

Good Shepherd

LUTHERAN CHURCH

930 Edgewood Road Wausau, WI 54403

(Change Service Requested)

AUGUST: 2021

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Permit No. 1

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

AUGUST 2021 . Volume 58 . Issue 8

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JOIN US FOR
LIVE WORSHIP!

Sundays @ 9 am
Indoor Worship!

ONLINE WORSHIP
AVAILABLE
Wednesdays
Sundays

Happy August, siblings in Christ!

I recently started working with a leadership coach, and one thing Eric said recently has really challenged me:

“The difference between knowing your next step and taking your next step is simple. Fear.”

Truth.

In last month’s newsletter, I pointed us toward three questions as a starting point for building a thriving congregation:

- 1) Who are we and who are we becoming?
- 2) What is the impact that is within us to make?
- 3) How do we get from where we are to where we are called to be?

I believe fear is keeping Good Shepherd from thriving. Fear of change. Fear of the unknown. Fear of the “outsider.” Fear of a “new normal.” Fear has always been a powerful motivator, but it is not a catalyst ... it does not spur you forward toward something. It tends to direct you away from something. Are we afraid of who we are and who we are becoming? Do we even know?

“Who are we and what are we becoming?” is a big question for most any congregation at any time in their life together, but it feels even more pertinent as we continue to wiggle our way into a post-pandemic world. There has certainly been a lot of fear felt and expressed during these last 16 months – most notably, fear of doing many “normal” things and fear of NOT doing many “normal” things. While both sides claim fear is what drives the other side, I continue to believe fear is underneath BOTH expressions, and while it is abating in some cases, it is clearly still a part of calculus of deciding where we go, what we do, and with whom. We continue to be cautious, but please, do not mistakenly confuse caution with fear.

Yet fear is still present among us, and it is driving a lot of what I/we are hearing and witnessing in our congregation right now. We might not be able to name it out loud, but it is manifesting in all sorts of unhelpful ways. We are experiencing things we do not want to see. In the same way, a process of discerning our collective identity may reveal things we do not necessarily want to see. We may discover we are ambivalent, unmotivated, selfish, stubborn, entitled, biblically illiterate, and comfortable being all of those things. We may discover we are generous, loyal, gifted, untapped, loving, capable, and sad that we aren’t doing even more. Some of us may be some of these things. Others may be all of these things, but I suspect that no matter what, we will learn that there are some things we need to do ... some work that needs to be done.

There are all kinds of reasons not to do what you know you need to do. Backlash. Some will not approve. We might fail. We are not sure it’s the right thing to do ... but we think it is. And so, we do nothing because we are afraid of what will happen. It is human to be afraid. It is normal. The point of this is not shame, but acknowledgement. Because if you do not know who and where you currently are, you can never know what your potential might be. Fear and complacency kill forward momentum.

Beloved, we were not created to be afraid of whatever might be triggering our fears.

Someone or something taught us to be afraid of whatever it is. But Jesus tells us we do not have to stay locked down in fear ... over and over and over again. That is the truth we have been given to share. In fact, it is why we were called out of the waters of baptism to begin with ... for such a moment as this! Might this be just the opportunity that we need to take action, trusting that God knows we are bigger than the sum of our fears?

“Who are we and who are we becoming?”

Peace ... Pastor Kemp



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 (Jul-Sep)

Reimagining Worship Task Force Update

Summer worship continues indoors! We are on our normal summer schedule with one service at 9:00 am each Sunday. We have several Covid-19 related safety measures in place.

- Face masks are required by everyone when inside the church building
- Every other pew is roped off to allow for physical distancing
- No-touch and self-serve offering, bulletins and communion are at the door
- Areas of the building are roped off to minimize the cleaning requirements
- Coffee and treats are not being served

There are no changes in procedures this month.

The Task Force continues to meet monthly to review current statistics, discuss our current plan and consider changes to the plan. We invite you to reach out to any of us with any questions or concerns.

Tim Holcomb, MJ Horvat, Jackie Majewski, Laurie Miles-Kroening, Mike Sturzenegger, Barb Denfeld, Pr. Kemp Jones

Thank you to everyone who helped support last month's blood drive. We collected 40 pints of blood. Your efforts matter deeply!



CORKS - N - COVERS

August 26 -
The Overstory by Richard Powers,
 discussion leader - Marilyn
 Since we normally do not meet in August this meeting is optional,
 and reading the book for the gathering is also optional.
 Marilyn will lead discussion on the environment,
 and we can also take a walk through the garden.
 Location - Monk Gardens - details to be announced

GOOD SHEPHERD SOFTBALL SCHEDULE 2021

All games located at Sunnyvale Park

We play our 1st playoff game Sunday, Aug. 1,
 at 5:30 PM on diamond #3.

If we win that game we will play at 7:30 PM.

Aug. 8 TBA Play Offs

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

**Indoor Worship
 Sundays @ 9:00 am**

Worship services available
 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
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 Minister of Worship and Music
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 Brian.gslcfinance@advanit.com
 715.539.6700

Barb Denfeld
Mary Omernik
 Parish Nurses

Cory Toth LaPointe
 Treasurer



AUGUST Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Connie Miskowiak
Mark Westberg | 12 Mason Ramthun
Eric Semling | Patti Yolitz |
| 2 Marilyn Baumann
Amy Merkey
Hunter Schalow
Mindy Schuette | 15 Adrianna Sturzenegger | 22 Allyson Schreiber |
| 3 Tim Cucchiarelli | 16 Karen Maier | 23 Ron Budimlija |
| 4 Greg Glovinski | 17 Thomas Keith
Wendy Kreager | 24 Deb Pensinger
Yvonne Sitko |
| 6 Ava Bootz
Marcus Josiger | 20 Mike Duginske
Connie Heise
Chad Kane
Barbara Klofstad | 25 Roger Pensinger |
| 9 Bruce Beyersdorff | 21 Christy Clemens
Amanda Hayes | 28 Donald Howard
Denise Mattice
Elijah Pergolski |
| 10 Aubriella Weller | | 29 Kallie Majewski |
| | | 30 Lori Ann Wunsch |

AUGUST Anniversaries



- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Tim & Jennifer Cucchiarelli | 9 Dennis & Cindy Weinkauff | 19 Tom & Brenda Bargender |
| 3 Gary & Barbara Klofstad
Tony & Mary Omernik | 11 Andrew & Connie Heise | 20 Stan & Sarah Sobiesczyk |
| 5 Tim & Cari Logemann | 12 Roger & Jane Ziebell | 21 Keith & Jennifer Samperisi |
| 7 Barry & Rhonda Hallam
Dave & Jane Johnson | 14 Greg & Jenny Glovinski | 22 Bruce & Bonnie Beyersdorff |
| 8 Ryan & Sarah Kroening | 15 Jay & Kris Kamrath | 23 Roger & Deb Pensinger |
| | 16 James & Karen Bliese | 25 John & Donna Gwidt |
| | 17 Brad & Angela Bartelt | 31 Mark & Tabitha Bartz |

GOOD SHEPHERD AUGUST CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Online Worship Available Sundays	7:00 pm Monday Nt AA		Online Worship Available Wednesdays			
1 9:00 am Worship INDOORS	2 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	3	4 Wed AA 9:00 am	5	6	7
8 9:00 am Worship INDOORS	9 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	10 Church Council Mtg 6:30 pm Zoom	11 Wed AA 9:00 am OFFERING COUNT	12	13	14 Funeral-Gary Madden (tbd)
15 9:00 am Worship INDOORS	16 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	17	18 Wed AA 9:00 am	19 1:30 pm Corks-n-Covers	20	21
22 9:00 am Worship INDOORS	23 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	24	25 Wed AA 9:00 am	26 1:30 pm Corks-n-Covers	27	28
29 9:00 am Worship INDOORS	30 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	31 OFFERING COUNT	1	2	3	4

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI

Church Council meeting minutes

June 8, 2021 Socially distanced via Zoom online

Call to Order –6:29 pm *Present: Pastor Kemp Jones, Josh Stumpner, Brad Bartelt, Cheryl Rocheleau, Shelly Ellenbecker, Jenny Samperisi, M. J. Horvat, Cory Toth-LaPointe, Geri Luer, Heidi Falstad, Paul Grewe

Gathering Litany – Pastor Kemp

God's Word

- Devotional time, Cheryl – [contemplations on Max Ehrmann's 'Desiderata']
- Sharing how you have seen God at work lately – ALL

Review

- Agenda review - Addition - Old Business – Mortgage Loan update Shelly / Cory – APPROVED
- Minutes review – Corrected – in attendance, and Old Business – Josh requesting additional lighting bids. Brad / Geri - APPROVED
- Treasurer / Financial Report –May income was \$26,825, expenses were \$25,720. We transferred \$2,207 from the building fund for a positive \$3,311 in total net income. Current reserves are \$40,076 (\$35,675 is PPP) in the general fund, \$21,302 in the building fund, and \$13,268 in work of the church. The monthly transfer from the building fund covers the mortgage and snow removal. These funds come in via monthly contributions designated to the building fund (income) and we then transfer them out (expense). – M.J. / Jenny - APPROVED

Our Response to the Word

(old business)

- **Returning to inside worship services – Guidelines and Policies** – [Note that the policies discussed are attached with this document, to follow.] M.J. noted that the policy has been slightly modified since the attached versions, to allow for the World Health Organizations more liberal advice that children under 5 years of age need not wear masks – contrasted to the Center for Disease Control's advice that all children above age 2 wear masks. Policy regarding the 'cry room' was discussed with the recommendation that policy state that this room be unavailable at present. County test positivity rate is currently too high (1.5%) and vaccination rate (43.8%) too low to allow participation without masks. We will continue to investigate ways to accommodate 'coffee' fellowship following services. It is with joy that Council affirms that the pandemic has been sufficiently controlled to safely allow inside services. A MOTION was made by Paul, seconded by Cheryl that Council supports the policies recommended by Reimagining Worship committee. – APPROVED

- **Outdoor Worship / Online Worship feedback** - Outdoor Worship participation exceeded expectations and online worship reach continues strong; and interestingly is often viewed by those who attend in-person (outdoor) services.

(new business)

- **Office Equipment (copy machine) replacement with improved terms.** – A new, more capable, copy machine has been installed and is operating well at a lower overall cost than our prior machine.
- **Mortgage Loan refinancing.** – The refinancing of our mortgage loan, to reduce monthly cost, has been processed and signed..
- **July Church Council venue** – Council members discussed the benefits of returning to some form of in-person meeting venue with the option of online attendance. With the approval of any absent members, we decided to try a hybrid – in person / Zoom meeting in our Fellowship Hall, distanced and masked as per policy, for our July meeting (presuming no resurgence in pandemic risk).
- **GSLC Lawncare Help** – Firstly Council expresses our great thanks to Marty Krahn, Brian Denfield and Tim Holcomb for their dedication in maintaining our large lawn. Recognizing that "many hands make light work," council will seek additional people who would enjoy joining those who maintain out lawn so well. Paul will refer suggestions to Marty and Brian. Additionally we recognize the great contribution of Marilyn Feindt in creating and maintaining the gardens of GSLC.

Action Items:

- ✓ Help increase awareness of our return to inside worship services, and policies.
- ✓ Brainstorm approaches to 'coffee' fellowship with services, respecting our temporary no-food policy.

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Sending (motion to adjourn) Heidi / Cory PASSED Adjournment 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Paul Grewe, GSLC Secretary



SUNDAY, AUGUST 15TH
@ MARATHON PARK
Wausau, WI

TODAY'S EVENTS

1:30 **GATE OPENS**

2:00 **KIDS' CAMP ACTIVITIES**

3:00 **LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS**

3:30 **UPCOMING ARTIST**

4:00 **LIFE PROMOTIONS**



4:30 **JEREMY CAMP CONCERT**



FOOD
VENDORS

MERCHANDISE
TENT &
GIVEAWAYS

FREE
FAMILY
FUN

KIDS'
CRAFTS &
GAMES

A big thank you to our
sponsors and volunteers for
their generous support.

