



April 25, 2024

Dear Congregation,

In this ever-changing world of technology, it is an ongoing effort to keep data safe. Data can be our personal, financial, or family information. Good Shepherd is asking each of you for your cooperation with sharing the good news of our ministry in action.

At events of Good Shepherd ministry, we often take pictures to share with others the good news and deeds of our church. As we post to our feeds, social media, and communications in our excitement, we are sharing data out into the world.

Starting today, we ask that these photos and memories be sent to the church office and not posted on personal feeds or sites outside of the church. This is for the safety of all within the image and ensures that consent has been given for the image's use. As our world continues to evolve, we need to have a unified plan for our data.

We welcome pictures and memories of fellowship, education, ministry, and life within Good Shepherd sent to office@gslacrosse.org

Thank you for your participation!

Jim Bugge, Kim Dockham, Mark Skolos, Sara Wrobel and Pastor Harald Bringsjord

Executive Committee

SUMMER ■ WORSHIP ■ SCHEDULE



From June 2nd through
September 1st there will be one
Sunday service at

9:30

The service will be live streamed
on our website
www.gslacrosse.org



GOOD SHEPHERD

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

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter May, 2024

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

Greetings dear friends in Christ. I have been given the opportunity to report to you the results of the special congregational meeting which was held on April 7th. Many of you have already heard but this will make it public and official. The first item of business was to elect two council members to a second term. This decision was inadvertently missed at our annual meeting. I am happy to report that Karl Noll and Tim Knudsen were unanimously approved. They both do a lot to enhance the ministry of Good Shepherd and we are blessed that they are willing to continue to serve.

The other item on the agenda was to officially consider an idea that was raised at our annual meeting concerning our summer worship schedule. In our special meeting there was lively discussion about the pros and cons of moving to a single worship service during the summer months. It was encouraging for me to realize that most of the opinions voiced focused on how such a change would impact the mission and ministry of our congregation. It was thought that a single time in the summer might make it easier for new people to come and see what we are all about. This certainly makes sense to me. By far the most attractive suggestion was that having a single worship time would result in deepening our fellowship together. A member at the meeting said she normally attends the second service and that she is looking forward to seeing people who go

to the first service. When I announced the decision last Sunday our accompanist, Randy Lyden, came forward and told us how English Lutheran had switched to a single service several years ago and people were delighted at the results. The main reason they gave was precisely that outcome. They enjoyed the opportunity to get to know folks who usually worshipped at the other service.

The proposal to switch to a single service in the summer was approved by a solid majority of those present. It was then decided that the service would take place at 9:30am in the morning. We will try this new schedule this coming summer and see how it goes. So, starting the Sunday **after** Memorial Day we will gather at 9:30am. The service will be live-streamed. Then, on the Sunday **after** Labor Day we will resume our traditional service times of 8:30 and 10:30am. I look forward to seeing you at worship this summer.

Pastor John



Facebook.com/GSlacrosse



Twitter.com/goodshepherdlse



GSlacrosse.org/voice

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

Give Volunteering Within Church

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

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

name as the sponsor.

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

Readers & Ushers always Appreciated!

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

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

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.



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.



Good Shepherd Bible Study

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105
Jesus said: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church offers you the opportunity to participate in a monthly Bible study. The group gathers in person at church or online via Zoom at 6:30pm on the fourth Sunday of each month. We follow a very simple format that helps us apply God's word to our daily lives. The selected Bible passage is read three times. After each reading, we respond to an easy question such as what caught your attention, how does this word touch your life, and what might God be calling you to do or change? Here is what

one participant had to say about the Bible study: "I have really enjoyed Bible study as it allows me to review the readings and think about what they mean to me. It also allows me to listen to the views of other participants and how the readings touch them." Another said, "Bible study has been surprisingly enjoyable. Surprisingly because it is not what I expected. Rather than being told how to interpret a passage; I am asked about what stands out and has meaning to me. Others also share what is inspirational to them. It's a refreshing and meaningful way to learn".

The link to Zoom can be found at the congregation's website, gslacrosse.org.

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



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 Sunday School Choir, please contact Darlene Lassig at 608-769-1499 or at darlene@gslacrosse.org.

Hand Bell Choirs

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.

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.

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 9 weeks for Mobile Meals throughout the 2023 calendar year and we will be doing 9 weeks in 2024!

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.



Creatively and
courageously working
toward a just world
where all are fed

ELCA World Hunger

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 March 19th through April 21st.

Food For Schools

Rob & Dianne Hamann
 Jim & Jan Quinn
 John Wood
 Joyce Herlitzke
 Barb Hegge

Building Contingency Fund

Bob & Rachel Thompson

Alex Duresky Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

Sugar Creek Horse Project

Al & Kathy Johnson
 Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
 Kim Dockham
 Roger & Kenna Christians



Art Olson Memorial

David & Michele Kranz

Youth Gathering Appeal

Jeff & Sharon Yushta
 Barb Smyth
 Rick & Janelle Laufenberg
 Rich & Barb Doering

Al & Kathy Johnson
 Ed & Ann Keuper
 Diane Ambrose
 Pat Kraemer
 Mary Kay Boland
 Tom & Phyllis Lynch
 Dave & Barb Foye
 Steve & Kari Ellison
 Christi Ziems
 JoAnn De Clute
 Trudy Ristow
 Bruce & Pam Winningham
 Leonard & Rita Klahn
 Karl & Julie Noll
 Charles & Linda Brigson
 Roger Potts
 John & Sharon Gilbertson
 Gundi Bay



March Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$1,847
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$84
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200



Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
03/03/24	99	58
03/10/24	61	41
03/17/24	104	44
03/24/24	102	59
03/31/24	152	166

Weekly Envelope Offerings

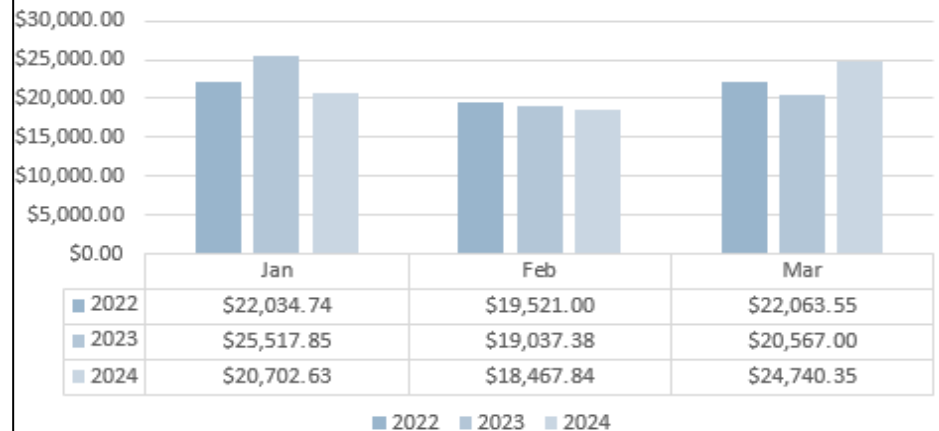
Date	Weekly	% Budget
03/03/24	\$5,059.25	86.7%
03/10/24	\$5,472.00	93.8%
03/17/24	\$7,668.65	131.5%
03/24/24	\$3,208.15	55.0%
03/31/24	\$3,332.30	57.1%
Total:	\$24,740.35	84.8%

Envelope Offering Comparison

March 2024	March 2023	% Difference
\$24,740.35	\$20,567.00	20.3%
YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Difference
\$63,910.82	\$65,122.23	-1.9%

If you would like to view the complete financial statements that are shared with the Council, please contact Rick in the church office at 788-0450 or email rick@gslacrosse.org

Envelope Offerings



Around the Parish...

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

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

Burrito Breakfast

Join us for a Burrito breakfast Sunday, May 5th between services, while supplies last in the Mattes Center. Burritos can be filled with scrambled eggs, sausage, veggies and cheese. If you'd prefer, you can just have it served on a plate. A free will offering will be accepted to help send our youth to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle will meet again on Tuesday, May 7th at Noon (potluck) in the Quilt Room. All ladies are welcome. Any questions please call LeeAnn Lyden at 788-7651. We hope you will join us for some good chats and always dessert and coffee.

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 will be May 9th and May 23rd. All are welcome.

Game Night

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

Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, May 17th at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. The theme is "Spring". Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

Spring Clean Up Day

Join our Buildings and Grounds Committee on Saturday, May 18th as we do some spring cleaning around the church and grounds! 8am - Noon. Donuts, coffee, and juice will be provided.

Cancer Center Support Group

Cancer Support Group gives adult cancer patients and their caregivers a safe, confidential place to share feelings and experiences with others whose lives are affected by cancer. Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5pm in the Mattes Center. Next meeting is May 21st. Questions, call Janette 608-738-3883

Bible Study

The next Bible Study will be Sunday, May 26th at 6:30pm in the Mattes Center and on Zoom. The Zoom invitation is available on our website at <https://gslacrosse.org/monthly-bible-study/>
All are welcome to attend!

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.

Summer Service Time Change

To offer a richer worship service, and allow members from both services the chance to meet, we will only be having one Sunday worship service at 9:30am from June 2nd through and including September 1st.

Help Feed Area Children

Please continue to support the Food For Schools Project (formally Hintgen Food Project) with your donations. Food is still purchased for Hintgen, but because of your generosity we are also able to make donations to the food pantries of other area schools too! Make your checks payable to church, but indicate Food For Schools Project in the memo line.

Around the Parish...

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!

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 are posted at each bin stating what can be recycled.

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.

Help Our Youth, Save Some Money, And Wash Your Car!

Good Shepherd is sending 12 teens to the National Youth Gathering this July in New Orleans! They are selling Kwik Trip car wash cards to help raise money for the trip. The cards are good for 5 ultimate car washes (valued at \$50) and can be used at any Kwik Trip car wash. We are selling them for \$36. Email Jen if you are interested and one of the kids will deliver the card to you! Jen@gslacrosse.org.

Pizza Anyone?

Pizza Ranch Fundraiser!! The teens attending the National Youth Gathering will be working in the dining room at Pizza Ranch on Thursday, May 9th from 4-9pm! The group will receive a percentage of the sales from that night! Stop down for dinner and help the kids earn money towards the cost of attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer!

Simply Giving

Good Shepherd offers this electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. Pick up an authorization form from the information area in the back of the church, or call Rick at 608-788-0450.

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.

We Are Hiring!

We are seeking a new Coordinator of Confirmation and Youth Ministry.

This is an hourly position of up to 20 hours per week beginning in August. The hours are flexible and depend upon youth activities and include Wednesday night confirmation classes.

Please see the church bulletin boards for more information. Also, A complete job description and application form can be obtained on our website www.gslacrosse.org.

Interested parties may submit a letter of application, application form, and resume by May 14, 2024. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license, submit to a background check to be approved by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, and are subject to annual reviews.

May 2024



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. Beginning June 2nd we will have one service at 9:30. The 8:30 (and 9:30) services will be live streamed on our website at www.gslacrosse.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 28 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 4:30pm Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm Bible Study	29	30	May 1	2 6pm WELCA Mtg	3	4 9am Stelzl Visitation 11:30am Stelzl Funeral
5 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast 10:30am Worship/communion 2pm Confirmation 4:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group 	6	7 Noon Lydia Circle Potluck 6pm Buildings & Grounds	8	9 3pm Grief Support 4-9pm Pizza Ranch Youth Fundraiser at Pizza Ranch	10 6pm Game Night	11
12 Mother's Day Name Tag Sunday (Bldgs & Grounds) 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 4:30pm Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group 	13	14 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion	15	16 6pm Hospitality Mtg	17 June Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Spring)	18 8am Church Clean Up!!
19 Education Sunday 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 4:30pm Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	20 6pm Membership Mtg	21 5pm Cancer Support 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 7pm Church Council Meeting	22	23 3pm Grief Support	24	25
26 8:30am Worship 10:30am Worship 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 6:30pm Bible Study	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	29	30	31	June 1 10am Before the After
2 9:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	3	4 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Buildings & Grounds	5	6 6pm WELCA Mtg	7	8

Church Council Members

- **Jim Bugge** *President of the Congregation*
buggejim@gmail.com
- **Sara Wrobel** *Treasurer*
- **Kim Dockham** *Secretary*

Other Church Council Members

include: Tim Knudsen, Karl Noll, Thea Johnson, Mark Skolos, Lori Lowell, Janette Dawson, Matt Heberlein, Mark Bronson, Tom Lynch, Erica Pedrazoli, and Pastor Bringsjord.



- **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
- **Randy Lyden** *Music Director/ Organist* randy@gslacrosse.org (608) 792-1305

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 spring in full bloom, we are focusing on exercise and the many positives it offers, including reducing your risk of heart disease and depression. Results from a new study show that physical activity's effects on stress — and related mood conditions — can protect against cardiovascular disease. The researchers found that there was an inverse relationship between physical activity and stress-related brain activity: higher levels of exercise resulted in lower levels of stress-related brain activity. People with stress-related brain conditions like depression saw a much larger benefit from physical activity. According to Dr. Ahmed Tawakol, MD, one of the researchers and a cardiologist in the Cardiovascular Imaging Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital, exercise was “roughly twice as effective in lowering cardiovascular disease risk among those with depression.”

Many medications for depression work by increasing neurotransmitters in the brain that can affect behavior and mood. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) like Lexapro or Prozac are commonly prescribed for depression, and serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) like Cymbalta or Pristiq can be used to treat other anxiety-related disorders. But exercise can counter depression and stress-related brain activity in a number of ways, by affecting brain chemistry naturally; regulating appetite hormones, reducing inflammation, reducing stress, and increasing metabolism. Unlike

serotonergic antidepressants, physical activity increases activity in the prefrontal cortex, which improves mood. More activity in the prefrontal cortex in turn reduces stress-related overactivation of the autonomic nervous. Exercise also increases Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor, which improves mood through alterations in brain plasticity.

Thirty minutes of exercise per day can make a huge difference in your health. With the many opportunities for exercise in the coulee region, you will never get bored or feel it is a chore. At the end of the day, it is your body and your health. Treat it as a temple!

Take Care,
Cody and Kerstin



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 May!

It's crazy to think that we are officially into our final month of Sunday School this year! We have had such a busy and fun filled year! We learned about stories such as Widow's Offering, which allowed the Sunday schoolers to brainstorm their gifts, talents, and treasures that are in their lives and how they can help others! Along with other stories like the Sower that taught us that everyone is different but their goal is to be "planted" into the good soil by being kind to others, listening to God's word, and being helpful!

The registration sheet for the 2024-2025 Sunday school year is out now. The sign-up sheet is posted on the Sunday school bulletin board. 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, allergies, and grades in school.

Best Regards,
Brea Ellison

On May 19th, the Sunday schoolers will be having their Education Program during the 8:30am service. This will be our final day of Sunday school. They will be sharing some of the stories that they have learned throughout the year along with "are you smarter than a Sunday Schooler?"



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

May 5th	Education Sunday Practice/Art Project
May 12th	Education Sunday Practice
May 19th	Education Sunday – Are you smarter than a Sunday Schooler?

Bible Quiz

What does God compare to rain "watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater"?

- A. The justice of the nations
- B. The work of God's people
- C. The message of Isaiah the prophet
- D. God's word



Answer: D (See Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV.)

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



"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

On May 5th, we will be celebrating the Affirmation of Baptism with this year's 8th graders. Otherwise known as "Confirmation", the Affirmation of Baptism is the culmination of years spent in Sunday school and Confirmation classes learning about God, Jesus, and the many people and stories that have been shared in an attempt to understand God's love. Starting in 6th grade, our teens start this deeper exploration into their faith. The ultimate goal is to see their faith grow over the three years of the program. The students discuss how the stories in the Bible can teach us things in our everyday life, how the lessons of God's love goes WAY back, can still be seen today, and will continue in the future, and discuss questions about faith and religion. Students are required to do community service, work to connect different sermons to their lives and the gospel, and participate in different projects depicting what faith looks like in their world. Some families created faith squares with loving messages and favorite Bible verses for the confirmands to be reminded of all the love surrounding them. This year, these squares were beautifully quilted into a wall hanging by the talented Perlie Bagstad and Jennifer Klar. Finally, the students sit down and have a meeting with me and Pastor to reflect on their faith journey. These individual meetings are intended to for them to tell us how their faith has grown, but in the end, those discussions ultimately make my

own faith grow. Our confirmands are incredible kids...full of questions, ideas, thoughtfulness, questions, love and so much faith. In a world that seems claustrophobic with tragedy, these kids shine God's light into the world in a way that I know will pave the way for a better, more hopeful world. Their parents, grandparents, and villages have done an amazing job and Pastor and I are grateful we get to bask in their faith journeys for a short time. We couldn't have done it without the help of some amazing adults that served as Confirmation Guides this year. Vicki Sanwick, Kim Locknane, Jaclyn Osley, Stephanie Andersen, and Ren Weeks. The kids, Pastor, and I are so grateful to have these adults helping!

We will be celebrating the faith journeys of 11 students this year. If you see them in church, congratulate them and pray their faith continues to grow and shine.

2024 Confirmands:

Aiden Peck
Brooklyn Peck
Caleb Sanwick
Ben Bahls
Anja Johnson
Kaylyn Torkelson
Doyle Prentice
Elizabeth Osley
Claire Von Ruden
Brooklyn Finlayson
Brayden Christianson

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

On Thursday, May 9th, 4-9pm the students going to the National Youth Gathering will be working the dinner shift at Pizza Ranch. A portion of the sales from that evening will be donated back to Good Shepherd to help raise money for the cost of the trip. The money will go towards the student's plane ticket,

registration fee, and hotel room. Stop by for dinner and a good cause! There are also a few Kwik Trip car wash cards still available. The kids are so appreciative of everyone's support.

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.

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:

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

The text for "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" was written by Thomas Stevenson Colvin (1925-2000), a long-time missionary to Africa. Colvin was born and educated in Glasgow but spent most of his working life serving as a Church of Scotland missionary; first in Malawi and then in Tamale, Northern Ghana. He and his wife, Patricia, later returned to Malawi, staying there until he retired in 1990.

Colvin wrote the hymn "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" in 1963, while attending a lay-training course on agriculture, development and evangelism in Chereponi, Northern Ghana. New converts to the faith brought him a folk tune which they felt would be appropriate for a song about Christian love. Colvin shared these thoughts about his writing of the text:

"Sitting there in the moonlight, I felt it simply had to be about black and white, rich and poor. I was ashamed of the wasteful affluence of my people, but proud of the Gospel that transforms us into servants of one another. It is only when we who are rich learn to have the humility of the slave toward the poor of the world that we shall be able to learn from them; they have so much to teach us and share with us."

The tune for this hymn, named Chereponi by Colvin after the village where he first heard it, was originally from a Ghanaian love song. Colvin believed all

Christians should worship in their native language and encouraged the African Christians, among whom he lived and served, to sing their praise to God with their own musical traditions.

The hymn as based on John 13, where Jesus washes the feet of the disciples. This Gospel text came to have special meaning for Colvin as he witnessed the people of Ghana living out the example of Jesus; doing for one another what Christ has done for them.



Randy Lyden

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



a fun Flower Frog

A flower frog sits atop a vase to help arrange flowers and hold stems in place. This personalized frog will become a favorite!

What you need:

- Air-dry clay
- Roller
- Vase (or jar)
- Plastic knife
- Straw
- Acrylic paint and brushes



What you do:

1. Roll out a portion of clay to about ½-inch thickness.
2. Cut out a circle that's slightly larger than the vase opening. (This will allow the finished frog to sit securely on top.)
3. To make holes for stems, use a straw to punch out circle shapes. If you make more than one frog, try arranging the holes in different patterns.
4. Let dry completely. Then personalize your work with acrylic paint.
5. When dry, place the frog atop the vase. Arrange flowers and greenery to make a Mother's Day bouquet.



UNFADING BEAUTY

Peter says beauty shouldn't come from outward adornment. How does a godly woman adorn herself on the inside?

Directions: From each list, write the word that doesn't belong. Then insert the circled letters in order below to complete 1 Peter 3:4, NIV.

flower, stem, bee, leaf	— ○ —
pink, red, yellow, blue	— — ○ —
mother, sister, brother, aunt	— — — — ○ —
purple, dress, skirt, blouse	— — — — ○ ○ —
necklace, ring, bracelet, braid	— — — — ○ —
diamond, emerald, heart, ruby	— — — — ○ —
orange, cherry, potato, kiwi	— — — — ○ —
my, our, she, your	— — — — ○ —
faith, family, love, hope	— — — — ○ —
sunny, rainy, snowy, temperature	— — — — ○ —
cookie, cake, pie, sandwich	— — — — ○ —
silver, white, gold, bronze	— — — — ○ —

"Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a g _____ and qu _____ p _____, which is of great worth in God's sight." 1 Peter 3:4, NIV

Answers: bee, pink, brother, purple, dress, skirt, blouse, necklace, ring, bracelet, braid, diamond, emerald, heart, ruby, orange, cherry, potato, kiwi, my, our, she, your, faith, family, love, hope, sunny, rainy, snowy, temperature, cookie, cake, pie, sandwich, silver, white, gold, bronze



"It's only for a day or two. Mother's Day present."