

APRIL 2025

The Shepherd's Voice



From The Pastor

"He is risen!" — the Church shouts with confidence — "He is risen indeed!" The high point of our Christian life is celebrated on Easter Sunday as we gather with all of God's children to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Gospel from Luke 24 shows us, confusion and fear give way to confident faith when the women who went to the tomb realize Jesus is alive and then share this good news with the other disciples. Through those disciples, this message has reached us also! Just as God had promised through His prophets of old, the Lord Himself will restore creation and bring harmony to all life — beginning with Jesus' resurrection and continuing until the Last Day, when Jesus returns in glory, destroys death itself, and raises us up to new lives in His eternal kingdom. With confidence in God's promises, we say: "I know that my Redeemer lives!" What comfort, what hope, what joy this sweet sentence gives!

Thomas had missed out though. He wasn't there with the other disciples when the risen Jesus appeared that first Easter night to show them His hands and side. Thomas was absent when Jesus breathed on them with His Spirit and sent them out to proclaim His forgiveness. It's no wonder then that when Thomas heard about this encounter, he wanted to see Jesus for himself. "Unless I see, . . . I will never believe," he said (John 20:25). One week after Christ's resurrection, Thomas had his opportunity. He saw. He touched. He believed. He confessed: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). This Easter season is your opportunity — don't miss out! Our risen Jesus is here with His Spirit and in His body and blood. We see. We touch. We believe. We confess. As we gather in His presence for worship, may He fill us with great joy as we continue to celebrate His resurrection victory and confess Him as our Lord and God!

- Pastor Simpson



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James:

A Manual for Maturity

What is the foremost wisdom book in the New Testament that we're going to begin studying in March? That would be **James**. "Not James!" you lament. "Didn't Martin Luther famously call James an epistle of straw?" You continue your protest. "Why, James only mentions Jesus two times—just *two times*! I'm with Luther," you say, "Compared to the likes of Paul and John, James is a theological lightweight!"

Not so fast. James has much to teach us about God's grace and our Spirit-empowered response. From the first to the last verse of his book, this half-brother of Jesus gives us one of the most practical pictures of the Christian faith in all the Bible. **James insists that we are saved by faith alone; but saving faith is never alone.** Faithfulness does not stop with a profession of faith but is a ticket to a life of continued transformation and service. To underscore this theme, James employs the word "mature" seven times in his five-chapter letter.

I'm calling this schedule, therefore, **James: A Practical Manual for Maturity**. The lineup of messages for each midweek Lenten worship is as follows:

March	5	Ash Wednesday	7:00p	Profiting From Your Problems (James 1:1–12)
	12	Midweek of Lent 1	7:00p	Feeding Your Faith (James 1:17–25)
	19	Midweek of Lent 2	7:00p	Believing Better (James 2:14–26)
	26	Midweek of Lent 3	7:00p	Taming Your Tongue (James 3:1–18)
April	2	Midweek of Lent 4	7:00p	Facing Your Future (James 4:13–17)
	9	Midweek of Lent 5	7:00p	Practicing Patience (James 5:7–11)
	17	Holy Thursday	7:00p	
	18	Good Friday	7:00p	
	20	Easter Sunrise	7:00a	
		Easter Day Worship	10:30a	

Here is the plan for our Wednesday night topical study: Midweek Services during Lent are at 7:00 pm

James Among the Bible's Wisdom Books - (Ash Wednesday)

James: An Overview, Part 1 (Midweek of Lent 1)

James: An Overview, Part 2 (Midweek of Lent 2)

James and Paul (Midweek of Lent 3)

Liberty and Justice for All (James 2:1–13) (Midweek of Lent 4)

Wisdom from Above (James 4:1–12) (Midweek of Lent 5)



Article submissions can be sent to secretary@gslok.org2

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

75th Anniversary Celebration

November 16, 2025

“Led and Fed by The Good Shepherd for 75 years”



ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 10 : 75th Anniversary Com. Mtg @ 11am

20 **Resurrection Sunday** : Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt 8:15-9:45 am

21 Trail Life/AHG Court of Honor

27 VOTERS Assembly

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WELCOME new members *Pat Malas* and *Nathan Pierce*, on behalf of the entire church family, we would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to you!

We received a Thank You card from Susie Dutcher and OKC Knights basketball team, they are a Christian homeschooling basketball team in the OKC area.

They have been using the Family Life Center Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm.



...so very much.

Thank you for the use of the gym these past few months. It has been a huge blessing for the many kids and families in our organization! May God bless your congregation.

*Susie Dutcher
and the OKC Knights*

To Reserve Use of Church or School Facilities or Grounds

1. Please complete a Request Form
 2. Review the Policies
 3. Submit completed Form to Church Office
 4. Form will be reviewed by Director of Properties,
Manny Vasquez, for Approval.
- See Bulletin Board and Church Office for Request Forms.



+++ Come Join Us for Easter Breakfast +++

Sunday, April 20, 2025, 8:15 – 9:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Menu to include: Egg Casseroles, French Toast Casseroles,

Sausage, Fruit, Juices, Water, and Coffee

Will be Scrumptious! Enjoy and Bring your friends!!

Freewill Offering for 75th Anniversary

Celebrate Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Alleluia!!!

Easter Egg Hunt for the Children:

Begins at 9:30 a.m.





Volunteers assisted in loading a total of 211 Bags of 25 pairs of shoes in each bag from my garage on to the truck to take the shoes to Dallas to be shipped via rail to Orlando, FL to be processed. If you have noted this that there was a total of **5,275** pairs of shoes collected from you here and Good Shepherd and across the Oklahoma District to make this project a successful activity in providing shoes for many in third world countries that are in need of shoes.

In the process, the funds that are generated to the LWML Oklahoma District will be used in many ways.

First, 25% is given to national LWML Missions
10% is given to the LWML OK District Special Gifts Fund to help with special projects and the remaining 65% goes into the District Recycling Fund is used to help pay for leader training activities in the Oklahoma District. Those funds pay for expenses to send women to leader training, district web site expenses, District Board of Director meeting expenses, mileage, materials, etc.

A Special BIG Thanks to : Jerry Bacon, Bev and Tom Moran,
Peggy Tarr, Uncle Bob Lewis, and Manny Vasquez, who worked to load the truck and assisted with inspecting and packing the shoes into bags. Denise Ewing also assisted with this process.
Again, Thanks so much!!! All Praise and Glory to God!!!

Marguerite Christman



Trail Life / AHG

Trail Life Troop OK—4077

Troop Meetings: Mondays 5:30pm



Our Mission :

"To guide generations of courageous young men to honor God, lead with integrity, serve others, and experience outdoor adventure."



The American Heritage Girls Program enables your daughter to grow in her FAITH, cultivate a heart for SERVICE, and have FUN along the way!

Trail Life USA provides a boy-focused program that accentuates their strengths and provides activities designed to let boys be boys. Trail Life utilizes outdoor adventure and real-world challenge to equip boys for life.

Boys learn as they actively lead in planning and executing weekly Troop meetings, adventure trips, and service projects.

AHG focuses on providing girls with a balanced program, which progresses with the girl increasing in challenge and skill as she grows in maturity and knowledge. In each Program Level, girls serve their communities alongside one another, putting God's love into practice.

AHG is committed to not rushing a girl through girlhood and allowing her the time to grow and learn who she is and Whose she is in Christ.

Interested in adventure, fun, and fellowship?

Visit any Monday night troop meeting or contact Taylor Williamson at **405-831-7358**.

Parents can also learn more by visiting the **Trail Life USA website** and searching for

Troop OK-4077 in Midwest City.

Coming School Events

NO SCHOOL : Good Friday, Easter Monday

April 24: Spring Sing 6:30-7:30pm FLC

April 27: Students Sing for Church Congregation 10:30am



APRIL 2025



Jacob & Kristina Bowen	4/2
Steve & Lynnice Hamlin	4/6
John & Janice Grundmann	4/30



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES







Ruth Allsebrooke	4/1
Peter Ewing	4/6
Valerie Calfe	4/8
Jaxon Carrasco	4/10
Aria Carrasco	4/10
Vic Ewing	4/11
Kiyoko Harke	4/15
Leslie Tucker	4/19
Jerry Bacon	4/22
Steve Hamlin	4/24
Natalee Norton	4/24
Ethan Norton	4/24
Kent Allsebrooke	4/24

Pat Northrup	4/6
Jeannie Guillotte	4/8
Tom Moran	4/8
Nathan Bratton	4/10
Myles Stegalin	4/15
Jim Marlatt	4/17
Jim Dolezel	4/18
Gary Kuschnerreit	4/19
Janet Walker	4/21
Kayleigh Armand	4/24
Ross Bartmess	4/25
Alexander Williamson	4/26
Jaxon Carrasco	4/29
Paula Anderson	4/30



April



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Issues, Etc. <small>www.issuesetc.org</small> You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, and your favorite podcast provider.	Ministry Support through tithes, offerings, and donations can be given by either PayPal or credit or debit card. To access go to www.gsclmwc.com scroll down to "Help Our Cause" and click on "Donate Now	1 10:30a Staff mtg 1:00p TABS (Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study) 6:00p Elders 7:00p LWML	2 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study 7:00p Worship MIDWEEK OF LENT 4	3 6:00a TAMBS — (Thursday AM Bible Study) 12-3:30p School Music Class FH 6:00p Choir Practice	4 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	5 REMEMBER GOOD SHEPHERD IN YOUR WILL
6 8:00a Worship w/Communion 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship w/Communion 11:30a Parish Ed mtg	7 5:30p TL Boys & AH Girls 6:15p Bell Choir	8 10:30a Staff mtg 1:00p TABS (Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study) 6:00-9:00p DAR	9 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study 7:00p Worship MIDWEEK OF LENT 5	10 6:00a TAMBS — (Thursday AM Bible Study) 9:00a Mary Circle BS 11:00a 75th Ann Com. mtg 12-3:30p School Music Class FH 6:00p Choir Practice	11 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	12 10:00a OK District Disaster Response
13 8:00a Worship 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship 12:00a Council	14 5:30p TL Boys & AH Girls 6:15p Bell Choir	15 10:30a Staff mtg 1:00p NO TABS (Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study) 4:00p Parochial Ed mtg	16 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p NO Confirmation 5:30p NO Fellowship Meal 6:00p NO Bible Study WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	17 6:00p NO Choir Practice 7:00p Worship w/Communion	18 6:00a NO WEBS — Week End(ing) BS 7pm Worship	19 SATURDAY OF HOLY WEEK
20 7:00a Sunrise Worship w/Communion 8:15a Easter Breakfast 9:30a Bible study Easter Egg Hunt 10:30a Easter Day Worship w/Communion	21 5:30p TL Boys & AH Girls Court of Honor 6:15p Bell Choir	22 10:30a Staff mtg 1:00p NO TABS (Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study)	23 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p NO Confirmation 5:30p NO Fellowship Meal 6:00p NO Bible Study	24 6:00a TAMBS — (Thursday AM Bible Study) 9:00a Mary Circle Quilting 12-3:30p School Music Class FH 6:00p Choir Practice 6:30p School Spring Sing	25 6:00a NO WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	26
27 8:00a Worship 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship— School Sings 12:00a Voters' Assembly	28 5:30p TL Boys & AH Girls 6:15p Bell Choir	29 10:30a Staff mtg 1:00p TABS (Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study)	30 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study	 Go to www.gsclmwc.com click on the "Play Video" arrow.	 Submission Deadlines Weekly Bulletin 12pm on Thursdays Monthly Newsletter 20 th of every month	 LUTHERAN HOUR every Sunday at 9:00a on KQCV (800AM), or on XM's Family Talk Radio 170, or online at www.lutheranhour.org