

April Newsletter

SUNDAY WORSHIP

April 9th- Easter Sunday

Worship with Communion at 8 am and 10 am
In-Person or Online
Light Breakfast: 7 am-10 am

April 16th- Praise and Worship Service

Worship with Communion at 10:00 am
In-Person or Online
Sermon Series: Trinity - God the Father
Kids Choir Singing

April 23rd- Contemporary Service

Worship with Communion at 10:00 am
In-Person or Online
Sermon Series: Trinity - God the Son

April 30th- Gospel Service

Worship with Communion at 10:00 am
In-Person or Online
Sermon Series: Trinity - God the Spirit

May 7th- Confirmation Sunday

Worship with Communion at 10:00 am
In-Person or Online

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP & MEALS

The sermon at the Wednesday service will be from the Sunday prior.

Fellowship Meal will be served at 5:45

\$5/person or \$20/family

Worship with Communion and Kids Club at 6:30pm

April 12th

Menu: *Make-Your-Own Sub Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Cheesy Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Fresh Veggies and Dip, Fresh Fruit, Potato Chips*

April 19th

Menu: *Church-Potle Make-Your-Own Tacos and Burritos, Tortilla Chips and Nacho Sauce*

April 26th

Menu: *Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Chicken Nuggets, Tossed Salad, Hawaiian Sweet Rolls, Potato Chips*
Synod Staff at Good Shepherd for Site Visit

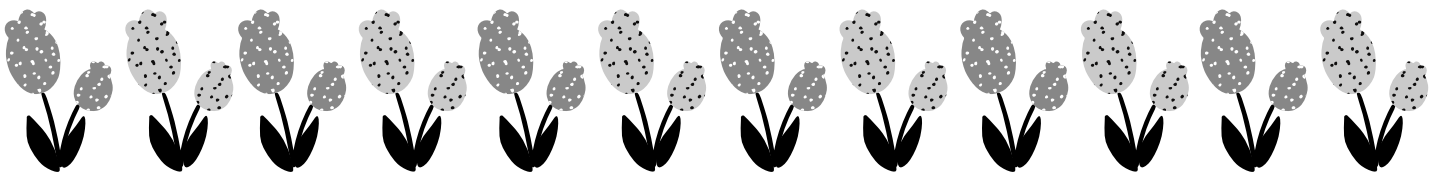
May 3rd

Menu: *Cub Foods Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Corn, Tossed Salad, Rolls*

The Sunday services are streamed online.

To join us ONLINE, you can go to our Facebook feed at: www.facebook.com/goodshepherdmn

If you don't have Facebook, you can join our live on-line worship by visiting www.goodshepherdmn.org and clicking on the live stream video on the home page.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - CHURCH CHEF

This is a paid position-approximately 12 hours/week.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS - There are approximately 30 Wednesday Night meals throughout the year we serve (September-May) - Tuesdays- purchasing of food (2 hours) - Wednesdays- Prepping, serving and cleanup (11:00 am-9 pm)

CHURCH PICNICS & FUNERALS (purchasing, preparing, serving) - Beach Worship and Picnic at Surfside Beach (first Sunday in June) - Rally Sunday (first Sunday in September after Labor Day)

Pastor Loren has faithfully been our Church Chef for the past 7-8 years. He will be retiring in August and we will need to find someone to fill this position. If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please reach out to Pastor Loren!

YOUTH SPOT

Ally Klug, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Green Lake Bible Camp

June 25th - 29th

Students who have completed grades 1st - 5th

Half Blast: Grades 1st - 4th

Andy's Gang: Grades 2nd - 5th

Trailblazers: Grades 5th - 7th

For more information, check out

<https://www.gllm.org/>



Christikon Bible Camp

June 24th - July 2nd

Students who have completed grades 6th - 8th

We are so excited to be heading to the mountains of Montana this summer! This life changing experience is truly one in a million and we can't wait to see how our youth grow and recharge while exploring God's beautiful creation.

For more information, check out the "Prospectors" program:

<https://christikon.org/onsite-camp-programs/>



Christikon
Registration

Vacation Bible School

July 16th - 19th (evenings)

Students who have completed Pre-K - 4th Grade

This summer, VBS is launching us on a cosmic quest! Our mission? To shine Jesus' light on the whole world. Join us for what is sure to be light-years of faith-filled fun!



Houseboat Trip

July 31st - Aug. 4th

For students who have completed 9th - 12th Grade

Sign-Ups for our annual (and oh-so-popular) Houseboat Trip on beautiful Rainy Lake in Northern Minnesota are now open!

This trip includes 4 nights and 5 days of swimming, eating, fishing, talking, kayaking, worshipping, sunbathing, singing, camping, playing, praying, cliff-jumping, gaming, paddle boarding, klangalading, and pancake eating.



Houseboat
Registration



APRIL MEMBER HAPPENINGS

Happy April Anniversary!

- April 8 Rod & Cathy Burriss
April 25 Grant & Julie Johnson
April 27 Greg & Cheryl Dahl
April 27 Robert & Terri Lillard
April 29 Mike & Roberta Schermerhorn
April 29 Jay & Tera White
April 29 Wade & Amy Clarke
April 29 Bryan & Katelyn Gorman

Sending Birthday Wishes to..

- 1 Logan Johnson, Ava Larkin, Michael Bruckner
2 LouAnn Powell
3 Erik Hannigan
4 Brady Aufderheide, Sienna Henriksen
5 Peter Jans
6 Taryn Peglow
7 Tristan Umbehocker, Jon Gulbrandson, Blake Harmer
8 Noah Byers, Jeff Olson, Katy Flom, Ryan Flom
9 Luke Poikonen, Anders Mjelstad, Samuel Rioux
10 Christian Christensen, Stephanie O'Halloran, Ella Carlson
11 Kent Christensen
12 Aaron Larkin, Tera White, Anna Elliott
13 Becky Moen
14 Derek Jordahl, Mac McCollum
15 C.J. Lunning, Dale Mueller
16 Jacob Bowe, Hannah Hall
17 Robbie Davis, Claire White, Erik Flom
18 Sherry Anderly, Merle Johnson
19 Karen O'Brien, Josephine Moen
20 Derek Tronsgard, Danyely Christensen
21 Jack Hall, Steve Nielsen, Macy Heath
22 Annika & Soren Mohn
23 Tom Dreyer, Margaret Krueger, Joan Quam, Ryder Foley
24 Nick Johnson
27 Simon Larson, Gabrielle Callahan
28 Cindi Shannon, Dillon Peterson
29 Luke Burton, Sabrina Larson, Emma Halonen
30 Janet Linkert

Prayers for...

Those hospitalized, sick, or recovering -

- Rachel Reid
- Missy Poikonen's father, G.S. member Cindi Shannon, Margaret Holste's friend, Bob
- Jo/Dale Mueller's brother-in-law, Garry
- Dale Mueller's mother Lucia
- Verne Hubbell
- Jean Gimmestad's son John
- Steve and Linda Kelm's grandson, Logan
- Judy Carlson's sister, Kathy Anderson
- Holly Thumann's mother Karen
- Prayers of thanksgiving for Terri Esposito's mother Belva
- Spencer Helms' sister Allison
- Jim Beise
- Westonka Community member Tim Ritchie
- Patti Berkland
- Laura Wynkoop
- Judy Davisson
- Linda Kelm
- MarJo Hubbell
- Melissa Reid
- Shirley Eskola
- Pat Spilseth

Those living with cancer -

- Terri Esposito's brother Joel
- Jim Reid being treated for a brain tumor
- Jo Mueller's friend Leann
- Janet Linkert's friend, Walt
- Margaret Holste's friend, Pete
- Margaret Holste's cousin, Gretchen
- Tera White's friend Amy

Those grieving the death of a loved one today

- Kelli and Emma Mack and their family and friends grieving the death of Chad Mack
- Bill Wolfe and his family grieving the death of his wife Joan



MARCH CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

PRESENT: Blake Smith, Cythnia Bremer, Cheryl Morrissey, James Collins, Amy Velsor, Janet Linkert, Becky Hall, Jeannine Adair, Maggie Stewart, Katy Flom, Betsy Lindgren, Emily Graff, Pastor Loren, Pastor Derek

Vice President Blake Smith called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The meeting began with a word of prayer.

STRATEGY SESSION: Pastor Derek gave an overview of the call committee that has been formed to find an Associate Pastor to start when Pastor Loren retires.. The first meeting of the call committee was held on March 6th and included the call committee members as well as Assistant to the Bishop Craig Peterson. Pastor Craig gave an overview of the call process. Part of the process will include a site visit by synod staff, we are hoping that they will come out in April on a Wednesday. There are three ways in which we can receive a call- we can suggest people for the call, the synod will give us names or a person can find us and ask to apply. The call committee will keep the council and congregation updated as the process moves forward. Blake Smith made a motion to accept Cythnia Bremer (as the chair), Jill Borg, Spencer Helms, Andrew Vechert, Betsy Lindgren, Janet Jans, Emily Graff and Pastor Derek Tronsgard as members of the call committee. James Collins seconded the motion, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Blake Smith made a motion to approve the Secretary's reports from January and February, James Collins seconded. Motion carried and reports are approved as written.

SHORELINE REPORT: Pastor Derek spoke with Teri, the Shoreline Director- they are in need of staff! If you know of anyone you would like to work in Early Childhood and looking for employment, please send them in Teri's direction.

FINANCIAL REPORT: James Collins reported that similar to last month, the income coming in is less than planned but our expenses are also less than budgeted. This is typical for this time of the year. We are looking at building the budget plan based on seasonality as opposed to just cutting the budget and dividing by twelve to give a more accurate representation. All things considered, we had a favorable February. We will be doing the Dedicated Accounts summary on a quarterly basis as opposed to monthly. Our plowing bill is significantly higher than past years. Blake Smith made a motion to approve the financial report and Janet Linkert seconded the motion. Motion approved.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC – Janet Linkert, Janet Jans: Our Lenten sermon series has begun - the Bible Doesn't Say That, Ash Wednesday was delayed a week due to a snowstorm. Lenten Wednesdays have begun with our speaker interviews. This year the Linkert family, Skip Lindgren, and Logan Johnson are our speakers. Preparing for Holy Week & Easter in early April.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Megan Cegla, Maggie Stewart: Lighter month for children's activities other than a President's Day lock-in. Next year, we will look at ways to increase parent involvement for this event and ask for RSVPs in advance. On April 16th we have another family event planned after the Kids Choir sings in worship. VBS Planning is set to begin. Looking for helpers w/ decorations & prep. before July. The committee will be meeting soon to finalize details

YOUTH MINISTRY – Becky Hall, Betsy Lindgren: The Call Committee for the new Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry met for the first time on Monday, March 6th with Pastor Craig Pederson from the synod office. Next steps are to complete our congregational paperwork and schedule a meeting for a synod visit. Rib Fest was a successful event. Huge thanks to everyone who helped and/or donated. New trip format this year - Bible Camp for Elementary students, Christikon in Montana for Middle School / Confirmation, Houseboat for High School. New Moonlight Madness event in April for current 6-9th graders

EVANGELISM – Tera White: New Member families will be welcomed in the next several weeks. Pastor Derek is meeting with them for congregational orientations. Prayers and condolences to Kelli & Emma Mack at the passing of our Evangelism co-chair Chad Mack

FELLOWSHIP – Susan Hoversten, Jeannine Adair: Bingo Event went incredibly well. Close to 100 people attended. We raised \$1,291 for the Westonka Food Shelf. The Committee is working on a Fellowship Event at Back Channel Brewing. More information to come.

SERVICE MINISTRY – Katy Flom: Currently in the Food Share drive for the Westonka Food Shelf. So far we have raised \$1,291 through Bingo Night, \$767 through the Souper Bowl Offering, and \$1,850 through other gifts bringing our total raised to \$3,908 so far. The moms small group made 300 sandwiches through the Sandwich Project and delivered them to the Waite House in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. We are looking to get another date for all ages on the calendar to volunteer once again at Second Harvest Heartland in May

WOMEN'S MINISTRY – Cheryl Morrissey: \$750 from the Women's Ministry committee will be going to the Food Shelf

MUTUAL MINISTRY – Jo Mueller: No report.

PROPERTY-We are still looking for someone to head this committee. The Thursday volunteer group continues its volunteer work replacing belts and filters in the blower system, repairs in the bathrooms, and other projects around the church. We continue to be grateful for their hard work.

STEWARDSHIP – Amy Velsor: No report.

Cheryl Morrissey made a motion to accept the committee reports, Blake Smith seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS: Pastor Loren reported that both he and Pastor Derek were at the hospital with the Mack Family. Pastor Loren went with the Mack family for a private prayer service. Our whole congregation is grieving the loss of Chad Mack. Pastor Derek reported that he's done the trifecta- a few weeks ago he had a baptism for a new family in our congregation. He did a service at Fort Snelling for Joan Wolfe and Chad Mack's funeral will be on March 17th. Pastor Derek will be doing a wedding in the sanctuary (this will be the first he's done in our sanctuary) for Lauren Elskamp on March 18th.

OTHER INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS: Next month we will be tackling our Outdoor Sign project! We received a gift from a congregation family to purchase this sign. Cynthia Bremer has reached out to the city of Orono for permits and requirements. We will be getting three bids and the hope is that we will have the new sign up and in place by Rally Sunday. This spring, we will be working on the storage building. Pastor Loren and the Thursday work crew are looking into these plans. We are also hoping to look into updating the thermostats. We will look into energy credits. Maggie Stewart suggested that this summer, we as a council meet and map out the calendar or events for the year ahead- potentially discuss this at the July council meeting. Amy Velsor asked if we would be doing a mission trip this summer. We decided that we will not be this year. We reconfigured our youth events for the summer. Pastor Loren asked the congregation to donate \$1000 to the Foodshelf, we have done this in past years. Katy Flom made a motion that the congregation will donate \$1000 and Maggie Stewart seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pastor Derek discussed the interesting service on Sunday, March 12th. Centerpoint Energy advised that we evacuate the building until it could be determined if the smell was a gas leak or something else. Centerpoint determined that it was not gas, instead we believe that it was sewer gas. Rib Fest continued on as planned. Thank you to our congregation for being flexible.

We ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Blake Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Katy Flom seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Graff, Church Council Secretary

PASTOR'S CORNER - CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

It's been a busy month here at Good Shepherd, and one of the most exciting developments has been the formation of our call committee.

At the start of the year, Pastor Loren informed the congregation that he intends to fully retire in August 2023 after 30 years of faithful ministry here at Good Shepherd. With that, our church council began the task of forming a committee to call a new full-time associate pastor in the fall.

During the March meeting our Church Council approved a call committee with Congregational President Cynthia Bremer serving as chair. Jill Borg, Spencer Helms, Betsy Lindgren, Andrew Vechart, Paula Umbehocker, Janet Jans, Emily Graff, and myself were also approved to serve on the call committee.

We then met with Pastor Craig Pederson from the Minneapolis Synod who worked with us to create a ministry site profile. This profile is a detailed resume of our congregation for potential candidates to help them get a feel of our community and congregation.

On **Wednesday, April 26th** Pastor Craig will be joining us during our Wednesday night worship to visit Good Shepherd and talk through the process with our congregation. With that, we hope you'll join us that evening in worship at **6:30pm!**

After that visit we will begin the process of receiving names of candidates from the synod to interview this spring/summer. In addition, we are also welcome to submit names of candidates to interview, so if anyone out there has a lead on an ELCA pastor who may be a good fit, please let us know!

Keep our congregation in your prayers as we discern through this process and find our next Associate Pastor. And, as always, please let me know if you have any questions. Stay tuned for more updates! **Pastor Derek**



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our budgeted expenses at Good Shepherd for 2023 are \$521,651. Good Shepherd's budgeted expenses through the end of February was \$43,470.96.45 with actual expenses of \$41,953.45. Actual expenses at the end of February were 96.51% of our budgeted expenses.

Our budgeted income for 2023 is also \$521,651. Budgeted income for January was \$43,470.96. Actual income for January was \$33,011.02 (75.94% of budgeted income).

During the course of the church year our income typically starts slower than our expenses in January and February. As warmer weather and spring-like conditions blossom around us, we simply want to thank you for your generous giving to Good Shepherd.

We also thank you for staying current in your giving which allows us to pay our bills.

Thank you so much for your faithful giving to our congregation.

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APRIL NEWSLETTER

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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