



# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter



December 2018

## BUILDING Connections

### Our Vision

Connected to Christ!

Connected to One Another!

Connected to our  
Community!

Good Shepherd is all  
about building connec-  
tions:

- Building stronger connections with Christ through his Word.
- Building stronger connections with one another through fellowship, Christian education, and service, and
- Building connections with our unchurched friends and relatives through the power of the Gospel.

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**Our regular worship schedule** remains in effect Saturday, Dec 29th at 5:00 pm and Sunday Dec 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 and 10:30 am.

There will be no Sunday School or Bible Study December 30th.

## Enduring Thankfulness

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.**

Psalm 107:1 (NIV)

For thanksgiving to last, it needs to be tied to a reason that lasts.

The joy of a wonderful feast will be only a distant memory if you find yourself hungry and cold and alone.

Thankfulness for a

special gift will evaporate if that gift is stolen or lost or is broken. Our joy lasts only as long as our reason for joy lasts.

Counting our blessings is an important activity as long as we don't fall into the mistake of thinking of the gift and somehow forgetting the Giver.

Thanksgiving looks from

the gift to the Giver.

What do you know about the Giver? In giving his Son for this unthankful world, he demonstrated his faithful, gracious, covenant love.

How long will that love last? How long will we have reason for thanksgiving?

In Christ,

Pastor John Paustian

## Worship

Join us for **Thanksgiving Worship** Wednesday November 21st at 6:30 pm or Thursday November 22nd at 9:00 am to reflect on God's goodness to you. "Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits!"

**Wednesday Worship  
Advent's Attitude Adjustment"**

**10:00 am and 6:30 pm  
December 5, 12, and 19**

December 5 - Our Attitude toward our Sins  
December 12 - Our Atti-

tude toward celebrating Christmas

December 19 - Our Attitude toward Sharing Jesus with Others

**Advent Dinners** will be served Wednesdays at 5:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dessert to share. Free-will offering are needed to cover expenses. Our teens are asked to help serve. Contact Cheryl Henckel for information.

**Concert Services  
Saturday, December  
15th 5:00 pm**

Featuring our 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade Handbell Choirs

**Sunday, December 16th  
8:00 & 10:30 am**

With our Adult, Ladies', Children's, and Adult Hand Bell Choir. A special offering box will be available in the narthex concert weekend to receive special gifts toward choir and handbell music throughout the year.

**Christian Fellowship  
& Food**

**6:00 p.m. on the 15th  
9:15-10:15 am on the  
16th**

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## Opportunities to Grow through the Word

### **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES AT 9:15**

**“Lord, Teach Me to Pray!”** Led by Pastor Robert Hein downstairs in the IMC.

**“Colossians: New Courage for Daily Living”** Led by Pastor John Paustian in the fellowship hall.

**Teen Bible Study** Sundays at 9:15 am. Led by our Christteen leaders in the Fireside Room.

### **New Bible Information Class— “Who is the LORD?”**

Thursday nights at 7:00 pm, beginning January 3rd. This course covers the basics of Christianity, a great refresher course for our members and an introduction to the Bible for those who may be

looking for a church home. This 10 session course serves as our Adult membership class. There is no cost or obligation to join. If you are a member, bring an unchurched friend with you to the first class to help them get on board. To register, contact the church office at 334-7881. Led by Pastor John Paustian in the new Fireside Room.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** - We meet Wednesday mornings in church from 9:00-10:00 am. We are studying Philippians. Regardless of your age, come and join our active, ever growing group. Led by Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf.

**Time Out For Mom’s Friday Bible Study** All moms invited Fridays at

8:00 am. Our theme is “Christian Woman #101” Led by Marilyn Sievert in our new Fireside Room. Free childcare provided.

**Women’s Bible Study** - All ladies are invited to a Thursday evening Bible study called “Lies Women Believe” led by Marilyn Sievert beginning Thursday January 10th at 7:00 pm. Dispel the lies and discover the truth in God’s holy Word.

**Small Group Bible Studies** at member homes are being planned for the new year. One group will meet Wednesdays at the home of Paul and Carly Braun. Contact Pastor Hein to learn more about small groups.

## Special Events

**Christmas For Kids**— Saturday Dec 1st from 9:00-11:45 am for children Preschool-4th grade. The children will learn the joyous meaning of Christmas at different stations for singing, crafts, video, Bible story, cookie decorating, and fun.

If you would like to help, fill out a volunteer form at church or contact Beth Bartlett or Pastor Hein. All adult volunteers are asked to attend the yearly youth training class. Registrations forms are available at church You may also register online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). Invite your friends and neighbors. If you wish to support this outreach program financially, please use a yellow “Kid’s Program” envelope in the church narthex.

**Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church Christmas tree, Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

at 11:00 am. Contact Jan Techtmann for more information.

**Little Lambs Christmas Program** Saturday, December 8th at 9:00 am in the church. Come, enjoy the children’s fun songs and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. We will be serving refreshments after the program in the fellowship hall.

**KML Winter Band Concert** Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm.

**KML Christmas Choir Concert** Saturday, Dec 15th at 6:30 pm.

**The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Christmas Concert** Sunday, Dec 9th at 3:00 and 7:00 pm.

**The Kettle Moraine Lutheran Adult Chorale Concert**—here at Good Shepherd Sunday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**The Lutheran Chorale Concert** is Nov 25th at 2:00 & 4:30 pm at Abiding Word Lutheran Church,

9420 W. Capital Dr., Milwaukee. All are invited.

**Christmas Flowers** – If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas, fill out an envelope in the church narthex. Orders are due by Sunday, Dec 9th. Please note they will be ordered through Nehm’s Greenhouse in Slinger.

**Good Shepherd Marriage Enrichment** Friday, February 15th from 6:00-9:00 pm at Good Shepherd. All couples are welcome whether you are newlyweds or married 50 years already. Invite your non-member friends as well.

Strengthen your marriage, enjoy delicious food and great fellowship and some mixer games with other Christian couples. Registration forms will be available soon.

## Service and Fellowship Opportunities

### **Ladies' League Christmas Party**

Tuesday, December 4th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Special music presented by KML Percussion Ensemble and Echoes. Spouses and guests are also invited to attend this special event. Sign-up sheets for attending and decorating a table are in the narthex. Envelopes supporting various ministries can be brought to the party.

### **Cookie Walk – Calling All Cookie Bakers!**

Time Out for Moms will be hosting our 12th annual cookie walk Sunday, December 2nd at 7:30 am until the cookies are gone in the Good Shepherd gym. We have set a goal of 200 dozen cookies this year. Sign up to bring cookies in the narthex. There are trays to use for bringing them for the walk. Please consider baking and then join us in December at the cookie walk and pick up your favorite Christmas goodies!

**Packer Game Party** – Join the fun Sunday December 2nd from 12-

3:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Christ teens and the whole congregation are invited. Watch the Packer game on our two new screens, enjoy a chili cook off, best dressed Packer fan contest, and punt/pass/kick contest during half time.

We will supply hot ham and rolls, chips and drinks. Please bring a dish to pass. Sign up in the narthex by December 1st for planning purposes.

**Our worship service** is broadcast on West Bend Community Access Channel #987 each Tuesday at 4:00 pm and Wednesday at 11:30 am.

### **Christmas Gifts for Good Shepherd Staff and Children**

Christmas is a time for gift giving. We celebrate the greatest gift ever given, the gift of God's Son Jesus to be our Savior and give gifts to others to reflect God's love to them. We receive donations during the month of December for these gifts. We express our appreciation to those who serve in our midst, a

financial gift to our called workers and gift cards for our Sunday School teachers. Children who participate in our Christmas Eve service will receive a gift certificate for a special treat. We are inviting you and our entire Good Shepherd family to give a special gift for this purpose.

You may use the designated envelope included in your envelope packet, returning it by way of the offering plate or directly to the church/school office by December 16<sup>th</sup>. A special door offering will also be received after each service December 8-9th for this purpose.

**A Giving Tree** will be set up in the narthex Thanksgiving weekend. Instead of ornaments, it will have tags with gifts items listed on them. These gifts will help children from our church and community. Please DON'T wrap the gifts. Place them under the tree unwrapped. We will have a pizza / wrapping party Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup> after the late service in the narthex. Thank You!

## Ministry Update

As of the end of October we have received \$2,021,420 in gifts and pledges, with \$1,529,202 actually received. In addition, our members have taken out \$73,000 in member loans for this project. Please remember to stay on track with your pledge. Any gifts which are "front loaded" will reduce our interest expenses. "Building Connections" envelopes are available in the church narthex or your envelope packet. Our Design Committee continues to meet to plan for signage, decorations, and furnishings for our narthex, fireside room and

welcome center. An updated wish list is available in the narthex. Special gifts in honor of a special blessing or in memory of a loved one are welcome.

### **Ministry Plan Update**

The Christmas season is a time for giving. We cherish the most precious gift God gave us to meet our greatest need – the gift of his Son to be our Savior. We also delight in sharing Christmas gifts with others. As you count your blessings, consider also the gifts you wish to bring to Jesus as a grateful act of

worship. Our ministry expenses have increased as we make monthly loan payments toward our "Building Connections" expansion project. Prayerfully consider your joyful response to the blessings and opportunities Christ sets before you. Consider bringing a special year end offering in gratitude for God's goodness to you and to meet our ministry needs. Remember, "This service you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." 2 Corinthians 9:12

**GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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www.goodshepherdwels.org

Please like us on Facebook:

Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

## Our Congregational Purpose

Compelled by the love of our Good Shepherd, we gather together around God's Word to ....

- WORSHIP** our Lord with joy,
- GROW** spiritually,
- SERVE** God and others in love,
- SHARE** the good news of Jesus .

*My sheep  
listen to my  
voice,*

*I know  
them,*

*They follow  
me.*

*I give them  
eternal life  
and they  
shall never  
perish.*

*No one can  
snatch them  
out of my  
hand.*



## Worship (continued from page 1)

Enjoy fellowship and food with our guests and Good Shepherd family. If you plan to attend the late service, come early for fellowship! Sign up in the narthex if you can bring a treat to share. We are encouraging everyone to wear a name tag so we can get to know each other better. Sponsored by the Board for Parish Services. Sunday School will still be held that morning, but not the adult Bible classes.

### **Children's Christmas Eve Services "We Sing of His Glory!" December 24th at 3:00 & 5:30 pm.**

If you are able, please park across the street at Little Lambs to leave more spaces for the elderly and our guests.

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service December 24 at 9:00 pm**

Enjoy Christmas with special singing, musical groups, and candlelight. At the end of the service we sing "Silent Night" by the light of the Christmas tree and candles.

### **Christmas Day Festival Service December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**

### **New Year's Eve Communion Worship December 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm.**

**Our principal, Jim Sievert, has announced his retirement the end of the 18/19 school year. We are thankful for his service to our congregation! A Voters' Meeting to call a principal is Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 pm. If someone has a name to consider for the call list, share it with Pastor Hein by Nov. 20th to share with our District President for consideration.**

## Special Gifts

\$200 in celebration of Phyllis Wendt's 94th Birthday from Marcia & Ken Weber for Furnishings

\$875 in memory of Harriet Rusch Rathke from Sharon & Craig Martin for Furnishings

\$1,025 in memory of Jerry Henckel from Family & Friends for Good Shepherd Lutheran School

\$70 in memory of Jerry Henckel from Family & Friends for Kids Programs

\$1,200 in memory of Jerry Henckel from Family & Friends for Furnishings

\$145 in memory of Jerry Henckel from Family & Friends for Building Connections Fund

\$800 in memory of Wilma Wellhoefer for Audio/Visual Equipment