

# SUMMER ■ WORSHIP ■ SCHEDULE



**Starting this Sunday, June 2**  
there will be one Sunday service  
at  
**9:30**

The service will be live streamed  
on our website  
[www.gslacrosse.org](http://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 June, 2024

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor John Stennes-Spidahl

“Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.” Proverbs 22:6

Some of you have heard that after the mission trip in July, Jennifer Servais will no longer serve as our youth and confirmation coordinator. Jennifer is planning to continue to find other ways to be involved in the life of Good Shepherd. At this point, we are still looking for someone to fill that position. Please prayerfully consider using your gifts in this way or asking someone who you think has the gifts for this position. Thank you, Jennifer, for your gift of passing on the faith in Jesus to our confirmands and senior high youth for the past 5 years in your present position.

Remember that there will continue to be educational opportunities for all ages throughout the summer. Besides the mission trip, there will be our annual Vacation Bible School adventure, as well as Sugar Creek Bible Camp experiences for youth and for families, including adults and grandparents. There certainly will continue to be opportunities to give, serve, lead and connect throughout the summer and each Sunday morning we continue to worship God together.

At the special congregational meeting in April, it was decided to have only one Sunday morning service during the summer starting at 9:30am. The only exception is the weekend of our Synod Assembly on June 9th when we will gather for a synod wide worship service at Riverside Park beginning at 10am, there will be no worship services at Good Shepherd that Sunday. We have been participating in that service for a number of years now and it is a great opportunity to meet members and friends from other congregations. Bring your family and friends and your lawn chairs! One of the local churches will be a backup in case of inclement weather.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you all for your thoughts and prayers as I have been dealing with COVID since April 29th. It was a tough bout with fever and a lot of coughing, but I am on the mend.

God's blessings to you all!  
With gratitude,  
Pastor Harald



[Facebook.com/GSlacrosse](https://www.facebook.com/GSlacrosse)



[Twitter.com/goodshepherdse](https://twitter.com/goodshepherdse)



[GSlacrosse.org/voice](http://GSlacrosse.org/voice)

To access this and other publications online visit [GSlacrosse.org/voice](http://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."*

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."

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 April 21st through May 26th.



### Youth Gathering Appeal

- Jan Crandall
- Kyle & Heather Von Ruden
- Neil Duresky
- Dave Sturgill
- Rob & Dianne Hamann
- Randy Page
- Bob & Sherry Rainey
- Jackie Meyer
- Linda Lechner
- Norm & Joanne Jerome
- Sandra Demoran
- Roger Potts
- Glen & Kathy Johnson
- Ruth Hauge
- Rolf Helgerson
- LeeAnn Lyden
- George & Judy Brockman
- Barb & Rick Doering
- John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl
- Jim & Jan Quinn
- Megan Erickson
- Patricia Johns
- Kyle & Heather Von Ruden
- Andrea Graham
- Bob & Kim Johnson
- Rob & Alyssa Zube
- Bruce & Meri Sue Erdman
- Boyd & Patricia Cowden

- Mike & Gwen Vande Zande
- Richard & Grace Pengra
- Alex & Rhonda Hanifl
- Janette Dawson
- Warren & Irene Nedegaard
- Larry & Maree Smith
- Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
- Mark & Kathy Shaw
- Tim & Kim Candahl
- Deneen Norman
- Les Hinze
- Duane & Arlene Dreves
- Jerry & Thea Johnson
- Glenn & Lila Seager

### Rosemary Werner Memorial

- Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

### WAFER

- John Wood

### Contingency Fund

- Monty & Lois Gilbertson

### Steve Stelzl Memorial

- Harald & Andrea Bringsjord
- Amy Shibilski
- Tom & Phyllis Lynch
- Gary & Audry Besell
- Kris Bernhardt
- Mark & Shanon Torgerud
- Karl & Julie Noll
- Larry & Connie Brandenburg
- Steve & Kari Ellison
- Autumn Stelzl

### John Payne Memorial

- Bud & Llavonne Kark
- Jeff & Debra Jansky
- Pat Payne
- Ruth Kuntz
- Kathy Kesler
- Sandra Demoran
- B & R Kastenschmidt
- Lee & Judith Rowley

### Food For Schools Project

- Mike & Sally Lindahl
- Jim & Jan Quinn

### ELCA Disaster Response

- John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl

### April Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$2,285
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$84
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200
Sugar Creek Horse Project	\$500
Emerson School Food Pantry	\$200



# Church Numbers

## Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
04/07/24	81	62
04/14/24	92	36
04/21/24	73	41
04/28/24	97	38

## Weekly Envelope Offerings

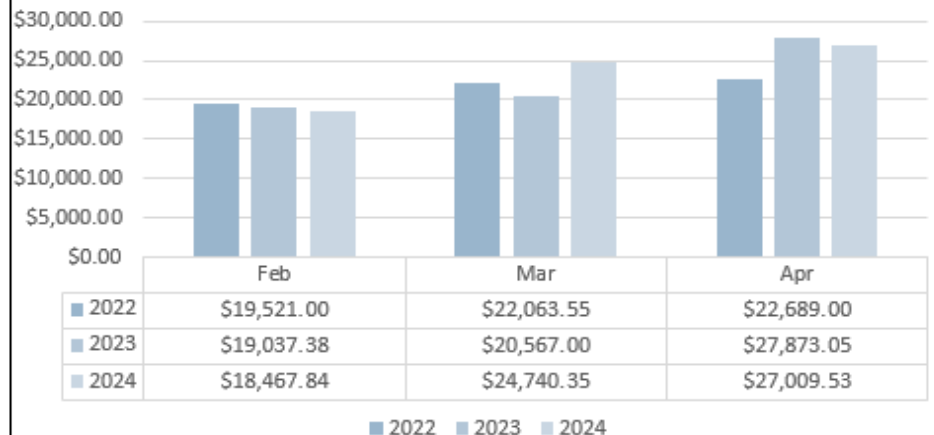
Date	Weekly	% Budget
04/07/24	\$4,266.68	58.5%
04/14/24	\$9,607.05	131.7%
04/21/24	\$2,716.25	34.2%
04/28/24	\$10,419.55	142.9%
Total:	\$27,009.53	91.8%

## Envelope Offering Comparison

April 2024	April 2023	% Difference
\$27,009.53	\$27,873.05	-3.1%
YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Difference
\$90,920.35	\$92,995.28	-2.2%

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](mailto:rick@gslacrosse.org)

## Envelope Offerings



## Around the Parish...

### 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.

### Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

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

### Synod Assembly

June 7, 8 & 9th with a Synod wide worship service at Riverside Park Sunday, June 9th at 10am. There will be **NO** services at Good Shepherd on June 9th.

### Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd once a month over the summer on the 4th Thursday at 3pm. Our next meeting will be June 27th. All are welcome.

### Game Night

Game Night for all ages is Friday, June 14th from 6 - 9pm. Bring your favorite game or learn a new one. Games vary, but include a variety of board, card, and other games. Contact Randy Page by email at [grimmcaf@hotmail.com](mailto:grimmcaf@hotmail.com) with any questions.

### 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 June 18th. Questions, call Janette 608-738-3883

### Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, June 21st at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. The theme is "4th of July". Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

### Bible Study

The next Bible Study will be Sunday, June 23rd 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](mailto:grimmcaf@hotmail.com) for more info.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:tcjj23511@gmail.com)

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

### 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.

## Around the Parish...

### 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.**

### 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.

### 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](http://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.

### Wear Orange to End Gun Violence

In 2024, the 10th National Gun Violence Awareness Day will fall on June 7 to honor Hadiya Pendleton and the more than 43,000 Americans killed with guns and approximately 76,000 more shot and wounded every year.

This is the kick off of Wear Orange Weekend on June 7-9, which will feature virtual and in-person events across the nation.

Why orange? It's the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others and a color that has become the symbol of the gun violence prevention movement.

As a congregation, we can participate by wearing orange to the Synod Assembly service at Riverside Park on June 9th and by praying for an end to gun violence.

### 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](http://www.gslacrosse.org).

Interested parties may submit a letter of application, application form, and resume. 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.

# June 2024



**Sunday School Choir**  
Meets in Sunday  
School Sept.-May.



**Bell Choir**  
Meets Sundays at  
5:30pm Sept.-May.



**Sanctuary Choir**  
Meets Sundays at  
9:30am Sept.-May.



**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](http://www.gslacrosse.org)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>May 26</b> 8:30am Worship 10:30am Worship 3pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>27 Memorial Day</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>June 1</b> 10am Before the After
<b>2</b> <b>9:30am</b> Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Buildings & Grounds	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6pm WELCA Mtg	<b>7 Synod Assembly</b> 7pm Synod Service at First Lutheran in Onalaska	<b>8 Synod Assembly</b>
<b>9 Synod Assembly</b> <b>10am Worship @ Riverside Park</b> <b>(NO SERVICES AT GSLC)</b> 6:30pm GS Men's Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion 4:30pm Men's Golf	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6pm Game Night	<b>15</b>
<b>16 Father's Day</b> 9:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	<b>17</b> 6pm Membership Mtg	<b>18</b> 4:30pm Men's Golf 5pm Cancer Support 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting 7pm Church Council Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6pm Hospitality Mtg	<b>21</b> <b>June Voice Articles Due</b> 6pm Bunco (4th of July)	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:30am Worship 9:30am Calko Baptism 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 3pm Grief Support	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:30am Worship/communion 6:30pm GS Men's Group	<b>July 1</b> 6pm Trust Foundation	<b>2</b> 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Buildings & Grounds	<b>3</b>	<b>4 4th of July</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b> Office Closed	<b>6</b>

## 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
- **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,

We decided to focus this month's article on the observance of National Stroke Awareness Month. Each year in the US there are more than 800,000 strokes. Stroke is a leading cause of death in the country and causes more serious long-term disabilities than any other disease. Roughly three-quarters of all strokes occur in people over the age of 65.

Stroke is a disease that affects the arteries leading to and within the brain. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood it needs, so it and brain cells die. An easy way to remember what happens during a stroke is to think of F.A.S.T. **F** stands for face, ask the person to smile, does one side of the face droop? **A** stands for arm weakness, ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward? **S** stands for speech, ask the person to repeat a simple phrase, is his or her speech slurred or strange? **T** stands for time to call 911 (time is brain). If you or someone you know experiences any of these symptoms, and you suspect they may be having a stroke, call 911 as soon as possible.

The major risk factors for stroke include high blood pressure, diabetes, high LDL cholesterol levels, smoking, and infections or conditions that cause inflammation, such as lupus or rheumatoid arthritis. Early treatment with medications, or an emergency endovascular procedure can drastically improve someone's recovery from a stroke. Exercising regularly,

eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, managing diabetes, quitting tobacco use, and lowering the amount of cholesterol, and saturated fat in your diet are some of the best ways to help prevent a stroke.

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 Summer!

In May we wrapped up our 2023-2024 Sunday school year. Thank you so much to all the volunteers and confirmation students that helped the children learn stories and complete activities relating to God's love! Thank you to Lori Lowell, Janet Torkelson, Austin Stalsberg, Kylie Klein, Bill Klein, Tammy Klein, Julie Foreman, Lynn Pataska, Jessica Peterson, Kari Ellison, Patty Kraemer, Angie Ellison, Darlene Lassig, Steve Ellison, Rick Laufenberg, Kathy Johnson, Anja Johnson, Kaylyn Torkelson, Claire Von Ruden, Mason Peterson, Charlie Ellison, and Liam Johnson. I apologize to anyone I may have missed. We could not have done Sunday school without you!

Congratulations to our fifth graders, Sophie and Carly Von Ruden, Gus Ellison, Lucy Kohlstedt, Lauren Doering, and Rosalynn May, as they move on to sixth grade and Confirmation next year!

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 also sent out an email to 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.

This summer, I would love to see your children while attending the Faith Lab, a

Science vacation bible school! VBS will take place August 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>th</sup>. For VBS, we will transform the Mattes Center into a science lab and learn about different Faith components through hands on games, activities, experiments, crafts, and more! The registration sheets are posted on the Sunday School bulletin board and I will be emailing families the registration as well! This event is open for children ages four years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade! We are in need of individuals to help run VBS! Site leaders will be placed in a station and have a daily lesson to teach, and Shepherds to follow a group to the different sites and help with the projects. 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!

Best Regards,

Brea Ellison

## Quick-Look

### Upcoming Events At a Glance

June - August 2024	Enjoy your Summer!
August 18th – August 22th	Vacation Bible School: Faith Lab Science VBS
Sunday, September 8th at 8:30am	First day back to Sunday School!
Sunday, September 8th at 9:30am	Rally Sunday! Breakfast, games, and outdoor 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 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



*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” ~Ephesians 6:18*

Commencement...by definition, commencement means “to enter upon or begin.” We can look at it as an ending, the accomplishment of 13 years of schooling or we can look at it as a beginning, the start of adulthood, living independently, and making their way in the world. Regardless, we want to keep these young men and women in our prayers. But, what is that we want for our graduates? Fame? Fortune? Love? Jobs? Peace? Adulting can be scary and not super fun at times. Have we given them all the tools to preserve? Do they know how much they are loved by family, friends, and most importantly, God? How do we pray for them? I found 3 Bible verses that I think sums up our hopes and dreams for these young adults.

1. “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31:6

We pray that our kids know that God is always with them. We pray they lean into him when there are so many obstacles to overcome and take time to express their gratitude when life is going well. We pray that they trust God’s plan, even if it looks differently than they imagined.

2. “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.” Colossians 3:23

We pray that our kids find inspiration in all that they do and pursue their dreams despite all obstacles. We pray that they make their way in the world, celebrating themselves and others, recognizing that they are each God’s masterpiece.

3. “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” Psalm 119:105  
Finally, we pray that our kids let God’s light shine from within themselves, making the world brighter for all who come close to them, and spreading that light to everyone they meet.

Congratulations to all our graduates. “May the Lord bless you and keep you, May his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, may he look upon you kindly and give you peace.”

### Class of 2024:

Caitlin Weeks  
Danielle Bahls  
Eliza Prentice  
Emily Sanwick  
Emma Osley  
Garrett Vande Zande  
Grace Blegen  
Jakob Bronson  
Jordan San Miguel  
Lucas Miller  
Luke Pretasky

Last, on behalf of all the kids going to the ELCA National Youth

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

Gathering, a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped us raise money for our trip. Pastor talks about radical hospitality and this is a great phrase to describe the support you have given our teens. We are humbled by your generosity and very excited to share our adventure with

you when we return. Thank you again!

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](mailto:tcjj23511@gmail.com)

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

### Jen Servais

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



In the Office: *Varied hours*

## Music Notes

### From The Director of Music

#### Hymn Focus:

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

The tune for “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” preceded its famous text by many years, having been sung at American camp meetings in the early 1800s with various versions of the text “Say, Brothers Will You Meet Us”.

(1st verse)

*Say, brothers, will you meet us (3×)  
On Canaan's happy shore.*

(Refrain)

*Glory, glory, hallelujah (3×)  
For ever, evermore!*

(2nd verse)

*By the grace of God we'll meet you (3×)  
Where parting is no more.*

(3rd verse)

*Jesus lives and reigns forever (3×)  
On Canaan's happy shore.*

During the Civil War this tune was united with the many versions of the text “John Brown’s Body”, a song referring to the abolitionist John Brown, who was hanged in 1859 for leading a failed slave rebellion at Harpers Ferry in West Virginia. The song was popular with and widely sung by Union soldiers. One of the many versions of the song included the words:

*John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave; (3×)  
His soul is marching on!*

(Chorus)

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
his soul is marching on!*

It was under the pen of Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910) that the tune was married to the text we are familiar with today. Ward, a poet and author, was an activist for prison reform, abolitionism, and equal rights for women. In 1861, she and her husband were visiting Washington, D.C. along with their pastor, Rev. James Freeman Clarke of the (Unitarian) Church of the Disciples, Boston. While there they heard the Union troops singing “John Brown’s Body” and Rev. Clarke asked Julia if she could write some lyrics of a more uplifting nature. The next morning, she awoke early with the words forming in her head and she immediately wrote them down. In 1862 she sold the poem to the Atlantic Monthly for five dollars. Though not written as a church hymn, the song has found its way into numerous hymnals.



### Randy Lyden

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



## SHINE

### like stars

Why do stars appear to twinkle? Try this experiment to find out!

#### What you need:

- Aluminum foil
- Large glass bowl
- Water
- Flashlight



#### What you do:

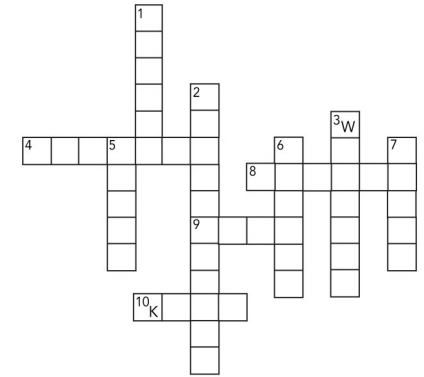
1. Crumple the foil into a ball. Carefully unfold it and lay it flat on the ground.
2. Fill the bowl with water and place it on the foil.
3. Turn off the lights and make the room as dark as possible. Shine the flashlight about 1 foot from the water's undisturbed surface. Light will reflect onto the foil.
4. Then tap your finger on the water's surface. As the water moves, what happens to the light on the foil?
5. This flickering simulates scintillation, which happens when starlight enters Earth's atmosphere. As light passes through layers of gas and water, it refracts and appears to twinkle.

## PUZZLE

### THE WONDER OF STARS

The heavens display evidence of God's great power.  
What else does the Bible say about the sky?

Directions: Use the clues and Bible references (all NIV) to complete the crossword.



#### DOWN

1. The sun, moon and stars do this to God. (Psalm 148:3)
2. God made these as numerous as the stars. (Genesis 26:4)
3. Don't do this to the stars and sky. (Deuteronomy 4:19)
5. What do the heavens declare? (Psalm 19:1)
6. The moon and the stars do this at night. (Psalm 136:9)
7. When we're pure, we do this like the stars. (Philippians 2:15)

#### ACROSS

4. The heavens are the work of these. (Psalm 8:3)
8. On what day did God create the stars? (Genesis 1:14-19)
9. God calls each star by this. (Isaiah 40:26)
10. A star announced the arrival of him. (Matthew 2:2)

Answers: DOWN: 1. praise, 2. descendants, 3. worship, 5. glory, 6. govern, 7. shine, ACROSS: 4. fingers, 8. fourth, 9. name, 10. king



"Dad's really lovin' the pastor's Father's Day sermon on the fifth commandment."