



March Newsletter The Year of Our Lord 2021

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

**"How will he not also, along with Christ, graciously give us all things?"**

**Romans 8:32**

Do you know any super Christians, believers who remain strong in the faith regardless what they are facing? More often when troubles wash over the side of life's boat, believers are tempted to raise battered faces heavenward with the anguished question, "Where is God? Has he forgotten me?"

Have you ever asked that question? Old age creeps up with its aches and pains and promises of more to come. The doctor has done his best and says we have to live with our medical problem. Life has lost its flavor and tomorrow offers more of the same. We've gone home leaving a loved one under that fresh mound at the cemetery. We look around at our nation and the world and see Satan seemingly gaining the upper hand. And before we know it, out comes the question, "Where is God? Has he forgotten me?"

Once when a troubled believer asked that question, his pastor replied, "He's out on Calvary." There God himself hung dying because he cares. There Jesus stained the sand with his precious blood because he loves us and wants us with him in heaven. When we see how God cared enough to prepare us for eternal life in heaven, we can trust him to get us through our passing, earthly life.

Your partner in kneeling beneath his Lenten cross with its assurance of God's abiding love,

Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf

## **Open Forums – All Members Invited!**

Planning is underway to develop our 2021-2022 Ministry Plan which will be approved at our Voter's Assembly April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Each area of ministry is researching their ministry needs. **Open Forums** will be held Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:15 am to share preliminary Action Plans and Ministry Financial Plans with all our members for your information and input.

## **Worship our Lord with joy!**

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

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 am

\*At the 4:00 pm service masks are required for all and there is no congregational singing.

(Holy Communion is offered the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week-ends of the month)

**Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:15 am**

**Join us for midweek Lenten Worship! Relive Jesus' journey to the cross and empty tomb!**

**"Love So Amazing, So Divine"**

Wednesdays at 10:00 am and 6:30 pm

February 24	"Love For the Holy Scriptures"
March 3	"Love For a Loathsome Traitor"
March 10	"Love For a Pitiable Coward"
March 17	"Love For an Unjust Judge"
March 24	"Love For a Dying Criminal"

### **Holy Week Services**

#### **Maundy Thursday Communion Worship**

April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am & 5:00 & 6:30 pm

(The 5:00 pm has been added this year for the sake of physical distancing.)

#### **Good Friday Worship**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 12:00, 1:30 & 6:30 pm (12:00 pm is added this year. 6:30 pm is Service of Darkness)

#### **Easter Worship**

Saturday at 5:00pm,

Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 (Sunrise), 8:30, & 10:30 am

(The Saturday service at 5:00 pm has been added this year for the sake of physical distancing.)

## Sacred Concerts & Special Events

**KML Sacred Band and Choir Concert** will be Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Check the [kmlhs.org](http://kmlhs.org) website for streaming information.

**Easter for Kids** will be held Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>. We have two options available for you this year. Register for either online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org)

- 1) You may register for a free Easter for Kids takeout box to be picked up by the carport entrance from 10:00-11:00 am for ages 3-10. This will include a link to an online Easter Bible story and song, take home craft project, treats, and activities booklet. Tell your friends and neighbors to register online by March 23rd guarantee a box. This is a great way to celebrate the joyous meaning of Easter or...
- 2) Attend in person Family Easter for Kids from 9:00--11:00 am. Children must attend with a parent or guardian. We will socially distance sitting as families as we gather to sing songs, work on a family craft project, watch an Easter video, enjoy a interactive Easter Bible story and snack, as well as taking part in an Easter Egg Hunt. Once again register online for planning purposes. Children from our church and community will celebrate the joyous meaning of Easter. We ask everyone 5 and older to wear a mask. Easter for Kids is funded through special gifts. To support this ministry, please use a "Kid's Program" envelope in the narthex.

## Opportunities to Grow through the Word

**Sunday Bible Studies** at 9:15 am beginning March 7th.

**Open My Eyes, Lord!** This study of familiar Bible stories and favorite passages will begin with the prayer of the Psalmist: Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your Word. Psalm 119:18 (NIV)

We will approach God's Word with the humble confession that we can miss the meaning and value of what God says. We will also seek to honor God and study his Word expectantly in the confidence that there are more wonderful things there, truths he will help us discover.

The class will be asked to share their favorite stories and passages in small groups. Some may wish to tell the story of how a passage became their favorite. Then the group will study a favorite together, using suggested strategies, some familiar and some new. For example, "What do I see if I put myself in the place of someone in this story?" A soldier putting on his full armor. A disciple of John sent to Jesus to ask if their teacher had gotten it wrong about Jesus. A tax collector hearing the story of the Lost Son. Led by Pastor John Paustian in the fellowship hall.

**"Revelation, The Distant Triumph Song"** The book of Revelation uses picture language to describe the end times in which we are living. Come study this glorious vision of the future. It's not too late to join in this study. Led by Pastor Robert Hein down in commons area.

**Sunday School** - Sundays at 9:15 am All children from Preschool through Grade 8 are invited to come and learn about Jesus and his love through Bible stories, crafts, games, songs, and fun activities.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** - We meet Wednesday mornings in church from 9:00-10:00 am. Our theme is "An Epistle of Authentic Christianity" and will show how practical faith is in our lives. Regardless of your age, come and join our active group. Led by Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf.

**Time Out For Mom's Bible Study**—All moms invited. Join us as we study the book of Habakkuk addressing the question – How do God's people pray when they are in despair?" Led by Marilyn Sievert each Friday from 8:00-9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall Childcare is provided by parents on a rotating basis.

Our **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. Each participant will have a workbook provides an outline of the video segment and a follow-up section for reviewing each lesson on their own.

Register online at [www.goodshepherdwels.org](http://www.goodshepherdwels.org). A new session will begin Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm, but you may join at any time.

**Men's Bible Breakfast** – Enjoy a hearty homemade breakfast, served by our Board of Evangelism, followed by a brief Bible study led by Pastor Robert Hein. Saturday March 13th from 8:00-9:30 am. Sign up online or at the table in the welcome center for planning purposes.

## Ministry Update

**Thank you!** - For the past 16 years Cheryl Henckel has directed the Little Lambs Child Care Center and taught PK3 and PK4 at Good Shepherd. She is now stepping down as director of the Little Lambs Child Care Center which will allow her to focus her ministry in the classroom. We take this opportunity to thank Miss Henckel for her years of dedicated service at Little Lambs. She has done a phenomenal job positively impacting the lives of the many families and little ones who passed through our child care center. We were all blessed to have her serve this role, and with much appreciation we thank you Miss Henckel!

**Little Lambs Update** - We welcome Anita Cook who will be serving as the new Little Lambs Director. Mrs. Cook is an 2000 KML alum. The Cook family moved to the West Bend area in 2019. Mrs. Cook's husband John is pastor at both St. Paul's and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches. The Cook family has four children: Julian graduated from Good Shepherd in 2020 and is now at KML, Helena and Hosea are both students at Good Shepherd and Esther is 3 years old. We welcome Mrs. Cook and pray that God blesses her ministry with the families and children at Little Lambs!

**Little Lambs Childcare** is hiring full and part time teachers to join our team! Free childcare for employees during their shift; WELS or ELS members. Please contact Anita Cook to learn more at 262-338-1764.

**Building "People" Connections Update** – We are grateful that 225 families/individuals have promised \$799,799 towards our Building People Connections campaign to reduce or eliminate our \$1.2 million expansion mortgage. \$400,023 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.

**Voters' Assembly/Call Meeting - February 23rd** - New bylaw proposals and some wording changes to the Constitution were approved by our Voters at our meeting on January 26th, and other bylaw and constitution changes were presented for discussion only. We will vote on the bylaw and constitution changes at a special Voters' Assembly February 23rd at 7:00 pm. If approved, we will also elect new Coordinating Council members which includes officers and chairman of the six board; Adult Nurture, Family Nurture, Outreach, School, Support and Worship. These leaders will have authority to appoint the other members of their board as well as coordinators and ministry team members. They will also develop an Action Plan to share with the congregation. Our existing Coordinating Council will continue to function through the end of the fiscal year. We will also call a third full time pastor to work especially with our youth and young families was approved. We are seeking a pastor with 5-10 years of experience to focus especially with youth and young families. Our District President determines which names to place on our call list.

## Service &

### Fellowship Opportunities

**OWLS** - The February meeting of our Dodge/Washington OWLS will be Monday, February 22, 10:00 AM at Peace, Hartford. We will be watching Salty Earth's (Christian film maker) DVD "The Author, the Star and the Keeper".

Come and find out what this interesting presentation is all about. Everyone is invited. Masks and social distancing will be required. A short meeting after, no potluck. Questions call Pastor Scheele, 353-9838.

**Community Service** - In an effort to continue to build connections in our community and increase the ability for people to serve, our Board for Evangelism is planning community service events for the first week of May. To learn more or suggest an organization or individual who could benefit from having volunteers help for a few hours, please contact Ramiro Paz at 262-353-0797 or [ramiro.paz32@gmail.com](mailto:ramiro.paz32@gmail.com).

**Camp Phillip** offers wonderful summer camp opportunities for children and families. To learn more, go to [www.campphillip.com](http://www.campphillip.com).



**Daylight Savings Time** – Remember to move your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday March 13th.

**Easter Flowers** made be ordered to beautify our church for Easter, and may be given in honor of a blessing or in memory of a loved one. Look for a sign up sheet soon in the narthex.

## 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 eter-  
nal life and they  
shall never per-  
ish.*

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

**Good Shepherd Evangelical  
Lutheran Church & School**

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

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

## School Information

**WI Parental Choice Notice** - Good Shepherd Lutheran School participates in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. For students selected by the state, families receive a voucher that pays their students' tuition in full. Currently over 38 families participate. The open application period for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) for the 2021-2022 school runs through April 20, 2021. Is your family eligible for the WPCP? Go to <https://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs/student-applications> or contact the school office for more information.

**Preschool & Kindergarten Registration** - If you missed our Preschool 3, 4 and Kindergarten Open House event January 16th, we can still connect with you personally to give you a tour and tell you more about our programs for Preschool and Kindergarten. Call the school office at 334-7881 for registration information.

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

## Special Gifts

\$1,320 in memory of Florence Enderle from family and friends for Building Connections

\$30 in memory of Florence Enderle from family and friends for Handbell Choir

\$200 in memory of Irene Butzlaff from family and friends for Building Connections

\$75 in memory of Irene Butzlaff from family and friends for Choir Music Fund

\$25 in memory of Violet Frank, mother of Jeanette Gudex, from family and friends for the Ziesemer Scholarship Fund