6pm BS Troop 22 Adult Mtg 6:45pm BS Troop 22 Mtg	8 6:30pm Confirmation	9 3pm Grief Support	10 December Voice Articles Due 6pm Family Game Night	11 8am Holiday Marketplace

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,

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

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

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

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

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard

Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard

GS Volunteer Parish Nurses
Cody_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org

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



Sunday School Update

Pre-school thru Grade 5

Happy Fall!

Thank you to all who attended Rally Sunday! Special thanks to the amazing pancake flippers Bill Klein, Tim Stalsberg, Mark Bronson, Treyton Stalsberg, Angie Ellison, Drew Lassig, Matthew Heberlein, and Darlene Lassig. As well as other helpers Kylie Klein, Kraig Lassig, Jenny Hamann, Grace Amundson, Rick Laufenberg, and Kari Ellison.

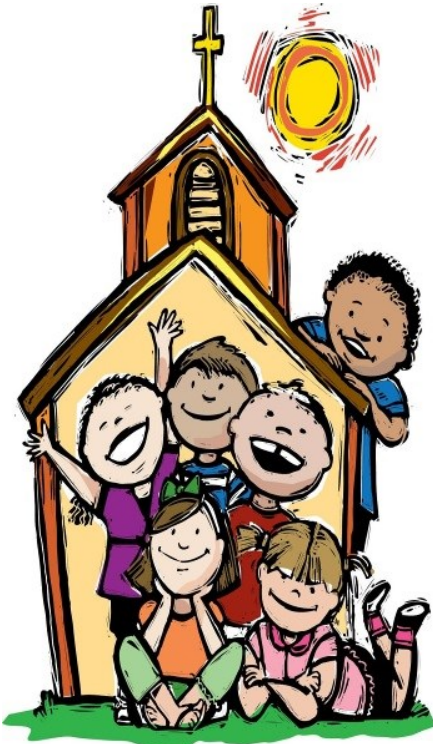
Just as a reminder that Sunday School registrations are due! If you have not filled out a registration sheet for the Sunday school year it is posted on the Sunday school bulletin board. Please try to get this to Brea as soon as possible!

Within the month of October there are two upcoming milestones. Sunday, October 8th during the 8:30 service will be our Kindergarten milestone and Sunday, October 29th will be our 3rd grade milestone. The 3rd graders will be receiving their bibles during the service. It is important to register for these Milestones. Please fill out a form and either email the information to Breanna@gs-lacrosse.org or turn in a hard copy!



On Saturday, October 28th you do not want to miss the fun of Trunk or Treat from 3:00pm to 5:00pm! I am looking for volunteers who are interested in decorating a trunk, running a game, and handing out a treat or prize! The sign up sheet is at the back of church!

Best regards,
Brea Ellison



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

Sunday, October 8 th during the 8:30 service	Kindergarten Milestone
Sunday, October 8 th – 22 nd	The Red Sea Unit (Cinema, Art, and Computer)
Saturday, October 28 th from 3pm – 5pm	Trunk or Treat!
Sunday, October 29 th during the 8:30 service	3 rd Grade Milestone
Sunday, November 5 th	Christmas Play Parts Sign Up (During Sunday School)



Saturday, October 28th from 3:00pm—5:00pm.
Don't miss out on the fun!

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](https://www.remind.com) 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



"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2

Hopefully, everyone has acclimated back to the school routine! Can you believe it is October already? Confirmation has started and we are having fun! We are focused on the small Catechism this year and exploring what being a Christian really means. Students will start out thinking about what it means to be a Christian. From there we will discuss Martin Luther and then the different aspects of the Catechism. As always, our confirmation classes start out with a song about the books of the Bible with Pastor! We will be discussing some aspects of our faith as a large group and then the students break into small groups to share their highs and lows of the week and do a follow-up activity. We are continuing our practice of acknowledging, affirming, and reinforcing each other during our time together. The idea is to remind each other that we are God's masterpiece, each with a unique life and journey that should be celebrated. We end with an activity of gratitude and prayer. Our goal in Confirmation is to help the kids see their faith within their everyday life. The Confirmation students will be lending their talents to the Church on the first Sunday of every month by ushering and helping with the Burrito Breakfast.

We are hoping to do some fun team building activities this year as well. Your financial support through purchasing script cards allows us the opportunity to do these activities! With Christmas around the corner, if you are planning on getting gift certificates, check out the list of cards available and purchase them through Good Shepherd. You can find a table in the back of church or forms on the Good Shepherd website. We are always so grateful for the support!

There are a lot of volunteer opportunities available for our high school youth! Ushering and reading at services, helping with Sunday School and Confirmation, helping with God's Work, Our Hands, helping with script cards, and helping clean up after the holiday craft show. Being an active part of the church community is good for the soul, not to mention it reflects character and community mindedness on those college applications. Email me if you want to receive emails on volunteer opportunities.

Finally, a special shout out to the adults who are helping with small groups this year in Confirmation. The students and I are lucky to have you!

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 8-11. 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 will be an incredible experience. Check out the link for more info: <https://www.elca.church/gathering>

In Peace,
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@gsilacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

In the Office: Varied hours



Music Notes

From The Director of Music

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

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

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

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

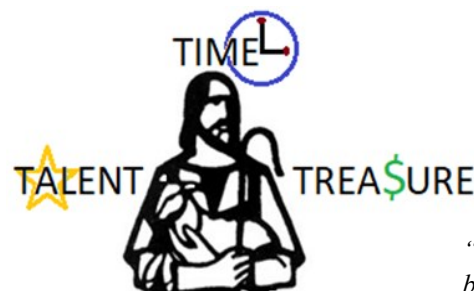
In 1772 Fawcett accepted an invitation to serve as pastor at Carter's Lane Baptist Church in London. Carter's Lane was a large church offering a much higher salary,

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



Randy Lyden

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



"Where our time goes, there our hearts will be also." Matthew 6:21

The new 2023-2024 Stewardship Calendar is quickly approaching and this year we are excited to begin **Time, Talent, and Treasure** ministry to share your gifts in love, as Jesus taught us. There are a few dates upcoming to pay attention to:

September 24th: Stewardship Kick Off!

October 1st: Stewardship Education Sunday

October 8th: Return of Intent Card & Brochure Survey to Church during the Stewardship Celebration Sunday

Each member has been mailed a Time, Talent, and Treasure Stewardship envelope with a letter of explanation, brochure with a survey, intent card, and giving options for ease of supporting Good Shepherd.

Please review these, complete and return the Intent Card & Brochure Survey by October 8th to the Church Office or during a Worship Service that Sunday.

Thank you for the sharing of your Time, Talent, and Treasure in this upcoming time of stewardship 2023 to 2024!

The Stewardship Committee

Intent cards and the survey are available to download on our website at <https://gsiacrosse.org/2023-2024-stewardship-appeal/>

My Time and Talent Gift!

By: _____ (Your Name)

Date: ____/____/20____

Time Given: ____ hours ____ minutes

Gift Description: _____

Each person should share their Time and Talent gift (individually, not as a group or event) and place in the box.

Your Gift Makes a Difference!

This Stewardship Year you will be seeing "Time and Talent Gift" Stations around Church in common meeting and gathering areas.

Please complete a form for each *Gift of Time and Talent* you share within the church, your ministry beyond the church, and put it in the box.

The Time and Talent Thermometer in the Welcome Area of Church, will be a visible display of this Time and Talent ministry of sharing our gifts in love as Jesus taught us!