



May Newsletter in the Year of Our Lord 2022

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



Faith Too Weak?

In the midst of the electrical storm, the power went out. I quickly reached for the oil lamp on the fireplace mantel and lit it. At first it smoldered, giving off little light until I adjusted the wick. At times, like when a serious problem leads to a lengthy hospital stay, we might feel that our faith is like that smoldering wick. It just doesn't seem to burn brightly, but instead to flicker uncertainly. We might even be concerned that our faith is too weak.

Be careful, my friend. When God writes out his million dollar check of salvation, its worth doesn't depend on the hand that holds it. Whether that hand of faith is weak or strong, the check is still good. God has deposited in the bank of heaven the riches of Christ's payment for all sin. In his love God wrote our name on the check when he brought us to faith. His signature on the bottom of the check assures me that the million dollars is there for me. Not the condition of my faith, but Christ's payment for all my sins saves me.

My loving God does, however, want my hold on his check to grow stronger. Or as Isaiah put it, he won't blow out a flickering faith, but trims the wick so that it burns more brightly (Isaiah 42:3). My heavenly Father even reminds me how he does this. It is through the power of the Gospel in his Word and Sacraments. When I worry about my faith, I can do nothing better than to turn to them for faith's strengthening. The approaching summer season is no time to take leave from using his powerful Word and Sacrament.

Your partner in faith powered by him, Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf

Confirmation for our 11 Confirmands will be held Sunday, May 15 at 1:30 pm. They will each have an opportunity to offer a profession of their faith at a Confirmation interview in early May. Pray that the Lord would keep these young people connected to Jesus all the days of their lives.

Summer Camp - Camp Phillip Summer Camp brochures are available in the church narthex. As a member of the federation supporting Camp Phillip, our children receive a discount. A special offering to support Camp Phillip will be gathered at our services April 30th / May 1st.



Worship our Lord with joy!

Saturdays at 4:00 pm* and 5:00 pm; Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 am.

*4:00 masks are required and there is no congregational singing; Holy Communion is offered the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:15 am

Summer Worship Schedule Change

Our final Saturday evening services of the season will be Saturday, May 21 at 4:00 & 5:00 pm. This will be our final "masks/ no singing" service.

Our first Thursday evening service will be Thursday, May 26 at 6:30 pm.

Sunday worship services will be held at 8:00 and 10:00 am beginning Memorial Day weekend, May 29.

Ascension Day / Graduation Worship –

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' glorious return to heaven at a special Ascension Day worship service featuring an uplifting message and music Thursday, May 26 at 6:30 pm. This will also serve as our 8th Grade Graduation Service.

Church Picnic - Our church picnic and outdoor worship service will be held Sunday, July 31 at Regner Park. We will have one outdoor worship service at 10:00 am. WELS musician Michael Westendorf will lead us in worship and our VBS kids will also sing. After the service, we will enjoy a delicious meal, fellowship, bean bag toss tournament and games. Bring lawn chairs, yard games, and invite your friends.



Opportunities to Grow through the Word

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES at 9:15 am through May 22.

"God's Will for All People of All Time"

Join us as we review the 10 Commandments with practical applications for daily living. Grow in your appreciation of Jesus, who kept these commandments perfectly for us and died on the cross to pay for our failures. Led by Pastor Robert Hein in the Fellowship Hall. (10 Sessions)

A Bible Information Class is offered in the Commons Area. It shares the key truths of the Bible with prospective members and serves as a review for those who are members. Led by Pastor Matt Mueller.

Sunday School at 9:15 am for children 3 and up. Bring your children to learn about Jesus. .

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday Morning Bible Class - We meet Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall through May 25. We are studying the 12 Disciples. Led by Pastor Richard Lauersdorf.

Women's Friday Morning Bible Study – "In Remembrance of Jesus" Fridays from 8:00-9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Journey through four psalms remembering the victory that is ours through Jesus! An added bonus is a video devotion walking the Holy Land to further realize the firm foundation of faith in Biblical history that is ours through God's plan. All women, especially moms out there, are invited. Childcare is provided. Dates: 4/29, 5/6 & 5/13.

Summer Family Bible Study will be held in the Fellowship Hall for all ages at 9:15 am beginning June 5th.. We will dig deeper into the sermon topic of the day. Led by the pastors.

Vacation Bible School will be held July 25-29 for ages 3 through Grade 8. The theme is **"God's Wonder Lab – Jesus Does the Impossible"**. We are looking for volunteers (entering 8th grade and up) to help with crafts, teaching, outside recreation, music, and snack service, and other areas. 171 children attended last summer, so we can use plenty of volunteers. Even if you can't help all week, let us know which days you are available. Contact Cheryl Henckel or Pastor Hein for more information.

Growth Groups – Our Family Nurture Board is trying to coordinate several growth groups to meet at member homes for Bible study, prayer, fellowship and encouragement. Right now we are seeking members willing to serve as facilitators and open their home for a growth group. To begin, the facilitators will meet together to learn what this looks like and how to facilitate a growth group. Contact Pastor Matt Mueller to learn more.

Special Events and Fellowship Opportunities



Little Lambs Spring Program

will be in church Saturday, April 23rd 9:00 am. Come enjoy the children's program.

The next OWLS meeting will be at Good Shepherd Monday, April 25 at 10:00 am. This is a great opportunity to check out what OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) is all about. Our speaker will be Tabitha Schroeder from "New Beginnings" home for mothers. She will tell us all about this special blessing of a home for new and expectant mothers in need of help and Christian guidance, sponsored by Christian Life Resources. After the presentation we will enjoy our usual tasty potluck, so please bring a dish to share. Attendance is open to everyone.

Mental Wellness: Ready for Rebound? How has the mental health of individuals been affected in what has been an unprecedented time of uncertainty? Join in on a discussion of mental wellness for our times and learn specific ways to intervene for yourself or a loved one when wellness becomes unwellness or illness at Morning Star Lutheran on Monday, May 2 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Morning Star is located at N171W20131 Highland Rd., Jackson. Morning Star will be hosting Karen Fischer from Christian Family Solutions for this presentation - Please join us!

KMLES (Elementary School) Band Concert will be Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 pm in the KML Performing Arts Center.

Lutheran Chorale Concert will be Sunday, May 1 at 4:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, Milwaukee.

KML Spring Play – May 6-7 at 7:00 pm; May 8 at 2:00 pm.

KML Jazz/Echoes Concert is Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center.

KML Percussion Concert is Saturday, May 14 at 6:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center.

KML Spring Concert is Saturday, May 21 at 6:30 pm in the KML Performing Arts Center.

KML Charity Golf Outing – July 18

Baby Bottle Banks will be available Mother's Day weekend, May 8 to be filled with coins, cash, or checks in support of New Beginnings, a home for mothers in need. Please return them by Father's Day weekend. Address checks to "Good Shepherd Ladies League". This special offering is being sponsored by our Ladies League.

Eating for Health - Saturday, May 14, in the fellowship hall at 9:00 am. Learn how to be Eating for Health. What is on the end of your fork can make you feel good or bad! Food is medicine, and most chronic disease can be prevented, treated, or reversed. This presentation is offered by Bob and Eileen Searvogel. Come hear their story. Everyone is welcome. Sign up in the Welcome Center.

A Property Workday will be held Saturday, May 21 beginning at 8:00 am with indoor and outdoor projects available. A sign up sheet is available in the Welcome Center. Contact Kevin Nank for more information.

Taste of Missions will be held at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary June 11 from 11:00 am – 4:30 pm. Sample ethnic cuisine, interact with home and world missionaries, and celebrate with a worship service of thanksgiving. Learn more at tasteofmissions.com.

Youth Rally - The WELS International youth rally is approaching! The dates are June 28-July 1. If your teen grades 8-12 is interested, please let Mrs. Rau know soon at crau@gsldwb.org. The cost is \$375. If you would like to donate to help the teens with the cost of the rally, please contact Mrs. Rau.

WELS Night at the Brewers is Friday, July 8 at 7:10 pm vs. the Pittsburgh Pirates. You may order select tickets for half price. Go to brewers.com/wels. Enjoy fun and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in the WELS!

Online Giving is available at our website. You may sign in with secure password. All designations in your envelope packet are also available online, including Building Connections. Bring your regular offerings as your joyful act of worship and to meet the needs of God's people!

Ministry Update



Building "People" Connections Update

We are grateful that 250 families/individuals have promised \$898,328 towards our Building People Connections campaign to reduce or eliminate our \$1.2 million expansion mortgage. \$771,246 has already been received. Please keep up with your pledged amounts. Building Connections envelopes are available in your envelope packet or in the narthex. Special gifts in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special blessing are welcome. Consider remembering the ministry of Good Shepherd in your estate plans as well.

Our Voters' Assembly is Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 pm. At this meeting, we will elect leaders to our Coordinating Council and approve our Action Plans and Financial Plan for Ministry for church, school and Little Lambs for fiscal year 22/23. We also have a proposal to issue another one year call to Pastor Lauersdorf to serve in a retirement capacity. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

Call News – Pastor Nathaniel Timmermann holds our call to serve as our pastor, advising Board of Worship and Support. Miss Allison Bovee is considering a call from Shepherd of the Hills to serve as our 2nd Kindergarten teacher. Mr. Joshua Kramer received a call to teach grades 3 & 4 at Trinity, Genera, OH and also lead school music and serve as choir director. Please pray that God would grant these called workers wisdom to see how they can best use their gifts to serve in God's kingdom at this time.

Good Shepherd Voter's Call Meeting is Sunday, April 24 at 11:30 am to call for a second support teacher for our school.

Anniversary Celebration - We will thank the Lord for the blessings we have received through the teaching ministry of Anne Drewa at her 25th ministry anniversary celebration Sunday, May 22 at the 10:30 am worship service, with a meal and program to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Welcome Center if you plan to attend the meal. A gift box will also be out for cards and gifts in her honor. It is our pleasure to honor called workers at their 25th and 40th ministry anniversaries, and also at their retirement. The called worker gets to choose their favorites hymns and Bible verses for their celebration. Mrs. Drewa has chosen as her verse Proverbs 3:5, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding."

Retirement Celebration – We will celebrate Mrs. Sarah Mehlberg's retirement from the teaching ministry Sunday, May 29 with a reception and treats between services. A gift box will also be out for cards and gifts in her honor.

Little Lambs Gifts - Please note that a quarterly envelope is included in your envelope packet and available through online giving for Little Lambs Debt Retirement to reduce their mortgage principal. Your special gifts are appreciated.

Online Church Member Directory - An online church member directory will be available May 15th. You must request access to the member site and establish sign-in credentials with a personal email address.

The directory shows names, address, and household phone as permitted, as well as email address and Individual's contact information as permitted. A signed-in member may edit their household and personal information. Go to the www.gslcwb.org/member-access for more information and a link to a form to request access. You don't have to wait until May 15 to get set up. If you do not want your information displayed, please go to the same page for a form to opt-out. Alternatively, call the church office at 262-334-7881.

Our Congregational Mission

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.*

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

777 Indiana Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095

Phone: 262-334-7881

www.goodshepherdwels.org

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

School Information

Good Shepherd school children are performing a play "Robin Hood" Friday, April 29 at 6 pm and Saturday, April 30 at 10:00 am. They will be rehearse the week prior and perform the play in the church sanctuary.

Box Tops - Please consider signing up for the Box Top app and scanning your grocery receipts to help raise funds for our school! Here is the link:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/How-To-Earn>.

Online or digital receipts are also accepted if you prefer to shop online. If you aren't able to scan receipts or would rather not, there will be a drawer labeled "Box Tops" in the Narthex where receipts can be dropped off for the Box Top Coordinator to scan. Personal credit card information can be crossed out if you are not comfortable having this on the receipt. Thanks for your help and support!

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6! During the week, breakfast and lunch will be served to our teachers. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards this, please send in an envelope marked "Teacher Appreciation Week" to the office by April 28. Checks can be made out to "Good Shepherd Lutheran School." Contact Jen Retzlaff at jk_bowtique@yahoo.com with any questions. Thank you for helping make this week extra special for our teachers!

Special Gifts

In Memory of Dan Maciejczak from family and friends; \$500 for Little Lambs playground equipment, \$500 for the Athletic Fund, \$550 for the Music Fund, \$10 for Memorial Fund

\$500 from Debra Schmid in memory of Art Schmid for Little Lambs playground equipment

\$30 from from family and friends in honor of Gerald & Lisa Kudek's 30th wedding anniversary for the Alex Kudek Memorial Preschool Scholarship Fund

\$135 from family & friends in memory of Joseph O'Loughlin for Little Lambs Playground Equipment

\$20 from Laura Mueller in memory of Jane Barnes for Little Lambs Playground Equipment

\$100 from Jerry & Joan Krug in memory of Patsy Krug for the Christ Teens Youth Rally.

Good Shepherd Calendar

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	2	3 9:30 am Ladies League 7:00 pm Ladies League 7:00 pm Voters' Assembly	4 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 6:45 pm Men's Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	5	6 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	7 4:00 pm Worship (Masks) 5:00 pm Worship Service
8 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am Communion Worship	9 4:00 pm Pioneer Awards Night	10 6:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal	11 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm KML Jazz/Echoes Concert 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 6:45 pm Men's Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	12 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	13 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	14 4:00 pm Communion Worship (Masks) 5:00 pm Communion Worship 6:30 pm KML Percussion Concert
15 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 1:30 pm Confirmation Service	16 6:30 pm School Board	17 6:30 pm Coordinating Council	18 8:00 am Newsletter Mailing 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study 6:45 pm Men's Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	19	20 Olympic Day 3:30 pm Olympic Day Tailgating Fellowship	21 8:00 am Property Workday 4:00 pm Worship (Masks) 5:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm KML Spring Concert
22 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am Communion Worship 11:30 am Drewa Anniversary Meal	23	24	25 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study	26 Last Day of School 6:30 pm Ascension Day/Graduation Worship	27	28 1:00 pm KML Graduation
29 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Mehlberg Retirement Reception 10:00 am Worship	30 Memorial Day	31				