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February: 2022



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

FEBRUARY 2022 . Volume 57 . Issue 2

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

LENTEN SEASON 2022 KICKS OFF ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

Welcome to February!

One of the "lights" of my January (not sure if it was a "high" or "low" light) was participating in and completing an online Boundary Training Workshop for clergy. Every rostered leader in the ELCA must complete boundary training every three years ... that's the rule. Generally, I have been less than thrilled with the boundary trainings I've attended over the years, mostly because I always sit there wondering, "Is it really necessary to tell clergy (adults really) all of the things that we ought to instinctually know NOT to do?" Common sense is apparently not common, so apparently it <u>is</u> necessary.

Full disclosure, online boundary training does not elicit much enthusiasm, particularly this year, but I must admit that I have been quite pleasantly surprised at both the experience and the content. I have learned some things that I did not know, been exposed to things I have not been before and found the solitary online format a lot more communal and reflective than I expected.

The nature of clergy life necessarily demands that we revisit boundaries regularly. You need look no further than the newspaper to see examples of clergy who have gotten in trouble for violating what most would consider both normal and reasonable boundaries for conduct. Most of us take such boundaries for granted and give them very little thought, but the incidents of boundary violations would suggest the regular training is both warranted and wise.

This training brought out some things with respect to our relationships with children and youth that seem worth sharing. I was most struck immediately by a statement made by a presenter who has worked with children and youth for decades, "Children and youth are the most marginalized group in society. They are the only group that it is OK to hit as long as it doesn't leave a bruise. The church marginalizes too. We constantly take them out of worship and put them in separate rooms. We set them apart and then wonder why they feel so disconnected from the greater church?" Much of this truly made my heart sink because of what I have experienced in churches over the years and reminded me how much work there is to do with respect to how we treat and welcome children and youth in the church. While all the things in the quote above may or may not be true for every church, it is clear we continue to miss the mark.

I want to leave you with a couple thoughts that gave me pause. Hopefully, it will nudge you to think about your interactions with children and youth at Good Shepherd. First, be very aware of your inclinations toward touch. Never touch a child or youth without their permission. What were often considered "normal" expressions of love and affection are not necessarily wrong, but any sort of touch without asking if it's OK is not a good idea. We wouldn't touch another adult without their consent, right? Additionally, we must be very aware of the things we say. Commenting on how someone looks should be done with respect and caution, lest we create an environment of self-consciousness. How we dress or wear our hair or accessorize are methods of personal expression. But the way someone looks should never be presented in such a way that it is connected to our self-worth. Social expectations have shaped us all through the years, and I suspect that most of us can remember a time when we were younger when someone (probably unintentionally) said something that made us feel vulnerable and unsafe. Let's all be more aware of those among us who might not feel they are able to advocate for themselves on matters of touch and speech.

Good boundaries are a blessing to everyone seeking to be in community together. My prayer is that we would all become more aware of the things we might be doing that others could perceive quite differently than we do.

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:** <u>https://www.facebook.com/gslcwausau/</u>

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

REIMAGINING WORSHIP

The Reimagining Worship Task Force continues to closely monitor the number of Covid infections, hospitalizations and deaths in Marathon County and the recommendations of state and local Health Departments, the CDC, our Synod Bishop and the Wisconsin Council of Churches. We understand that the Omicron variant is extremely contagious to both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals but seems less serious in those who have been vaccinated and boosted. At the present time, we have decided that it is reasonable to continue offering opportunities for in-person worship and online worship. Those who are not vaccinated or who are particularly vulnerable may choose to stay at home and participate in online worship while others may wish to continue their participation in onsite worship. We will continue with our policy of required masking for all church indoor activities, maintaining social distancing and encouraging hand washing and sanitizing. We ask that you stay home if you are ill or have symptoms which might be associated with Covid. You may also notice that Kartika has slightly scaled back on congregational singing during worship for a few weeks. We are asking (although not requiring) that those worshipping onsite wear KN95 masks or an equivalent multiple layered mask. We are requiring that all confirmation students wear a KN95 or similar mask. These masks (if worn correctly) have demonstrated a more effective ability to reduce the transmission of Covid and other viral illnesses. As our gift to you, we will have these masks available at both doors to the sanctuary for worship participants and confirmation students. Feel free to grab one each Sunday to wear in worship or if you are a confirmation student grab one each Wednesday evening.

Our mission is to keep you and our staff as safe as possible while continuing the work of the church. We greatly appreciate your support and your prayers as we move forward.

Tim Holcomb, MJ Horvat, Pastor Kemp, Barb Denfeld, Jackie Majewski, Mike and Laurie Sturzenegger

CALLING NEW MEMBERS!

Spring is coming and so is the time to celebrate new beginnings. If you are interested in considering membership, contact the office so we can plan and celebrate!

FIRST COMMUNION

If you and your child are interested in the rite of Holy Communion, please let Ms. Jenny or the staff know. We would like to provide some instruction if we have interest.

3

CRITICAL NEED!!!

Can we reach 50 pints?

930 EDGEWOOD RD WAUSAU, WI 54403 (715) 675.1997

	Thur, Feb. 10
	1-6 pm
OFFICIAL ACTS	
Funeral: 1-21-2022	
Funeral: 1-21-2022 Donald Howard	
Donald Howard	

COMMUNITY DINNER

Thank You to the Ruth Henkelman family for facilitating the community dinner on Jan. 9th at the First Presbyterian Church downtown. New hands are always hoped for to provide warmth and nourishment to our neighbors in need. You're only a phone call away from being able to make a difference! 715-432-1589

Upcoming Opportunities for Community Involvement

Early planning is underway for ways our community ELCA churches can join in helping with transition needs for the Afghanistan refugees. Good Shepherd has been instrumental in these social concern projects in the past. Can we put our time and treasures to work? Contact the office if you would like to learn how you might be able to make a difference!

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FEBRUARY

- 18 Michelle Ellenbecker
- 19 William Mueller
- 20 Jackie Sturzenegger
- 22 Dean Krubsack Robin Mueller
- 23 Aliyah Drescher
- 24 Tim Holcomb
- 25 Chase Majewski
- 26 Breanna Schmudlach
- 27 Andrew Sims
- 28 Tim Logemann



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI Church Council meeting minutes

December 8, 2020 Socially distanced via Zoom online

Call to Order –6:31 pm *Present: Pastor Kemp, Tim, Josh, Dorie, Heidi, Jenny, M. J., Steve, Brad, Geri, Heidi, Paul [everybody] Gathering Litany – Pastor Kemp

God's Word

- Devotional time Taking Direction [January Tim]
- Sharing how you have seen God at work lately ALL

Review

- Agenda review Dorie / Brad Item 3 corrected "Reimagining Worship" APPROVED
- Minutes review Josh / Geri APPROVED
- Treasurer / Financial Report Cory (November income was \$68,753 expenses were \$22,050. We transferred \$2,322 of funds so the total net income was \$49,025. Current reserves are \$34,969 in the general fund, \$12,954 in the building fund, and \$13,236 in work of the church.
 It is anticipated that the PPP loan of \$41,500 will be forgiven. Forgiveness application is complete and submitted. The PPP loan amount was moved from a liability into income, which is reflected in our large November income reported. Our mortgage lender has allowed for interest-only payments during the pandemic crisis, which allowed for the \$2,332
 - transfer noted above.) Heidi / Dorie APPROVED

Our Response to the Word

(new business)

 Mission Outreach – Christmas Eve Worship Community Gift – Building upon the shining example of Good Shepherd's 'warp-speed' Thanksgiving turkey feast distribution, and recognizing the horrendous additional impact of Covid-19 on our area's suffering homeless as winter sets in, Council will work with our congregation to provide warm socks, hats, mittens, gloves, masks and non-perishable food to be collected through and culminating on Christmas Eve. A MOTION to collaborate with Marathon County homelessness organizations to place these gifts in the hands of our homeless sisters and brothers was offered by Steve / seconded by Dorie and unanimously and enthusiastically approved.

(old business)

- <u>Christmas Eve Worship Council Member's Beloved Hymn Debut</u>: In recognition of the beloved tradition of singing 'Silent Night' as part of Christmas Eve Worship, under the direction of Dr. Kartika Putri, councilmembers will record a virtual rendition of 'Silent Night' to be offered during the two Christmas Eve services.
- <u>'Annual Meeting during a pandemic' planning</u> Following synod suggestions and intense research by Pastor Kemp, carefully implemented to adhere to our Good Shepherd Constitution, the 2021 Annual Meeting will follow a hybrid format building on Zoom virtual technology and telephone attendance to carry out the vital communication and decision making for the coming year. Every congregant will have the opportunity to 'hear and be heard.' Notification efforts begin immediately following Christmas.
- <u>Stewardship for All Seasons & Strategic Planning update</u> Dorie As of meeting time, 50 annual pledges have been received promising \$124,271. For comparison, last year's final tally was 103 pledges summing up to \$216,989. Efforts to remind those remaining are underway.
- <u>2021 Church Council candidates and leadership update</u> January will represent the final meeting of the 2020 GSLC Church Council. This will mark the end of this term for Dorie and Tim. Their contributions have been immeasurable. Alternative safe formats for this final meeting are under review, hoping to allow more cordiality to recognize them. We presently have willing candidates for all leadership positions and are actively recruiting candidates for council-at-large.

Action Items:

- ✓ Watch for Kartika's email with guidance for singing.
- ✓ Plan to attend the Annual Meeting and offer help to those with limited technology experience to participate.
- ✓ Contact M.J. to receive "We Care" packages for council members to deliver.
- ✓ Collaborate upon the success of Christmas Mission Outreach.

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Sending (motion to adjourn) Steve / Geri PASSED Adjournment 7:31 pm Respectfully submitted, Paul Grewe, GSLC Secretary

FEBRUARY 2022 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Annual Meeting	31 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	1 9:00 am LWR Quilters	2 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5
6 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 4:00 pm Community Dinner	7 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	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 Choir Rehearsal Staff Advance Staff out of office during office hours	10 1:00 Blood Drive	11	12
13 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	14 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	15 9:00 am LWR Quilters	16 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal OFFERING COUNT	17	18	19
20 9:00 am Worship Baptism 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	21 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers 7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	22 9:00 am LWR Quilters	23 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	24 1:30 pm Corks n Covers	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	28 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers Month End OFFERING COUNT	1				



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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

2022 EASTER FLOWER Order Form

Lilies and spring flowers will be used to beautify the sanctuary and honor loved ones for the Christmas worship services.

DUE DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Checks can be made out to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

NAME_____

PHONE_____

____: Given in memory / honor of

Please indicate your choices below.

- ____: Given to the Glory of God...
- ____: Will take plant home
- ____: Would like plant donated to home bound member.

	OFFICE USE ONLY: PAID
«namelir	AMOUNT :
	CIRCLE ONE: CASH / CHECK
	CHECK #:



CIRCLE YOUR OPTION

Easter Lilies & Flowers For Easter Sunday April 17, 2022

BLOOMING PLANTS:

6" Mum \$12 6" Kalanchoe \$12 6" Rieger begonia \$12 6" Azalea \$20 6" Hydrangea \$20
6" Rieger begonia \$12 6" Azalea \$20 6" Hydrangea \$20
6" Azalea \$20 6" Hydrangea \$20
6" Hydrangea \$20
6" Calla lily \$20
6" Tulip \$10
6" Hyacinth \$10
6" Tulip \$10