



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter



June/July 2020

Our Vision

Connected to Christ!

Connected to One Another!

Connected to our
Community!

Good Shepherd is all
about building
connections:

- 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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Summer Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
8:00-11:00 am.

Call 262-334-7881 if you
need to arrange for a
different time.

It happened so fast!

Just like that, health and wealth and many other earthly blessings were swept away. Am I talking about the impact of the Coronavirus? No, I was talking about Job, a person in the Bible who endured a great deal of suffering and challenges in his life. Just like that, his children and servants were killed, his livestock were taken away, his good health was robbed from him, and he faced loneliness, isolation and anxiety. Job's faith bent, but it didn't break. When his "friends" asserted that God must have abandoned him or was punishing him for his sins, Job gave a faith filled response.

"The LORD knows the way that I take, and

when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold."
Job 23:10

Job was hurting. He was suffering. He was in great distress. But what brought him comfort in his present crisis was the knowledge that his God of free and faithful love knew what he was going through and was working his good and gracious plan for his life. God was testing him, not to destroy his faith, but rather to strengthen it. Metal workers test metal by putting it through a refiner's fire. The end product is stronger and more pure.

How do we know that God has not abandoned us in this present crisis? How do we know he is

not punishing us for our sins? Because he already punished Christ in our place. He has already proved his abiding love for us. God's Word teaches, "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

Like Job, we may be reeling from the impact of this Covid 19 outbreak. We may not understand why God allowed this to happen. But we don't ever have to question God's love and concern for us. The Lord knows the way that we take, and when he has tested us, we will come forth as gold!

Your Brother in Christ,
Pastor Robert Hein

New Worship Schedule

**Worship our Lord
with joy!**

**Thursdays
5:00 & 6:30 pm**

**Sundays
8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am**

Our worship services are also available online at www.goodshepherdwels.org

Our Sunday worship can also be viewed on the **West Bend Community**

Access 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. Call the church office to

Summer Worship & a new online Bible Study

request sermons by mail.

“The Marvelous Work of the Holy Spirit”

In our summer sermon series we focus on the marvelous work of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.

July 7 The work of the Holy Spirit, the “shy” person of the Trinity

July 14 The Holy Spirit calls into people into the public ministry

July 21 The Holy Spirit’s strange work of convicting and converting

July 28 The Holy Spirit enlightens us with his gifts

July 5 We celebrate the blessings God has given to our country

July 12 The Holy Spirit verbally inspired the Bible

July 19 The Holy Spirit works through the means of grace

July 26 The Holy Spirit gathers the Holy Christian Church

August 2 VBS Service Theme, Church Picnic Sunday at Regner Park

August 9 The Holy Spirit produces fruit in our lives.

August 16T he Holy Spirit keeps us in the faith

August 23 The Holy Spirit Gives Gifts

The Book of Ruth—A Story of Redemption Starting Monday June 1 at 7:00 pm. this online Bible study will lead you through a close, Christological reading of Ruth. Understanding the characteristics of Hebrew short stories reveals important details that may have been hidden from us in plain sight. Reading guides for each of the 4 chapters will be made available in advance. Taught by Pastor Paustian.

Sacred Concerts, Special Events and Fellowship Opportunities

Welcome New Confirmands!

We welcome 22 youth Confirmands as communicant members of our congregation: Silas Amundson, Julian Cook (confirmed at his home congregation, St. Paul, Cedar Lake), Sam Ehlke, Jeannie Eisen, Olivia Haeuser, Landon Hagenow, William Hanson, Beckham Heller, Ian Janz, Brenna Krewald, Lily Lance, Aaron Milella, Maci Neuman, Samuel Noyes, Celina Paz, Carson Rau, Jacob Rennie, Luke Retzlaff, Nicole Scheunemann, Michaya Schmandt, Elsa Wagner, Christian Walsh, Heather Young.

They are making their profession of their faith and celebrating their Confirmation with small group gatherings the end of May. May the Lord keep them strong in their faith through his Word and the Lord’s Supper!

Vacation Bible

School this summer will be held July 27-31 for ages 3 through 8th



grade. The theme is “Rainforest Explorers: Jesus leads the way”. Last year we were blessed with 155 children, of whom many were unchurched. We are looking for volunteers (entering 8th grade and up) to help with crafts, teaching, outside recreation, music, and snack service, and other areas. Contact Cheryl Henckel or Pastor Hein for more information.

Baby Bottle Banks are usually available Mother’s Day weekend for donations in support of New Beginnings, a home for mothers in need. Because of the pandemic shutdown, we will not be gathering bottles and offerings at church. Their needs continue, so we encourage you to contribute directly online by going to homeformothers.com or mail your donations to New Beginnings: A Home for Mothers, Box 56, Richfield, WI 53076.

Missions Update! - The **Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Rally** and a **Taste of Ministry Mission Event** have both been moved

online. The LWMS will be teaming up with WELS Joint Mission Office to host "Taste and See" online from June 27 to July 11, 2020.

Everyone is welcome to join them on Facebook for two weeks of worship, workshops, speakers, displays, fellowship and fun. To learn more, go to www.lwms.org.

Rams Open Golf Outing postponed to September 12th.

4th of July Celebration Join us on the back lawn at Good Shepherd the 4th of July from 7:30-10:00 pm for fireworks and fun! Bring your own lawn chairs to watch the fireworks at Riverside Park from a great vantage point. Join us for games, snacks, refreshments and fellowship. Invite your friends!

School News— Our school year ends Thursday May 21st. Four of our teachers are completing their terms of service among us.

Jenni Schlee, our K-1 reading/math teacher will be joining her husband Nathan during his vicar year.

Service and Fellowship Opportunities

Melissa Linton, our 8th grade teacher. She and her husband Matt are looking forward to the arrival of a baby.

Cathy Wilk, our 8th grade teacher. We will celebrate her 40th ministry anniversary Sunday September 13th.

Joan Kulow, our 3rd grade teacher is retiring after serving her entire ministry here. Her retirement celebration has been postponed to a later date.

We thank these faithful servants for the love and care they have shown to their students and the blessings they have brought to our Good Shepherd family. Cards or gifts can be mailed or brought to the church office.

“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.” 1 Timothy 5:17

Welcome Wagon - Our new 3rd grade teacher, Marlee Hill, her hus-

band Tim and daughter, Zoe will be moving to West Bend on May 26th. We would like to be able to welcome them with gift certificates to area restaurants, stores, etc. on May 31st. You may drop off a gift for the Hill family at the school office by Friday, May 29th.

Teachers Aides - Good Shepherd Lutheran School has two full time aide positions available for the 2020-2021 school year. Aides are assist lead teachers in both Kindergarten and the Grade 1 classrooms and also provide help in other classrooms. For more information, please contact Principal Dan Schultz at dschultz@gslswb.org or at 734.772.8673

8th Grade Graduation - A committee of 7th grade parents are planning an 8th grade graduation parking lot event for May 30 in the early afternoon. We are working on the specifics but will follow safety guidelines. Also we made yard signs to celebrate each of our grad-

uates which were distributed last week. Watch for those around the area! Congratulations to our 8th graders! Despite the circumstances we know God is blessing you.

Teacher Appreciation – Thanks to all the parents and children who expressed their encouragement to our teachers during Teacher Appreciation week. Teachers and staff enjoyed tasty treats and each evening a parade of cars with cheering students passed by our carport, offering love and encouragement.

Graduation Acknowledgement
We want to acknowledge our graduates from high school, college,. A insert will be included in the bulletin June 4 & 7 listing our graduates, the school they attended, and the degree they received. We will include them in our altar prayers. To be included, register on the “Graduation Acknowledgement” sheet in the church narthex or call the church office at 334-7881 by May 29th.

Ministry Update

New Classroom – Our Building Connections plan provided us with 4 new school classroom, but only two were finished.

Thanks to gifts from our GOAL parent’s group, and using volunteer labor, we were able to complete the 2nd grade classroom last summer and also expand and update our Preschool Classroom. This summer, using gifts from GOAL, our School Choice, Funds and other special gifts, volunteers are helping us complete our new First Grade Classroom. At this time drywall and painting are underway. What

a blessing!

Our Voters’ Meeting planned for Tuesday May 26th has been moved to Wednesday May 27th at 7:00 pm., due to health restrictions. At this meeting, we will approve our 20/21 fiscal year ministry plan which needs to be approved first by our Coordinating Council, and then forwarded to our Voters. This includes a proposal that we issue another one year Call to Pastor Richard Lauersdorf to continue serving our congregation in a part time capacity. We will practice social distancing in the Fellowship

Hall and encourage you to wear a mask.

Building People Connections

The Coronavirus has impacted our stewardship emphasis, forcing us to postpone our Celebration Sunday scheduled for March 28-29th. Building Connections gifts will be used to reduce our expansion project mortgage thus freeing up funds for other ministry priorities. You may still return your promise sheet to the church office in person or by mail. Presently we are paying down our Building Expansion

**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.*



Ministry News

Mortgage. We had another "Bridge" Loan which has now been paid in full. Thank you for your special gifts which made this blessing possible. Additional "Building Connections" envelopes are available in the narthex and in your envelope packet. Special gifts in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special blessing are encouraged.

Online Giving - We invite you to continue offering your freewill offerings whether through online giving, sending your offering check through the mail, or dropping it off during office hours Monday- Thursday 8-11 am. To sign up for secure online giving, go to our website www.goodshepherdwels.org, click on the "offering" button, to take you to a giving portal. You may give a one time gift or ongoing offerings. All categories from our envelope packet are also available online for your convenience. The financial impact of the Coronavirus has affected us all in varying degrees. God's Word encourages us to give in keeping with our income. Because of lost income, some people may need to offer less. Others whose income continues may then wish to offer more to help meet our needs. We encourage each member to count their physical and spiritual blessings and return their first-fruit offerings as a joyful act of worship and with confidence in the Lord to provide for our needs. God's Word teaches, "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge your harvest of righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11

Email updates—To be added to our weekly ministry updates, send an email to Pastor Hein at revRhein@gmail.com. It's a great way to stay informed.

Special Gifts

\$440 in memory of Sandy Pucher from Family & Friends for Little Lambs

\$440 in memory of Sandy Pucher from Family & Friends for Building Connections

\$50 in memory of Betty Kohlwey from Ken & Marcia Weber for the New Classroom Fund

\$20 for Choir Music, \$1,961 for School Tuition Assistance, \$25 for New Classroom, \$80 for Building Connections, in memory of Adelia Dins, by family and friends

Worship our Lord with joy!

Dear Members of our Good Shepherd family,

Our Coordinating Council has approved a plan to resume public worship services at Good Shepherd with safety precautions in place. We look forward to our first service Thursday, May 21, 2020.

To limit capacity and promote social distancing at each service, we are presently offering additional service times throughout the summer. We will continue to reevaluate this schedule.

Thursdays at 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm (beginning May 21st)

Sundays at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am (beginning May 24th)

Safety concerns are a top priority. We are following safety precautions as outlined by Washington/Ozaukee Public Health Department Directives, and guidelines provided by our synodical leaders. This includes:

- Limit attendance to 25% of our seating capacity (112 maximum per service)
- Use every other pew, and practice social distancing, stay 6 feet apart at all times, no hugs or handshakes
- Remove all hymnals, Bibles, pencils, and welcome worshipper cards from the pews
- Show the service on the screens, and have a limited number of single use bulletins available
- Children will remain in their pew for Children's Message
- We will not hold a time of coffee and greeting after worship

To manage attendance, we need you to register online for the service date and time of your choice at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090545aaaa2eaaf85-worship>

- We are calling people who don't have internet and will sign up for them. You may also call the church office at 334-7881 and someone will assist you in signing up. You may also leave a message.
- No Family Bible study will be offered at the present time
- Trained volunteers will clean and disinfect the church after each service. They will wipe all commonly used surfaces with soap and water and an EPA-approved disinfectant. This includes surfaces such as pews and chairs, door handles, light switches, and bathroom.
- Only allow the use of the family bathroom to reduce amount of cleaning
- No coffee or fellowship time after worship
- Masks – We encourage members to bring and wear a mask, but this is not required. We will offer masks at the door if you need one. We are told that masks can help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus to others. Out of concern for your neighbor, please consider wearing one.
- Encourage all members to wash their hands with hand sanitizer as they enter and leave. We will have cleaning supplies available and encourage donations of hand sanitizer.
- Offerings may be dropped off in a designated box on the way out of church
- Anyone who is feeling ill or is "high risk" is asked not to attend

- Please don't feel any pressure to attend public worship at this time if you have concerns about attending. We will continue to offer our services online and on Cable TV. Your pastors are also happy to meet with you personally for a devotion and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Communion Practice

We plan to celebrate Holy Communion May 21st and 24th.

Communicants will stand in front of the altar, spaced apart 6 ft, rather than walking behind the altar.

A pastor, wearing a mask and gloves, silently puts a wafer on a napkin which people hold in their hand. He does this for everyone in that row, spaced apart. Then he returns to the middle, takes a step back, and says to the entire row, "Take and eat, etc.." This way the pastor is not speaking directly in the face of each communicant.

Wine – another pastor, wearing a mask and gloves, silently holds the tray for people to take their cup as he distributes to each person in that row. Then he returns to the middle, steps back once again to a safe distance and says to all at once, "Take and drink, etc. "..., along with the blessing.

No Common Cup will be offered at this time.

Safety Encouragement from WELS leadership: As we break out of our home quarantines, there is an increased risk that the deadly COVID-19 virus will once again spread in the community. The last thing we want to see is our church become a hot spot for the virus to spread. The virus can spread by droplets in the air or by touching contaminated surfaces. It will be important for churches to minimize the risk of transmission from member to member.

How can you help?

Follow the safety precautions as outlined here, looking out for your neighbor's welfare.

Please bring your own mask so we don't need to supply them.

Donations of masks and hand sanitizer are welcome.

We are organizing volunteers to clean the church after each service (5 times a week), and to call people who don't have internet to sign them up for worship. We can also use a greeter at each service, wearing a mask and gloves to offer hand sanitizer to people as they enter. Email Pastor Hein at revRhein@gmail.com or call him at 334-7881 and he will direct you to the volunteer coordinator of that area.

How exciting to gather together for public worship once again. May the Lord bless our plans to worship safely and with joy!