



## October 2020 Newsletter

*I am the **Good** Shepherd. The good **Shepherd** lays down his life for the sheep.*

### Promises! Promises!

As Election Day approaches, we hear candidates making all sorts of campaign promises.

Looking back, we find that some promises are fulfilled; others are not. Even those who have the best intentions are unable to keep every promise they make. That's just as true in our personal lives. Our track record of faithfulness isn't that good.

Compare that to the perfect faithfulness of our God. Every promise he made to us in the Bible has come true. Chiefly we cherish the promise of a Savior, first revealed to Adam and Eve, repeated throughout the centuries through the prophets, and fulfilled in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christmas assures us God keeps his promises. Good Friday assures us God keeps his promises. Easter assures us God keeps his promises. 100% of the time.

Therefore we can be certain that God will continue to keep his promises to us in the future. In the midst of the turmoil and uncertainty we face in our country today, what a blessing to know that God always remains faithful to his promises to us. Near the end of his life Joshua expressed this same confidence, "Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the LORD your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed." Joshua 23:14

Resting secure in God's faithfulness,

Pastor Robert Hein

### Worship Christ with us!

Thursdays at 5:00 pm through October 29th.

Saturdays at 4:00\* & 5:00 pm

Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 am.

\*A shortened service with no congregational singing and masks are required for all for health and safety concerns. Pre-recorded music from WELS choirs will be included.

To help for planning purposes, please sign up for the service of your choice online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). Registration is not required however to attend.

**Holy Communion** is offered the 2nd and 4th weekends of the month. We are ushering people up by families and individuals in continuous communion. Please take your time when taking the bread and wine.

### Opportunities to Grow through the Word

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES and SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:15 am

**"Connecting Your Work to God's Work"**, based on a book by Timothy Keller. Learn how to serve God in your various callings or vocations 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. Led by Pastor John Paustian downstairs in the Commons Area.

**Teen Bible Study** in the Fireside Room, focusing on topical issues. Led by our ChristTeen leaders.

**Sunday School** is held for children 3 through 7th grade, with a teen Bible study for 8th Graders on up.

## Weekday Bible Studies

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** - is held Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m presently held in the church sanctuary. Focus on the Life of Abraham. Led by Pastor Richard Lauersdorf.

**Time Out For Mom's Friday Bible Study** – Fridays at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to join in at any time. Led by Marilyn Sievert. Child care is provided in the Parent's Room by moms 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.

**"Marriage Moments"** are free online video devotions to help married couples grow in their faith and strengthen their marriage. Direct link to subscribe <https://welscongregationalservices.net/subscriptions/>

**GriefShare** Support Group provides help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Each session includes a video on an aspect of the grieving process and a discussion of the video. Cost is \$10, which covers the cost of the workbook that includes discussion guides and follow-up materials. Please fill out the online interest form at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). Sessions will be in the fellowship hall on Sundays at 6:00 pm. We hope to start on October 18th, but may delay the starting date a week or two to gather more people.

**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.

**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.

## Service and Fellowship Opportunities

Little Lambs Childcare is celebrating 16 years of sharing Jesus with his precious lambs. A video presentation will be made at our services October 15,17, & 18th to share the blessing of this ministry and children's artwork will be on display. Please keep Little Lambs ministry in your prayers!

Little Lambs Family Fall Festival will be held outside this year at the Little Lambs parking lot featuring Trunk or Treat, snacks, refreshments and a Scavenger Hunt Friday, October 23rd from 6:30-7:30 pm. Bring the whole family for fun and fellowship!

### A Thank You from Joan Kulow

Dear Members of Good Shepherd School Family,

Thank you for the wonderful celebration of my retirement, and for your generous gift. The Board for Parish Services did an amazing job putting it all together. The service was beautiful. The flowers were so pretty. I shared them with my mom who could not be there. I was so happy the bell choir was able to play, and the choir sang so beautifully. It warmed my heart. After the service many enjoyed the delicious treats prepared by Mrs. Tanya Lechmaier.

It has been a joy and privilege serving our Lord these past 46 years here at Good Shepherd. I have received so much love and support from this congregation throughout my ministry. I will miss sharing God's Word with the children everyday. I plan to stay in the area, enjoying going to the "senior" Bible class, finally, and supporting Good Shepherd Lutheran School, it's faculty and especially its students. May God continue to bless the ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School. Love, Miss Kulow

### A Thank You from Cathlyn Wilk

Dear members of Good Shepherd,

I'm so grateful for my 22 years serving Good Shepherd Lutheran School as an upper- grade teacher. Our school has a stellar group of master teachers and pastors, and I was blessed to work and learn from them.

The family and friends who attended my 40th anniversary to celebrate God's blessings in Christian education were amazed at the efforts made during this uncommon time. Many thanks to the hard-working anniversary committee; worship leaders; administrative staff; Katrina Janz for the creating of a video; Jason Sievert for being the master of ceremonies for the program; all of the directors, musicians, and choir members; the many who made our building safe by cleaning; the people who prepared the Mexican food, set up tables, decorated the gym and sanctuary, and served the luncheon we enjoyed; and anyone who had a part in this special occasion. Thank you for the outpouring of beautiful cards and messages as well as generous gifts. Most importantly, I thank the students who blessed my days with their growing faith in their Lord and Savior, strong work ethic, optimism, and willingness to keep learning and excelling.

Your Christian love will always be appreciated, Cathlyn Wilk

## Ministry Update/Building Connections

Our Quarterly Voters' Assembly is Tuesday October 27th at 7:00 pm. Our Nominating Committee is contacting people to serve in appointed and elected positions to be determined at this meeting. A list of candidates will be available in the welcome center prior to the meeting. A ministry plan summary along with financials will be provided. We will present for discussion only several proposals to change our Constitution and Bylaws. These changes allow us to make future changes at any Voters' Assembly, not just a quarterly one. A copy of these changes will be available in the welcome center two weekends prior to the meeting. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

### Good Shepherd Lutheran School Enrollment

3K: 11	4th: 25	<b>Total PK: 31</b>
4K: 20	5th: 20	<b>Total K-8: 180</b>
5K: 22	6th: 18	<b>Total PK-8: 211</b>
1st: 25	7th: 18	
2nd: 17	8th: 15	
3rd: 20		

**Celebration Sunday - Building "People"Connections Update** - The Lord continues to bless our "Building People Connections" stewardship appeal as our brothers and sisters in Christ have pledged \$768,683 in three year pledges, with \$272,885 received as of August 28, 2020. 189 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. Good news – A recent principal payment has lowered our expansion mortgage to \$995,000. Our Celebration Sunday originally planned for March is rescheduled for October 22, 24, and 25th in which we will thank God for the blessings he has poured out upon our expansion program and ministry.

**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. Our Action Plan includes these goals.

- Initiate a congregation-wide member ministry effort helping God's people discover their strengths and linking them to service.

**Greeter Opportunity** – One great way to build connections at Good Shepherd is to greet members and guests as they come to worship. Once again this year we are inviting each area of ministry to take a weekend to serve as greeters. This also offers a wonderful opportunity to promote this area of ministry to our congregation. Sign up for a specific service online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org) (signups).

**Cleaners and ushers needed** - With our extra services and cleaning after each service, we can use more volunteers to help usher and to clean the pews and door handles after each service. Contact Pastor Hein if you can help, and he will connect you with Ron Kempf for ushers and Marcia Weber for cleaning.

**Sound room volunteers** are needed to run the worship slides in the sound room. You can choose the services of your choice. We will train you. Contact Mr. Jim Sievert to learn more.

**Help those in need** - We are still collecting non perishable goods and gently used clothing for Northside ministries, and also used glasses for our Lion's Club. Bring them to the narthex.

**Offering Envelopes** - Some members don't need offering envelopes because they are contributing online instead. We are preparing the envelope order for 2021. If you don't need envelopes, please share that request with the church office at 334-7881.

**Pioneer Kringle Order** – Would you like to support our Lutheran Pioneer program? Fill out a Pioneer Kringle order with payment at church by October 23rd. Thanks for your support!

## Special Gifts

\$125 in memory of Art Schmid from family and friends for Kid's Programs

\$100 in celebration of Norbert & Lucy Carter's 72nd Wedding Anniversary for Building Connections

\$50 in memory of Edythe Zastrow from Rod & Sherry Gatzke for Building Connections

\$20 in celebration of Monte & Eileen Schmiede's Anniversary from Pat Hill for Building Connections

\$50 in honor of Cathy Wilk's 40th year of service in the teaching ministry.



*My sheep listen  
to my voice,*

*I know them,*

*They follow me.*

*I give them eter-  
nal life and they  
shall never per-  
ish.*

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

## 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 .

**Good Shepherd Evangelical  
Lutheran Church & School**

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

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

(Ministry Update Continued from page 3)

- Develop a system to train and prepare church leaders and volunteers for service.
- 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 has set up six task forces to develop structure for each area of ministry under their responsibility. These include Adult Nurture, Family Nurture, Outreach, School, Support and Worship. Once developed, these will be shared with the congregation at an open forum and eventually our Voters'.

We will also review our ministry staffing needs in response to another Action Plan goal to consider calling a full-time person (pastor or staff minister) whose primary focus is on youth and younger families (ages 18 to 35) giving special encouragement to worship regularly, grow spiritually, and serve joyfully.

**Special Thanks** – We thank Jerry and Arlene Prochnow for their faithful service on our Altar Committee for so many years, beginning back in the 1970's! 27 times a year this committee prepares the Lord's Supper for us to enjoy.

**Memorial Artwork** - Good Shepherd has received a memorial to purchase an appropriate artwork for our building addition. The Jerry Henckel family has donated the large piece near the new restrooms. Jerry loved the hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness," and his family requested a memorial representing this hymn as the theme. The verses were written by Thomas Chisholm, a prolific writer of poetry, who struggled with lifelong health issues. In 1923 he sent his collection of poems to William Runyan, a known musician, who set this poem to music while working for a hymnal publishing company. Runyan stated that after reading the verses, he was struck by the simple beauty of the appeal. He prayed for a tune worthy to carry the message of the poem, based on Lamentations 3:22-23. True to the claims in Lamentations, God was faithful and the beloved hymn was born. A recent recording by Christian artist Chris Rice can be found on the internet.