

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Worship Service	2	3 9:30 am Ladies League 6:30 pm Jesus Cares Worship 7:00 pm Ladies League	4 10:00 am Take Christmas tree down	5	6	7 8:00 am Congregational Breakfast 5:00 pm Communion Worship
8 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:00 am Communion Worship	9 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	10	11 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bells 6:30 pm Public Sch Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	12 7:00 pm Bible Study	13 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	14 8:30 am Shaped to Serve Seminar 5:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm KML Percussion Concert
15 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:00 am Worship	16 6:00 pm Pioneers 6:30 pm School Board 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	17 6:30 pm Coordinating Council	18 8:00 am Newsletter Mailing 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bells 6:30 pm Public Sch. Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	19 7:00 pm Bible Study	20 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	21 5:00 pm Worship
22 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Shepherd Youth Sledding	23 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	24	25 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bells 6:30 pm Public Sch. Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	26 7:00 pm Bible Study	27 8:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Grace in Action Seminar	28 8:00 am Grace in Action Seminar 9:00 am Gym Playday 5:00 pm Communion Worship
29 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 10:00 am Communion Worship	30 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	31				



January Newsletter in the Year of Our Lord 2023

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



Let it snow. Let it snow. Let it snow.

Psalm 51:7, "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow."

Say what you want about the snow that we are receiving, but what a perfect example of the goodness and love of God. Yes, it may be hard to drive in. Yes, it may be cold. Yes, it may be difficult to shovel. At the same time, it is fun. Kids love it! Making a snow angel can bring out the child in anyone. Above all these benefits, it shows us how clean we are because of the forgiveness of God, "And I will be whiter than snow."

I need to make this very clear, stay away from yellow snow; it is not lemonade! Do not make a slushy out of any snow that is any other color than white. Do not eat snow that has been melting for two days and is full of dirt and grime. These things would be disgusting and absolutely gross. I need to make this very clear as well, we needed to be cleansed by our Lord and Savior. We needed him to wash over us with his forgiving love. We needed Jesus to be born in a manger so that he could live his life perfectly clean in order to cleanse us. Without Jesus and his forgiveness, we would be more disgusting than any colored snow there could be.

I'll repeat it again, let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. Let the forgiving love of God pour down from heaven. Let the news of what Jesus has done fall over all the Earth. Let his perfection wash us and make us clean. With Jesus, we are whiter than snow!

Pastor Matt Mueller



"Made for More!" Worship Series

Join us in worship as we celebrate the truth that we are Made for More!

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| January 7/8 | Made for More: You are fearfully and wonderfully made! |
| January 14/15 | Made for More: You are God's handiwork, crafted for a special purpose! |
| January 28/29 | Made for More: You are a royal priest of God! |
| February 4/5 | Made for More: You are a vital member of the body of Christ! |



Worship our LORD with Joy!

Saturdays at 5:00 pm

Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30

Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:15 am

Christmas Services



Children's Christmas Service "The Carols of Christmas." Sunday, December 18 at 3:00 & 5:00 pm. (If possible, please park across the street at Little Lambs to leave more spaces for the elderly and our guests. Be careful not to park over the sidewalk on Decorah Ave.)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services - Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 pm & 9:00 pm

Enjoy Christmas with special singing, musical groups, and candlelight. At the end of the service we put out all the lights except the Christmas tree, and sing "Silent Night" by candlelight as we each hold our own lit candles.

Christmas Day Festival Service - Sunday, December 25 at 9:00 am (note time)

New Year's Eve Communion Worship Saturday, December 31 at 5:00 pm (note time)

First Sunday of Christmas - Sunday, January 1 at 9:00 am (note time) Note this is a separate service from New Year's Eve.

Holy Communion will be celebrated in January on January 7/8 and 28/29.

Sunday Bible Studies at 9:15 am

New Sunday Bible Study beginning January 15th at 9:15 am.

"10 Things to Tell Your Kids/Grandkids." This Bible topic is intended for parents and



Opportunities to Grow through the Word

New Bible Information Classes— Two Options - “Our New Life with Jesus” Monday nights at 7:00 pm, beginning January 9th. This course covers the key truths of Christianity, a refresher course for our members and an introduction to the Bible for those looking for a church home. This 13 session course serves as our Adult membership class. There is no cost or obligation to join. Invite a friend! Bring them with you to the first class. Led by Pastor Robert Hein in the Fireside Room.

Pastor Paul Janke will also lead a Bible Information Class on Saturdays from 9:00-10:00 am beginning January 7th. To register for either class, contact Pastor Hein at 262-334-7881.

Wednesday Morning Bible Class is held at 9:00 am. Our topic is the Book of Job with the title “Job, Faith Tried and Triumphant.” This book deals with the age old question “Why do believers suffer?” “Is sin the cause for suffering?” “What kind of power does Satan have?” We also will find the cross of our Savior in this Old Testament book. Come and join us! Led by Pastor Richard Lauersdorf in the Fellowship Hall.

Thursday Evening Bible Study – “Six Very Important Chapters of the Bible.” 6 sessions from 7:00-8:00 pm, beginning January 12th. Led by Pastor Paul Janke. This class will be held in the Fellowship Hall, but you may also participate by Zoom from home. Please signup in the Welcome Center and if you are participating by Zoom, add your email contact. Jan 12 - John 2, Jan 19 - Genesis 22, Jan 26 - Luke 15, Feb 2 - Exodus 3, Feb 9 - Acts 9, Feb 16 - Isaiah 53

Friday Women’s Bible Study – Fridays at 8:00 am when school is in session. Calling women of all ages! Focus on “The Chosen. A video depiction of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.” Led by Melissa Linton and Marilyn Sievert.

Jesus Cares: Our special Christmas Worship at the Cross service was blessed by God. We had more than a dozen participants with special needs attending and their parents and caregivers. Everyone was excited to have this opportunity to worship every month. Our next services held at Good Shepherd, are January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, and May 9 at 6:00 pm. Invite a friend with special needs and attend these blessed services with them. Thank you to all our volunteers who made this possible!

A new member welcome is scheduled for the 8:00 am worship service Sunday, January 8, with a time of fellowship to follow. Come meet, greet and welcome our new members!

Thanks! - The faculty and staff of Good Shepherd thank you for your Christmas cards, gifts and words of encouragement during this Christmas season. God’s blessings to all of you in the New Year!

grandparents especially Sunday Feb 5 and 12 in the sanctuary, 9:15-10:15am. Led by Pastor Mueller.

“Gifted to Serve” Discover how God has marvelously designed and uniquely gifted you to serve him and others with the talents and opportunities he places before you. This Bible study supports our “Made for More” sermon series as part of our Action Plan to initiate a congregation-wide member ministry effort helping God’s people discover their strengths and linking them to service. Led by Pastor Robert Hein in the Fellowship Hall.

An Open Forum will be held Sunday, January 8 from 9:45-10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall (following the new member welcome reception) The purpose of this Open Forum is for our leaders to share ministry plan updates, answer questions, receive input and encourage member support and involvement. Join us!

Youth Bible Class: Mark your calendars - Jan 29, Feb 26, Mar 26, and Apr 23; 9:15-10:15am downstairs in the Commons Area. All 8th-12th graders are invited to come and study “How to...” with us.

Sunday School is a great way to teach your children the wonderful stories of the Bible. Start bringing your PreK - 7th grade children to Sunday School so they can learn all these stories from the Bible. Sunday School will be having a parent/child Christmas party on Jan 15. Parents are invited to attend with their children to enjoy a morning of fun and spiritual growth. The Sunday School children will also be singing at the 10:30 am worship on Jan 22.

Special Events and Fellowship Opportunities

Christmas Tree Take Down - Volunteers are needed to take down our church Christmas tree, Wednesday, January 4 at 10:00 am. Contact Ron Kempf for more information. Thanks to all our volunteers who have helped beautify our church for Christmas.

Weather Updates - Check out Fox News #6 for any Good Shepherd delays or cancellations. These will also be posted on our webpage at www.goodshepherdwels.org.

A Congregational Bible Breakfast

will be held Saturday, January 7 from 8:00-9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Eric Roecker of WELS Evangelism will present on the topic – “Shifting Our Outreach Strategy.”



He will emphasize the importance of personal witness in our current culture. Everyone is welcome to attend! Children are welcome to eat with their parents and then childcare will be provided for them. Please register in the Welcome Center and indicate how many of your children need childcare. Also, indicate if you are willing to help set up and serve.

KML Percussion Concert is Saturday, January 14 at 6:30 pm at the KML Performing Arts Center. All are invited.

Worship Enrichment Weekend – Several students from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will lead the worship service, share the message and lead the Sunday Bible study at all services January 21st -22nd. Their focus - Redeemed children of God love to join together to praise and proclaim the name of our God who brought us out of darkness into his wonderful light! Then why is it that Sunday mornings can get to be a routine, just something we do? Why is it so easy for the liturgy to become mindless repetitions instead of what it really is- a joyful reminder of our Savior's love?

Nearing the first anniversary of the release of the Christian Worship: Hymnal, your congregation has the opportunity to do just that.

Three seminary seniors and a parish musician will lead worship at Good Shepherd to help us understand why we do what we do in worship and how it can be done differently. You are cordially invited to join us.

A Gym Play is set for Saturday,

January 28 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at Good Shepherd.

Come bring the kids for some indoor fun and fellowship, including our own bounce

house. Invite your friends! We will also hold Gym play days February 25 and March 25th.



Good Shepherd Marriage Enrichment Night will be held Valentines Day Weekend, Friday, February 10 from 6:00-9:00 pm. This is a great opportunity for couples to strengthen their marriage and enjoy wonderful Christian fellowship. Look for further details to come.

Ministry Update



Building “People” Connections

Update – We are grateful that 259 families/individuals have promised

\$989,824 towards our Building People Connections campaign to reduce or eliminate our \$1.2 million expansion mortgage. \$927,891 has already been received. Our remaining mortgage is \$144,219. 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.

Ministry Plan Update - We encourage all members of Good Shepherd to return their first fruits to the Lord as a joyful act of worship and an expression of gratitude to God for his priceless blessings. Consider offering a special year end Christmas gift in thankfulness for the blessings the Christ-child brings to your life. **“Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops!”** Proverbs 3:9 Since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, please remember your regular weekly offering and special Christmas gift.

2023 Offering envelopes are available in the narthex. Please don't use new envelopes in 2022 or old offering envelopes in 2023.

Grace in Action consultants will meet with our church leaders January 27-28th to help us develop a strategic plan for our ministry and serve together with all members of our church family to carry them out.

At our Voters' Call meeting December 11th a one year call was issued to Mrs. Hannah Swiontek to continue as an Instructional teacher. We rejoice that she has accepted that call. We called Mr. David Porth to serve as our Sixth Grade teacher. He presently serves at Pilgrim Lutheran, Menomonee Falls. He has two children. We congratulate Mrs. Madison Boulden and her husband Nathan as they are expecting their first child this May and she will not continue in her full time call next school year. Shepherd of the Hills will be having their own call meeting to offer a permanent call to Miss Allison Bovee to continue teaching Kindergarten. We called Pastor Samuel Hacker to serve as our associate pastor advising our Worship ministry and Support ministry with an emphasis on stewardship training. He is single, and presently serves at Grace Lutheran, Flint, MI. We called Mrs. Samantha Davis to serve as our special education teacher. She presently serves at Precious Lambs Early Learning Center, Raleigh, NC. She is married to James Davis. Please keep all of these called workers in your prayers as they deliberate these calls. Our Voters also approved a proposal to discontinue West Bend voting at Good Shepherd.

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

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Phone: 262-334-7881

www.goodshepherdwels.org

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

More ways to get involved!

Personal Member Ministry Update – Our core team is set to launch our first “Shaped to Serve” Discovery workshop January 14th. For this first workshop, we are inviting ministry coordinators to introduce them the blessings and benefits of these workshops as an opportunity to discover how marvelously God has gifted us to serve in our home, church, and community. Additional workshops will be offered in the coming months for all members to discover that we truly are “Made for More!”

Men of his Word Conference – Saturday, February 18, 2023 at the Oshkosh Convention Center. Theme – **Man Up in a man down world**. All men invited! Music by Koine. To learn more about topics or to register online, go to www.menofhisword.org. Contact Pastor Hein for carpool planning.



Thanks to the many wonderful volunteers who helped make Christmas for Kids a wonderful success. 133 children from our church and community were enrolled.

Now we are following up with unchurched families to invite them to events at Good Shepherd. Easter for Kids is April 1st.

KML Building Campaign – At our worship services December 4/5 we promoted the needs and opportunities of the KML Building Campaign "Let's Grow Together". Prayerfully consider how you can support this campaign. A brief video was shown and a flyer explaining the details was included in the bulletin. Extra copies of that brochure are available in the Welcome Center and you can view the video at this link: <https://www.kmlhs.org/grow/>.

Little Lambs is hiring for an opening position. As our center is growing we now need multiple staff to open the doors at 6 a.m. for our early children. Contact Anita Cook at if you have questions or know someone who likes an early bird shift. 262-338-1764. The opener has a very fun and flexible position that includes prepping snacks and meals, greeting parents and taking messages for the morning, substituting in the classrooms to help teachers, and also providing breaks.

Register for Preschool & Kindergarten - Would you like to find out more about our Preschool and Kindergarten programs for next school year (2023-2024)? Call the school office at -262-334-7881 to learn more. Pre-enroll your children now for planning purposes. Tell your unchurched friends! Ask about our Parental Choice program.