

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

3745 Shoreline Drive, Wayzata MN 55391

www.goodshepherdmn.org

Youth Ski Trip

Our first annual youth ski trip was a smashing success! 18 youth and 8 chaperones spent the weekend at Lutsen February 15th-18th. They spent the weekend in God's beautiful creation skiing, snowboarding and relationship building. Youth and adults came home with sore legs, but full hearts!



Worship Schedule

March 3rd - Praise and Worship

Worship at 10 am

In Person or Online

Sermon Series: Wrestling With God

March 6th - Lenten Worship

Worship at 6:30pm

In Person

March 10th - Contemporary Service

Worship at 10 am

In Person or Online

Sermon Series: Wrestling With God

March 13th- Lenten Worship

Worship at 6:30pm

In Person

March 17th - Traditional Service

Worship at 10 am

In Person or Online

Sermon Series: Wrestling With God

March 20th - Lenten Worship

Worship at 6:30 pm

In Person or Online

March 24th- Gospel Service

Palm Sunday

Worship at 10:00 am

In Person or Online

March 28th- Maundy Thursday Service

Worship at 6:30 pm

In Person or Online

March 29th- Good Friday Service

Worship at 6:30 pm

In Person or Online

March 31st- Easter Sunday

Worship Services at 8 am and 10 am

In Person or Online

Holy Week

Palm Sunday - Sunday, March 24th

In-Person & On-Line Worship- 10:00am

Join in-person or on-line for a Palm Sunday service. The worship will also feature palms & the celebration of Holy Communion

Good Friday - Friday, March 29th

In-Person- 6:30pm

Join us for a Good Friday service in the Sanctuary or on-line. In this service we will reflect on Christ's suffering and death through the drama "Cry of the Whole Congregation"

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, March 28th

Soup Supper - 5:45pm

In-Person Worship - 6:30pm

In this taize-style service we will reflect on Christ's call to serve one another. We will also celebrate Communion honoring the gift Christ gave on the night in which he was betrayed

Easter Sunday - Sunday, March 31st

In-Person & On-Line Worship- 8:00am & 10:00am

Join us for Easter Sunday- a service of celebration to our Risen Lord! Christ is Risen!

Easter Garden

Each year for our Easter Sunday worship services, the altar area is transformed into a beautiful Resurrection garden and it's the love and generosity of our members and friends that makes it grow!

If you would like to buy a plant in memory/honor/celebration of someone or something special, please fill out the below form and return to Emily in the church office. This form is also available online on our church website.

You will be able to bring your plant home any time after the Easter Sunday services. Checks should be made payable to Good Shepherd.
The order deadline is Monday, March 25th.

Easter Garden Order Form

Each year for our Easter Sunday worship services, the altar area is transformed into a beautiful Resurrection garden and it's the love and generosity of our members and friends that makes it grow! If you would like to buy a plant in memory/honor/celebration of someone or something special, please fill out the below form and return to Emily in the church office. This form is also available online.

You will be able to bring your plant home any time after the Easter Sunday services. Checks should be made payable to Good Shepherd.
The order deadline is Monday, March 25th.

Name :

Email :

Phone Number:

Given in Honor of/Memory of/Celebration of (someone or something)...

Please indicate honor, memory or celebration for each plant

Number and Type of Plant(s):

Easter Lily (\$12) _____

Mum (\$12) _____

Pansy Bowl (\$20) _____

Tulip (\$12) _____

Hydrangea (\$20) _____

Total : _____

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES



Camp 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 \$650 with fundraising opportunities & scholarships available. Registration link on the homepage of our church website!



Vacation Bible School July 28th-31st (evenings)

Students who have completed Pre-K - 4th Grade

Dive into a friendship with God! This summer, VBS will take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never ending love of God. Let's plunge beneath the waves to forge a mighty faith!

Mark your calendars today!



PASTOR'S CORNER

BY PASTOR DEREK TRONSGARD

Holy Week may be one of my favorite things we do as a church. I am always struck by the privilege we have as a congregation to walk together through the final week of Jesus' life. With that, we hope you'll join us this Holy Week for the four special services throughout the week.

Palm Sunday, on March 24th, marks the beginning of our journey. On this day, we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, with crowds waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna!" It is a wonderful celebration of Christ our king, but at the end of the service it takes a turn because we know where the rest of the week is headed.

Maundy Thursday on March 28th takes us to the upper room where Jesus shared his last supper with his disciples. On that night we will first share a simple soup supper together at 5:45pm before gathering for a reflective Taize service in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm. Like Jesus did with his disciples that evening, we, too, will eat bread and drink wine and remember Christ's body & blood given for us.

Good Friday on March 29th is a day of somber reflection as we reflect on the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus. On Good Friday we will gather for an interactive drama serviced entitled "Cry of the Whole Congregation." This service will lead us to the cross and to the tomb, and we will leave in silence awaiting what is to come on Sunday morning.

Finally, we'll get to Easter Sunday on March 31st! There will be brass, bells, a flower garden, uplifting music, an Easter breakfast, and more! It's a time to gather and celebrate the resurrection which is the foundation of our faith and our hope as people of God.

Holy Week is truly a special time, and we invite you and your family to join with us as we reflect on Jesus' ministry, remember his death, and celebrate the Resurrection which is God's gift for all of us! - Pastor Derek

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our 2024 church budget for income and expenses is \$512,000.

At the end of January our projected income was \$42,666.67. Our total income at that time was \$25,149.76 (58.94% of budget).

At the end of January our projected expenses were also \$42,666.67. Our total expenses were \$38,960.70 (90.52% of budget).

Typically the beginning of the year is slower on the income side, but as always we humbly ask our members to remain faithful in their giving as it makes our ministry possible. Thank you for your generosity!

Giving Statements

Giving statements for 2023 were e-mailed in early February.

If you would like a printed copy mailed to you, or if you did not receive an email, please contact the office.

Thank you!

March Birthday Wishes to...

- 2 Bryce Helms
- 3 Lauren Lembke, Nora Arne
- 4 Cole Anderly, Gentry Jenson
- 5 Marlin Besler, Bob Nygaard, Jo Mueller, Joel Harmer
- 6 Daniel Bremer, Carly Jo Olson, Troy Tasche
- 7 Mike Adair, Tracy Anderson, Jennifer Johnson, Mia Elliott, Kaliann Bartley
- 8 Sam Kerr, CeCe Linkert
- 9 John Blanck, Terri Johnson, Chantelle Jordahl
Elias Ottenbreit, Jen Duncan
- 11 Sandy Salwei
- 12 Lisa Davisson, Wyatt Helms
- 13 Jacob Ludowise
- 15 Teresa Amerman, Jim Byers, Lauren Elskamp
Cheryl Morrissey
- 16 Isaac Jans, Steph Olson, Jack Butler
- 17 Britt Courneya, Elaine Ronnerud, Mike Schwartz
- 18 Scott Matson
- 19 Nancy Nerheim, Kelli Hanratty
- 20 Jessica Rashleger, Bill Sterne
- 21 Lauren Vechart
- 22 Judy Carlson, Tim Olson
- 23 Kylee Anderson
- 24 Hannah Hunter, Jacob Peterson, Annie Vechart
Lauren Hildahl
- 26 Lindsay Alvig
- 27 Marie Hilbelink
- 28 Vivian Tronsgard, Ellerie Anderson
- 29 Debbie Anderson, Jean Gimmestad, Amy Velsor
Karen Larson, Ann Oelschlager, Jude Wetternach
- 30 Callie Lembke, Bob Morgan, Emily Stacey, Skyler Kelm
- 31 Gay Hofteig, Kay Owen, Tucker Poikonen

Prayers For...

Those with Dementia, Alzheimer's, and Aging Issues

Missy Poikonen's father
Cindi Shannon
Sara Schwartz's father

Those with Parkinson's Disease

Dale Mueller's mother Lucia
Ally Reitz's godmother Becky
Erik Saxvik

Those with On-Going Health Concerns

Rachel Reid
Jo/Dale Mueller's brother-in-law, Garry
Jean Gimmestad's son John
Holly Thumann's mother Karen
Spencer Helms' sister Allison
George Linkert's mother
Connor Esposito
Michelle Wood's mother Sally
Joyce Jones
Gale and Fred Menger's friend Eddie
Becky Morlan

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
John Gulbrandson

Those who care for loved ones who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, or in nursing care.

Those battling depression, anxiety, mental illness, or addiction in own lives, life of loved one

Grieving the Death of Loved One

Westonka Community Members Eric & Denise Schmidt and their family grieving the death of their son Evan this past week

Happy Anniversary!

- 2 Jason and Carmen Aufderheide
- 2 Dean and Amy Umbehoeker
- 6 Chris & Katie Christenson
- 7 Mike and Richelle Erickson
- 12 Steve and Nancy Nerheim
- 24 Mark and Debra Carlson
- 27 George and Janet Linkert
- 28 Ron and Judy Davisson
- 28 Mike and Lori Falness

BINGO NIGHT FUN!



NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD PROJECT INFORMATION

We are so excited to be partnering with WeCAN (Western Communities Action Network) with their new initiative 'The Neighborhood Food Project'. The Neighborhood Food Project started in Ashland Oregon as a way to better support people in the community who are in need of non-perishable food and personal care items. As partners in the project, we are asked to fill green tote bags with food and personal care items each month. Once a month, we will bring in our full bags to WeCAN and exchange them for empty bags to fill for the next month. This system allows organizations like WeCAN to receive consistent support from area churches and organizations and help stock their shelves with some of their most needed items.

Thank you to Service Committee leader Katy Flom for all of her hard work in making this new partnership possible. Let's fill some bags!

March is Food Share Month

FUNDRAISER FOR THE WESTONKA FOODSHELF

Westonka Food Shelf is a Christian faith-based organization with a mission to reduce hunger in our local community by respectfully providing nutritionally balanced food options to those in need.

The Westonka Food Shelf began serving our community in 1969. Thanks to our community's generosity, a mission that started with helping just a few families has grown to provide healthy options to many needing assistance in Mound, Minnetrista, Navarre, Minnetonka Beach, Spring Park, St. Bonifacius, Tonka Bay, Independence and parts of Orono today.

\$1 Donated Translates Into \$9 of Groceries.

Their buying power is exponentially enhanced by our partnership with local foodbanks. A dollar donated to Westonka Food Shelf can purchase \$9 or more worth of groceries.

Let's address the problem of local hunger this month by joining the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign .

Please consider a financial gift to the Westonka Food Shelf in this Food Share month of March. Give an amount you would spend on a night out for dinner, or a week's worth of fast food, or a week's worth of morning coffees, or ... (use your imagination to create a match...)

Bring your gift to the church office or by mail to:
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
3745 Shoreline Drive, Wayzata, MN, 55391

Following Easter Sunday, we'll deliver all of your gifts to the Food Shelf in one BIG Good Shepherd gift!

Current Needs - Winter 2024

Food Shelf Items

- Canned Fruit
- Canned Chicken/Spam
- Chili Beans
- Baked Beans
- Stews/Chili
- Cream of Mushroom
- Stuffing
- Condiments
- Ramen
- Baking Items-Sugar, Flour, Oil, Cooking Spray
- Instant/Boxed Potatoes
- Coffee
- Canned Mushrooms
- Canned Potatoes
- Rice/Pasta Mixes

Personal Care Needs

- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Body Lotion
- Size 5-6 Diapers
- Feminine Hygiene Pads
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Soap
- All Purpose Cleaner

Financial Support

Your financial support allows us to purchase the items we need to support local families.



5213 Shoreline Drive
Mound, MN 55364

www.wecanmn.org/donate

FEBRUARY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

Thursday, February 22, 2024

Present: Cynthia Bremer, James Collins, Maggie Stewart, Katie Vechart, Tera White, Katy Flom, Becky Hall, Jo Mueller, Amy Velsor, Emily Graff, Pastor Sarah Johanson, Pastor Derek Tronsgard.

President Cynthia Bremer called the meeting to order at 7:09pm. Pastor Sarah led the group in prayer to begin the meeting.

STRATEGY SESSION: Katie Vechart has agreed to fill the open Christian Education position on the church council. Katie and her husband Andrew live outside of Mound with their four young children. Amy Velsor made a motion to approve Katie to this position on the church council, Maggie Stewart seconded. Motion approved. Pastor Derek welcomed Katie to the council and thanked her for stepping into this role. Pastor Derek gave a digital sign update- the design has been completed and approved. We are setting up a meeting with the Orono City Planner in March and the goal is for the variance to be on the agenda for the Planning Commission and City Council in April. Rib-Fest was also discussed. It was proposed that we move Rib-Fest to a Wednesday night, April 24th, as opposed to a Sunday in March as we've done in the past. The thought behind the change is that we are going to smoke and cook the ribs ourselves like we did for Loren's party, but in order to do this for a Sunday morning we would have to have people here all night. The other thought is that doing it on a Wednesday can serve as an end of year celebration of our Wednesday night worship. There would not be worship this night. If the weather is nice the event could be held in the parking lot, if not we can do it in the Fellowship Hall. Youth going on the summer trips would be asked to volunteer to serve, assist with making the food, set up and clean up. Council members unanimously were in favor of this change for Rib-Fest for 2024.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Tera White moved to approve the minutes as written. James Collins seconded, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: James Collins reported. Our 2024 church budget for income and expenses is \$512,000. At the end of January our projected income was \$42,666.67. Our total income at that time was \$25,149.76 (58.94% of budget). At the end of January our projected expenses were also \$42,666.67. Our total expenses were \$38,960.70 (90.52% of budget). Typically the beginning of the year is slower on the income side, but as always we humbly ask our members to remain faithful in their giving as it makes our ministry possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WORSHIP AND MUSIC - Pastor Derek reported- Ash Wednesday Service was well attended. We will be having community speakers at our Wednesday Lenten services leaning into the theme of "Journeys". On Sundays, our ministry staff will be preaching on a sermon series entitled, "Wrestling with God".

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Maggie Stewart, Katie Vechart: Ally is beginning to plan our summer VBS- it will be held on July 28th-July 31st. This is for students preschool-4th grade.

YOUTH MINISTRY - Becky Hall: Our Lutsen ski trip was a huge success. We had 18 youth and 8 chaperones attend. Everyone is already looking forward to this trip again next year- it was a beautiful location and great company. Registration is open for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans (8th-12th grade) and Camp Christikon (5th-7th grade) for this summer. We are encouraging youth to sign up soon!

EVANGELISM - Tera White: We had two families join Good Shepherd this month. Tera will reach out to regular visitors and ask if they are interested in joining. We are exploring bringing back Greeters for church services.

FELLOWSHIP - Pastor Derek reported that our annual bingo night will be February 24th. This is a fun night for all ages. All proceeds will go to the Westonka Food Shelf.

SERVICE MINISTRY - Katy Flom: Katy Flom reported that Good Shepherd is now involved in "The Neighborhood Food Project" with WeCAN. The new initiative would ask Good Shepherd and other churches and organizations to fill bags of pantry food and household items each month to help bring in consistent donations to WeCAN. It was discussed that we would ask different groups or individuals to take charge of the bags each month so various members of the congregation could feel some ownership of this project. Katy will also be reaching out to WeCAN to ask if someone would like to come speak as a Lenten Speaker.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY - no report.

MUTUAL MINISTRY - Jo Mueller: Our church staff had a vision/staff retreat at Pastor Derek's home in January. Staff is hoping to do this once or twice a year. We are hoping to do a Church Council Retreat- a date will be selected at the March council meeting.

PROPERTY-Pastor Derek reported for property. Spencer Arne has agreed to serve on the next Church Council to be elected at our Annual Meeting as our property chair. Our Thursday morning group continues to do wonderful work around our congregation. Plans are underway for steps leading up to our Peace Garden from the parking lot. Thanks to a generous donation several years ago we have \$30,000 earmarked for this project. We hope to begin this project this spring/summer. After we complete the Digital Sign project we will turn our attention to the completion of the brick repair in the Sanctuary. At this time we have \$41,000 designated for this project.

STEWARDSHIP - Amy Velsor: Goals of 2024 stewardship include ways to thank our regular and faithful givers throughout the year, strategies to encourage new and younger families to share their gifts with the congregation, and other financial development strategies to help us continue our ministries to our church and community.

Becky Hall made a motion to approve committee reports, Jo Mueller seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS- Pastor Derek and Pastor Sarah reported that they had an incredible time with the youth and chaperones on the ski trip. They also reported that the staff retreat was valuable in providing a direction for the staff for 2024. We had a funeral for former member Karen Cook at Good Shepherd in February. We will also host a funeral for a local teen, Evan Schmidt, on February 25th. Pastor Loren will be presiding over that funeral. Pastor Derek and Pastor Sarah spent a few hours at the high school providing counseling services for students and staff after Evan's tragic death.

We ended the meeting at 8:24 pm with the Lord's Prayer. Our next Church Council meeting will be on March 21st.

Respectively submitted by Emily Graff, Council Secretary.

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

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Spring Park, MN
Permit No. 6

Return Service Requested

[]

[]

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

WWW.GOODSHEPHERDMN.ORG

PASTOR DEREK TRONSGARD

E-Mail: pastorderek@goodshepherdmn.org

PASTOR SARAH JOHANSON

E-Mail: pastorsarah@goodshepherdmn.org

ALLY KLUG, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

E-Mail: ally@goodshepherdmn.org

EMILY GRAFF- COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR AND OFFICE MANAGER

Phone: 952-471-8433

E-Mail: office@goodshepherdmn.org, emily@goodshepherdmn.org

