

Good Shepherd

LUTHERAN CHURCH

930 Edgewood Road Wausau, WI 54403

(Change Service Requested)

AUGUST: 2022

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

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JOIN US FOR LIVE
WORSHIP!

Sundays @ 9:00 am

&

Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

ONLINE WORSHIP
AVAILABLE

Sundays & Wednesdays

Full disclosure, I wrote the first draft of this article about a month ago. Hopefully, you remember June was LGBTQ+ Pride Month, an annual time set aside to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan which is considered to be a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally. I attended the Wausau Pride Fest event again this year on the 400 Block on June 4 and was very inspired and impressed with everything about it. It was well-organized, well-attended, welcoming, affirming, and inclusive of all, and I have publicly praised our Wausau event to quite a few folks since that time with a lot of personal pride, gratitude, and hope for the future attached. Most have shared my enthusiasm and desire for the continuation and shepherding of this event toward greater impact and significance in the future. Some have not, which I suppose I expected, but the negativity still landed in a tender spot. I have many dear friends among the LGBTQ+ community, and every time I experience a negative response toward any sort of support and advocacy of inclusion, my heart always suffers a few more hairline cracks as a result.

As I have heard local comments in-person and read many posts on social media since the event, many professed followers of Christ near and far have frequently mentioned Sodom and Gomorrah as the basis upon which they find sexuality different from their own objectionable. As it turns out, I am finalizing this article during the week when this is the first lesson. There has been a lot of tension and rhetoric around sexuality again recently in our country, and it seems like something the church needs to look at more closely as emotions seem to be driving actions again. So, I hope it will be helpful to refresh our biblical memories on the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. This month I will put on my teaching hat and share some thoughts on this Old Testament story from Genesis because it so frequently pops up in discussions about sexuality. While I encourage you to take a look at the story again yourself, because of limited space let's take a look at how the rest of the Bible interprets what Genesis 18-19 means. This powerful story was apparently rather definitive for many from the very beginning, and is referenced throughout scripture by multiple Biblical authors:

- The Prophet Isaiah, writing about 300 years after the story of Sodom and Gomorrah was written, compares the current leaders of Israel to the leaders of Sodom and Gomorrah. Because they are evil, they need to change their ways and "Seek justice: help the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow" (Isaiah 1:17). In short, the sin of the current leaders of Israel (and the earlier rulers of Sodom and Gomorrah) was exploiting the poor and vulnerable.
- The Prophet Ezekiel, writing some 100 years after Isaiah, is even more specific. In describing the rulers of Judah and comparing them to their "sister Sodom," Ezekiel says "Sodom and her daughters were proud, had plenty to eat, and enjoyed peace and prosperity; but she didn't help the poor and the needy" (Ezekiel 16:49). That's it. That's the sin of Sodom. Having wealth and failing to help those in need.
- Similarly, the Prophet Amos compares the rulers of Israel to the city of Sodom (Amos 4:11). And what does Amos say the Israelites have done wrong? They have taken bribes and turned away the poor who need help (Amos 5:12).
- Jesus himself references the story of Genesis 18-19. He sends his disciples out as beggars - without their wallets, or food, with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Of those cities that turn away his disciples - who fail to show hospitality to these strangers in need - Jesus says it will be worse for them than for Sodom (Matthew 11:20-24).

Those are our biblical references to the "sin of Sodom and Gomorrah." This is not my opinion or a progressive interpretation. This is simply reading the actual words of the story itself and allowing scripture to interpret scripture (a VERY Lutheran interpretive framework, by the way), which leads us essentially toward two options:

- (1) The Biblical writers (including Jesus), speaking into the same culture and in the same millennium as the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, are correct. Which means Genesis 18-19 is a story about selfish wealth, ignoring the poor and needy in our community, exploiting the vulnerable, and failing to show hospitality.

Or ...

- (2) The Biblical writers are all incorrect, and Pastor Skinnyjeans over at Literal Word Church who is preaching in a different culture some 3,000 years after all of this was spoken, written, or shared is correct and Genesis 18-19 is about same-gender sexuality.

Pastor's Newsletter continued on page 3

Cont, from page 2.

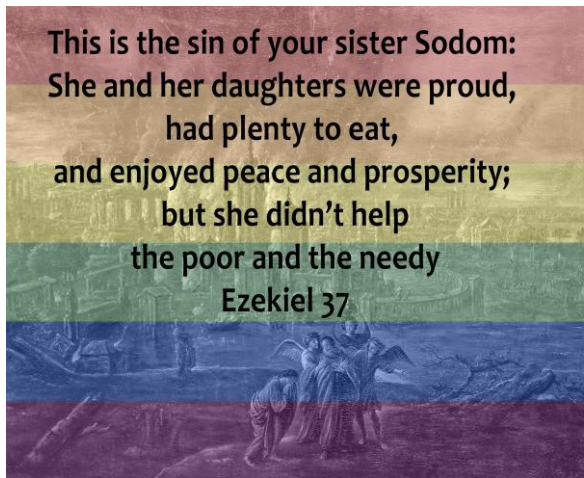
I'm solidly with Jesus on this one.

The point? I believe we need to speak out into the world more boldly and loudly (and without ceasing) how we are called to treat the poor, the needy, the exploited, the vulnerable and the marginalized in this country instead of passing judgment on people based upon their sexuality using scripture as a warrant for our bigotry. The story of Sodom and Gomorrah does not reveal what you may have heard or been told that it reveals. The sin of Sodom and Gomorrah was failing to show mercy and hospitality.

I pulled together the references for you this month, and I wholeheartedly encourage you to look for yourself.

Then, let's talk about what we do in response!

Peace ... Pastor Kemp



This year's VBS Mission project is SOLES 4 SOULS. Our goal is to collect new and gently used shoes to be shared with those who have no shoes.

Have you been meaning to clean out some space in your closets and just waiting for the right time?

NOW IS THE TIME!!

A good guideline:

Would I wear these shoes if they were given to me?

**NEW * USED * BABY * KIDS * JUNIORS
LADIES * MENS**

ALL NEW / GENTLY USED SHOES ARE ACCEPTABLE!

GOAL: 100 PAIRS!

An estimated 300 million children around the world don't have shoes, which makes them prone to soil-transmitted disease and parasites.

VBS REGISTRATION

THIS YEAR'S VBS REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE ON PAGE 10 OF THIS NEWSLETTER! YOUR PARTICIPATION AND HELP CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE! CONTACT THE OFFICE TODAY!

CHECK OUT THE SUPPLY LIST ON THE WHITEBOARD YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS YEAR'S VBS A GREAT SUCCESS!



OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptism: 7-24-2022

Halle Marie Lashua

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

BUILDING N GROUNDS CLEANING DAY

9AM-12:15 PM

A TIME OF SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP FOR CONFIRMANDS AND CONGREGATION

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

August 28 * September 25

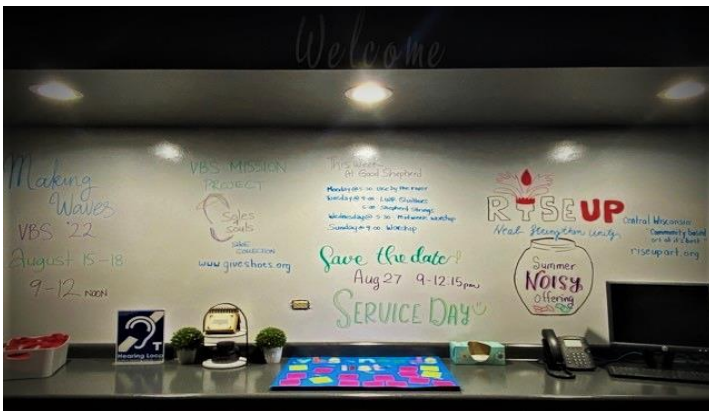
Aug @ 9 am, Sep: tbd

Be sure to mark your calendars for the last Sunday of the month. We will enjoy our beautiful outdoors as we worship together. In September we will have our annual

Blessing of the animals and quilts service.



WELCOME TO THE WHITEBOARD! Thank you! Josh, Ryan and Jill!



We now have a new information sharing space in the narthex. We will use it to inform, share updates, post details and bring excitement! If you would like to add something, the whiteboard markers are in a beige tackle box below or you can ask for help in the office. Thank you to Josh Stumpner and Ryan Ramthun for the facelift and special paint. Thank you to Jill Stumpner for the word art in the narthex!

PS...ONLY DRY ERASE MARKERS CAN BE USED ON THIS SURFACE!

WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS: Good Shepherd to assemble team!

1. Save the date for September 24.
2. Start saving pledge money
3. Get your walking shoes cleaned up and ready.
4. Contact Dia Arpon for details 443-359-9001!

THESE FLOWERS HAVE A LOT OF FIGHT IN THEM.

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is full of flowers — each carried by someone committed to raising funds and awareness to help end this disease. It's time to add your flower to the fight.

Visit act.alz.org/wausau for more information about this year's event as we offer options to participate in-person or online and in your neighborhood.

Register here

Walk to End Alzheimer's - Wausau
Saturday, September 24, 2022
 8:00 AM Event Opens | 9:10 AM Opening Ceremony | 9:30 AM Walk Begins
Marathon Park, Wausau
 *Pre-registration highly encouraged

WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS
 Alzheimer's Association

2022 NATIONAL PRESENTING SPONSORS
 Edward Jones | CVS Health

2022 NATIONAL DIAMOND TEAMS
 BROADWELL | SIGMA KAPPA

2022 NATIONAL PLATINUM TEAMS
 SAGE | LSC

HONORARY STATEWIDE CO-CHAIR
 MATT LEVAY & PAUL BRAUN

THANKS TO OUR 2022 STATEWIDE SPONSOR
 AZURA

Ascension

2022 COMMUNITY SPONSORS
 ASPIRUS HEALTH
 Rennes Health & Rehab Center

MEDIA PARTNER
 LOCALIQ

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)

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	7-Aug	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug
Assisting Minister	Andy Walters	Tim Holcomb	Paul Grewe	Geri Luer
Greeter 1	K Toth	Barb Denfeld	Bonnie Anderson	K Toth
Greeter 2	Jean Korpela	Jenn Holcomb	Geri Luer	Barb Denfeld
Usher 1	Greg Behrendt	Laurie Sturzenegger	Marty Krahn	Paul Grewe
Usher 2	Hank Pleuss	Mike Sturzenegger	Paulette Keough	JoAnn Grewe

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

Sunday Worship @ 9 am
Online Worship on
Sunday @ Wednesday
go to
GSLC Wausau WI on Youtube,
www.gswausau.org
Facebook
(they remain available at
our youtube channel)
LIKE & SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

STAFF

Rev. Kemp Jones

Senior Pastor

pastork@gswausau.org

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 106

Dr. Kartika Putri

Minister of Worship and Music

kartika@gswausau.org

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 103

Angie Huckbody

Parish Administrator

angie@gswausau.org

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 101

Brian Wiese

Interim Financial Secretary

Brian.gslcfinance@advant.com

715.539.6700

Barb Denfeld

Parish Nurses

nurses@gswausau.org

Cory Toth LaPointe

Treasurer

Good Shepherd - 2022 YTD Income & Expenses

Good Shepherd - 2022 YTD Income & Expenses

	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	YTD Totals
Income	\$17,043	\$14,009	\$25,166	\$21,327	\$24,494	\$17,619	\$119,658
Expenses	\$22,316	\$36,463	\$24,828	\$20,373	\$28,267	\$24,001	\$156,248
Total	(\$5,273)	(\$22,454)	\$338	\$954	(\$3,773)	(\$6,382)	(\$36,590)

	Jun-22	YTD Totals
Income	\$17,619	\$119,658
Expenses	\$24,001	\$156,248
Total	(\$6,382)	(\$36,590)

AUGUST Birthdays



- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Connie Miskowiak
Mark Westberg | 17 | Thomas Keith
Wendy Kreager |
| 2 | Amy Merkey
Hunter Schalow
Mindy Schuette | 20 | Mike Duginske
Connie Heise
Chad Kane
Barbara Klofstad |
| 4 | Greg Glovinski | 21 | Amanda Hayes
Patti Yolitz |
| 6 | Ava Bootz
Marcus Josiger | 22 | Allyson Schreiber |
| 8 | Brenda Grubb | 23 | Ron Budimlja |
| 9 | Bruce Beyersdorff | 24 | Yvonne Sitko |
| 10 | Aubriella Weller | 28 | Denise Mattice
Elijah Pergolski |
| 12 | Mason Ramthun
Eric Semling | 29 | Kallie Majewski |
| 15 | Adrianna Sturzenegger | 30 | Lori Ann Wunsch |
| 16 | Karen Maier | | |

HAPPILY
ever after
♥ ♥ ♥

AUGUST Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 3 | Gary & Barbara Klofstad
Tony & Mary Omernik | 16 | James & Karen Bliese |
| 5 | Tim & Cari Logemann | 17 | Brad & Angela Bartelt |
| 7 | Barry & Rhonda Hallam
Dave & Jane Johnson | 19 | Tom & Brenda Bargender |
| 8 | Ryan & Sarah Kroening | 20 | Travis & Kelly Berndt
Stan & Sarah Sobiesczyk |
| 9 | Dennis & Cindy Weinkauff | 21 | Keith & Jennifer Samperisi |
| 11 | Andrew & Connie Heise | 22 | Bruce & Bonnie Beyersdorff |
| 12 | Peter & Ashley Kluz | 23 | Jacob & Jamie Hoover |
| 13 | Dean & Jan Slaminski | 25 | John & Donna Gwidt |
| 14 | Greg & Jenny Glovinski | 29 | Robert & Shelly Waldinger |
| 15 | Jay & Kris Kamrath | 31 | Mark & Tabitha Bartz |

GOOD SHEPHERD AUGUST CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
Online Worship Available Sundays			Online Worship Available Wednesdays					
9:00am Worship	1 Shepherd Strummers @ River Walk/ Brigs 5:30pm Mon. Nt AA 7:00pm	2 LWR Quilters 9:00am Kwik Trip Mtgs 9:00am & 4:00 pm Finance Mtg 6:15 pm String Rehears. 5:00pm	3 Wed AA 9:00am Midweek Worship 5:30pm	4 Synod Staff / Dean Meeting 9:00 am	5	6		
9:00am Worship	7 Kwik Trip Mtg 4:00pm Shepherd Strummers @ River Walk/ Brigs 5:30pm Mon. Nt AA 7:00pm	8 LWR Quilters 9:00am String Rehears. 5:00pm Church Council Mtg 6:30pm	9 Wed AA 9:00am Midweek Worship 5:30pm OFFERING COUNT	10 Stewardship Mtg 5:30 pm	11	12		
9:00am Worship	13	14	15 Shepherd Strummers @ River Walk/ Brigs 5:30pm Mon. Nt AA 7:00pm VBS: 9-noon	16 LWR Quilters 9:00am String Rehears. 5:00pm	17 Wed AA 9:00am Midweek Worship 5:30pm Offering Count VBS: 9-noon	18 VBS: 9-noon VBS FINALE: 6:00 pm	19	20
9:00am Worship	21	22 Shepherd Strummers @ River Walk/ Brigs 5:30pm Mon. Nt AA 7:00pm	23 LWR Quilters 9:00am String Rehears. 5:00pm	24 Wed AA 9:00am Midweek Worship 5:30pm	25 Corks n Covers 1:30 pm Riverview Neighborhood Mtg 6:30pm	26	27 Clean Up Day 9:00 am	
9:00 am Outdoor Worship	28	29 Shepherd Strummers @ River Walk/ Brigs 5:30pm Mon. Nt AA 7:00pm	30 LWR Quilters 9:00am String Rehears. 5:00pm	31 Wed AA 9:00am Midweek Worship 5:30pm Offering Count				

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI
Church Council meeting minutes
June 14, 2022

Call to Order & Attendance

6:32 pm – **Present:** Pastor Kemp Jones, Josh Stumpner, MJ Horvat, Jenny Samperisi, Corey Toth-LaPointe, Laurie Sturzenegger, Mike Sturzenegger, Cheryl Rocheleau, Shelly Ellenbecker. **Zoom:** Chad Majewski

Gathering Litany

Pastor Kemp

God's Word

Devotional Time – Cheryl

Where have you seen God's work lately – ALL shared their experiences

Review/Approval

- Agenda Review/Approval (MSC with below changes: Laurie/Mike)
- May. Minutes Review/Approval (MSC: Cory/Shelly)

- **Treasurer/Financial Report**
- (MSC: Mike/Jenny)
- Cory presented report, discussed a visualization to show YTD change

Our Response to the Word

GSLC Task Force for Financial Options

- Current Members: Pastor Kemp, Josh Stumpner, Laurie Sturzenegger
 - Could use a few more members

Technology Update

- Comparison of Tithe.ly vs Vanco
 - Motion to Table until after November (MSC: Laurie/Chad)

Narthex Beautification

- Josh to start with removal of cabinets

Reimagining Task Force Update

- Task force has decided to be done

Midweek Worship

- 1st one was on June 8th
- Will continue throughout Summer

Campfires

- Discussed using it for social gathering purposes
- Decided to leave it to those who want to use it to schedule with the office

Parking Lot Worship

- Discussed bringing back and frequency
- Motion to hold the last Sunday of July, August, Sept. (MSC: MJ, Cheryl)

Ministry Partnership

- Motion to empower Josh/Tim to have conversations with potential ministry partners to gauge interest (MSC: MJ/Chad)

Tabled

- Good Shepherd Constitution review, update, amendment(s)
- Strategic Planning
- Re-start the visioning work that we had begun toward the end of last year

Action Items

- Narthex Beautification
- Engaging our congregation
- Task Force Member Search
- Service Recording Options

Prayers of the Church/Lord's Prayer

- I. Confirmation kids wrote their own version of The Lord's Prayer

Sending/Motion to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm (MSC: Cory\Jenny)

Respectfully submitted by Chad Majewski, council Secretary



Shepherd Strummers bring a little music and community to the Riverlife trail Mondays at 5:30 pm and at the NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) ice cream social at Grace UCC on Sunday, July 24.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28
TRUNK OR TREAT '22

Fall is blowing it's first cool breezes on us and before you know it, it will be time to decorate your cars, collect some little treats or gifts and spread a little cheer to our GSLC neighbors.

What memory can you share about this event?
Post on Facebook, shoot us an email or give us a call!

We are E X C I T E D to be partnering with Wausau's First Presbyterian and Grace United Methodist Church of Christ. That means 3 times as much energy, input, creativity, kids, helpers and most of all F U N!! I think it's fair to say that our most memorable VBS's have been when we all joined in. Young and young at heart, adult mentors, middle and high schoolers, parents / grandparents, Please mark your calendars today! Contact numbers and details are listed below. Help make this the best year ever!!



August 15-18, 2022- 9am-noon, family program Thursday evening 6pm

Welcoming children who have completed grades 4K-5 in 2022

Volunteers aged 12 and up, are invited to help!

Child's name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ In 2022 completed grade : _____

Parents' Names: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Text: Y N

Home e-mail address: _____

Emergency contact: _____ Phone #: _____

Relationship to participant: _____

Known allergies or other medical concerns: _____

Parent Release: I consent to allow the above person(s) participation in the listed program, consent to medical treatment in the case of emergency, and in the event of disruptive behavior, agree to pick up the above person(s) upon notice.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Home church: _____

I authorize that the above person(s) image may be photographed, filmed and be used in print, video, or web use related only to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, Grace United Church of Christ **YES NO**

Small group:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church * 930 Edgewood Road, Wausau WI 54403 * (715)675-1997

First Presbyterian Church * 406 Grant Street, Wausau WI 54403 * (715)842-2116

Grace United Church of Christ * 535 S 3rd Ave, Wausau Wi 54401 * (715)845-7051