

January Newsletter

Worship Schedule!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP & MEALS

January 7th- Praise and Worship Service
Worship with Communion at 10:00 am
In-Person or Online

Fellowship Meal will be served at 5:45
\$5/person or \$20/family

January 14th- Contemporary Worship Service
Worship with Communion at 10:00am
In-Person or Online

January 10- Worship at 6:30 pm
Menu: Soup and Salad Night

January 21st- ELW Traditional Worship Service
Worship with Communion at 10:00am
In-Person or Online

January 17- Worship at 6:30 pm
Menu: Sandwich Bar

January 28th- Gospel Worship Service
Worship with Communion at 10:00am
In-Person or Online

January 24- Worship at 6:30 pm
Menu: Churchpotle

ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP

January 31- Worship at 6:30 pm
Menu: Breakfast for Dinner

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.

NEWSLETTER CHANGE

In December our Church Council decided to be better stewards of our financial and environmental resources by reducing the number of printed newsletters.

Please know that our monthly newsletter will not be leaving. We will continue to email the newsletter directly to your inbox and publish it on our website. Additionally, for those who prefer a physical copy, printed versions will be available in the commons area.

We also know that some may prefer a mailed copy of the newsletter.

With that - if you wish to continue receiving a monthly paper newsletter in the mail, please complete the form below and return it to Emily at the church office. You can also e-mail office@goodshepherdmn.org or call us at 952-471-8433 and let us know that you would still like your newsletter mailed to you. Thank you!

First and Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 28th at 11:15 am

All members and confirmed youth are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting following Sunday worship on January 28th. Attendance is possible both in-person and online. We will receive the 2023 reports from our church council members and staff. We will share ideas, elect our Council members and set our budget and ministry plan for 2024. Copies of the Annual Report will be emailed out prior to the meeting and available to pick up at the church office!

WE ENCOURAGE ALL CONFIRMED MEMBERS TO ATTEND

THANKS FOR MAKING MAKING THIS ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MAGICAL!

- To those who decorated our sanctuary for Christmas
- To those who donated cookies and treats and who prepared the cookie boxes for Meals on Wheels and congregation members
- To those who donated so generously to our adopt a family program through WeCAN
- To those who provided special music for worship
- To our adult choirs who blessed us with their reflective service
- To our kids who put on the Christmas musical

Thank you!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you interested in learning more or becoming a member of Good Shepherd?

We will be having a new member class on Wednesday, January 17th after worship.

Talk to Pastor Derek or Emily in the church office if interested!

SAVE THE DATE!

We will be hosting our now annual congregation bingo night at February 24th! All proceeds from this event will go to the Westonka Food Shelf! Bingo cards will be for sale at the beginning of February in the church office! This multi-generation event is a crowd favorite, we hope to see you there!

January Birthday Wishes to...

- 1 Wendy Anderson
- 3 Patrick Hennessy
- 4 Evelyn Gorman
- 5 Colleen Coley, Alexis Robinson
- 6 John Byers, Jennifer Milbrath, Jeff Peterson, Makenna Brink
- 7 Desirae Ellanson
- 8 Merv Berkland, Julie Ketcher
- 9 Emily Graff
- 10 David Melek, Josiah Callahan, Ben Cegla
- 11 Samantha Christensen, Amy Umbehocker
- 12 Torsten Lee, Michael Paulsen, Mary Taylor, Julia Calos
- 13 Ben Ludowise, Owen Koepp
- 14 Lillian Gerhard, Harrison Gerhard
- 15 Aaron Davis, Tom Frahm, Terri Lillard, Allefare Martin, Logan Poikonen
- 16 Jeanne Brustad, Teresa Elliott, Sophie Cegla, Wes Foley
- 17 John Folin, Jeanette Johnson, Ava O'Brien, Amanda Bruckner
- 18 Angela Hennessy
- 19 Shirley Eskola, Benjamin Milbrath, James Langhans
- 21 Jennifer Wood
- 22 MarJo Hubbell, Sarah Reinhardt, Maddie White, Ellie Wagner, Beau Burton, Erik Steahl
- 23 Kelle Bowe
- 25 Jackie Burriss, Judy Davisson
- 26 Abi O'Brien
- 27 Adam Hoogeveen, Baylee Poikonen, Bennett Kelley
- 28 Dylan Halliwill, Becky Morlan
- 29 Kirby Graff, Matthew Berkland, Luke Sunnarborg, Jennifer Callahan
- 30 Dave Latzke, Skip Lindgren, Steve Skoro, Jacob Trost, Tyler Stevenson
- 31 Wes Bruckner

Happy January Anniversary!

- 1 Dorothy Ritz and Martin Besler... 43 years!
- 1 Joan and Mark Brekke... 40 years!
- 7 Kyle and Teresa Elliot... 19 years!
- 9 Ryan and Lisa Foss... 25 years!
- 21 Mike and Sara Schwartz... 17 years!
- 28 Julie and Troy Tasche... 40 years!
- 30 Joan and Steve Nielsen... 53 years!

Prayers For...

Those with Dementia, Alzheimer's, and Aging Issues

- Missy Poikonen's father
- Cindi Shannon
- Brad Jans' mother Karen
- Sara Schwartz's father

Those with Parkinson's Disease

- Dale Mueller's mother Lucia
- Ally Reitz's Godmother Becky

Those with On-Going Health Concerns

- Rachel Reid
- Jo/Dale Mueller's brother-in-law, Garry
- Jean Gimmetstad's son John
- Holly Thumann's mother Karen
- Spencer Helms' sister Allison
- George Linkert's mother
- Terri Esposito's mother Belva
- Michelle Wood's mother Sally
- Katy Flom's father
- Emily Graff's father Duane
- Erik Saxvik
- Connor Esposito
- Ally Reitz's mother Kathy

Those Living with Cancer

- Jo Mueller's friend Leann
- Jo Mueller's sister-in-law Ann
- Dale Mueller's father Harlan
- Jo Mueller's mother Lois
- Janet Linkert's friend, Walt
- Margaret Holste's friend, Pete
- Patty Berkland's sister Carol

Grieving the Death of Loved Ones

- Joy & Sid Blanchard & their family grieving the death of Joy's father



Exciting Youth Opportunities

Get ready for an unforgettable year of adventure, faith, and fun in 2024! We have some amazing experiences lined up that you won't want to miss.

High School Ski Trip to Lutsen (February 15th-18th):

Calling all 8th to 12th graders! Prepare to hit the slopes and create lasting memories on our Ski Trip to Lutsen. Whether you're a seasoned pro or hitting the slopes for the first time, this trip promises fun, faith, and the breathtaking beauty of Minnesota's North Shore. Get ready for four days of winter wonderland fun!

The cost for this trip is \$475 and you can sign-up today with a \$100 deposit. Register on-line today!

Middle School Adventure Camp at Christikon (June 22nd-30th)

Calling all current 5th to 7th graders! Our summer adventure awaits, and we're heading to Christikon Lutheran Bible Camp in Montana. During the week you'll enjoy God's incredible Creation in the Rocky Mountains as you live at camp with your campers and counselors. Each day will feature great food, fun games, opportunities to grow in faith, an overnight backpack excursion in the mountains, and more!

Registration link on the homepage of our church website!

ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans (July 13th-21st)

This summer our current 8th to 12th graders are invited to join us as we go to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Join tens of thousands of young people from our Lutheran Church across the country for a transformative week of service, worship, fun, and exploration. Each day our youth will do mission-trip style service projects around the city and each evening will gather with 30,000+ other ELCA high school students at the Superdome.

The cost for this trip will be \$1,000 with fundraising opportunities & scholarships available. Registration link on the homepage of our church website!

2024 is going to be an incredible year for our youth here at Good Shepherd, and we can't wait to see what God has in store!

DECEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

Thursday, December 14th

Present: Cynthia Bremer, Blake Smith, James Collins, Megan Cegla, Maggie Stewart, Becky Hall, Katy Flom, Cheryl Morrissey, Jo Mueller, Amy Velsor, Emily Graff, Pastor Sarah Johanson, Pastor Derek Tronsgard.

President Cynthia Bremer called the meeting to order at 7:44pm. Pastor Derek led the group in prayer to begin the meeting.

STRATEGY SESSION: Pastor Derek thanked the council members who will be going off the board after the Annual Meeting. We will have two open positions- Christian Education and Property. If anyone is interested or knows someone who would be, please reach out to Pastor Derek. The Annual Meeting is set for January 28th. Congregation members will again have the option to attend in person or on zoom. Our Church Council decided to be better stewards of our financial and environmental resources by reducing the number of printed newsletters and printed Annual Reports. The Annual Reports will be emailed to the congregation and paper copies will be available in the church office. Congregation members will have the option to opt-in to receive the newsletter in the mail otherwise newsletters will be emailed and print copies available at church.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Blake Smith moved to approve the minutes as written. Katy Flom seconded, motion carried.

SHORELINE REPORT: Pastor Derek summarized that Terri Esposito said they are still looking for staff. They are thankful to have college students back during winter break.

FINANCIAL REPORT: James Collins reported that our budgeted expenses at Good Shepherd for 2023 are \$521,651. Good Shepherd's budgeted expenses through the end of November were \$478,180.55 with actual expenses of \$448,081.23 (93.71% of actual expenses). Our budgeted income for 2023 is also \$521,651. Budgeted income through October was \$478,180.55. Actual income was \$390,424.50 (81.65% of budgeted income).

Katy Flom made a motion to approve the financial report, Blake Smith seconded and motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WORSHIP AND MUSIC – Janet Linkert, Janet Jans: There will not be a morning service on Christmas Eve (12/24) only the evening services at 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm. December 31st will be a prerecorded service online only.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Megan Cegla, Maggie Stewart: The Children's Museum trip was a huge success. Many families attended. VBS date will be adjusted because of the ELCA Youth Gathering. Date will go as soon as decided. Monday Funday will be held on January 15th and a day trip to Great Wolf Lodge is planned for January 22nd.

YOUTH MINISTRY – Becky Hall, Betsy Lindgren: Sign-Up has begun for our Winter Ski Trip as well as our summer opportunities for youth. We are excited for the many opportunities we have for all ages for summer programming.

EVANGELISM – Tera White: no report.

FELLOWSHIP – Jeannine Adair, Sheri Smith: Save the date for February 24th for our annual bingo night with proceeds going to the Westonka Foodshelf

SERVICE MINISTRY – Katy Flom: A huge thank you to everyone who donated and shopped for the Adopt a Family program we did with WeCAN as well as though who brought hats and mittens. The Feed my Starving Children event was also a huge success. Best quote of the night, "saving a life was so much fun".

WOMEN'S MINISTRY – Cheryl Morrissey: Thank you to those who donated cookies and treats for the cookie boxes for Meals on Wheels

MUTUAL MINISTRY – Jo Mueller: No report

PROPERTY– A bid from AIM Electronics was selected for our electric sign project. We will now begin work with the City of Orono to get the proper permits & variance to move forward with the project. Our hope is that the work with the city will be completed this winter to allow a spring/summer installation of the new sign. Our Thursday crew continues its hard work fixing various items around the church and doing leaf removal with groundskeeping. Continued thanks for their efforts

STEWARDSHIP – Amy Velsor: A discussion was had that we should continue to educate our members, particularly new members, where the giving goes and how the church is funded. We ask that congregation members continue to send in their pledge cards.

Katy Flom made a motion to approve committee reports, Amy Velsor seconded. Motion carried.

OTHER INFO/ REPORTS: A resolution was made brought forward to add Pastor Derek Tronsgard to the Good Shepherd Wells Fargo stock account with full authority. This motion was made by Becky Hall and seconded by Maggie Stewart. Motion carried. A resolution was brought forward to also replace Pastor Loren Davis with Pastor Derek Tronsgard from any other Good Shepherd financial accounts as Pastor Loren is fully retired and Pastor Derek is now in charge of church finances as Lead Pastor. Motion made by Blake Smith and seconded by Amy Velsor. Motion carried.

Katy Flom made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Amy Velsor seconded. We ended with the Lord's Prayer. Respectively submitted by Emily Graff, Council Secretary.



NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

January 18th, 2024

GOOD SHEPHERD EVENTS 3RD - 6TH GRADE

20 24

JAN
15

MONDAY FUNDAY
@ GOOD SHEPHERD
9AM - 12:30PM

GREAT WOLF LODGE
WATERPARK
10AM - 3PM

JAN
22

MAR
10

URBAN AIR
12PM - 3PM

NICK UNIVERSE
1PM - 5PM

APR
28

AUG
??

MN STATE FAIR
FAMILY EVENT
TBD

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

GOOD SHEPHERD 2024 EVENTS PRE K - 2ND GRADE

JAN
22

GREAT WOLF LODGE
WATERPARK
10AM - 3PM

FEB
11

EDINBOROUGH PARK
12PM - 3PM

MAR
10

URBAN AIR
12PM - 3PM

APR
28

NICK UNIVERSE
1PM - 5PM

AUG
??

MN STATE FAIR
FAMILY EVENT
TBD

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

Monday Funday! JANUARY 15TH 9-12:30 PM

For students in 3rd - 6th grade, we are hosting a Monday Funday!

Meet us at the church and enjoy board games and tabletop games up in the loft, Mario Kart and other fun Nintendo Switch competitions, arts and crafts, a newly released movie, and of course, pizza! Cost is \$5 per student. Feel free to invite your friends!

Great Wolf Lodge FAMILY FIELD TRIP- JANUARY 22ND

We are headed to Great Wolf Lodge on Monday, January 22nd. The cost is \$45/person (adult chaperone wristbands will be paid for by church). Register on the church website. Reach out to Ally with questions!

Star Words in Epiphany

During this season of Epiphany we learn about the three Magi following a star to the birthplace of Jesus.

This Epiphany, we will be exploring a reflective practice called Star Words. The idea is that a list of guiding words are written on paper stars. These paper stars are then distributed or chosen at random. Like the star that the wise men followed, Star Words are intended to guide us in prayer and reflection. Individuals are then encouraged to place their star word somewhere they will see it regularly throughout the year to allow consistent reflection on how God has been present in their life in connection with that word.

Star Words differ from a New Year's resolution or setting our own intentions for the year because New Year's resolutions come from within ourselves - they're goals that ask us to change something about ourselves or take on something. While this can be great, it can also be hard to achieve what we set out to do.

Star Words call us out of this mindset of self-improvement into God's grace and into reflection about how the Holy Spirit is already at work in our lives. We are not asked to do anything but notice, reflect, and connect with God about how your Star Word has shown up in your life throughout the year.

During worship this January, everyone will be invited to both draw a star word for themselves and submit a star word for the church. From the submissions, Pastor Sarah and Pastor Derek will draw Star Words to guide the Epiphany sermon series. We will preach on a new word each week - collaborating with the congregation and following the Holy Spirit to reflect on what God is up to in the life of the church.

May God's gifts of grace truly bless you in this new year and in this season of Epiphany!

Pastor Sarah

Financial Update

Our budgeted expenses at Good Shepherd for 2023 are \$521,651. Good Shepherd's budgeted expenses through the end of November were \$478,180.55 with actual expenses of \$448,081.23 (93.71% of actual expenses).

Our budgeted income for 2023 is also \$521,651. Budgeted income through October was \$478,180.55. Actual income was \$390,424.50 (81.65% of budgeted income).

As we look forward to a strong year-end of giving, we're thankful for your faithful and regular gifts. Your offerings make the ministry of Good Shepherd possible. In addition, we'd like to remind our members to please fill out and return their pledge cards as this greatly helps us plan for the 2024 fiscal year.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
3745 Shoreline Drive
Wayzata, MN 55391-9784

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JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

WWW.GOODSHEPHERDMN.ORG

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