

## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

September 2020

### A GLUE THAT NEVER LOSES ITS GRIP

An unsightly crack was beginning to show in the polished top of the dining room table. The glue binding the boards together was losing its grip. It can happen even if the woodworker uses the best glue available.

Wouldn't it be something if God's love ever lost its grip on us? The devil and his demons try their best to inch us loose from God's great love for us in Christ. The problems of yesterday and the concerns of tomorrow work on

widening the crack. Death, the grim reaper, wants to make the break permanent. But God's love holds fast. "I have loved you with an everlasting love," he assures us in Jeremiah 31:3. "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us," the apostle reminds us in 1 John 3:16. Want to know how strong God's love is? Then look to the cross. There hangs his dear Son who took on our skin, took on our sins, took them to the

cross, took them away forever, that he might take us to heaven. Such a powerful, indescribable love never loses its grip regardless what pressures might be working on us. What better assurance can we have in these difficult days of viruses and problems that go with it?

Your partner in trusting our God of love,

Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf

### Worship

**Worship Schedule Change:** Following Labor Day weekend we return to our fall worship schedule with Bible studies and Sunday School Sundays at 9:15 am:

Starting September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>:

Evening worship  
Saturdays at 5:00 pm.

Sunday Worship  
8:00 & 10:30 am.

The last Thursday evening services are on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

With the guidelines set at 25% of our church capacity, we are considering additional services. This could perhaps be Saturdays at 6:30 pm and a service without congregational singing Sundays at 11:30 am. We'd like your input on this schedule and other options to consider. Call the church office at 262-334-7881 or email Pastor Hein at [revRhein@gmail.com](mailto:revRhein@gmail.com).

Understand that any changes are on a temporary basis and will be reviewed when guidelines change.

**Outdoor Worship Service** – Our Thursday evening worship service September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm will be held outside on the back lawn. If it rains, we will move inside. We will set up chairs, but please also bring your own lawnchairs.

**Holy Communion** – We are now ushering people up to Holy Communion by families or individuals in continuous communion. Please take your time to pick up your wafer and then your cup of wine as the pastor speaks the words of Jesus to you.

**Online Worship** - A recorded version of our worship service from each weekend is available online at our website [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). We will continue to offer these services online each week. Simply click on the online worship service to view it anytime.

**Cable TV Service** – our worship service can be viewed on the West Bend Community Access Charter Channel #987 at 4:00 pm Tuesday, or Friday at 9:00 am. Please share this information with anyone who does not have internet access.

**Personal Devotions** - Your pastors are also happy to meet with you personally for a devotion and the personal celebration of the Lord's Supper. Call us at 334-7881 to set up an appointment.

**Make a Joyful Sound!** - Our Adult Bell Choir begins another season on Sept. 2nd at 6:00 pm. We welcome back returning members and invite new members. We play at worship services throughout the year and participate in a handbell festival in the spring. Music-reading ability and rhythmic skills are helpful, but prior experience is not necessary. You will learn as you go. If you have an interest or questions, please contact Eileen Schmiede at 262-338-3114.

## Bible Studies Fall Schedule

### NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES

9:15 am beginning Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup>. Sign up for these classes in the welcome center for planning purposes.

**“Connecting Your Work to God’s Work”**, based on a book by Timothy Keller. Learn how to serve God in your various callings in life”. Led by Pastor Robert Hein in the Fellowship Hall.

**Politics Is Driving Me Crazy!**, Pastor Charles Degner offers a note of calm and a return to sanity as he leads us to listen to God, who rules over all things. This four-lesson Bible study will help students understand and appreciate the separation of church and state and how we as Christians can best serve our fellow people. The lessons are: A Tale of Two Kingdoms, the Imperfect State, the Separation of Church and State, and Our Messy Political World Led by Pastor John Paustian downstairs in the IMC. To be followed by another 4-week class, **All Stressed Up and Nowhere to Blow**. Led by Pastor John Paustian downstairs in the IMC.

**Sunday School** resumes Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am for children 3 and up. Register your children by signing up in the church narthex or online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). God calls on parents to bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Bringing them to worship and Sunday School is a great way to set them on the right path so they stay connected to Jesus all the days of their lives. All parents and children will meet in the church around 9:20 am for orientation and instructions, and then be dismissed to their classrooms. We will install our Sunday School teachers at the 8:00 am service on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

### WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

**Our new Bible Information Class**, “Our New Life with Jesus” will be held Wednesday nights at 7:00, beginning September 2<sup>nd</sup>. (13 Sessions) This course covers the fundamental teach-

ings of the Bible--a refresher course for our members and a great introduction to the Bible for those who would like to learn more or may be looking for a church home. This course serves as our Adult membership class. There is no cost or obligation to join. Come and learn more. Invite a friend or family member to join you. To register in advance, contact the church office at 334-7881. Led by Pastor Robert Hein in our Fellowship Hall.

### Wednesday Morning Bible Class

Wednesday Morning Bible Class begins again on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m in the church (to promote more physical distancing.) Our topic is , “Abraham, His Trials and Triumphs”. Materials from past online lessons will be available. Sorry, no Schnecken at this time. Come, join our Bible Class Family. We would love to have you! Led by Pastor Richard Lauersdorf.

**Moms Bible Study** - Starting Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 8-9 am, in the Fellowship Hall and continuing on Fridays when school is in session. New procedures will be in place, but we have a great topic and will be reconnecting with Jesus and the world he came to seek and save. Child care will be provided the Fireside Room by moms not grammas, through a child care exchange. Topic: The Chosen - This portrayal of Jesus has been an internet phenomenon, viewed over 50 million times. Grasp the world in which Jesus chose his disciples and see how he revealed his grace with his understanding of their Jewish culture . Led by Marilyn Sievert.

**Public School Catechism Class** will be held Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 beginning Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is a two year course of instruction. Pastor Paustian will lead the class the first half of the year, and Pastor Hein the second half. Since our goal is spiritual growth, students will also want to attend worship and Sunday School regularly. Attendance at Sunday

School is expected to be prepared for Confirmation. Interested families need to call Pastor Hein this summer at 334-7881 to set up an appointment to meet personally about the goals of catechism instruction and to register their child prior to the first class.

**Men’s Bible Breakfast** – Men, you are invited to our Men’s Bible Breakfast. Enjoy a hearty meaty breakfast, served by our Board of Evangelism, and a short Bible study Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-9:30 am. Held in our Fellowship Hall. Special safety precautions will be taken in serving and eating. This is a great way to grow in your faith and get to know your brothers in Christ at Good Shepherd better. Please sign up in the narthex.

**Church Library** – Approximately 175 new books have been added to the library. A display near the door of the library features helpful and encouraging books for challenging times. Some interesting new reads include– Elephants in the Room and One More Elephant (books explaining the impact of believing a creation or an evolution point of view); 3 Words That Will Change Your Life by Mike Novotny explains how understanding three simple words brings peace of mind; Purposeful Grieving is a helpful book for anyone suffering a loss; In God’s Orchard (the Fruits of the Spirit in our lives); Seeds of Joy (devotions from Time of Grace); Psalms in My Backpack (an account of a family’s adventures on the Appalachian Trail told with humor and verses from the Psalms. Come and check these out for good reading.

**40<sup>th</sup> ministry anniversary** - We will celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> ministry anniversary of Mrs. Cathy Wilk Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> at our 10:30 am service, with a meal in the gym, and a program to follow in the church. Call the church office at 334-7881 to register for the meal or signup online at this link - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A49ACAE2FA4FD0-mrs>

## Service & Fellowship

### **Volunteer Youth Worker Training –**

This year's training for all called, hired and volunteers (18 and older) who work with children will be done online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org) beginning August 17<sup>th</sup>. If you help with child care, VBS, Christmas For Kids, sports, Sunday School, Pioneers, field trips etc), you are required to annually view a youth worker training video and return a completed form. You will need to download and print out the form, and fill it out by hand. Then scan or take a picture of it, and email it to [school@gslswb.org](mailto:school@gslswb.org) or return it to the church office by the end of August. If you don't have internet access, you may view the presentation on a computer at church.

**Ladies' League** is held the first Tuesday of each month at both 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. This year a Fall Picnic will be held Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm only in the Fellowship Hall. Special care will be taken in serving the food. All ladies are invited. A booklet highlighting Ladies League events and service opportunities will be available soon in the narthex.

**Pioneers** – Welcoming all children 1st-8th grade! The 2020/2021 Pioneers program is set to start Monday, Sep-

tember 14th from 6:00-7:30 pm, beginning in church. You do not need to be a member of Good Shepherd or go to Good Shepherd School to join Pioneers. It is open to all children. The cost for the year is \$25/child. For more information, including registration and calendar, please email [pioneerswb@gmail.com](mailto:pioneerswb@gmail.com). We will observe the government mandated safety procedures for all of our gatherings. Please visit our website for the current policy.

**Stay Connected** – To receive a weekly ministry and prayer chain update, send an email to [revRhein@wels.net](mailto:revRhein@wels.net) with that request.

**Landscape Committee Update** - The Passion Flower Vine on the arbor in our garden area is starting to bloom. The parts of the flower have symbolism to the Passion of Christ. The petals represent the Apostles, the filaments are the Crown of Thorns, the 3 stigma are the 3 nails and the 5 anthers are the 5 wounds. Please just look and do not touch the delicate flower. The vine on the right side of the arbor is a Sweet Autumn Clematis. It originally was grown at Jill and Pastor Ziesemer's parsonage. It was moved to the Teacherage and now has been planted in the

Meditation Garden.

The purple flowers by the windows are Phlox, which came from June and Dave Garvey's garden. Also, the white Rose in the center represents Luther's Rose. The Narthex Garden Sculpture with the Good Shepherd and his sheep has been installed by the new fence panels. Thank you to the generous member donations which made this possible.

**The Rams Open Golf Outing** will be held at West Bend Lakes on Saturday, September 12th at 9:00 a.m. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19, we are limited to 100 golfers (last year we had 136). Therefore you must register AND pay before the event to reserve your spot. First come, first serve basis. Also new for just this year - there is not a meal after golf, just the auction/prize drawings. Instead, golfers will be given a sandwich on the turn during golf. If you're willing to make a donation, be an event / hole sponsor, or volunteer, please contact Stacy Geiger at 262-808-7403. Flyers to register will be outside of the school office and found on [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org) soon. Thanks for supporting our school fundraiser!

## Ministry Update

### **Building "People" Connections Update**

- The Lord continues to bless our "Building People Connections" stewardship appeal as our brothers and sisters in Christ have pledged \$763,546 in three year pledges, with \$218,697 received as of June 30, 2020. 187 giving units are participating so far. Our goal is to reduce or eliminate our \$1.2 million dollar building expansion mortgage, thus freeing up funds to enhance our ministry. Thank you to everyone for faithfully keeping up with your pledges, especially in these challenging times. Special gifts in memory of a

loved one or in celebration of a special blessing are welcome. Building Connections envelopes are available in the narthex or your envelope packet.

### **Ministry Structure and Bylaw Update**

- In 2019 Good Shepherd leaders gathered input from leaders of various areas of ministry and a cross section of our members concerning key areas of ministry to enhance. To enhance member ministry we are considering ways to revise our church structure to increase involvement and ownership from all the members of our church

family, male and female, young and old. We want to remove anything from our Bylaws which hinders member involvement and adopt Bylaws which encourage member involvement. The Coordinating Council is considering setting up several task forces to develop an action plan and potential structure for each area of ministry under their responsibility. Once developed, these will be shared with the congregation at an open forum.

**School News** – We look forward to the coming 2020-2021 Good Shepherd

**GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

777 Indiana Avenue  
West Bend, WI 53095  
Phone: 262-334-7881

[www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://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.*



**Ministry Update** (continued from p. 3)

school year beginning August 24<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming students back to our school classrooms for face to face instruction. We are excited to open our campus to facility use and activities, while simultaneously providing a plan which aims to uphold health and safety practices.

**Annual Report** –Since we follow a fiscal year, we publish our 2019-2020 Annual Report in August once all of our year end numbers are available. Copies are available in the welcome center. This is a great way to review the blessings of the past year and focus on the opportunities of our new ministry plan.

**Little Lambs Childcare** has job openings available. Contact Director Cheryl Henckel at 262-388-1764 to learn more.

**Special Thanks** – We thank Lloyd Gatzke for faithfully coordinating our Altar Committee for so many years. 27 times a year this committee prepares the Lord’s Supper for us to enjoy. He has now handed this ministry over to Ed and Lois Spreeman. We certainly appreciate his faithful service. We are also looking for a new person or couple to join this ministry, serving on a scheduled basis. Contact the Spreemans at 353-3116 to learn more.

**Staying connected while away at College**

It is vital that young people going off to college not drift away from Christ and his Word during those crucial years of education. WELS Campus Ministry is here to help by providing religious materials and opportunities for spiritual growth and Christian fellowship. Please submit the school addresses of all college students to the church office as soon as possible so we can add them to the campus ministry mailing list.

**Special Gifts**

\$35 in memory of Beth Wagie from Bill & Carol Scherschel for Building Connections

\$300 in memory of Joanna Homuth from Dennis & Laurel Homuth for School Technology

\$50 in honor of Monte & Eileen Schmiede’s 50th anniversary from Judy Weigand for the Organ Fund

\$50 in honor of Harold & Janice Ehlke’s 50th anniversary from Donald & Jewel Ehlke for Building Connections

\$50 in honor of Harold & Janice Ehlke’s 50th anniversary from Gerald & Linda Ehlke for Building Connections

\$700 in honor of Lloyd and Joyce Gatzke’s 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and Jerry and Arlene Prochnow’s 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary from Ken and Marcia Weber and Phyllis Wendt for Landscaping project of the Good Shepherd and his sheep outside our narthex window

\$200 from Jerry and Joan Krug for Landscaping project of Good Shepherd and his sheep

\$1,000 in memory of Master Sgt. Gary Goering, from Vickie and Frank Pscheid and family, for Building Connections