

act justly,
love mercy,
walk humbly
with your God.
micah 6:8



GOOD SHEPHERD

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

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter November, 2024

Give. Serve. Lead. Connect.

From Pastor Harald Bringsjord

November holds an important day for this country. November 5th is Election Day. On this day we will shape the course of the country with our votes as we select who will be in elected positions of leadership both locally and nationally. Sometimes we think that once we have voted we are done with our political work until the next election, however, this is not the case. Yes, we are electing the power structure when we vote, but equally important is that we continue the work of organizing and advocating for justice and kindness and walking humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

Democracy, equal rights, and the rule of law are needed so that we as a people can organize and advocate for what is important to us outside of those halls of power, and outside of the times we vote. These three things: democracy, equal rights, and the rule of law, one could say, are the water in which our political action swims. To be able to organize and advocate for what is important to us, we need leaders who can strengthen this system so that it works not just for a few, but for us all.

In the November article of the Christian Century the editors write:

"Voting merely scratches the surface of political participation. The deeper work is ongoing." On October 12th of this year there was a semi-truck sitting in our parking lot from 7am until 11am picking up school kits, health kits, and quilts, all put together by our Lutheran churches and others in the La Crosse area who understand the hard work of continuing to care for the world. This also is only scratching the surface, but it is necessary ongoing work just like the necessary ongoing political work of advocating for those who are receiving the fruits of our labor. When the election is over, remember the ongoing work needed.

Poet Maya Angelou once said, "If I could give you one thought, it would be to lift someone up. Lift a stranger up. Lift her up. I would ask you, mother and father, brother and sister, lovers, mother and daughter, father and son, lift someone. The very idea of lifting someone up will lift you, as well."

God's blessings to you as we continue in this labor of love.
Pastor Harald



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



My Time and Talent Gift!

By: _____ (Your Name)

Date: ___/___/20___

Time Given: ___ hours ___ minutes

Gift Description: _____

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

Your Gift Makes a Difference!

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

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

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

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 Sept.22nd through Nov. 20th.

ELCA Disaster Response

John & Naomi Stennes-Spidahl

Food For Schools

John Wood
Roger & Kenna Christians
Jackie Meyer

WELCA

Linda Schoen
Barb Foye
Diana Teasley
Barb Doering
Sue Bugge
Andrea Bringsjord
Judy Brockman



LeeAnn Lyden
Heidi Kwiatkowski
Kathy Boarman
Gundi Bay
Ann Keuper
Carol Rask
Sally Lindahl
Jean Nelson
Mary Ann Dreves
Ruth Strand
Patricia Cowden

Jackie Meyer
Jan Quinn
Joyce Herlitzke
JoAnn De Clute
Sherry Rainey
Betty Olson
Penni Miller
Lorraine Olson
Julie Noll
Sherill Munson
Cindy Thurston

Lynn Umberger Memorial

Mark & Deb Umberger
Carolyn Umberger



September Monthly Benevolences From Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ELCA / Synod Support	\$2,155
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$84
Companion Synod - Peru	\$10
Synod Seminary Scholarships	\$10
Sugar Creek Bible Camp	\$160
WI Lutheran Social Services	\$200
ELCA World Hunger	\$790



Church Numbers

Weekly Sunday Attendance

Date	8:30	10:30
09/01/24		
09/08/24	134	43
09/15/24	94	43
09/22/24	104	30
09/29/24	87	40

Weekly Envelope Offerings

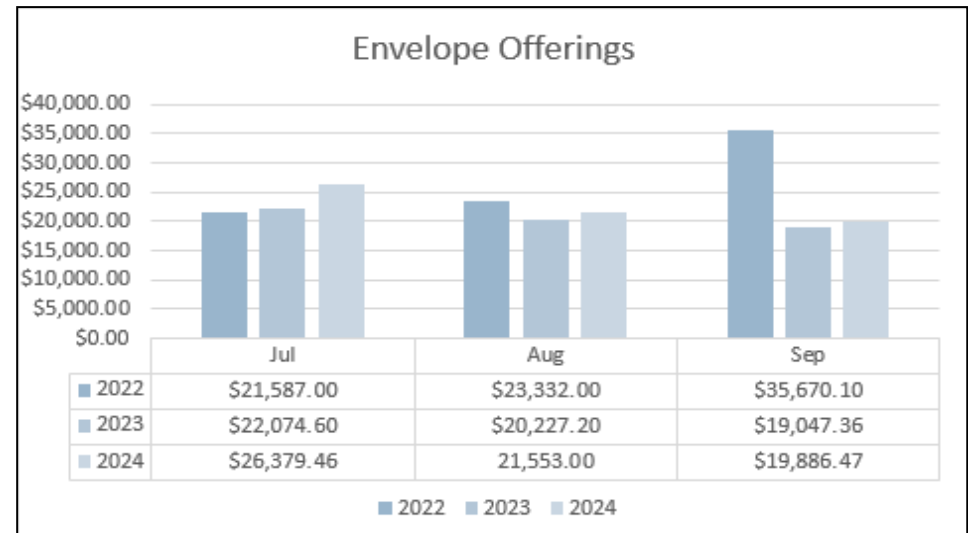
Date	Weekly	% Budget
09/01/24	\$4,570.50	78.3%
09/08/24	\$2,941.35	50.4%
09/15/24	\$5,126.67	87.8%
09/22/24	\$3,607.70	61.8%
09/29/24	\$3,640.25	62.4%
Total:	\$19,886.47	68.1%

Envelope Offering Comparison

September 2024	September 2023	% Difference
\$19,886.47	\$19,047.36	4.4%
YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Difference
\$208,296.96	\$204,653.39	1.7%

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 normally meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. However, our "November" meeting will take place on October 29th. Please join us at 1pm in the Quilt Room. All women are Welcome.

Burrito Breakfast

Join us in the Mattes Center for a Burrito breakfast Sunday, November 3rd 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!

Good Shepherd Women-WELCA

WELCA welcomes all women from our congregation to be part of this committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 7th at 6pm on Zoom and in person.

Game Night

Game Night for all ages is Friday, November 8th 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.

New Member Orientation

We are having a New Member Orientation session on Tuesday, November 12th at 6pm. If you are interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd, or are interested in finding out more about Good Shepherd, please let the office know you are planning to attend. We will be serving food and would really like to have a head count. New members will be welcomed during the worship on Sunday, November 17th.

Grief Support

Grief support meets in the choir room at Good Shepherd usually twice a month on the 2nd & 4th Thursday at 3pm. Our next meeting will be November 14th. All are welcome.

Bunco Night

Our next Bunco night will be on Friday, November 15th at 6pm. Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift. The November theme is "Thanksgiving". Bunco takes place in the Mattes center and is for ages 18 years and older. Contact Judy Christopherson @ 788-4335 or 769-3656

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 November 19th. Questions, call Janette 608-738-3883

Thanksgiving Eve Service And Pie Social

Join us Wednesday, November 27th at 6:30pm for our Thanksgiving worship service. A pie social will be held in the Mattes Center following the service.

Tree Trimming

Friday, November 29th at 5:30pm. We will be sharing a meal first and then we will be decorating the church sanctuary.

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.

Thoughts & Ideas Welcomed

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

Around the Parish...

Holiday Marketplace

Hello Good Shepherd Members!

It is that time of the year when all Spooky Ghouls start thinking about the Good Shephard Holiday Marketplace! This annual event highlights local crafters and we could use some help! We need all kinds of yummy bake goods for our bake sale, help in setting up tables and also a bit of help on clean up.

Please bring baked goods and deserts to church kitchen counters. If you want to package them up for sale – GREAT! If you want help, join us the day/evening prior and we can make a "party" of it! Crafters will be loading in on Friday evening November 15th and Bill Klein will be on hand to answer any questions. During the sale, 9am-2pm we could use some hands to help sell raffle tickets, baked goods and serve up in the kitchen. Check out sign up sheets or connect with Bill for any questions. If you would like a flyer to place at your office/ workplace, let Tammy Klein know at tammy@gslacrosse.org. She will also have a bunch at church for pick up.

Remember – WELCA uses these profits as largest fundraiser. This helps to support all the great work WELCA does during the year including scholarships, youth trip support, and so much more. And if you are a Woman of the ELCA, or want to support your Women here at the ELCA, or you like to eat tasty treats baked by your Women of Good Shepherd-WELCA, this is your chance!

Thanks and Merry Christmas!

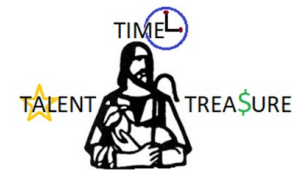
Support Good Shepherd's Youth Group by purchasing scrip cards!

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!

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.



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

The new 2024-2025 Stewardship Calendar is quickly approaching and this year we are excited to continue the Time, Talent, and Treasure ministry to share your gifts in love, as Jesus taught us. There are a few dates upcoming to pay attention to:

October 27th: Stewardship Kick Off!

November 3rd: Stewardship Education Sunday

November 10th: Return of Intent Card & Brochure Survey to Church during the Stewardship Celebration Sunday

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

Please review these, complete and return the Intent Card & Brochure Survey by November 10th to the Church Office or during a Worship Service that Sunday.

Thank you for the sharing of your Time, Talent, and Treasure in this upcoming time of stewardship 2024 to 2025!

The Stewardship Committee

November 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
October 27 Reformation Sunday 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 3pm Grief Support	November 1	2
3 All Saints Sunday 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast Ministry Meeting 9:45am Care 10:30am Wor- ship/communion 4:30pm Boy Scouts Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	4 5pm Admin/Exec Meeting 6pm Altar Guild Meeting	5 Polling Day 9am West Pastor Conference 6pm Buildings & Grounds	6 6:30pm Confirmation	7 6pm WELCA Mtg	8 6pm Game Night	9
10 Stewardship Sunday 8:30am Worship 8:30am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Noon Cub Scout Pack 17 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	11	12 1:15pm Dementia Support 1:45pm Hillview Communion 6pm New Member Orientation	13 6:30pm Confirmation	14 3pm Grief Support	15 December Voice Articles Due 6pm Bunco (Thanksgiving) Noon to 5pm Holiday Marketplace Set Up	16 8 to 9am Marketplace Set Up 9am to 2pm Holiday Market- place
17 New Member Litany 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/communion 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	18 6pm Membership Mtg	19 5pm Cancer Support 7pm Church Council Meeting	20 6:30pm Confirmation	21 6pm Hospitality Mtg	22	23
24 8:30am Worship NO Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2:30pm Cub Scout Pack 17 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	25	26 6pm Parish Ed Meeting	27 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service (no communion) Pie Social following Service	28 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	29 Office Closed 5:30pm Tree Trimming	30 11am Advent Luncheon (not here)
December 1 8:30am Worship/communion 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Burrito Breakfast 10:30am Worship/communion 4:30pm Boy Scout Troop 22 6:30pm GS Men's Group	2 10am Before the After	3 1pm Lydia Circle 6pm Buildings & Grounds	4 6:30pm Confirmation	5 6pm WELCA Meeting	6	7

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,

With the cold temps approaching and November being COPD awareness month, we thought we would focus our article on such. According to the CDC, COPD refers to a group of diseases that cause airflow blockage and breathing related problems. COPD consists of emphysema, and chronic bronchitis. COPD makes breathing difficult for more than 16 million Americans.

Chronic bronchitis is inflammation of the lining of the bronchial tubes, which carry air in the lungs. It is characterized by daily cough and mucus production. Emphysema is a condition in which the alveoli in the lungs are destroyed as a result of damaging exposure to cigarette smoke and other irritating gases and particulate matter.

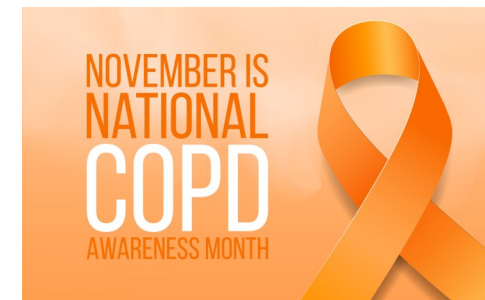
COPD symptoms often don't appear until significant lung damage has occurred. Symptoms include shortness of breath, wheezing, chest tightness, chronic productive cough, lack of energy, unintended weight loss, swelling in the ankles. Those with COPD are more likely to catch colds, the flu, and pneumonia.

Although COPD is a progressive disease that gets worse over time, it is treatable. Many people have mild forms of COPD for which little therapy is needed other than smoking cessation. There are several kinds of medication used to treat the symptoms and complications of COPD. Those with moderate or severe COPD may require oxygen therapy.

If you or a loved one feel you may be affected by COPD, please reach out to your primary care provider.

Take Care,

Cody and Kerstin Nedegaard



Cody & Kerstin Nedegaard

GS Volunteer Parish Nurses
Cody_Kerstin@gslacrosse.org

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



Sunday School Update

Pre-school thru Grade 5

Hello everyone!

We have been having such a fun time in Sunday School these past few months! We learned about Noah's Ark. God asked Noah to build an Ark and bring in animals by groups of two. We also learned about The Ten Plagues. Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go until after the tenth plague. We also just had our Trunk or Treat event! Huge thank you to all who decorated a trunk and those who stopped by!

On November 3rd during Sunday School, we are signing up and completing the selection for the Christmas Program Parts. All are invited to watch the Christmas Program which will take place

December 15th during the 8:30 service only. The dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 14th from 8:30am to 10am.

If you would like to see updates and what we are up to in Sunday School, make sure to follow the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Facebook Page! We post about what units we are learning and other fun events!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Brea Ellison



Quick-Look

Upcoming Events At a Glance

November 3rd – November 17th	Wandering the Wilderness (Kitchen, Science, and Computers)
November 3rd during Sunday School	Christmas Play Part Sign Up
November 24th	Happy Thanksgiving! No Sunday School
December 1st	Christmas Program Practice During Sunday School
December 8th	Christmas Program Practice During Sunday School
Saturday, December 14th	Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal (8:30-10am)
December 15th	Christmas Program at 8:30 service



Brea Ellison

Children's Education Coordinator
Breanna@gsnacrosse.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



*The righteous stand firm forever
Proverbs 10:25*

Happy November Confirmation families!

In confirmation we have been talking about the early books such as Genesis and Exodus as well as important characters and why their important in the Bible. We have also been doing some work of God by making cookies for LuMin. We will also be connecting the Bible stories and how they relate to today's world.

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:

Now Thank We All Our God

When we think of the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God”, we think of singing it at Thanksgiving Eve services with the anticipation of an abundant feast the next day (and leftovers for some days to come). In fact, the circumstances surrounding the writing of this hymn were quite the opposite.

The author of this hymn, Martin Rinkhart (1586-1649), was born in Eilenburg, Saxony and served as archdeacon there for most of his career. He attended the Latin school in Eilenburg and in 1601 became a foundation scholar and chorister of the St Thomas’s School in Leipzig. He studied Theology at the University of Leipzig and took his M.A. there in 1616. He was appointed archdeacon of Eilenburg in 1617.

During the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) the walled city of Eilenburg became overcrowded with refugees from all around and suffered from pestilence and famine. Rinkhart’s home was a refuge for the victims even though it was often difficult for him to provide for his own family. During the plague of 1637, after two other ministers died, he became Eilenburg’s sole surviving minister, officiating at over 40 funerals per day (including that of his own wife) and over 4000 in all. The following year he himself became sick and soon after that a severe famine broke out, during which he helped organize emergency relief for the town.

It was in this setting of suffering, sickness and famine that Rinkhart penned the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God”. It is inspiring that, in the face of such hardship and dire need, he remained thankful to God, choosing instead to focus on God’s blessings rather than his own sufferings. The hymn, along with the tune composed by Johann Cruger (1598-1662), appears in the second edition (1663) of Rinkhart’s *Jesu Herz-Buchlein (Sacred Heart Book)* under the title “Tisch Gebetlein” (“Short Table Prayer”), suggesting it was originally meant to be sung as a meal prayer.



Randy Lyden

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



Links of GRATITUDE

Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.



What you need:

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Jar
- Stapler
- Adult help

What you do:

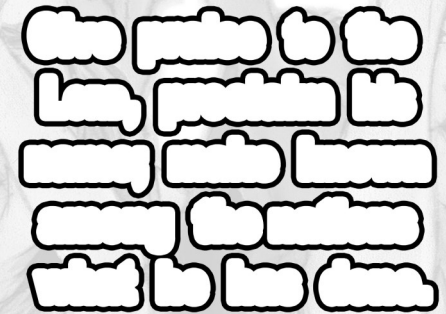
1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you’re thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.

Puzzle!

Discover a psalm of thanks from David by matching the words in the list to the shapes below.

WORD LIST

nations proclaim the what to make done Give name among Lord known the he praise has his



1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV

Answer: Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name, make known among the nations what he has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV



"I don't know where Cain and Abel went for Thanksgiving, Son. I just know they didn't go to Grandma's."