

SO WE, BEING MANY,
ARE ONE BODY
IN CHRIST,
AND INDIVIDUALLY
MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER.

ROMANS 12:5



GOOD SHEPHERD

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

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter October, 2024

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

Are you ready for our exciting new "Community Raiser"?

Don't miss worship on October 13, 2024 at either 8:30am or 10:30am to find out how Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is entering into a time of intentional community building centered around supporting our youth.

This program is called "Faith Webs" and potentially will include every member of the congregation. Get excited about the ways God is

working to bring us into closer relationships with one another.

The presenter will be Carla Stanton from First Lutheran Church in Onalaska who was instrumental in implementing this program at their church.

I hope everyone will be present for this presentation. If you miss however, you can find the worship service with the presentation in it on the live stream worship service for October 13, 2024 on our website at gslacrosse.org/

Faith
webs



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 LeeAnn Lyden at (608)788-7651.



*Thanks to our
Volunteers*

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

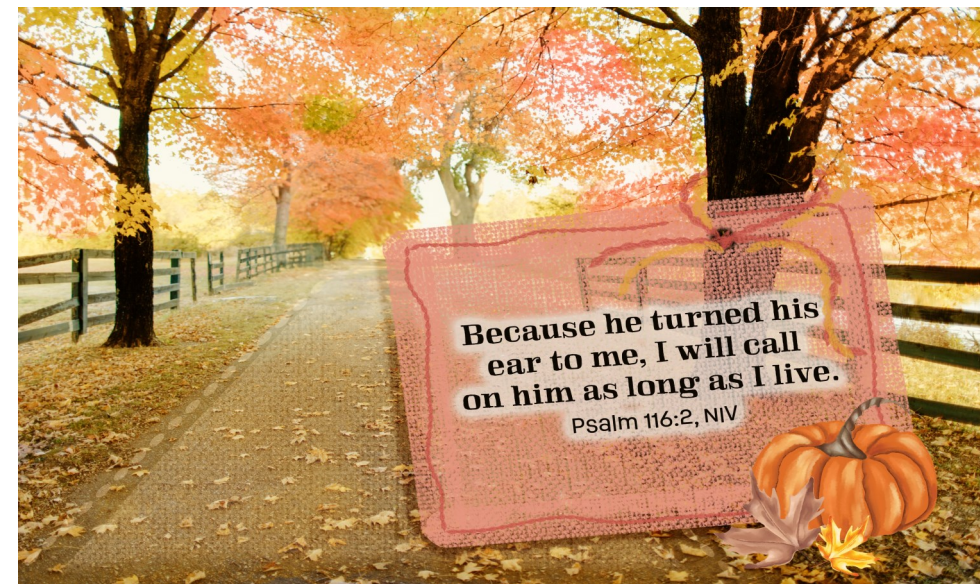
Thank you to Ann Hudson who sends out meaningful cards and handmade prayer shawls to bereaved families throughout the year. If you are interested in making Prayer Shawls, please contact the office.

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 Karina Bronson at Karina@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!! **If you are interested in helping please contact Kathy at 608-788-0450**

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 August 18th through Sept. 22nd.



Food For Schools Project

Barb Hegge
Sally & Mike Lindahl

ELCA World Hunger

John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl
David & Karen Osley

Patricia Potts Memorial

Roger Potts

Howard Klemp Memorial

Jim & Jan Quinn
Frances Dahlke
Harald & Andea Bringsjord

HVAC System

Monty & Lois Gilbertson
Mark & Debra Umberger

Food For Schools Project

Jim & Jan Quinn
John Wood
Jerry & Virginia Larson

Roger Sorenson Memorial

Ron & Carol Egge
Karen Saegrove
George & Judy Brockman
Joyce Herlitzke
Larry & Barb Quillin
Eugene & Lorrie Schmitz
Carolyn Sorenson

Lynn Umberger Memorial

Harald & Andrea Bringsjord

LWR School Kits

John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl



August Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$2638
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	9:30
08/04/24	98
08/11/24	89
08/18/24	122
08/25/24	70

Weekly Envelope Offerings

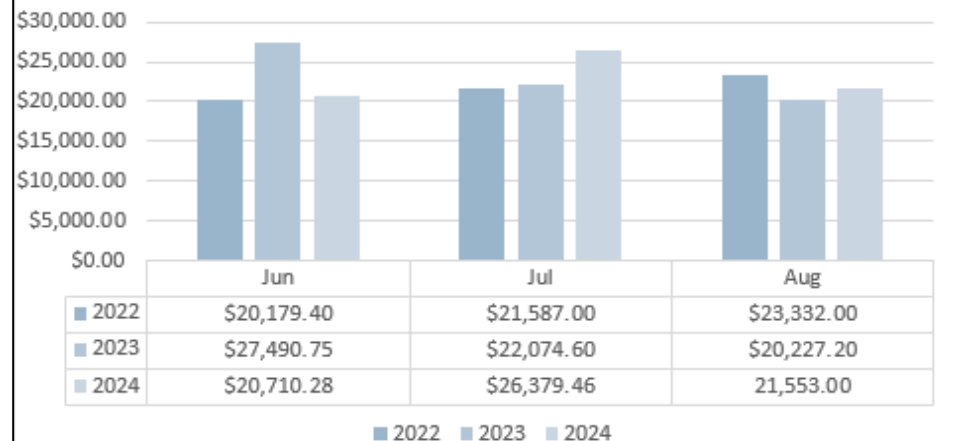
Date	Weekly	% Budget
08/04/24	\$9,513.05	130.5%
08/11/24	\$2,961.05	40.6%
08/18/24	\$4,874.10	66.8%
08/25/24	\$4,204.80	57.7%
Total:	\$21,553.00	73.9%

Envelope Offering Comparison

August 2024	August 2023	% Difference
\$21,553.00	\$20,227.20	6.6%
YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Difference
\$188,410.49	\$185,606.03	1.5%

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

Envelope Offerings



Around the Parish...

Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle is meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Join us October 1st at 1pm in Quilting Room. All women are Welcome.

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

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

Burrito Breakfast

Join us in the Mattes Center for a Burrito breakfast Sunday, October 6th between services, while supplies last. Burritos with all the fixings or just have it on a plate. A free will offering will be accepted. Come join us!

Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd twice a month on the 2nd & 4th Thursday at 3pm. Our next meetings will be October 10th and October 24th. All are welcome.

Game Night

Game Night for all ages is Friday, October 11th from 6-9pm. in the Mattes Center. Bring your favorite game, or learn a new one. Games vary, but include a variety of board, card, and other games. Contact Randy at grimmcaf@hotmail.com with any questions.

Quilters

Hope to see you at the next quilting group Monday, October 14th and then again on October 28th. We will be here 9am-3pm in the quilting room. Come when you can, leave when you need to. If you would like to make quilt tops at home, I can get you guidelines for LWR. Questions? Contact Linda Schoen at dschoen000@gmail.com or call 608-386-7939 – may leave a message.

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 October 15th. Questions, call Janette 608-738-3883

Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, October 18th at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. The October 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

Sign up to decorate a trunk, run a game, or hand out treats. Bring the kids and join in the fun Oct. 26th from 3-5pm!

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.

LWR School kits and Personal Care Kits

As you are doing your back-to-school shopping, please consider helping us collect items for LWR School and Personal Care kits. Notebooks (70 count spiral), Ballpoint pens (black or blue), rulers (cm on one side), BLUNT scissors, Crayons- 16 or 24 count, Pencil sharpeners, Pencils- UNSHARPENED No 2 are top priority needs for school kits. Darker bath towels, Bars of soap (4oz size), tooth brushes and large nail clippers are priority for Personal Care Kits. Lists can be found on the Stewardship table. Monetary donations are also appreciated and we can do the shopping. Any questions, contact Linda Schoen at 608-386-7939 (text or leave a message) or by e-mail: dschoen000@gmail.com. Thank you.

Around the Parish...

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.

Help Support LuMin!

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

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

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!

Thoughts & Ideas Welcomed

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

Vanco Mobile App For Donations

Give electronically on your cell phone using Vanco's app, **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**. Set up is easy and only takes a few minutes.

We encourage everyone to download the app for free at the Apple App Store or Google Play. Once downloaded, simply open the app and search for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church then select the one in La Crosse, there are a lot of Good Shepherds out there! Please call Rick at 788-0450 if you have questions.

Simply Giving

Good Shepherd offers 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.

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.



October 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..

Worship and Sunday School at 8:30, and worship at 10:30. The 8:30 service will be live streamed at www.gslacrosse.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September 22 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:30pm Cub Scout Pack 17 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	23 9am NO Quilting	24 4:30pm Men's Golf 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	25 6:30pm Confirmation	26 3pm Grief Support	27	28
29 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 4:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	30	October 1 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds	2 6:30pm Confirmation	3 6pm WELCA Mtg	4	5
6 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast 10:30 Worship/communion 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	7 6pm Trust Foundation	8 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6pm Admin/Exec Meeting	9 5pm ConFest	10 3pm Grief Support	11 6pm Game Night	12 7 to 11am LWR Semi Drop Off
13 8:30am Worship 8:30am Marciniak Baptism 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2:30pm Cub Scout Pack 17 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	14 9am Quilting 6pm Membership Mtg	15 5pm Cancer Support 7pm Church Council Meeting	16 6:30pm Confirmation	17 6pm Hospitality Mtg	18 November Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Halloween)	19
20 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	21 5:15pm Finance	22 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	23 6:30pm Confirmation	24 3pm Grief Support	25	26 3 to 5pm Trunk or Treat
27 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 17 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	28 9am Quilting	29 1pm Lydia Circle	30 6:30pm Confirmation	31	November 1	2

Church Council Members

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

Other Church Council Members include: Tim Knudsen, Karl Noll, Thea Johnson, Mark Skolos, Lori Lowell, Matt Heberlein, Tom Lynch, Erica Pedrazoli, Barb Smyth, Jennifer Laszewski, 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
- **Karina Bronson** *Coordinator of Confirmation and Youth Ministry*
karina@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,

This month's article focusses on, what makes a heart healthy diet? In April 2024, two nutrition studies made the headlines, emphasizing the critical impact of diet on cardiovascular health.

The first study, which appeared in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition on April 8, was conducted by researchers from the Singapore Institute of Food and Biotechnology Innovation and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research in Singapore.

It involved 89 adults who were at risk for type 2 diabetes, and it made a finding that might, at first, sound surprising, namely: That eating plant-based meat substitutes offered no significant benefits to heart health over actual animal meat. Results were presented at the American College of Cardiology's Annual Scientific Session at the beginning of April 2024 — was led by experts from Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital in Athens, GA.

It analyzed data from 3,170 participants in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) Trusted Source in the United States, all of whom were adults with cardiovascular disease. This study found that 89% of these consumed more than double the "ideal" allowance recommended by the American Heart Association, which is 1,500 milligrams (mg) Trusted Source of sodium (salt) per day.

But why are certain foods, regardless of whether they are plant-based, so bad for the heart? How does salt impact the cardiovascular system? And what makes a diet truly heart-healthy? Aside from controlling portion sizes, eating more vegetables and fruits, choosing whole grains, limiting unhealthy fats, choosing low-fat protein sources, and reducing sodium are all keys to creating a heart healthy diet. If you follow these six tips, you'll likely find that heart-healthy eating is something you can do and enjoy. With planning and a few simple food swaps, you can eat with your heart in mind.

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!

We have had a great first month of Sunday School! 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. I also sent out a google form for families to digitally sign up. Please try to get this to Brea as soon as possible!

Within the month of October there are two upcoming milestones. Sunday, October 6th during the 8:30 service will be our Kindergarten milestone and Sunday, October 27th 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@gslacrosse.org or turn in a hard copy!

On Saturday, October 26th you do not want to miss the fun of Trunk or Treat

from 3:00pm to 5:00pm! Children can dress up in their Halloween costumes and come to the church parking lot to play games and win prizes! 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!

In peace,

Brea Ellison



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

Sunday, October 6th during the 8:30 service	Kindergarten Milestone
Sunday, October 6th – 20th	The Plaques Unit (Cinema, Art, and Games)
Saturday, October 26th from 3pm – 5pm	Trunk or Treat!
Sunday, October 27th during the 8:30 service	3rd Grade Milestone
Sunday, November 3rd	Christmas Play Parts Sign Up (During Sunday School)



Saturday, October 26th from 3:00pm—5:00pm.

Don't miss out on the fun!

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](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



*The righteous stand firm forever
Proverbs 10:25*

Happy October!

In our confirmation classes we have been talking about what makes the bible special, and why certain parts made the cut, and how the bible came to be in our first lesson called Canon.

We're focusing on how the bible came to be what we have today. Students will take away why the bible matters, and how the canon was developed through inspiration and faith that helps Christians in their faith and life.

A big date coming up for the youth and the church is "Confest" which will be happening October 9th. The youth will be helping with vendors and sharing good hospitality with the congregation and any visitors.

Cheers,
Karina



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



Attn: High School Youth

We are looking for members to revitalize our High School Youth Group. We plan to meet weekly in the youth room of Good Shepherd on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. Come when you are able, leave when you need to. During Lent we also meet after the Wednesday Lenten Service.

We plan to have social events throughout the year, along with a yearly mission trip, but we need active and involved members to do these things! If you would be interested in joining our Good Shepherd Youth Group, Please contact Karina Bronson at Karina@gslacrosse.org.

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

Contact Bridget Skolos 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 of your 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.

Bridget's contact information is:
bridget_ammann@yahoo.com

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

Karina Bronson

Coordinator of Confirmation and Youth Ministry
Karina@gslacrosse.org (608) 788-0450

In the Office: *Varied hours*



Music Notes From The Director of Music

Hymn Focus:
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

The hymn “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” is considered by most hymnologists to be one of the most joyful of all hymns written in the English language and is the best known of the hymns written by Henry van Dyke (1852-1933). The main theme from the final movement of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, adapted by British composer Edward Hodges (1796-1867), forms the perfect fit between text and music.

Born in Germantown, PA., van Dyke graduated from Princeton University in 1873 and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1877. He served as professor of English Literature at Princeton between 1899 and 1923. He achieved fame as one of the country’s leading preachers and literary figures. Becoming a Navy Chaplain, he served as a lieutenant-commander in the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps during World War One. In 1913 he was appointed Minister to the Netherlands by friend and former classmate President Woodrow Wilson.

In 1907, while serving as a guest preacher at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, van Dyke wrote the text for our hymn. The story goes that he handed the manuscript to the college president one morning, saying, “Here is a hymn for you. Your mountains (the Berkshires) were my inspiration. It must be sung to the music of Beethoven’s “Hymn of Joy”.

Composed in the bleak days before World War One, it stands in complete contrast to the world van Dyke saw around him. Verse one uses the metaphor of light to express joy and God’s presence, singing, “hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, praising Thee, their sun, above”. Verse two sings of God as manifested in the beauty of nature with all creation praising the Creator and calling us to do likewise. Verse three sings of humanity as the family of God and calls us to love one another, singing, “Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are Thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!”



Randy Lyden

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



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus’ free gift of grace.



What you need:

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
5. Explain GRACE to someone. For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acronym **God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense**.

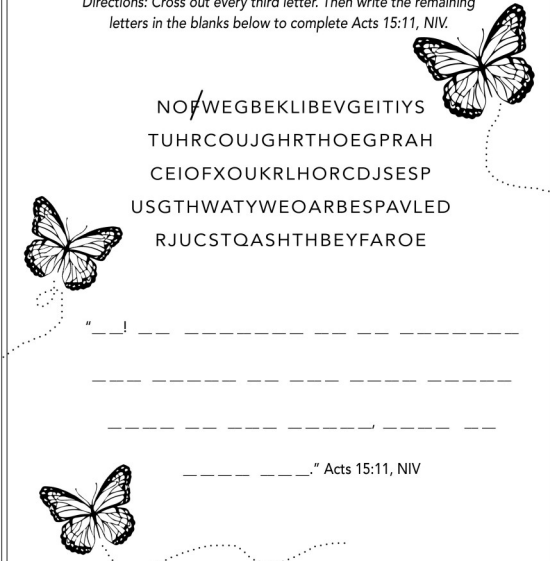


SAVED BY GRACE

Leaders of the early church discussed whether newly converted Gentiles must keep the Law of Moses. How did Peter answer?

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below to complete Acts 15:11, NIV.

NOF/WEGBEKLIBEVGEITIYS
TUHRCOUJGHRTHOEGPRAH
CEIOFXOUKRLHORCDJSESP
USGTHWATYWEOARBESPAVLED
RJUCSTQASHTHBEYFAROE



Answer: "Not We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are." Acts 15:11, NIV

