

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

## Easter Never Ends!

For whatever reason in our world, it seems that we tend to look forward to things more than we look back at them. We hear Christmas songs on the radio for months before we actually celebrate Christmas, but how long do they play after? Easter candy, bunnies, and flowers fill the store aisles before Easter, and then are cleared out at crazy discount prices the day after.



It's not like this in the church. We will soon celebrate one of the most important parts of our Christian faith rejoicing in the truth that Jesus has risen from the dead! The tomb was empty! Easter proves that Jesus conquered sin, death, and the devil! And even though we might put the Easter lilies and candy away soon after April 9, the celebration will continue both here at church and forever in our hearts. Every Sunday is filled with the peace and joy of Easter and every day the wonderful news that Jesus is alive brings comfort to our lives. Easter never ends.

The Apostle Paul proclaims, "We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him" (1 Thessalonians 4:14). It's true. Easter never ends for believers who have mourned the death of a loved one. Easter never ends as you battle cancer or some other disease that is destroying your body. Easter never ends as you wonder and worry about your own death. It never ends because you have a Savior who promised, "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). Let's never stop celebrating Easter!

Pastor Matt Mueller

**Jesus Cares:** Our next Jesus Cares worship services are Tuesday, **April 4**, and **May 2** at 6:00 pm. Invite a friend with special needs and attend these blessed services with them. Flyers are available in the Welcome Center. Take some home and invite a friend. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who make this ministry possible!

## Worship our LORD with Joy!



Saturdays at 5:00 pm  
 Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30  
 (Holy Communion is celebrated  
**April 15/16<sup>th</sup>** and **April 22/23<sup>rd</sup>**)  
 Sunday School and Bible Study  
 at 9:15 am

**Join us for our final Wednesday Lenten Service!**  
**Relive Jesus' journey to the cross and empty tomb!**

Wednesday, **March 29** at 10:00 am & 6:30 pm.  
 "Lessons Learned from People of the Passion –  
 The Astonished Centurion."  
 No Lenten Dinner March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Holy Week Services



**Palm Sunday April 1/2** we invite you to gather prior to each service to join in our Processional with palm branches just as Jesus' disciples did 2,000 years ago.

**Maundy Thursday Communion Worship April 6<sup>th</sup>**  
 at 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

**Good Friday Worship April 7<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30 & 6:30 pm  
 (6:30 pm is Service of Darkness)

(No Saturday worship **April 8<sup>th</sup>**)

**Easter Worship Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** 6:00 (Sunrise),  
 8:30 (note the time), & 10:30 am

Join us for Easter Breakfast at  
 7:00 am and 9:30 am.



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**"Unworthy"**, a WELS contemporary musical group, will play at our worship services "Sunday, **May 7<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 and 10:30 am. Our Saturday worship service will follow our traditional format. Sunday School will be singing May 7 during the 10:30 am worship service.



## Opportunities to Grow through the Word

**New Sunday Bible Study** begins **March 26<sup>th</sup>** at 9:15 am - **A study of Galatians**. God inspired the Apostle Paul to write this book of the Bible to encourage us to embrace the freedom we have in Christ and not to get led astray by false teaching and sinful living. Come grow in your faith and take home to useful applications for day to day living. Led by Pastor Hein in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday School** - Sundays at 9:15 am All children Preschool 3 and up are invited to come and learn about Jesus and his love through Bible stories, crafts, games, songs, and fun activities.

**Youth Bible Class:** Mark your calendars – Sundays, **March 26**, and **April 23**; 9:15-10:15 am downstairs in the Commons Area. All 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to come and study "How to..." with us.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** - is held at 9:00 am. A study of the book of Job. Led by Pastor Paul Janke in the Fellowship Hall.

**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.

**A Bible Information Class "Our New Life with Jesus"** will offered down in the Fireside Room from 6:30-8:00 pm beginning Monday, **April 17** (13 sessions) It is intended to share the key truths of the Bible with prospective members and serves as a review for those who are members. Team led by Pastor Hein and Pastor Janke.

**An Overview of the Bible** - Page through the entire Bible quickly with us to give you an overview of all of Scripture and how the Bible ties together in just two lessons, **May 7 and 14**, 9:15-10:15 am. Taught by Pastor Mueller in the church sanctuary.

## Ministry Events



**Personal Member Ministry Workshops** - You are invited! –Shaped to Serve workshops will be held Saturdays from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm **April 22** and **May 6**. We urge every member of Good Shepherd to attend one of these exciting presentations. It's a wonderful opportunity to discover how marvelously God has gifted you to serve in your home, church, and community. Discover how you have been "Made for More!" Register using this QR code, or signup in the Welcome Center.



## Special Events and Fellowship Opportunities

**OWLS Update** - The next meeting of our Dodge/Washington OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be Monday, **March 27**, 10:00 AM at Peace, Hartford. Our speaker will be Bea Punke sharing with us her experiences as a volunteer with our WELS African Medical Mission as well as with Camp Basic, a unique WELS camp for those developmentally disabled. Come and learn how WELS is serving others in need in various ways. You're always invited. We will also have a tasty potluck so please bring a dish to share.

**Ladies Night Out:** Friday, **April 21**. Enjoy food at the Fermentorium starting at 7:00 pm and then head over for some adult only skating at 9 pm, Ozaukee Skateland. For more information and to RSVP, contact Kelly Dahlberg, kdahlberg2313@gmail.com/262-224-2313.

**KMLES (Elementary Schools) Spring Band Concert** will be Tuesday **April 25<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 pm in the KML PAC.

**Ladies League** will meet in April on **April 11<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm, not April 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Service Opportunities

**Easter Breakfasts** – We look forward to celebrating Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. At 7:00 am & 9:30 am, we are hosting two Easter Breakfasts in the Fellowship Hall. You have an opportunity to participate by helping set up and serve or bringing various food items. Please sign up in the Welcome Center or online.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held mornings this year **July 24-28<sup>th</sup>** with the theme "God's Living Water; Covered in Jesus' Grace". You may register online. Contact Cheryl Henckel if you can assist as a teacher, helper, craft leader etc. We also plan to hold out outdoor worship service and church picnic at Regner Park on **July 30<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 am.

**Easter Yard Signs**, inviting our friends and neighbors to celebrate Easter with us, are available in the Welcome Center.

**The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS)** Spring Rally will be held Saturday, **April 15** at Good Shepherd, starting at 9:00 am. The speaker will be Stefan Felgenhaur. He and his wife recently returned from serving as missionaries in Africa and he is Mission Coordinator for WELS World Missions. Sign up to attend and assist today in the Welcome Center!

**A Property Workday** is planned for Saturday, **May 6<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 8:00 am. We can use volunteers to beautify our campus inside and out.

**Little Lambs is hiring.** Thank you for the interest in spreading the word to help Little Lambs become fully staffed again. Rooms are combined currently in efforts to care for the children that we have. In order to grow and take the children off the waiting list we are still hoping to hire an Infant Lead teacher, and a 2 year old Lead teacher. For anyone one that you know looking for an early childcare career - please tell them to contact Little Lambs at 262-338 - 1764."If you - or someone you know has these skills please call Anita Cook at Little Lambs.

**Open Forums – all Members invited!** Planning is underway to develop our 2023-2024 Ministry Plan which will be approved at our Voter's Assembly Tuesday, **May 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm. **Open Forums** will be held Saturday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm and Sunday **April 30<sup>th</sup>** at 9:15 am to share preliminary Action Plans and Ministry Financial Plans with all our members for your information and input. We will emphasize new ministry initiatives and offer opportunities for personal involvement. Please make plans to attend.

**Online Giving** is available at our website. You may sign in with secure password. All designation in your envelope packet are also available online, including special gifts for Holy Week and Easter. Bring your regular offerings as your joyful act of worship and to meet the needs of God's people!

**Thrivent members** may choose to direct their Thrivent choice dollars to the ministry of Good Shepherd.

**Our Bell Choir** would like to add two additional large bells to add to the range that we can play. We have some funds available, but can use additional gifts (\$3,000) to make this a reality. If you wish to assist, address your special gift to Good Shepherd, and mark your envelope "Handbells."

## Ministry Update



### Building "People" Connections

**Update** – We are grateful that 261 families/individuals have promised \$1,010,972 towards our Building People Connections campaign to eliminate our \$1.2 million expansion mortgage. Our expansion mortgage balance is now \$67,727. 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.

We celebrated the 3rd anniversary of our Building People Connections emphasis in March. Wouldn't it be a blessing to have this expansion mortgage completely paid off to free up funds to enhance our ministry? Here is a summary of the blessings we recalled at our anniversary celebration. Praise the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits! ~ Psalm 103:1 We don't want to take God's blessings for granted, but thank him for each and every one!

#### 1) Spiritual Blessings

- We wake up each day as dearly loved children of God, washed spotlessly clean by the blood of Jesus
- God's goodness and mercy will follow us every day of our life, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
- We are fellow members of the body of Christ with a vital ministry to carry out

#### 2) Enhanced Facilities

- 4 new classrooms, Fellowship Hall, Fireside Bible study room, new bathrooms, additional parking, Elevator Welcome Center with coffee bar, expanded narthex, new heating and A/C and fire alarm. new furnishings. offices, new secure entrance, beautiful landscaping and aesthetics, storage area

#### 3) Growth In Ministry

- Serving more children through our school
- Putting our facilities to good use to build connections through enhanced ministry
- Staged for future growth

#### 4) Financial Blessings

- Six years ago, we approved a \$3.2 million dollar facility expansion.
- Three years ago, we adopted a Building People Connections emphasis to eliminate our remaining \$1.2 million dollar expansion mortgage
- 367 families/individuals supported this effort

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

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

- Our building mortgage is now down to \$67,727
- Let's complete our pledges to completely eliminate this remaining debt!

**Ministry Presentations - April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>** Our Family Nurture Board will provide a ministry update on their areas of ministry, including ministry events and service opportunities. Our Adult Nurture Board will provide their ministry update **April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**.

**Ministry Updates** – Would you like to receive a weekly email ministry update including a list of people you can remember in your prayers? Send an email with that request to Pastor Hein at [revRhein@gmail.com](mailto:revRhein@gmail.com).

## School Information

**Important WI School Parental Choice** – The deadline to apply for school parental choice is **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please check out our school website for more information.

**Little Lambs Spring Program** will be in church Saturday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 am, with treats served following in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.

**School Play** - During the week of May 1st, we are excited to bring in a professional acting company to teach our students to perform a play. The Prairie Fire Children's Theatre group will hold rehearsals in church Monday through Friday, May 1-5. There will be two presentations of the play Friday **May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm and Saturday, **May 6<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 am.

## Special Gifts

\$50 from Marcia Weber in memory of David Oppermann for Hand Bells

From family and friends in memory of Pastor Richard Lauersdorf

\$100 for Choir Music; \$210 Church Memorial Fund  
\$250 for School; \$75 for WELS World Missions

\$60 from family & friends in memory of Jean Riegleman for Church Memorial Fund

From family and friends in memory of Marilyn Anderson  
\$30 Hand Bells; \$10 Church Memorial Fund

\$100 from Jerry & Joan Krug in memory of Patsy Krug for Hand Bells

\$120 from family and friends in memory of Theodor Nommensen for the Church Memorial Fund

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 5:00 pm Communion Worship
<b>2</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School and Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm Bible Information Class 7:00 pm KML General Board	<b>4</b> 9:30 am Ladies League 6:00 pm Jesus Cares Worship 7:00 pm Ladies League	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bells 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	<b>6</b> 10:00 am Maundy Thursday Communion Worship  6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Worship	<b>7</b> No School 1:30 pm Good Friday Worship 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship	<b>8</b> No Saturday Service
<b>9</b> 6:00 am Sunrise Service 7:00 am Easter Breakfast 8:30 am Easter Worship Worship 9:30 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am Easter Worship	<b>10</b> No School	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bell Choir 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm KML Family Music Fest	<b>15</b> 9:00 am LWMS Rally – Good Shepherd  5:00 pm Communion Worship
<b>16</b> 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School and Bible Study 10:30 am Communion Worship	<b>17</b> 6:00 pm Pioneers 6:30 pm Bible Information Cl	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Coordinating Council	<b>19</b> 8:00 am Newsletter Mailing 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bell Choir 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Shaped to Serve Workshop 5:00 pm Communion Worship
<b>23</b> 8:00 am Communion Worship 9:15 am Sunday School and Bible Study 10:30 am Communion Worship	<b>24</b> 6:30 pm Bible Information Cl	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:15 pm Adult Bell Choir 6:30 pm Public School Catechism 7:30 pm Adult Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:00 am Women's Bible Study	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Little Lambs Spring Program 5:00 pm Worship
<b>30</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School and Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	<b>31</b> 6:30 pm Bible Information Cl					