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F e b r u a r y : 2 0 2 1

G A T H E R in Blessings * **G R O W** in Purpose * **G O** with Passion

FEBRUARY 2021 . Volume 56 . Issue 2

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**LENTEN SEASON
2021
KICKS OFF
ONLINE
ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17.**

Beloved,

This is the time of year when our congregation traditionally thinks a LOT about gifts. That probably sounds odd because we've just lived through Christmas with all of THOSE gifts having been long unwrapped and put away or exchanged or returned. And while that's true, our congregation is tuned just a little bit differently. We have just had our Annual Meeting. We have celebrated the year just ended. We have adopted a spending plan for 2021. We have elected new officers to our church council to help lead us forward. And, hopefully, we are also once again discerning our respective gifts of the Spirit for ministry in and through Good Shepherd...and how we will engage in all the incredible opportunities that God places before us using our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

"For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues." 1 Corinthians 12:13-14, 27-28

The above verses were written by the Apostle Paul. Paul wrote a number of letters to various congregations of the first Christians, and many of these letters have become part of the New Testament of the Bible. Again and again, Paul's letters stress the idea that through BAPTISM each Christian has been blessed with certain gifts that contribute to the ongoing work of the church. We do not all have the same gifts and abilities, and some of us may even possess more gifts than others, but NO ONE has ALL the gifts necessary to be the church by him/herself.

So we work together, and each of us contributes the gifts that we have, and only by combining the gifts that each person brings will the congregation be able to carry out its mission and ministry. Therefore, leadership in the church is never a matter left to one individual, or even a group of individuals (like our church council). Leadership belongs to the entire family of faith, and it grows out of mutual cooperation and sharing of abilities.

Have you thought about your gifts recently? The upcoming season of Lent is a GREAT time to wonder about how God is gifting you for the rest of this year. We would love to help you discover your calling for 2021, and to lovingly help you put your talents and ideas to good work toward what God bids you to do this year ... both within and beyond this congregation. It would be a wonderful and joyous partnership to enter into with you!

We truly cannot fulfill our mission without YOU! Come and see how blessed you are ... how blessed we are ... and what a blessing we can be together!

Peace ... Pastor Kemp

AFFIRMATION of BAPTISM

GOD SAVED US THROUGH THE WATER OF REBIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. TITUS 3:5
CONFIRMATION



On Sunday, January 31st, last year's 8th grade students can be seen affirming their baptism through the rite of Confirmation online. One thing is certain: these students and their families will have a story to share! *All worship services are archived on our youtube channel [gslc wausau](#).*

Be sure to watch the worship service

Sunday, January 31, 2021

✦ Epiphany

PLEASE JOIN US
IN CELEBRATION

of

Khayri Arpon

Jack Barthels

Caden Chapman

Carter Chapman

Garrett Kath

Ali Ramthun

Breanna Schmudlach

Blake Waldinger

A special

THANK YOU

To Pastor Kemp Jones, Tim Holcomb and MJ Horvat
for faithfully leading and teaching as well as the
village of others who shared their time, love and leadership.

January 8, 2021

Called to Baptismal Living Letter

(Sunday, January 31, marked the milestone of celebrating our own youth as they affirm their baptism through the rite of confirmation. As we can see and read the signs all around us, there has never been a more important time to lean into our callings. The letter below was drafted and shared by this ecumenical group. Bishop Anne Edison-Albright is the newly elected Bishop of our North East Synod of Wisconsin of the ELCA.

Dear Friends,

Like so many, we watched in appalled disbelief Wednesday as we witnessed a mob overrun the Capitol building and disrupt our elected leaders as they sought to perform their constitutional duty. We condemn this assault on our democracy. It is contrary to the principles we claim to value as a nation. More significantly for us as church leaders, it was utterly contrary to the way of Jesus Christ.

This Sunday, members of our several traditions will be hearing again the account of Jesus' baptism. Among other things, that baptism symbolizes Jesus immersing himself in the murky stream of human history with all its violent divisiveness in order to bring healing, justice, and reconciliation.

Though we represent different Christian traditions we are united by our common baptism which unites us to Jesus and to one another. Using similar language, those who are baptized into the church renounce evil and commit themselves to the way of Jesus — the way of his love, his joy, his peace. We call on the members of our churches to remember and reflect on their baptisms and the promises made there. May we live into those promises and pursue healing, justice, and reconciliation.

Signed,



Reverend Jane B. Anderson
Associate Conference Minister
Wisconsin Conference
United Church of Christ



Rev. Dr. Kate Croskery Jones
District Superintendent
North East District
Wisconsin Annual Conference, United Methodist Church



Bishop Anne Edison-Albright
East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac
Bishop Provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Eau Claire

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

Reimagining Worship

Your Reimagining Worship Task Force has continued to meet and are currently following Bishop Anne Edison-Albright's request that individual church staff and lay leaders provide worship in the safest possible manner (online) for our congregation. We continue to monitor local and statewide rates of infection and encourage our family and friends to wash their hands frequently, wear a mask and stay socially distanced. We are looking forward to late spring in hopes that we will be able to provide regular worship opportunities outdoors. We continue to provide drive by communion opportunities each Wednesday from 1-2 pm and from 6-7 pm and each Sunday between 9-10 am. You may request extra communion elements for family members or friends who find it difficult to get out. We will be providing WeCare Bags in mid-February and welcome volunteers to help deliver these to our elders and shut-ins. If you would like to help, please call MJ Horvat at 715-205-9195.

Get Your Covid-19 Vaccination

One of the most important way we can help get our church life back to normal is to get vaccinated against Covid-19. If you are age 65 or older or a front line health worker you are eligible for a vaccination. The Wisconsin Council of Churches recommends that we encourage each other to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. You may want to register in more than one place to increase the possibility that you get an appointment in a timely manner. You can register for a vaccination by phone with Aspirus at 715-847-2812 and press 2 when given options. You can register for a vaccination by phone with Marshfield clinic at 877-998-0880. Both Marshfield and Aspirus also offer online registration. Your primary care physician or pharmacy may also be taking registrations for vaccinations. If you believe you are eligible, but are having problems maneuvering the registration process we have volunteers who will help you. Leave your name and number with Angie at the church office and one of our volunteers will call to help you. Due to overwhelming volume, expect that the line will be hard to get through and at times, even go down. Be patient and show grace!

Results of Annual Meeting of 2020

There were 46 individuals present via Zoom on phones and devices! The budget was approved. There were no write-ins for the ballot so a unanimous vote approved the slate of candidates. Please refer to your Annual Report on page 3 for a full listing of those serving on Church Council, Synod Assembly Candidates, Homme Home, Crossways and next year's Nominating Committee. Thank you to our Executive Committee and Kartika Putri for facilitating and handling the technology as well as the calling team who connected with members without online access!



Cancer Tests & Screenings

How to Safely Get Tested for Cancer during COVID-19

Have you been afraid to get care because of COVID-19?

It is safe to go to your doctor for check-ups and tests.

Some tests can even be done at home. Ask your clinic what tests you need.

What are screenings?

Cancer screenings are tests to check for cancer.

Many cancer tests are covered by health insurance.

What are clinics doing to keep you safe?

- Exam rooms and wait areas are carefully cleaned
- Doctors use masks and protective equipment
- Patients are checked for COVID symptoms at the door



COVID-19 safety basics to protect your health:

- Wear a mask in public
- Keep 6 feet apart
- Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer

What's free with health insurance?

What's free with most insurance?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| For all adults: | For women: |
| • Lung cancer tests | • Breast cancer tests |
| • Colon cancer tests | • Cervical cancer tests |
| • Help to stop smoking | |
| • Help to stop drinking alcohol | |

If you don't have health insurance:

You can go to a free clinic or community health center for low-cost options.

Call the 2-1-1 helpline and ask for health insurance help or a free clinic near you.

Call your insurance company for a complete list of free screenings and ask about the cost of follow up care.

It's best to find and treat cancer fast

Don't wait to get a cancer test!

Finding cancer early can:

- Save your life
- Prevent the spread to other body parts
- Be easier to treat
- Cause less health issues



CRITICAL NEED!!!

Can we reach 50 pints?

Schedule your appt online

1-800-733-2767

Or www.redcrossblood.org

Consider Donating:

◆ SNACKS

◆ BLOOD

Thur, Feb. 25



1-6 pm

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

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

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Barb Denfeld

Mary Omernik

Parish Nurses

nurses@gswausau.org

Cory Toth LaPointe

Treasurer

FEBRUARY Birthdays



2	Arabella Schmitt	18	Michelle Ellenbecker
4	Brent Kriewaldt	19	William Mueller
5	Jennifer Cucchiarelli	20	Jackie Sturzenegger
	Wayne Gehrke	21	John Cayley
6	Phyllis Baumer		Missy Cayley
10	Katelyn Schneider		Noah Drescher-Carver
11	Lilia Teske	22	Dean Krubsack
12	Jaysy Schalow		Robin Mueller
	Lucas Schuette	23	Aliyah Drescher
	Kevin Semling	24	Tim Holcomb
	Kurt Semling	25	Chase Majewski
13	Braxton Millerleile	26	Breanna Schmuclach
14	Kamryn Stich	27	Amy Scribner
15	Jacelyn Majewski		Andrew Sims
16	Courtney Mulder	28	Tim Logemann
17	Heidi Falstad		Jay Scribner



FEBRUARY Anniversaries

5	Wesley & Bobbie Salzmann
8	Bradley & Dorie Johnson
11	Darrell & Cindy Worden
16	Barb & Richard Krautkramer
27	Tom & Ann Jones

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)

- **Christmas Eve Worship – Council Member's Beloved Hymn Debut:** - 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.
- **'Annual Meeting during a pandemic' planning** - 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.
- **Stewardship for All Seasons & Strategic Planning – update** – 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.
- **2021 Church Council candidates and leadership – update** – 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

NOTICE:

**2021 Church Council Installation will take place Tuesday, February 9th
and posted in worship on Sunday, February 14th.**

**THIS IS SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT.
WE ASK ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS, NEW AND CURRENT TO PARTICIPATE.
WE ALSO ASK ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND CONGREGATION TO TUNE IN FOR
WORSHIP ON FEBRUARY 14, 2021.**

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

