

# Good Shepherd

LUTHERAN CHURCH

930 Edgewood Road Wausau, WI 54403

*(Change Service Requested)*

JANUARY: 2022



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

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2022 \* 10:00 am

JANUARY 2022 . Volume 57 . Issue 1

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GOOD SHEPHERD'S  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sundays @ 9 am**

RECORDED ONLINE WORSHIP  
AVAILABLE

**Wednesdays & Sundays**

**Sunday, January 30, 2020**

**10:00 am**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022  
10:00 AM



ANNUAL MEETING ZOOM INVITATION

**ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:**

- \*If you open this invite in your email, you can click directly on the link below.
- \*Once you are in Zoom application, you will be asked to type in the meeting ID and passcode.
- \*You be asked to test the audio and video to make sure you can see and hear, or select phone.

***\*Directions will be offered at the beginning of the meeting***

- \*We will have everyone muted upon entry of meeting. Please understand that small noises in your space become large noises in the meeting. Make sure tv's/ radios and other members in your house are quiet.
- \*If you would like to say something, raise your hand or click "CHAT" at the bottom of your screen and send a note. The note will be shared with the facilitator.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83097212282?pwd=SnNZTkJMTHltcTBvUldjNUZWtGtPUT09>

**Meeting ID: 830 9721 2282**

**Passcode: 322618**

- Dial by your location
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
  - +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
  - +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
  - +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
  - +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
  - +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc65IRvuIm>

Greetings Good Shepherd ... and welcome to 2022!

It seems to me that every transition such as this should begin and end with gratitude, so thank you for the privilege of being your Senior Pastor these last (almost) 9 years. I remain grateful for every gift associated with this call. You continue to make it an adventure every day!

I also want to extend our gratitude for your continued generosity ... in EVERY way. I say it every week, but I do not believe I can say it enough. We cannot do what we do in, through and beyond this congregation without your generosity through your prayers, your participation, and your financial partnership. I and your staff and your congregational leaders truly do thank God every single day when we think of you. The work that God has called us into together is crucial in this community and beyond, and your faithfulness continues to inspire us to step boldly into each awaiting new step. Even the challenges of the past two years have not stopped this congregation from continuing to live into our baptismal callings, and our lives are filled with blessings as a result!

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be grateful and generous people (*and I do NOT mean only by giving to our congregation – Jesus calls us to generosity as a way of life!*). We are generous because we recognize everything we have is a gift from God. We are stewards, caretakers of the gifts God has first entrusted to us. As we recognize everything is a gift from God, we are transformed into more willing participants in God's plan that we would use "our selves, our time and our possessions," the real signs of God's gracious love, as the means through which we love our neighbors.

We've been studying the Apostles Creed together in both confirmation and our Sunday adult class. You will recognize that it begins: "*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*" Said more simply, "*God made everything.*" True! But the implications are clear when reading how Martin Luther explained this 1<sup>st</sup> Article of the Creed: "*I believe God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties. In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property—along with all the necessities and nourishments for this body and life.*" Luther continues: "*God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all! For all of this, I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve, and obey him. This is most certainly true.*" Hopefully some of this rings a few bells from your own confirmation days!

It is impossible to list everything that God has given to us, but what if we all sat down sometime and gave it a try?! The more you recognize the gift in everything you have, the more likely you will feel called to share of those gifts, because generosity flows from gratitude, and gratitude MUST be the posture of this (and every) congregation moving forward!

This is the time for us to truly BE the Body of Christ! We have an opportunity right now to "be the church" in new and creative ways. I've talked about this for months now. We can literally serve one another and the whole world in Jesus' name if we would just allow ourselves to think bigger. And as we think bigger, let us love bigger, be more patient and kinder, look out for our neighbors better, and pray for one another and for this congregation. Because no matter when and how we gather, Christ promises to be there amidst it all.

You see, Jesus was ferociously generous. When you are dying it is not an easy thing to treat others with generosity – and when you have been crucified, mocked, spat-upon, bullied and abandoned most would say generosity is unthinkable. But you will recall how he treated the thieves on the cross beside him. Generosity was just fundamental to Jesus' nature, and when one thief asked him to remember him in his coming kingdom, Jesus said, "*Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.*" Jesus gave because that's what Jesus does.

And we can too!

Generosity is powerful when it is fully deployed in gratitude. It can be a powerful lever for unlocking things that we would consider to be hopelessly shut. When we offer unexpected generosity the way Jesus offers it, closed windows and shuttered doors are opened! Jesus' transformational ministry truly saves lives ... mostly our own. And it all begins with living generously. Thank you for your continued faithful work and partnership!

With grit and grace ...

Pastor Kemp

OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptism: 12-19-2021

*Oliver Timothy Lakus*

*Community Dinner*

**Sunday, January 9**

**4-5 pm**

**First Presbyterian Church**

Good Shepherd will be facilitating the meal this Sunday. Currently, meals are packaged in individual servings and picked up to go. The family of Ruth Henkelman has graciously been cooking, packaging and handing out meals. We would love to expand the hands that help. You can find out where you might be a good fit by calling Ruth at 715-432-1589.

**K.A.T.S. Keep Area Kids Safe  
Hat & Mitten Tree  
Giving Tree for NCHC  
New Beginnings for Refugees**

Thank you all sooo much for the many blessings shared in the various ways this Christmas season. The vast majority of items purchased, donated or shared have been basic life needs. We also were able to bring a little cheer for those whose only Christmas celebrating would come from the gifts provided by you. If you have items you wanted to be included in the KATS Pack the Rack Collection, please have them here on the racks by Tuesday morning.

**Just one more  
THANK YOU!!**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**Thursday February 10**

**1-6 pm**

**For appt call**

**1-800-redcross**

**1-800-733-2767**

**CORKS - N - COVERS : Thursday, January 27, 2022**

1:30 pm

January's book:

**Bewilderment by Richard Powers**

Is available at Janke Bookstore.

Bonnie Anderson will be the discussion leader.

Contact Bonnie if you would like to get connected at [bonhealthcorner@yahoo.com](mailto:bonhealthcorner@yahoo.com)

**OFFICE CLOSED**

The office will be closed  
Monday, January 3, 2022 in  
observance of New Year's Day.

# 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](http://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](http://lhm.org)

## DAILY DEVOTIONALS ARE HERE:

Christ in Our Home & Portals of Prayer & (Jan 2022)

930 EDGEWOOD RD  
WAUSAU, WI 54403  
(715) 675.1997  
[info@gswausau.org](mailto:info@gswausau.org)  
[www.gswausau.org](http://www.gswausau.org)

**Worship  
Sundays @ 9:00 am**

Worship services available

Released for:

**Sundays  
Wednesdays**

go to  
GSLC Wausau WI on Youtube,  
[www.gswausau.org](http://www.gswausau.org)  
Facebook  
(they remain available at  
our youtube channel)

## STAFF

**Rev. Kemp Jones**

Senior Pastor

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 106

**Dr. Kartika Putri**

Minister of Worship and Music

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 103

**Angie Huckbody**

Parish Administrator

Office: 715.675.1997 ext.: 101

**Brian Wiese**

Interim Financial Secretary

[Brian.gslcfinance@advanit.com](mailto:Brian.gslcfinance@advanit.com)

715.539.6700

**Barb Denfeld**

**Mary Omernik**

Parish Nurses

**Cory Toth LaPointe**

Treasurer

## CONFIRMATION

*Wednesday evenings will usually look like this:*

5:30 pm Gathering and Announcements

5:35-6:25 pm Lesson and Learning Activities

6:25 pm Closing

Classes will dismiss around 6:30 (by 6:35 at the latest)

1/5/2022 Commandments about God

1/12/2022 Commandments about Relationships

1/19/2022 Commandments about Community

1/26/2022

If you have questions prior to that meeting, you can direct them to Tim  
([horvatmj@aol.com](mailto:horvatmj@aol.com), 715-205-9195) or Pastor Kemp.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAYS @ 10:00 AM

Is meeting in person starting January 9<sup>th</sup> in the Damgaard Room.

Due to the unpredictability of Covid, classes may be held online via Zoom for the safety of all. Contact Ms. Jenny for a link.

*PS...GREAT JOB EVERYONE ASSISTING WITH CHRISTMAS!*



## JANUARY Birthdays

- 1 William Samperisi
- 3 Diana LaCerte
- 4 Warren Ament
- 7 Dustin Chapman
- 9 JoAnn Grewe
- 10 Richard Henke  
Emma Janke  
Brittney Hildebrandt
- 14 Arden Baumgardt  
Thomas Craven  
Alivia Heise
- 15 Rick Buntrock
- 16 Michael Fremming  
Stephanie Teske
- 17 Mark Bartz  
Scott Mattice
- 18 Gail Koehler

- Nita Kay Logemann
- Nicolas Mulder
- Collyn Neitzke
- 19 Roberta Salzman
- 21 Paul Daigle  
Stanislaus Sobiesczyk
- 24 Samuel Buntrock  
Brian Denfeld  
Heath Edens  
Miranda Kath  
Mary Omernik
- 26 Sylvia Herzog  
Colleen Sickels
- 28 Jack Barthels  
Cheryl Gallagher  
Brian Merkey
- 29 Susan Domka  
Ella Huckbody

- 15 Chris & Laura Petterson
- 25 Arden & Barbara Baumgardt
- 26 Bernard & Nicole Graveen



## JANUARY Anniversaries

# JANUARY 2022 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	3 Office Closed in observance of New Year's Day  7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	4 9:00 am LWR Quilters	5 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation	6	7	8
9 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 4:00 pm Community Dinner	10 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers  7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	11 9:00 am LWR Quilters  6:30 pm Church Council Mtg	12 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal OFFERING COUNT	13	14	15
16 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	17 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers  7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	18 9:00 am LWR Quilters	19 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	20	21	22
23 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School Adult Forum	24 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers  7:00 pm Monday Nt AA	25 9:00 am LWR Quilters	26 9:00 am AA 5:30 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	27 1:30 pm Corks n Covers	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Annual Meeting	31 5:30 pm Shepherd Strummers Month End OFFERING COUNT	1				

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wausau WI

## Church Council meeting minutes

November 9, 2021

Socially distanced in Fellowship Hall GSLC

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

**Gathering Litany** – Pastor Kemp

### God's Word

- Devotional time, Tony – Contemplations on Jimmy Carter quite “My faith demands that I do whatever I can ... to make a difference.”
- Sharing how you have seen God at work lately – ALL

### Review

- Agenda review – Amended: Stewardship Q & A, “Religious” Vaccination Exemption stance added, “We Are Wausau” tabled. Tony / Shelly – APPROVED
- Minutes review – Cory / Heidi - APPROVED  
October income was \$17,575, expenses were \$21,202. We transferred \$1,511 from the building fund for a negative \$2,116 in total net income. Current reserves are \$55,948 (\$35,675 is PPP) in the general fund, \$27,668 in the building fund, and \$13,454 in work of the church. – The uptick in contributions in October results largely from a single contributor. – Geri / Tony. – APPROVED

### Our Response to the Word

(Old Business)

- 1) **Vision, Mission – Diving Deeper** – Pastor Kemp continued to lead the Council in conversation exploring “What is THE PURPOSE of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Wausau; including: ‘second family,’ deeper relationships and community (not – “a group of ‘friendly strangers.’”) providing The Word, loving environment for children (like a grandparents’ house), calming – centering influence, nurturing the seed, a sanctuary offering acceptance, a source of education upon proper theology, the question was asked: does GSLC make any difference in the world?
- 2) **GSLC Family Call List Project** – Council members have contacted or attempted to contact around 80% of the known or believed-to-be active family of GSLC. And will continue on those remaining.
- 3) **Church Council Membership Candidates** - 3 – 4 highly viable candidates have been identified.
- 4) **Fall Stewardship Q & A** – This years’ Stewardship materials (letters, brochure, online material etc.) are entirely produced in-house primarily by Dorie Johnson and the staff in a generous effort which has saved nearly \$1,000 in costs. The GSLC participating family consists of about 184 known individuals or households. As to “members” (a very hard to define term), Christmas and Easter Worship participation is around 600.
- 5) **Current Situation of Visa Application for Our Minister of Worship & Music** - Per the Visa attorney: Although ours is a straightforward application, political and bureaucratic complications combined with the influx of Afghan asylum seekers results in an expected 20 -27 month delay in any decision. This unfortunately opens a risk that Dr. Putri’s current visa could expire before her permanent status is decided. Our Pastor, President and attorney are petitioning our state’s federal legislators in a plea for accelerated action. Our immigration system is abysmal.
- 6) **2022 Budget Adoption** – Council briefly considered asking staff and members to take trash home for disposal, as cost-savings. But decided additional ‘nickel-&-dime’ cost cutting is counterproductive. With no significant changes in the pro forma budget as presented last month, a motion was offered by Shelly and seconded by M.J. that Council accept this budget as a financial plan for 2022. MOTION PASSED
- 7) **Community For All** – Tabled until December Council meeting.
- 8) **Boiler Replacement** – The replacement boiler was installed yesterday. We can once again heat the building. The cost of \$14,400 will be born by our existing reserves. Many thanks to Pastor Kemp, Josh and staff for finding and negotiating an exceptionally frugal and rapid repair.

(New Business)

- 1) **“Religious” Vaccination Exemption Stance** – Current events have placed our Pastor in the position of responding to requests for a letter claiming individual exemption from vaccination responsibility on religious grounds. Citing the ELCA’s 2003 statement “Caring For Health: Our Shared Endeavor” Pastor Kemp intends to provide no “vaccine exemptions.” A motion was offered by Paul and seconded by Tony stipulating that GSLC Council will not support any ‘vaccination exemptions’ on the grounds of conflict with ELCA expressed theology. MOTION PASSED

### Action Items:

- ✓ Complete assigned preparation for further Mission and Vision work
- ✓ Share GSLC via Social Media (at least 1 more – keep it rolling)
- ✓ Touch base with your assigned list of GSLC family, make note of relevant information, refer to Josh

### Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

**Sending** (motion to adjourn) Jenny / Heidi PASSED Adjournment 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted, Paul Grewe, council Secretary

