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M a r c h : 2 0 2 2



Sunday March 13

Daylight Saving Time Begins

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

MARCH 2022 . Volume 58 . Issue 3

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

LENTEN SEASON 2022

ASH WEDNESDAY: MARCH 2@6:30 PM
WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT
MAR. 9-APR. 6 @ NOON & 6:30 PM

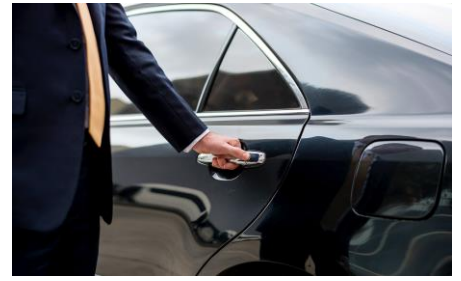
ONLINE WORSHIP
AVAILABLE
WEDNESDAYS & SUNDAYS

"GRAB-N-GO SOUP" AVAILABLE
STARTING MAR. 9
AFTER BOTH SERVICES



It's already March? *"Time keeps on slippin', slippin', slippin..."* – The Steve Miller Band

I do not know the origin of the following story, and I do not claim ownership of it, nor do I know if it even happened. It simply landed in my inbox recently, and it struck me as wisdom worth considering. It is timely and relevant enough that I shared it with your leaders at our February church council meeting. While it might not have actually happened, there is truth here worth your contemplating :



"I was waiting in line for a ride at the airport. When a cab pulled up, the first thing I noticed was that the taxi was polished to a bright shine. Smartly dressed in a white shirt, black tie, and freshly pressed black slacks, the cab driver jumped out and rounded the car to open the back passenger door for me. He handed me a laminated card and said: 'I'm Wasu, your driver. While I'm loading your bags in the trunk, I'd like you to read my mission statement.' Taken aback, I read the card. It said: Wasu's Mission Statement: To get my customers to their destination in the quickest, safest, and cheapest way possible in a friendly environment. This blew me away. Especially when I noticed that the inside of the cab matched the outside. Spotlessly clean! As he slid behind the wheel, Wasu said, 'Would you like a cup of coffee? I have a thermos of regular and one of decaf.' I said jokingly, 'No, I'd prefer a soft drink.' Wasu smiled and said, 'No problem. I have a cooler up front with regular and Diet Coke, lassi, water, and orange juice.' Almost stuttering, I said, 'I'll take a lassi since I've never had one before.' Handing me my drink, Wasu said, 'If you'd like something to read, I have Good Housekeeping magazine, Reader's Digest, The Bible, and a Travel + Leisure magazine.' As they were pulling away, Wasu handed me another laminated card, 'These are the stations I get and the music they play, if you'd like to listen to the radio.' And as if that weren't enough, Wasu told me that he had the heater on and asked if the temperature was comfortable for me. Then he advised me of the best route to my destination for that time of day. He also let me know that he'd be happy to chat and tell me about some of the sights or, if I preferred, to leave me with my own thoughts. 'Tell me, Wasu,' I was amazed and asked him, 'have you always served customers like this?' Wasu smiled into the rear-view mirror. 'No, not always. In fact, it's only been in the last two years. My first five years driving, I spent most of my time complaining like all the rest of the cabbies do. Then I heard about power of choice one day.' 'Power of choice is that you can be a duck or an eagle.' 'If you get up in the morning expecting to have a bad day, you'll rarely disappoint yourself. Stop complaining!' 'Don't be a duck. Be an eagle. Ducks quack and complain. Eagles soar above the crowd.' 'That hit me right,' said Wasu. He continued and said, 'It is about me. I was always quacking and complaining, so I decided to change my attitude and become an eagle. I looked around at the other cabs and their drivers. The cabs were dirty, the drivers were unfriendly, and the customers were unhappy. So I decided to make some changes. I put in a few at a time. When my customers responded well, I did more.' 'I take it that has paid off for you,' I said. 'It sure has,' Wasu replied. 'My first year as an eagle, I doubled my income from the previous year. This year I'll probably quadruple it. My customers call me for appointments on my cell phone or leave a message on it.' Wasu made a different choice. He decided to stop quacking like ducks and start soaring like eagles. Have an eagle life ahead...."

Eagles soar above the crowd. As followers of Jesus, our calling from the waters of baptism is to be eagles. ***"Let your light so shine before others...."***Remember?

It has been a difficult two years. We have all been impacted by so many things associated with pandemic living. It's easy to fall into all sorts of negative thinking that leads to bad behavior. We're all tired, frustrated, and probably not at our best. I think everybody gets that. At the same time, we have never lost our ability to choose, and to choose well ... we can choose to do what is good, right, and honorable even amid the things we grieve and regret.

In short, we can decide to be a duck or an eagle, and it's probably a lot more comfortable and less demanding to be a duck.

"Gather. Grow. Go." has never been more important than it is right now. Our vision and mission provide clarity, even when things are not exactly what we would prefer, because they reveal to us the best of who God knows we already are. This is just a season. There will be a time when we look back at these past months and wonder about all the things that could have been because they were drowned out by all the quacking.

But will we welcome all the new opportunities to soar?

Blessings ... PK

INTRODUCING OUR 2022 GSLC CHURCH COUNCIL



SHELLY ELLENBECKER



MARY JANE (MJ) HORVAT



CORY T-LAPOINTE-Treasurer



CHAD MAJEWSKI-Secretary



CHERYL ROCHELEAU



JENNY SAMPERISI



JOSHUA STUMPNER-President



LAURIE STURZENEGGER



MIKE STURZENEGGER-Vice President

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 meetings

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



Lent Music Schedule!

There will be **no handbell/choir rehearsal** on Ash Wednesday, March 2.

Monday rehearsal:

5:30-6:30 Ukulele practice

Lenten Wednesday schedule:

5:30-6:15 Bell practice

6:30-7:00 Lenten worship

7:10-8:00 Choir rehearsal

You are all invited to Lenten Organ Meditations at St. Paul's UCC on Fridays during Lent from 12:15-12:45 pm.

March 11 – George Felty

March 18 – Susan Schaefer and Jason Zell

March 25 – Irene Beethe and Kartika Putri

April 1 – Daniel Larson

April 8 – Patrick Burkhart and Jim Holt

Congregational singing of "HALLELUJAH CHORUS" for Easter: all are invited!

Let's celebrate this Easter day by singing Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah! Everyone in the congregation are invited to sing and if you would like to familiarize yourself with the music before the big day, come to our choir rehearsal on Wednesday, April 13 at 6:30 and practice the piece for an hour!

The Reimaging Worship Task Force Meeting Minutes, Tuesday February 15 at 4:30 pm.

1. Opening meditation: MJ
2. What is new or has changed: Covid beds at hospital are down from 40 to 14. Elective surgeries are back on. There's optimism in the messages from Wisconsin Council of Churches. All are seeing intermittent mask use in public spaces.
3. Request to pass offering plate: Will start on Feb. 27.
4. Request to discontinue mandatory masking or go to two services: After lengthy discussion, the Task Force agreed to make masks optional as of Sunday, March 6, 2022. It will be presented as a personal decision to use one or not. The attendance numbers do not warrant a second service at this time.
5. Request to begin holding a fellowship hour: Task Force believes this can be safely managed, in line with the expectations laid out in the Funeral and Social Gathering policies. The Task Force is not taking responsibility to plan and staff this.
6. Request to use building for non-church functions: Task Force agrees to allow other groups to schedule use of the building, in line with the Social Gathering policy.
7. Request to provide bottled water for events such as funerals. Agreed this is a good idea. MJ will write a funding request from the Endowment Fund for supplies.
8. Request to allow small group leaders (such as Sunday School, Confirmation, choir, bells, etc.) to still require masks for their participants. Task Force agrees with this.
9. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 4:30 pm at church
10. Closing prayer: Tim

GRAB-N-GO SOUP: Lent just isn't the same without that warm bowl of comforting goodness, we call soup. While we aren't quite ready to resume group eating and handling of food by many hands, we do want to do what we can, and at this time, we are working on filling up the 5 weeks of Lent with volunteers who are willing to prepare soup that can be taken home and eaten after worship, whichever service you prefer. Starting Wednesday, March 9th, you can worship at noon or 6:30 pm and then take your soup and crackers with you. If you would like to get involved, we have a few weeks that are still in need of soup makers and people to hand out after the noon service and then again after the 6:30 pm service. Contact the office of MJ Horvat at horvatmj@oal.com. If you know someone homebound, and they are interested, please contact the office.

CALLING NEW MEMBERS! We are blessed to have several families who have chosen to settle into the faith life at Good Shepherd. We are looking forward to making this milestone official following Lent. If you are interested in considering membership, contact the office so we can plan and celebrate! Watch for details in April newsletter following Lent. If you're noticing new faces, please take the time to introduce yourself and maybe even introduce them to someone you know!

FIRST COMMUNION: We have several families onboard with Communion Education. It's not too late to be included. Please let Ms. Jenny or the staff know. A time will be forthcoming.

EASTER EGG HUNT: This neighborhood event takes place on Palm Sunday, April 10, following worship. At this time, we need to find out if there is enough interest to help facilitate before we can confirm the date. Most likely the goal would be to hold it outside, weather providing. We also would likely not provide a meal this year, but what might this outreach opportunity look like if we were to think outside the box? Feedback welcome! 5

MARCH CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	28	1 9:00 am LWR Quilters	2 9:00 am AA 6:30 Ash Wednesday Worship	3	4	5
6 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	7 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers	8 9:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Church Council Mtg	9 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lent Worship 7:10 pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11	12
13 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	14 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers	15 9:00 am LWR Quilters 4:30 pm Re-opening Task Force Mtg	16 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lent Worship 7:10 pm Choir Rehearsal OFFERING COUNT	17	18	19
20 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	21 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers	22 9:00 am LWR Quilters	23 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lent Worship 7:10 pm Choir Rehearsal	24 1:30 pm Corks n Covers 6:30 pm Riverview Neighborhood Mtg	25	26
27 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	28 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers	29	30 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lent Worship 7:10 pm Choir Rehearsal OFFERING COUNT	31		



MARCH Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Laurel Schmieder | 17 Mark Salzman |
| 2 Nicholas Baumann | Jill Stumpner |
| Ally Kane | 18 Kevin Yolitz |
| 4 Jason Teske | 19 Patricia Barofsky |
| 5 Joshua Stumpner | 21 Caden Chapman |
| 6 Tracy Sandman | Carter Chapman |
| 8 Tami Cummings | Tina Drescher-Carver |
| Lauren Mattice | Mary Jane Horvat |
| 9 Virgine Mattice | 22 Dorie Madden |
| Katherine Ramthun | 24 Rick Barthels |
| 10 John Gwidt | 25 Anne Jones |
| 11 Thomas Bargender | Bertram Koehler |
| Paulette Keough | Thea Kordus |
| 13 Donna Guldan | 26 Patricia Anderson |
| 14 John Ellenbecker | 27 Gus Johnson |
| 15 Jean Korpela | Jack Johnson |
| 16 Samson Hafner | 29 Elijah Grubb |
| Tanner Kostroski | |
| Landyn Neitzke | |
| Laura Petterson | |
| Rockwell Rybarczyk | |

MARCH Anniversaries

- 7 Leonard & Dawn Thorwaldson
- 19 Ronald & Barbara Budimlija
- 28 Tony & Beth Champine



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

Sunday Worship @ 9 am

**We are also offering
 online worship
 services
 Released for:
 Sundays & Wednesdays**

**See front cover for
 Lent Schedule**

go to

GSLC Wausau WI on Youtube,
 www.gswausau.org
 Facebook

**(they remain available at
 our youtube channel)**

STAFF

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Barb Denfeld

Mary Omernik

Parish Nurses

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Cory Toth LaPointe

Treasurer

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI
Church Council meeting minutes

January 11, 2022 Online Zoom due to Covid resurgence

Call to Order –6:30 pm *Present: Pastor Kemp Jones, Josh Stumpner, Shelly Ellenbecker, Cheryl Rocheleau, Tony Dmemik, M. J. Horvat, Jenny Samperisi, Cory Toth-LaPointe, Heidi Falstad, Paul Grewe

Gathering Litany – Pastor Kemp

God's Word

- Devotional time, Josh – Contemplations on Isiah 43: God's love even in times of trial
- Sharing how you have seen God at work lately – ALL

Review

- Agenda review – Amended: New Business added: ECDC Sponsorship opportunity, Jenny / Shelly – APPROVED
- Minutes review – Paul / M.J. – APPROVED
- Treasurer / Financial Report - December income was \$59,039 (\$35,675 PPP loan was moved from the general fund), expenses were \$45,106. We transferred \$1,750 from the building fund for a balance of \$15,683 in total net income. Current reserves are \$62,807.59 in the general fund, negative \$1,332.24 in the building fund, and \$13,464 in work of the church.
The monthly transfer from the building fund covers mortgage and snow removal. These funds come in via monthly contributions designated to the building fund (income) and we then transfer them out (expense).
January through December: We received \$253,949 in income, \$23,768 was transferred from the building fund to cover mortgage and snow removal, and we had \$312,956 in regular expenses. When we add the income and building fund income for 2021, minus our expenses our true net income is a negative \$35,238.. - Paul / Cheryl. - APPROVED

Our Response to the Word

(Old Business)

- 1) **Church Council Membership Candidates** – We have one confirmed excellent candidate and one probable. It appears we will likely have open positions. Positions can be filled, if necessary, following the Annual Meeting. We will actively encourage potential candidates.
- 2) **Stewardship For All Seasons update** – Council members will begin calling those who have not returned Stewardship responses. 2021 givers-of-record is down from 217 to around 184. Most of the change is of known situations.
- 3) **Re-Imagining Worship update** – Hindsight confirms the wisdom of maintaining masking and social distancing, so that during the current disease surge little change was required. As the predominant route of transmission has been identified to be airborne and not contact, comfortable furniture has been returned to the Narthex and restrooms have been opened up. Another meeting is scheduled for Thursday Jan 13.

(New Business)

- 1) **Annual Meeting preparation & planning** – The Annual Report will be finalized Friday (Jan 14) for digital dissemination and printing for Saturday, as prescribed. Arrangements are being made to accommodate both in-person and Zoom participation. Contingency plans are being made to assure quorum achievement. Efforts to communicate the importance of attending to the GSLC family include texting, video, email...
- 2) **Drive to lift Christmastime/Epiphany gifts** – December contributions historically account for nearly the same as two ordinary months but fell behind in 2021. Paul will record a short video to increase awareness. Other ideas about how to effectively communicate with our GSLC family are enthusiastically sought.
- 3) **Broadening the role of kids in daily and Sunday Church activities** – Among the bright successes of GSLC is the degree of involvement by children in many aspects of church life. Staff has re-energized its efforts to involve as many children in a broad horizon of activities.
- 4) **Opportunity to Partner with ECDC and co-sponsor Refugees** – Among our highest callings is to care for the refugee. A great opportunity to live this has emerged with the Afghan families currently moving into our area. We have the opportunity to partner with area organizations to support our new, brave yet needful refugee neighbors – if we choose to step-up. Some councilmembers expressed strong enthusiasm, and we will dig deeper next meeting.
- 5) **Appreciating GSLC's Accomplishments - list 5-10 big accomplishments of 2021** – Although Council is often tasked with overcoming challenges that confront our church, we must also recognize, and communicate, the myriad accomplishments we make together. We will lift some of these at the upcoming Annual Meeting, including: Pack the Rack, Trunk or Treat, replacing our broken heating boiler and cracked concrete, the excellence of our suddenly-necessary digital presence...

Action Items:

- ✓ Attend Annual Meeting
- ✓ Share GSLC via Social Media (at least 1 more – keep it rolling)
- ✓ Consciencely think about GSLC's Values, Vision and Mission
- ✓ Self-educate about Afghan refugees

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Sending (motion to adjourn) Jenny / Heidi PASSED Adjournment 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Paul Grewe, council Secretary

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: MISSIONS PURSUED!

Good Shepherd wants to express appreciation to all Thrivent members who have and or are considering directing their choice dollars towards Good Shepherd. These designated funds have assisted us in the missions that we are called to carry out. If you are considering GSLC this time around, the deadline is March 31st, and THANK YOU for joining the mission!



ENDOWMENT FUND

Fund Objective:

The mission of this Fund is to provide a tool that allows people to give a gift or legacy as a means of extending the mission of Christ's church. The application of the funds received and disbursed will be consistent with the mission and purpose of the church in its Mission Statement. (Include additional sheets if more space is required.)

GRANT APPLICATION

NAME: _____

COMMITTEE / GROUP (If applicable): _____

DATE ESTABLISHED: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS (if different): _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION (include brief description of services provided):

PURPOSE FOR FUNDS REQUESTED:

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT FOR PROJECT: \$ _____

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$ _____

HAS THE ENDOWMENT FUND SUPPORTED THIS ORGANIZATION IN THE PAST? Y / N

IF YES, HOW MUCH: \$ _____ DATE: _____

NOTES:

All requests will be acted upon following review by the Good Shepherd Endowment Fund Committee. Specific dates may be obtained by contacting the church office at 715-675-1997. All Requests must be submitted to the church office by March 31 to be considered that year.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

930 EDGEWOOD RD * WAUSAU, WI * 54403 * 715-675-1997 * INFO@GSWAUSAU.ORG

