

930 Edgewood Road Wausau, WI 54403

(Change Service Requested)

October 2020



GATHER in Blessings * **GROW** in Purpose * **GO** with Passion

Outdoor Worship scheduled for Sunday, October 18 * 9 am

OCTOBER 2020 . Volume 57 . Issue 10

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Welcome To Good Shepherd.

Please Review our Covid-19 procedures.

- Note that the staff currently divide work time between here and home.
- For the most part, someone is here by 10 am,
but we are always happy to schedule a time to assist you by appointment.
- **Our phone number is 715-675-1997.**
- When you arrive, please call and the door will be opened for you.
- Add our number in your contact list.
- For your convenience, give us a call before coming.
- When entering, we ask that you wear a face mask and
use the sanitizer right inside the door.
- Please do not enter if you are currently sick.

Happy October, beloved!

A quick story ... I had my first COVID-19 experience recently with someone whom I will simply call a “self-righteous believer.” And just so none of you have any reason to fret, it was not someone associated with Good Shepherd (I don’t even think she was Lutheran). In the middle of the short interaction, I was met with, “Gosh, you’re a pastor. Don’t you have any faith that God will protect you and your congregation from COVID-19 if you open back up?” I understand this sort of remark has been made toward many of my colleagues, and then also heard about the resultant anger associated with it, but it had not happened to me yet ... until this encounter.

The anger is real, my friends ... so I’ll address a couple issues with this conversation this month hoping to offer you faithful readers with some energy and elevation in similar circumstances that may pop up for you.

First, I absolutely have faith that God will protect us. I have complete faith that God works marvelously through scientists and public health officials and church leaders (and anyone else willing to listen) around the world to put together faithful structures and offer “Spirited guidance” to keep us healthy and protect us from this dangerous novel (“new”) virus. Which is why we continue to follow the guidelines suggested for limiting transmission. We believe the council of experts is a powerful way that God DOES protect us.

It is an interesting word, “faith” ... particularly when used the way this person used it. So, here are some things with which I struggle in my faith. I do not always have faith in people. People tend not to follow guidelines set out for their own protection (seatbelts, speed limits, crash helmets, the law of gravity, simple physics, etc). It is overwhelmingly clear right now that collectively, people simply will not follow guidelines put out that are backed by scientific consensus. In addition, we have centuries of evidence that sin is powerful, and causes people to act for their own good rather than any “common good.” So, if the question is truly whether or not I have the faith to trust that God will keep me safe even when I choose to continue to do unsafe things, well, that feels a lot to me like irresponsibly putting God to the test. Jesus was clear that we need to look for another god if that sort of test is underneath our motivations (Luke 4.12). And you will recall this was the final temptation before the devil took leave of Jesus “until an opportune time.”

Might this be such a time? Perhaps, but probably not for the reason you think.

Which leads me to the second issue I had with the question posed to me in my parking lot conversation about faith.



To “open back up,” she was asserting that our church is closed. It is not, nor has it ever been. I have absolute faith, along with my many colleagues whose churches are not gathering in-person right now, that God is not confined to the four walls of our buildings. We have faith that the church is still fully the church, and we can still worship in so many ways beyond what we are accustomed to doing. We have faith that God will do great and mighty things through our many scattered groups gathering in living rooms or around kitchen tables with word and sacrament at the center. Our faith is in a God who began a lasting movement through twelve unlikely and unsettled folks who traveled with an itinerant preacher named Jesus and met in living spaces and kitchens throughout Galilee, Judea and beyond. We have faith that our call as Jesus’ followers today is the same ... it is not to GO to church; it is to BE the church. I think we have all struggled with how to name what we have been working toward in this season now stretching into seven months, and we just kind of landed on “re-opening” (as in our Re-opening Task Force). But perhaps that needed more thought. At no point am I aware that the church ever closed. We have been open the whole time.

So, I will most respectfully disagree with my new friend. Our commitment to love our neighbor has guided every choice we have made in this tumultuous season, and that’s why we are not yet back to in-person gatherings. And I would suggest that has only solidified our true calling as God’s followers who assemble around word and sacrament (albeit differently for a stretch).

Our call is to BE the church ... wherever and whenever and however long we are placed.

Peace... Pastor Kemp

The Rev. Anne Edison-Albright Elected Bishop of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin

On September 26th the East Central Synod of Wisconsin gathered virtually for the 2020 Synod Assembly. The Rev. Anne Edison-Albright was elected Bishop of the synod on the 5th ballot with a total of 151 votes. The entirety of the synod assembly proceeding along with the complete results of the election for Bishop can be found on the synods website at www.ecsw.org



Bishop-Elect Anne Edison-Albright currently serves as the Director of College Ministries and College Pastor at Luther College in Decorah, IA. She has served the Luther College community since 2016. She previously served as pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Stevens Point, WI, her first call, from 2010-2016. Her pastoral ministry in both Wisconsin and Iowa have been marked by passion for ecumenical and interfaith collaboration; community organizing; faith formation for all ages; collegiality and joy in bringing congregations together; and encouraging and equipping lay and rostered leaders. The Rev. Edison-Albright has also served as a hospital chaplain, a pastoral intern at the international congregation in Bratislava, Slovakia, and a summer missionary/English teacher in Chu Zhou, China. Before becoming a pastor Anne was a high school English and English as a Second Language teacher in Houston, TX.

Anne received Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and journalism from Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI (2003) and an MDiv from Yale Divinity School in New Haven, CT (2008). She's married to Sean Edison-Albright and mom to Walter and Sally. She enjoys gardening, baking, embroidery and listening to podcasts to refresh and renew her. Following her election as bishop she stated, "Coming back to the East Central Synod of Wisconsin feels like coming home, and I am looking forward to reconnecting and also getting to know the synod in a very new way.

I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside you as bishop; to encourage and equip you as leaders and to be part of the good and vital work you are doing every day.

I am deeply thankful for the ministry and leadership of Bishop Mansholt, and pray for transition blessings for him and Anita and the whole family. I ask for prayers for me, Sean, Walter and Sally, too!"

The East Central Synod of Wisconsin is one of sixty-five synods in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It covers one-hundred and twenty-two congregations covering the Fox Valley areas of Appleton, Oshkosh, Green Bay, and stretching upwards to Stevens Point, and Wausau. An excerpt from the ECSW website (ecsw.org)

Worship & Resources

Good Shepherd is online:

YOUTUBE: type: GSLC Wausau WI (Hit SUBSCRIBE and you will get notified when there are new videos)

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/gslcwausau/>

GSLC WEBSITE: www.gswausau.org

ZOOM: Watch your email for the opportunity to join in online group chats

Other Resources:

<http://elca.org/PublicHealth> Guidance resources for congregations and members from the ELCA

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES/ Daily Devotions: lhm.org

DAILY DEVOTIONALS ARE HERE: Christ in Our Home & Portals of Prayer

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
IS OFFERING DRIVE THRU
COMMUNION TWICE A WEEK!**

Wednesdays 6—7 pm

Sundays 9—10 am

Under the south entrance covered overhang.

Please wear your masks. Thank you!



OUTDOOR WORSHIP

9-13-2020



OUTDOOR WORSHIP SCHEDULED! Sunday, October 18 * 9:00 am

We were excited by the positive feedback from our outdoor worship held in September. We had approximately 40 people in attendance and it was good to see each other and worship together even though we were all masked and socially distanced. The Task Force on Reimagining Worship will be coordinating another outdoor worship service on October 18, 2020. Worship will be held at 9 am and those who attend will be asked to wear masks, socially distance and bring their own chairs if possible. We will have volunteers to help direct you and carry chairs. We know it is likely to be chilly, so dress warmly, feel free to bring a blanket and wear hat and gloves. Expect to be asked to sign in, use hand sanitizer and pick up your communion elements and bulletin as you arrive. We will cancel worship by Monday Oct. 12 for elevated Covid risk. If there is significant rain, but if we just see some gentle mist we will hold worship. We are looking forward to seeing you in person for worship in October! In the meantime, stop by outdoor communion on Wednesday evening between 6-7 pm and on Sunday mornings between 9-10 am.

TASK FORCE UPDATE

You are probably aware that statewide and Marathon County Covid-19 infection rates have been rising during the last few weeks. Schools in the area continue to either use virtual instruction or a hybrid instructional model which includes drastically decreased class size and/or virtual instruction. As a result, your Task Force on Reimagining Worship (previously The Reopening Task Force) unanimously agreed that it is unsafe for us to reconvene indoor worship at this time. We have received new guidance from the Wisconsin Council of Churches which continues to recommend that churches hold worship either online or outside. Although we are sad not to be worshipping together in person, we are choosing to follow their advice at this time. We will be carefully watching infection rates to determine when it is safe to resume regular worship in our sanctuary. While we know our worship traditions are an important part of our celebrations during Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, we may need to readjust our expectations this year.

All confirmation parents should have received a letter which outlines confirmation activities for this semester. We are beginning confirmation with student service opportunities. If you attend our outdoor communion on Wednesday evenings from 6-7 pm, you may see some of our confirmation students assisting in serving communion or greeting members. We are hoping they will also have an increased presence in our online worship assisting with reading of scriptures, prayers or providing special music. We want to continue to be a presence in the lives of our younger worshippers and appreciate the suggestions of parents on how to make that meaningful during this difficult time. If you have a confirmation age student and did not receive a letter, please contact Angie in the office.



LAUNCHING "WE CARE" BOXES

We care about all our members and we want to connect with those who are homebound or don't have access to online resources. We know this is a difficult time for everyone with the Covid-19 precautions. In an effort to connect with those who are homebound or we know are lonely, we are launching a new ministry called "We Care". Every few weeks we will be delivering care boxes to these members. What will be in these boxes? Here are a few things which may be included: personal care products, crossword puzzles, devotions, notes, treats and love! If you are interested in helping, please drop off empty shoe boxes at the church. We are also accepting new travel sized personal care products, unused puzzles or word games, prepackaged candies and nuts. Donated items can be dropped off and left on one of the tables outside the office. If you would like to help assemble or deliver boxes, contact MJ or Angie. We are happy to have you help spread the love we have for all our members! If you have questions, feel free to contact MJ Horvat at 715-205-9195 or Angie in the office.

A NOTE FROM CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRY

Thrivent members are such generous supporters of camping ministry. We give thanks for all of the partnerships that Thrivent and Thrivent members have made with camp. If you are a Thrivent member and haven't utilized your two Thrivent Action Teams for 2020, we would love to partner with you to use them in supporting camp. Remember if your Action Teams go unused at the end of the calendar year, they expire and two new Action Teams are available at the new year. Site Directors are ready to give you details for service opportunities and projects that take our ministry further than we are able to alone. Contact

Jess@CrosswaysCamps.org (Imago Dei Village),
Robyn@CrosswaysCamps.org (Pine Lake Camp) or
Ben@CrosswaysCamps.org (Waypost) for more information.



Treasurer's Report August 2020 For Council Meeting 9/8/2020

August income was \$32,043, expenses were \$23,258. We transferred \$2,207 of funds so the total net income was \$10,992. Current reserves are \$50,814 in the general fund, \$8,760 in the building fund, and \$13,261 in work of the church.

Income picked up in August, and general expenses remain lower due to public non-use of the church.

We have used the entire PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan through the CARES Act made available to small business significantly affected by COVID-19. Every indication at this time is that loans as small as ours will be forgiven.

Cory Toth-LaPointe
Treasurer

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

Thank you for your continuing support of our mission. In July Council noticed a downturn, and we reached out and you really responded. August put us back on track. Thank you all for your support of our mission together here. What we do at Good Shepherd makes a difference every day, and your support of it is crucial for our ministry to go forward. Thank you again for your response and please keep our ministry together in your prayers and your support ongoing!

Tim Logemann

President, Good Shepherd Council



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Thank you Pastor Kemp, for serving your congregation and encouraging us to GATHER, GROW and GO out into the world with passion together, side by side.

Please remember to offer a prayer and thank you to PK, as we celebrate him this month and all year!



OCTOBER Birthdays



- | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Joanne Baehman
Annie Sims | 11 | Charlotte Doering
Barb Madden | 22 | Larry Korpela
Brian Pfantz |
| 3 | Tony Champine
Lee Ann Gallagher
Reese Modrzejewski
Cindy Worden | 12 | Greg Behrendt
Grace Burch
Haley Klinger
Hank Pleuss | 23 | Nathan Schreiber |
| 4 | Ken Martell
Andrew Walters | 13 | Madalyn Bartz | 24 | Dean Schalow
Cynthia Weinkauf |
| 5 | Marty Krahn
Gabriel Krueger | 14 | Daelen Curtis
Colton Edens
Todd Wunsch | 25 | Dale Schwede
Aanika Weller |
| 6 | Samuel Barthels
Tama Gehrke
Ethan Pergolski
Sarah Sobiesczyk
Natalie Stumpner | 15 | Aaron Baumann
Colton Newman
James Perrine | 26 | Kylie Miles-Kroening |
| 8 | Austin Baranowski
Avila Cucciarelli
Nate Earl
Charles Schwede Jr | 16 | Amber Emerson
Alan Jirgl
Keith Samperisi | 27 | Joseph Graveen
Ruth Henkelman
Conner Mattice
Mark Mitchell |
| 9 | Brooke Davis
Barbara Denfeld | 17 | Ben Merkey
Paul Zeger | 28 | Tyler Guldan
Diane Schmidt
Judie Urbanek |
| 10 | Kiptyn Wirtz | 18 | Robert Barofsky | 29 | Sandra Craven
Henry Mulder |
| | | 19 | Cyrus Bootz | 30 | Dick Burch
Justin Mattice
Malory Smith |
| | | 20 | Eric Pergolski | 31 | Ron Fritz
Brenda Graveen
Tanner Kroening |
| | | 21 | Madison Cummings | | |

OCTOBER Anniversaries



- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 2 | Donald & Mary Ann Howard | 16 | Mark & Jennifer Mitchell |
| 4 | Aaron & Barbara Baumann
William & Theresa Bootz | 17 | Clyde & Marlene Babcock |
| 6 | Dean & Maria Schalow | 23 | Mark & Judy Westberg |
| 7 | Allan & Marie Teige | 25 | Nathan & Laney Schreiber
Russel & Malibu Springer |
| 13 | Mike & Cindy Taylor | 27 | Al & Sue Jirgl |
| 14 | Wayne & Tama Gehrke | | |

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI

Church Council meeting

August 11, 2020 Socially distanced via Zoom online

Call to Order –6:33 pm *Present: Pastor Kemp, Tim, Josh, Jenny, Cory, M. J., Brad, Steve, Heidi, Paul

Gathering Litany – Pastor Kemp

God's Word

Devotional time – Silence for meditation [September – Josh, October – Jenny, November – Cory, December – Dorie]

Sharing how you have seen God at work lately – ALL

Review

Agenda review - Steve / Brad **APPROVED**

Minutes review – APPROVED by Executive Committee in the absence of a July meeting

Treasurer / Financial Report - July income \$12,356 / expenses \$31,802. Contributions are below budget somewhat and typically lower in Summer, physical Worship expenses are on hold, July contained three pay periods which inflated expenses. PPP funds have been applied as planned. We anticipate loan forgiveness, which will shift out balances to almost precisely match our projected budget to date. Finance committee will bring a 2021 budget draft to Council in October - M.J. / Jenny **APPROVED**

Our Response to the Word (new business)

Stewardship for All Seasons & Strategic Planning –

Strategic Planning – Tim has been proactively in communication with GSB Consulting, who graciously offered a proposal for a delayed Strategic Planning process this year. Although the council agrees strategic planning is necessary in the longer term, the greatly increased workload being born by our staff and many congregation members serving to mitigate and navigate the pandemic crisis, combined with the current uncertainty regarding even short-term challenges and resources makes it unwise to choose this moment to engage in an all-encompassing strategic planning process. A MOTION was introduced by Heidi and seconded by Steve to table the engagement of GSB Consulting for the purposes of Strategic Planning until a more amenable time. MOTION PASSED

Stewardship For All Seasons – During this time of increased uncertainty, we understand that communication is vital. Current challenges are being met by the stewardship gifts of time and effort of many members, for which we are immensely grateful. There appears to be uncertainty or confusion regarding the needs for financial stewardship during this time. Council believes the Stewardship For All Seasons format will provide important information both to our congregation about financial needs and from our congregation about their desired giving. Examples of pressing needs include: building updates such as concrete repair, wallpaper and painting repair, necessary video and audio equipment to allow for remote Worship and safe music. A MOTION was introduced by Steve and seconded by Cory to coordinate a Stewardship For All Seasons program to communicate stewardship opportunities for 2020-2021.

Upcoming outdoor, risk-reduced Worship Service – The course of the virus continues to be unpredictable. Sadly, increases in cases and rate of infection have made it clearly unwise to hold to the proposed schedule for an outdoor, physically distanced Worship Service. A new proposed schedule of either September 13th or 20th will be planned. This service will require as many Council members as possible to attend. Protocols will need to be STRICTLY adhered to, for the reasonable safety of congregants and for liability reasons and Council members will be tasked with instructing attendees. Notably, although some congregants have expressed that close fellowship is what is sorely missed during Covid, no close physical fellowship can be allowed before, during or after the service.

Reopening committee update – The Re-Opening Planning Task Force, lead by Mary-Jane Horvat including Pastor Kemp, Laurie Miles-Kroening (nursing insight), Jackie Majewski (young family insight) Barb Denfield (homebound nursing and community outreach insight), Mike Sturzenegger (physical plant insight), Tim Holcomb (engineering perspective), and Joyce Nick (age demographics insight) continues to put forth enormous effort and time dedicated to moving GSLC back toward a new normalcy. Information which is difficult to assess is the thoughts and attitudes of the congregation. A short survey will be put to the congregation to gauge their desires and priorities regarding returning to “normal.” A MOTION was made by Brad, seconded by Steve reaffirming our deep appreciation to members of the re-opening committee – PASSED (enthusiastically)

Action Items:

Dorie will lead the coordination of SFAS for 2020 - 2021

Tim will create a draft re-opening survey to query the congregation

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Sending (motion to adjourn) Steve / Dorie PASSED Adjournment 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Grewe, GSLC Secretary

As you pursue a healthy diet, consider foods and spices mentioned in the Bible. Lentils, a legume, are high in fiber, low in calories, rich in iron and folate, and an excellent source of protein. In Genesis 25:34 Jacob offers brother Esau lentil stew in exchange for his birthright. Ezekiel 4:9, "and you, take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and emmer, and put them into a single vessel and make your bread from them." Lentils were part of people's diet during biblical times and are mentioned a few times in the Bible. You can add them to salad, soups or use to make a stew.



Olives are noted in the Bible as good fruit. Jeremiah 11:16, "the Lord once called you a green olive tree, beautiful with good fruit." Olives played a vital role in Mediterranean society in ancient times. Olives are high in vitamin E and other powerful antioxidants. Olive oil provides monounsaturated fat and helps to lower total cholesterol and low-density (LDL or bad) cholesterol levels. Olives can be added to salads, pureed into spreads, tossed in with pasta or simply snacked on. Olive oil is a great alternative to butter, it is good for baking and frying.

Figs are mentioned in beginning verses of Jeremiah 24. Jeremiah responded to the Lord, "The good ones are very good, but the poor ones are so bad they cannot be eaten." Figs have a sweet taste, fleshy texture, crunchy seeds, and provide an excellent source of potassium and fiber. While most figs are dried and used as a snack, they can be boiled in water to give them a juicier, plumper quality. They are commonly used in baking and if added to a salad give it a chewy, succulent texture. Do you remember when Fig Newtons were a popular cookie? You can still find them in stores.

Spices such as star anise, cinnamon, and cumin all make appearances in various passages in the Bible and played a vital role in ancient Jewish cooking. Cinnamon may control blood sugar and can be toxic if too much is taken. Star anise and cumin may have anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, and antioxidant properties. Cumin is rich in iron.

Genesis 1:29 God said, "behold, I give you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit, you shall have them for food."

*Your Parish Nurses,
Barb & Mary*

930 EDGEWOOD RD
WAUSAU, WI 54403
(715) 675.1997
info@gswausau.org
www.gswausau.org

Outdoor Worship
Sunday, October 18
9 AM

We are also offering
online worship
services
Released for:

Sundays
Wednesdays

go to
GSLC Wausau WI on Youtube,
www.gswausau.org
Facebook
(they remain available at
our youtube channel)

STAFF

Rev. Kemp Jones

Senior Pastor
pastork@gswausau.org
Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 306
C: 920.410.9210

Dr. Kartika Putri

Minister of Worship and Music
kartika@gswausau.org
Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 303
C: 319-230-0250

Angie Huckbody

Parish Administrator
angie@gswausau.org
Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 301
C: 715-574-6321

Brian Wiese

Interim Financial Secretary
Brian.gslcfinance@advanit.com
Office: 715.539.6700

Barb Denfeld

Mary Omernik

Parish Nurses
nurses@gswausau.org

Cory Toth LaPointe

Treasurer



CHECKING/SAVINGS ACCOUNT ACH AUTHORIZATION FORM

Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____			
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic payment			
Last Name		First Name	
Address			
City		State	Zip
Email Address			
Phone Number			
Payment frequency: <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring – Select frequency: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly: Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Biweekly: Monday every other week <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly: 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-monthly: 1 st & 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly: 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly: 1 st day of each quarter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Earliest date of first payment: ____/____/____ Amount of each payment: \$ _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> One-time: Process payment no earlier than: ____/____/____ Payment amount: \$ _____			
Fund designation: <input type="checkbox"/> Current Expenses / General Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Please debit payment from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account		Routing Number: _____ <i>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</i> Account Number: _____	
<i>Contact your financial institution for Routing # or staple a voided check or deposit slip below</i>			
I authorize Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Wausau, Wisconsin and Vanco Services, LLC to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.			
Authorized Signature: _____			Date: ____/____/____
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	MEMBER ENVELOPE #: _____	DATE RECEIVED: ____/____/____	DATE PROCESSED: ____/____/____

NOTE:

Due to our current Covid-19 practices, our Financial Secretary's hours have been modified to every other week which means that we are counting and depositing every other week. If you have questions on whether your offering has been received, please feel free to check in with the office.