

The Shepherd's Voice



From The Pastor

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Though Christmas may be our favorite, St. Paul reminds us that Easter is of “first importance.” If Christ had not arisen, our hope would be still locked in the tomb. Because He is risen, just as He said, we have hope of our own resurrection from the dead and look forward to the life everlasting, which death cannot touch. On Easter we come not simply to remember an event but to rejoice in the future made possible for us because of what happened. Before the world we confess that Jesus’ resurrection is not a hope but a fact witnessed by more than five hundred and on that fact God has built a future for us — one we anticipate now even as we wait to see it fulfilled.



Death is our common enemy. But God has chosen to do battle with our enemy and has given to all the same victory won by Jesus Christ. The veil of death cast over all is now removed in Christ Jesus. Death and all its terror and power has been answered by the resurrection of Jesus once for all. We participate in this victory in the banquet our Lord has prepared, first in the Holy Communion of His crucified and risen flesh and blood, and then in the marriage feast of the Lamb, which has no end. Though for now we wait by faith for Him to bring to consummation all things, we wait as a people saved by His blood and marked for everlasting life. So let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation!

- *Pastor Simpson*

Join Us...

Good Shepherd Lutheran
Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

- 7:00a Sunrise Service**
8:15 -10:15a Breakfast
- **Ham and Beverages Provided**
 - **Sign up to Bring Other Food Items**
- 9:00a Easter Egg Hunt**
10:30a Late Service

**Invite
Family
&
Friends**



Good Shepherd Lutheran
700 N. Air Depot Blvd.
Midwest City, OK 73110
405.732.2585

*Thanks be to God,
Who gives us the
victory through our
Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor. 15:57

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=r9a41CvVEHw&si=kjLITAc_j5f1PRDu

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today "

[Kings College](#)

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today" (LSB 457)

https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=r9a41CvVEHw&si=kjLITAc_j5f1PRDu

Easter Organ Music in the Lutheran Tradition (based on Hymns from LSB)

<https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=f19ZdHMhe7M&si=gbdy0ujForz4an5w>

(To Listen to YouTube Music Click on Link or Hold CTRL + Click on Link)

"PRACTICAL"

Then Jesus ... came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." ... And Jesus ... said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me." ... He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." (John 11:38-39a, 41b, 43b-44)

It's the practical details that get me. While everyone else is standing around gaping at the miracle, Jesus sees that Lazarus is still tangled up in his grave clothes! So He tells the people to untie him.

It's the same sort of thing Jesus said when He raised Jairus' daughter from the dead. He told them to give her something to eat. Very practical, especially if she'd been too sick to be hungry for a long while!

And then there's Jesus' instructions about His own resurrection. He tells His disciples, "After I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee" (Matthew 26:32b). He's making an appointment with them! But they are too upset to take note. The angels have to remind them again on Easter morning (see Matthew 28:7).

How can Jesus be so practical? I think it's because He has absolute heart-felt faith in His Father. He knows God will raise Lazarus—raise the little girl—raise Jesus Himself. He is certain that His own death on the cross for our sakes will not be the end of Him; and when He rises, He will become the source of everlasting life for all of us who believe in Him. Jesus can be practical, because His resurrection—and ours—is guaranteed. (Lhm.org)

(From: Lutheran Hour Ministry Devotion "Practical"
Devotions were written by Dr. Kari Vo)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

75th Anniversary Celebration

November 16, 2025

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



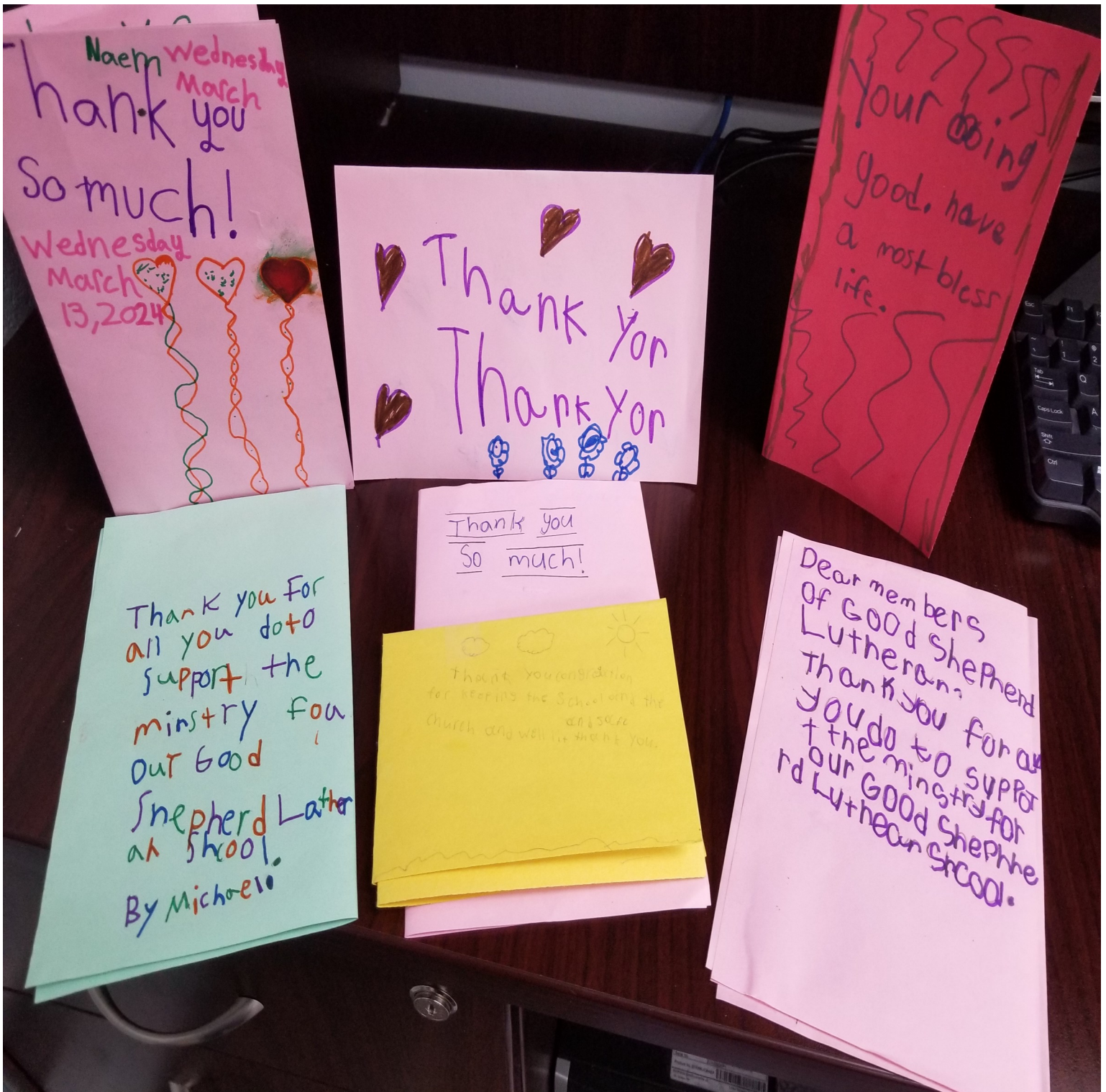
Help Needed

(Create Logo, Publicity, Invitations, Favors, Decorations, Luncheon)

Contact: Marilyn Alsip, Chairman (405-229-2093) marilynalsip@yahoo.com

Marguerite Christman (405-570-5506) mchrist721@aol.com

Thank you to the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church from the School Children of Good Shepherd Lutheran School, for all your support for the School Ministry.



An example of Thank You Cards the students created during Lutheran Schools Week at Good Shepherd Lutheran School.



We Need Your Assistance Please Share With Us

We are organizing a young adult group(s) here at Good Shepherd. We need your help to share with us the names/ email addresses/ cell numbers so we can add them to our list. This will be a fun and meaningful way in which they can get reacquainted, make new friends, be involved in social activities, events, Bible study, and servant activities.

We are especially trying to contact those younger adults who were members here at Good Shepherd when they were in Sunday School, School, Jr. and Sr. Youth Group, Junior Confirmation Class, etc.

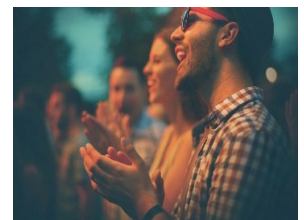


So, think of your grandchildren, children, nieces, and nephews that were a part of our ministry here at Good Shepherd in their younger years or others, you have in mind. Let us hear from you. Thanks for your help!

Name	Cell #	Email:
_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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Give or send information to:

**Jacob Bowen: jake.bowen88@yahoo.com
Steven and Grace Pendley: spendley1972@gmail.com
Marguerite Christman: MChrist721@aol.com , 405-570-5506
Or Sarah Jensen in the church office.**



WITNESS & OUTREACH

WITNESS & OUTREACH — Witnessing to the non-churched — The “&” in **Witness & Outreach** underscores that there are two different elements to this ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Witness is the work we have been given to do as the church scattered. We have opportunities to speak of Jesus with the people in our everyday lives who are our friends, co-workers, neighbors, family members, etc.

Outreach is the work we do as the church gathered. It is our collective effort through ministries, services, events and other activities as the church through which we invite and include others into Word and Sacrament ministry.

Witness & Outreach are distinct, but they work together so people will know of Jesus and be gathered into His Church through us.

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Celebrating 100th Anniversary of the Oklahoma District

May 19, 2024

4:00pm Worship

5:30pm Meal

St. John's Lutheran Church, Okarche, Oklahoma.

Go to — <https://www.oklahoma.lutherans.org/registration>

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LWML OK District Convention
April 12-13, 2024 Edmond

Mug Rug Gifts

Looking for oceans of Fun?



we hope to “sea” you here!

Location: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Save these dates for VBS 2024: June 3 - 7, 2024

Each day's fun happens from: 5 - 8 pm (dinner 5:00 - 5:30)

For more information, call or visit: Ms Dana at 405-412-0296

(Paper registration forms available in May)



Bibles for Kids—During last year's VBS, we ran out of Bibles to share with the Children. Please consider a donation to help purchase Bibles for children & parents in classrooms and at home.

Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (Bibles for Kids)

Contact Dana Johnson, Debbie Hudson, or Marguerite Christman.

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Please submit articles to Church Office at secretary@gslok.org 8

The Elements of Stewardship

- March 7, 2024 / Articles, Ministry Features / By Nathan Meador
- Editor's Note: Articles from LCMS Stewardship Ministry are hosted here on The Lutheran Witness site. Visit the "Ministry Features" page for monthly stewardship content.

The LCMS has defined stewardship as "the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing life's resources for His purposes." Let's take a few moments to break this definition down, consider its implications and applications, and seek the Lord's blessing as His Holy Spirit leads us to faithfulness in this vocation for which He has created and redeemed us. Here are a few of the elements of what stewardship means:

Stewardship is free.

This means it is without compulsion. While Scripture speaks of the tithe, to turn it into law is to miss the point! Stewardship is not a system of taxation used by the church to survive and pay the bills. This does not mean that the steward is free from any responsibility to the church — the opposite is true. Stewards are created in the image of God to manage creation and redeemed and reconciled to God by the blood of Jesus to be stewards of the ministry of reconciliation in the Gospel. Thus to be anything less than faithful in all of life and life's resources for the sake of the Gospel and the benefit of our neighbor is sinful. Faithfulness is the standard. But we can't attain nor maintain it apart from the work of the Holy Spirit. Our stewardship is not our creation. It is the Holy Spirit at work in and through us. This is what makes it truly free. We are simply conduits of the work of the Spirit as we steward and support the work of the Gospel through the local congregation, district and Synod.

Stewardship is joyous.

There isn't anything sad about doing what we were created to be and do. When the Spirit leads us to give of ourselves, we are not losing anything. The faithfulness which the Spirit works in us is used to bring and keep people in the one true faith. The cheerful giver of whom Paul speaks in 2 Corinthians rejoices not in what he does but rather in what the Lord does through him. The joy of the steward is akin to the joy that the Gospel speaks of when one sinner repents. When the work of the local congregation or the missionary in far lands is used by the Spirit to call even one to repentance, there is unbounded joy. The faithful steward gets a glimpse of this every Sunday as sins are forgiven even as the gifts are given.

Stewardship is the work of the church.

Stewardship is more than just a "me and Jesus" thing. There is a corporate nature to every aspect of stewardship in the local congregation. While each person and family are led by the Spirit to set aside what they give on the first day of the week, when it is done in the setting of the Divine Service the Body is working together for the sake of the Gospel. And this doesn't stop locally. Districts are supported by the faithfulness of many congregations. Synod is supported in faithfulness by the 35 districts. Like the human body, stewardship is so much more than the sum of its parts. When faithful stewards are banded together in faithfulness by the Holy Spirit, freedom and joy and stewardship is the result!

LCMS Stewardship ministry features may be reprinted with acknowledgment given to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Dr. Nathan Meador is the Assistant Coordinator for LCMS Stewardship Ministry; the Executive Assistant to the President for Mission and Mercy, LCMS South Wisconsin District; and the Official Lutheran Pastor of the B93 Morning Show.

Stewardship involves life's resources.

Here is where things can get muddy. It is obvious that when the church speaks of "resources," very often we fast-forward to the discussion of finances. And this is almost always a cry of lament. After all, financial resources are finite. But we ought to consider the three categories of stewardship — time, people and money.

Stewardship includes time.

Time is the single most finite resource entrusted to the individual steward. No matter how hard they try, the steward will only have 168 hours to invest in the Lord's purpose each week. No amount of timesaving, productivity-increasing strategies will ever add one moment to the week entrusted to the steward. The amount of time that the steward must manage is the most precious. This is a call for the church and the individual steward to faithfully manage this most finite of resources.

Stewardship includes people.

Individual Christian stewards are the ones who have that finite resource of time entrusted to them. It is crucial that the local congregation is faithful in its management of the time of every member of the Body of Christ. If we invest time and effort in things that do not flow from our true purpose of the stewardship of the Gospel, we are not being faithful. This will rob our people of their freedom and their joy. For this reason, it is critical that WHAT the congregation does and HOW they do it all flows from a knowledge of WHY they are placed there by the Lord of the Church.

Stewardship includes finances.

This is indeed the least finite of the resources entrusted to the steward and to God's family of the church. I learned this lesson firsthand from a faithful Lutheran farmer decades ago. My wife and I were looking at purchasing land and building a house. When we approached a member about purchasing a section of long abandoned pasture on which we would build, the response came, "Pastor, we love you. But we can always make more money. God's not going to make any more dirt." Congregations can always find ways to increase what comes into the congregation in offerings and be more faithful with what is already entrusted. While it is critical that we are indeed faithful with what is entrusted, we dare not make the least finite resource the biggest deal!

Stewardship is about God's purposes.

This is what sets Christian stewardship apart from any other kind of stewardship. Worldly stewardship flows from fear. If we are not faithful in our stewardship of the air, water and land, fear says we are going to die! But the Christian steward comes from a totally different perspective. The Christian seeks to be faithful in every aspect of creation because it was created by God and redeemed in the blood of Jesus.

Our stewardship flows not from fear but from faith. This faith is driven by the promise of God's purpose. This purpose was seen in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. God's purpose is that the church's faithful stewardship be an instrument of His purpose that all people come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved. Our stewardship of the Gospel is central and instrumental in this!

God made us for this stewardship. We failed. In Christ He has redeemed and restored us to this task. We don't deserve it in any way. But we are free. This freedom is the initiation of our joy. This joy is what leads us to be faithfully active as stewards of all that God entrusts to us for the sake of the Gospel and the benefit and salvation of our neighbor.

THIS is stewardship!

Trail Life Troop OK—4077

Troop Meetings, Mondays 5:30pm

Good Shepherd Leaders: Pastor Simpson, Chaplain, Taylor Williamson, Skye Rutan-Bedard, Jim Marlatt, Jacob Bowen, Steve Pendley, Michael Williams, Adam Sanchez, and All the Trailmen.

Please keep the Troop and Leaders in your prayers.

TRAIL LIFE TROOP OK-4077 FIRST AID REGISTRY

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/VH94NLM5J8U0>

By clicking on this Amazon Gift Registry link, you can help Trail Life get the items needed to fill the required First Aid Kits.

One Kit is needed in the **Fellowship Hall**,

a **Smaller Kit** is needed to carry around for **Outdoor Activities**,

and a **Larger Kit** will be needed when the Troop goes **camping and hiking**. **Personal size kits will also be made.**

Miracles for Millie

“On March 7th, the Bontempo Family received news that Amelia is officially in remission!!!!”

Praise the Lord!

“Zero leukemia cells were found in her bone marrow sample. What an absolute answer to all of our prayers! I think back to a little over a month ago when the doctor sat down, held my hands, looked me in my eyes and told us Amelia had cancer. That moment of pure devastation made today’s news all the more joyful and celebratory. God is so faithful and so good, through life’s valleys and mountaintops.”

“Now that the Leukemia cells are gone, we have to make sure it stays that way. Millie will now be treated the next 2.5 years using the Standard Risk with Favorable Genetics treatment protocol for B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (B-ALL). This helps to ensure that no Leukemia cells can reoccur and will help to avoid relapse in her future. She began her Consolidation phase today with spinal chemo, chemo through her port, and will begin an oral chemo. This phase will last 28 days. She will continue to receive spinal chemo weekly along with her daily oral chemo. Thank you for the continued prayers and support for our sweet Millie girl. When Amelia’s school found out she was in remission, it was announced for all classes and teachers to hear, and we were told the school erupted in cheers.”

Thank you to all for your prayers and support!

“Her battle is far from over.”

**“Pray that anytime she feels scared or weak,
that God would draw near and give her peace.”**

Adrienne & Eric Bontempo & Family



When we aren't able to make it to church, we always watch the live stream and are so grateful for this opportunity. (The Dinse's)

DOUBLE DOWN FOR EASTER

Thoughts From the Pew

My Christian new year usually begins on Easter. The concentrating on the Resurrection gets me to thinking about my relationship with my Savior. He's always there but I'm not sure I am. I always have to work on this.

I have decided this year to have a slogan: "Let's See." It comes from wondering what would happen if I did this, or that. What would people's reaction be? Will they get mad? Will I be shunned? Will my endeavor be cheered or, more likely, be ignored.

The outlook for our country looks bleak. Satan is running rampant through our culture and what can one or two people do against such odds, when so many seem willing to follow his lead?

I'm contemplating the story of Telemonus. He lived outside of Rome in a monastery in the 3rd century AD. He heard tales of the barbaric games being played in the Colosseum. He felt the Spirit of God telling him to go so he walked the many miles to Rome. When he got there, he couldn't believe what he saw. The games were barbaric and, not only was no one trying to stop them, the games were being cheered on. There was no respect for the life God had given them and others.

He immediately began preaching the Word outside the Colosseum. He stood on a make shift pedestal and preached and preached. He was booed and pushed around. Eventually the crowd got ugly and the Romans decided he needed to die to keep the peace.

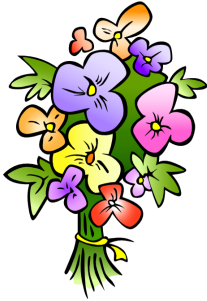
From that day forward, the games were never played in the Colosseum again. This is what one person can do.

I suspect most of us are not called to be martyred to this extent. But we are called on a daily basis to make disciples. By just talking about our Lord and Savior may be enough. You never know who is listening. True, some may shake their heads at you, or, GASP, not like you. What is more important, being liked or introducing someone to our Lord?

Jesus called us to do this all the time. I say give it a try. Let's see!

APRIL

Happy Birthday



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

Baptismal Anniversaries

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



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Wedding Anniversaries



- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4/2 Jacob & Kristina Bowen | 4/4 Shondreya & Chad Toomey |
| 4/6 Steve & Lynnice Hamlin | 4/23 Michael & Amber Parker |
| 4/30 John & Janice Grundmann | 4/30 Leo & Julia Staples |

NOTICE: FREE FOOD on Wednesdays in the GSLC Family Life Center from 3-6pm.

1 bag per family (Produce & other items are extras from the MWC Food Pantry)

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
		1 5:30p Trail Life 6:15p Bell Choir Practice	2 10:30a Staff Meeting 1:00p TABS —Tuesday Afternoon BS 6:00p Elders 7:00p Ruth Guild	3 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 4:00p Properties 5:00p NO Confirmation 5:30p NO Fellowship Meal 6:00p NO Bible Study	4 6:00a TAMBS - Thursday AM Bible Study 9:00a Mary Circle Bible S. 6:00p Choir Practice	5 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	6						
7 8:00a Worship w/Communion 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship w/Communion	8 5:30p Trail Life 6:15p Bell Choir Practice	9 10:30a Staff Meeting 1:00p TABS —Tuesday Afternoon BS 4:30p Parochial Ed 6:00p DAR 6:00p TL Troop Cmte	10 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study	11 6:00a TAMBS - Thursday AM Bible Study 6:00p Choir Practice	12 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	13							
14 8:00a Worship 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship 11:45p Parish Ed	15 5:30p Trail Life 6:15p Bell Choir Practice	16 10:30a Staff Meeting 1:00p TABS —Tuesday Afternoon BS	17 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study	18 6:00a TAMBS - Thursday AM Bible Study 9:00a Mary Circle Quilts 6:00p Choir Practice	19 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	20 10:00a OK Disaster Response "Stop the Bleed" workshop							
21 8:00a Worship w/Communion 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship w/Communion 12:00p Council	22 5:30p Trail Life 6:15p Bell Choir Practice	23 10:30a Staff Meeting 1:00p TABS —Tuesday Afternoon BS	24 9:15a P-2 Chapel 10:00a DS Chapel 5:00p Confirmation 5:30p Fellowship Meal 6:00p Bible Study	25 6:00a TAMBS Thursday AM Bible Study 9:00a Mary Circle 6:00p Choir Practice	26 6:00a WEBS — Week End(ing) BS	27							
28 8:00a Worship 9:15a Bible study 10:30a Worship 12:00p Voters' Assembly	29 5:30p Trail Life 6:15p Bell Choir Practice	30 10:30a Staff Meeting 1:00p TABS —Tuesday Afternoon BS	Ministry Support through tithes, offerings, and donations can be given by either PayPal or credit or debit card. To access go to www.gslcmwc.com scroll down to "Help Our Cause" and click on "Donate Now."	 SUBMISSION DEADLINES Weekly Bulletin 12pm on Thursdays Monthly Newsletter 20 th of every month secretary@gslc.org	 REMEMBER GOOD SHEPHERD IN YOUR WILL!	 Streamed Live Go to www.gslcmwc.com click on the "Play Video" arrow.							



April

