



November Newsletter in the Year of Our Lord 2020

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

Buried With Christ

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:3-4 (NIV)

It may not jump out at us that saying "you were baptized" is saying more than this happened in the past. "Were baptized" and "were buried" are passive verbs. In baptism God does something to us and for us that we could not even begin to accomplish on our own. We cannot reach across the miles and through the centuries to somehow bury ourselves with Christ.

In your baptism God connected you to salvation history. He buried you with Christ, declaring his death to be your death, his payment for sin, your payment for sin. The connection didn't end there. He also raised you with Christ, giving you spiritual life.

All this is his gracious gift, not something we earn or deserve by doing good things. The gift is a gift of new life. We were spiritually dead, unable to do anything with any worth or value. This new life shows itself in valuable works of love freely done to his glory and to thank our Savior. That, too, is his precious gift to us through baptism. Pursue that new life!

In Christ, Pastor John Paustian

Worship Christ with us!

Thursdays at 5:00 pm
(ends on 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.

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.

Personal Devotions - Your pastors are also happy to meet with you personally for a devotion and 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 with that request.

Worship Focus

End Times - We are entering the End Times season of the church year, in which we focus on living in faith in these last days as we await Jesus' second coming. Here is the focus of each week:

- Reformation Celebration- (October 31st-November 1st) Celebrate the truths Martin Luther restored that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, as revealed to us in God's Word alone.
- Last Judgment - (Nov. 7-8) Prepare to stand before the Lord on the Last Day, trusting in Christ as your Savior.
- Saints Triumphant - (November 14-15) Celebrate the glory our departed loved ones in Christ are enjoying with Jesus in heaven. We will remember those members who passed away in the past year.
- Christ the King - (November 21-22) Focus on Christ, our victorious King, who rules at the right hand of God.

Opportunities to Grow through the Word

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES and SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:15 am

The Word Endures: Lessons from Luther Yesterday and Today

We will explore key truths from God's Word as echoed by Martin Luther during the Reformation era. By discovering the ways Luther taught these principles to the people of his day, we will gain a better understand the faith of the famous reformer and grow in our knowledge of doctrines that still root the Christian faith today. Topics: Christian Freedom in the Cause of Reform, Teach the Word to Children, Appreciate the Role of the Old Testament Law, Good Works, Conversion and the Will, Prayer, Marriage, and the Lord's Supper. Led by Pastor Paustian in the Fellowship Hall.

"Angels and Demons" There is a battle going on behind the scenes between angels and demons. Learn about their origin and purpose as we learn to overcome the attacks of Satan and his evil angels, and find comfort in the protection of the good angels. Led by Pastor Hein downstairs in the Commons Area. Elevator is available to use.

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 - We are currently studying the Lutheran Confessions and how they apply to our lives today. Come and study with us Wednesdays at 9:00 am.

Time Out For Mom's Friday Bible Study – Fridays at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. 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. 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 - Sundays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Contact Pastor Paustian for more information.

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Join us for Thanksgiving Worship Wednesday November 25th at 5:00 pm or 6:30 pm, (Note 5:00 pm is an additional service time for this year) or on Thursday November 26th at 9:00 am. There will also be an online service available on Thanksgiving. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on God's goodness to us and praise him for his awesome blessings. "Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits!"

Food Pantry – We invite you to bring non-perishable goods prior to Thanksgiving to the designated box in the welcome center. We will include these items in our Thanksgiving display in front of church as a way to express our gratitude to the Lord for his many blessings. After services, we will take these items to our local food pantry to help those in need.

Service / Fellowship Opportunities

OWLS November Meeting - Our Dodge/Washington OWLS November Meeting will be Monday, November 23, 10:00 AM at Peace, Hartford. Our speaker will be Dan Nommensen from Christian Family Solutions. He will share with us their Christian counseling mission and ministry available to all of us. All are invited. There will be a brief meeting after the presentation, but no pot-luck. Questions, call Pastor Scheele, 262-353-9838.

Pioneer Kringle Pickup is in the Fellowship Hall Saturday November 14th from 11:30-am - 12:30 pm.

Christmas for Kids will be Saturday December 5th from 9:00 am – 11:45 am (potty trained) through 4th grade. We had a great turnout last year from our church family and our community. We will employ a different format this year to practice social distancing. All volunteers and children (5 and up) are asked to wear masks and complete their volunteer training requirements available at our website. The children will learn the joyous meaning of Christians with singing, crafts, video, Bible story and fun. Invite your unchurched friends! If you would like to help, fill out a volunteer form at church or contact Gwen Pasbrig or Pastor Hein. Register children online at www.goodshepherdwels.org or pick up a registration form at church.

Celebration Sunday - Our three year "Building Connections" campaign ended last March. We intended to host a Celebration March 22nd, but the

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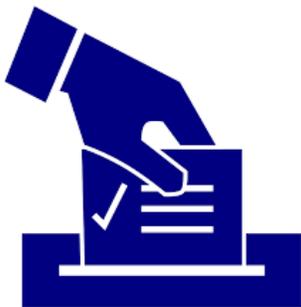
shutdown forced us to postpone this event. We are holding our Celebration Sunday October 22, 24, and 25th instead. Come join us as we celebrate our blessings and rededicate ourselves to the ministry opportunities the Lord places before us.

KML Fall Play, "The Importance of Being Earnest" may be viewed online October 30th and 31st at 7:00 pm at the kmlhs.org website.

Greeter Opportunity – One great way to build connections at Good Shepherd is to greet members and guests as they come to worship. We want to offer every member and guest a warm friendly welcome. Contact Greeter Coordinator Gretchen Crowley for more information or sign up online at www.goodshepherdwels.org.

Christmas Flowers – If you would like to purchase a flower to beautify our church for Christmas, please fill out a form in the Welcome Center with payment included by November 9th. We need to order early this year because of planning issues related to Coronavirus. You may take your plant home after Christmas Day services. You may also designate your flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special blessing.

College Care Packages – It is time to show some love to our member college kids. The Teens are collecting items and gift cards for fast food to send to college kids right before exams. You can donate Little Debbie type snacks, popcorn, fun pens, post it notes, hot chocolate, granola bars, fun socks, ramen noodles, or soup packets to the box in the narthex by Nov 8th. Thank you! If you know a member college kid, please put his/her full address at school on the form in the narthex.



Don't forget to vote!

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 is in the Welcome Center. A ministry plan summary 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 is also available in the Welcome Center. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

Ministry Plan Update - Our Vision

The ministry of Good Shepherd is all about building connections. Building stronger connections with Christ through his Word. Building stronger connections with one another through fellowship, Christian education, and service, and building connections with our unchurched friends and relatives through the power of the Gospel.

In gratitude for all that God has done for you, return your first fruit time, talents and treasures to the Lord as a joyful act of worship. Remember, your gifts glorify God and meet the needs of God's people!

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.
- 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 ownership and involvement.

The Coordinating Council has set up six task forces to develop a 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



On Sunday, November 1st it's time to set your clocks back an hour.



*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

Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran—West Bend, WI

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.

IRA Distribution

If you are 70 ½ or older you may direct IRA Distributions directly to the church which also results in tax savings. There is a flyer explain this option further in the narthex.

Special Gifts

\$200 was donated in celebration of Norbert & Lucy Carter's 72nd Wedding Anniversary for Building Connections

\$75 in memory of Duane Corey from Kettle Moraine Gardens for the General Fund

\$25 in honor of Joan Kulow's retirement from Elaine Tharman for Good Shepherd School

\$1,000 in memory of Mara Scherbarth's one year since her passing from Mike Scherbarth for Good Shepherd School

\$40 in memory of Gerald Henckel from Elizabeth Paasch for the General Fund

\$1000 in honor of Master Sergeant Gary Goering from Karen Brown for Building Connections

\$20 in memory of Lonny Borns from Mary Lutz for Choir Music

\$20 in memory of Lonny Borns from William & Gretchen Crowley for Current Expenses

\$20 in celebration of Cathy Wilk from William & Gretchen Crowley for Current Expenses

\$50 to Christian Aid and Relief & \$50 to WELS Missions from Ron & Mary Ciriacks in honor of their 50th Anniversary

\$5 in memory of John Dressel from Sharon Dressel for the Current Expense Fund