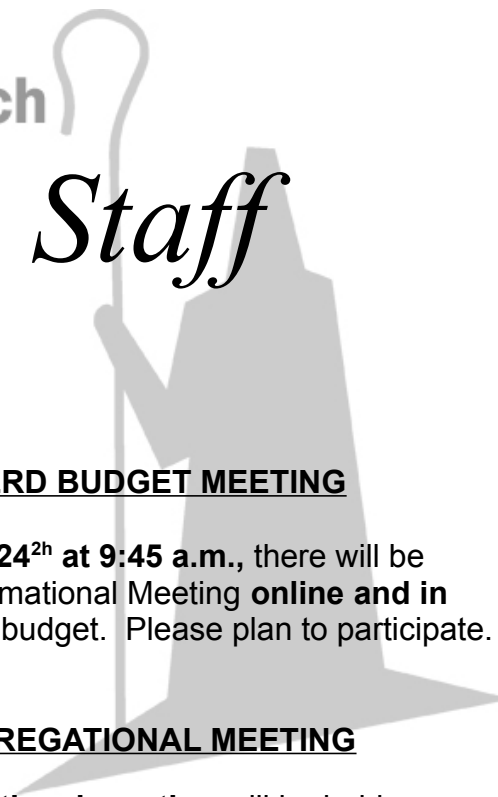


Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff



Contact Information

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 355
Plainview MN, 55964
(507) 534-3675
www.goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org

Pastor: Krista Henning-Ferkin
Office Hours: Vary
Email: Krista.goodshepherd@gmail.com
Phone: (507)534-3675 (office)
(605)480-2325 (cell)

Cong. Administrator: Lynn Eversman
Office Hours: Vary
Email: secretary@goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org
Phone: (507)534-3675

Passing on Faith Facilitator: Carole Joyce
Office Hours: Vary
Email: carole35@charter.net
Home Phone: (507) 288-0551
Cell Phone: (507) 269-9374
Office Hours: Vary
Email: carole35@charter.net

GOOD SHEPHERD BUDGET MEETING

On **Sunday, January 24th at 9:45 a.m.**, there will be a Congregational Informational Meeting **online and in person** to discuss the budget. Please plan to participate.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual **Congregational meeting** will be held on **Sunday, January 31st at 9:45 a.m. online and in person.**

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES **9 AM Sundays or anytime after**

- In person in the building 9 AM Sunday morning or worship online:
- YouTube: We are trying to post live so that worship can be watched at 9 am on Sundays or anytime after:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=good+shepherd+lutheran+church%2C+Plainview%2C+Mn or try
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbUP9UrAzhXWo078UXGX>
[PQ](#)

You may need to scroll for the correct service.

We have had trouble with the uploading of the service the last couple of weeks. Hopefully this week will go better. We are doing the same things on our end so there may have been a glitch on their end.

- Facebook Live at 9 am or available anytime after.
- Channel 20 on Mid Continent in Plainview.

LETTER TO CONGREGATION / 2021 STATEMENT OF INTENT

Please make sure to read the letter from Pastor and Council that is included in this newsletter. Also, on the reverse side of the letter is the 2021 Statement of Intent Response form. Please fill out and return the statement of intent form to the church office (P.O. Box 355 Plainview) or submit the information by emailing secretary@goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org

Inside This Issue

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PASTOR'S NOTE

The new year is upon us and a new year always presents opportunities. May 2021 be a better year, a year in which we choose gratitude, a year we pledge to make thanks. Here is a prayer written by Diana Butler Bass adapted for the new year.

God, there are days we do not feel grateful. When we are anxious or angry. When we are alone. When we do not understand what is happening in the world, or with our neighbors.

We struggle to feel grateful.

But this (year), we choose gratitude. We choose to accept life as a gift from you, from the unfolding work of all creation. We choose to be grateful for the earth from which our food comes; for the water that gives life; and for the air we all breathe.

We make the choice to see our ancestors, those who came before us, and their stories, as a continuing gift of wisdom for us today. We choose to see our families and friends with new eyes, appreciating them for who they are, and be thankful for our homes whether humble or grand. We will be grateful for our neighbors, no matter how they voted or how much we feel hurt by them. We choose to see the whole planet as our shared commons, the public stage of the future of humankind and creation.

God, this (year), we do not give thanks. We choose it.

And we will make thanks, with strong hands and courageous hearts. When we see your sacred generosity, we become aware that we live in an infinite circle of gratitude. That we all are guests at a hospitable table around which gifts are passed and received. We will not let anything opposed to love take over this table. Instead, we choose to see grace, free and unmerited love, the giftedness of life everywhere, as the tender web of all creation. In this choosing, and in the making, we will pass gratitude onto the world.

Thus, with you, and with all those gathered here, we pledge to make thanks. And we ask you to strengthen us in this resolve. Here, now, and into the future. Around this table. Around the table of our nation. Around the table of the earth. Amen.

Diana Butler Bass –

A Thanksgiving Prayer adapted for the New Year

May this be our resolution for 2021. May this be our prayer.

Grateful for you, Pastor Krista

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to all who made Christmas Eve worship possible. It was a group effort this year more than ever. Thank you especially to our singers and musicians, AV crew (who were here for numerous, numerous hours to prepare and then numerous hours on Christmas Eve), fire pit crew, communion crews, the altar and decorating team, and so, so many more! Thank you for making it possible for people to worship online, in the sanctuary, and even outside!

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Karen Anderson has accepted the position of Good Shepherd's Administrative Assistant. She will be coming on board the middle of January. Before working at Foresight Bank, Karen served for eight years as the Director of Education, Youth, and Music at Advent Lutheran Church in Maple Grove. Join us in welcoming Karen to the staff at Good Shepherd!

WORK DAYS FOR MILESTONE BLANKETS

Spend a cold winter day **Thursday, January 14** with Good Shepherd friends sewing blankets for our graduates! We will stay masked and distanced. Meet at church for sewing, fellowship, fun, and, of course, food (warm soup and bread). We will **start at 9:00 am** and stop after lunch. Come when you can and leave when you must. Sewing skills are helpful, but not required. If you can't sew, come anyway to cut, pin, and most of all have fun. Questions, talk to Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net or 269-9374.

BOOK GROUP PARTY AND BOOK FOR JANUARY

The January book group will meet on **Thursday, January 14** to talk about *Hidden Figures*. Book discussions are the 2nd Thursday of each month at **7:00 pm**. Please bring a gently used book wrapped to share at our January meeting and we will have a little party.

Our February book and a book bag will be available.

ADDRESSES NEEDED FOR POST HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS

We would like current addresses for Good Shepherd's post high school youth---those who graduated from high school in the past 4-5 years. We would also like addresses for those in the military. Good Shepherd hopes to send out something in late January. To get your young adult on this list, please email the church office or Carole Joyce at carole35@charter.net.

POINSETTIAS DONATED

Tom & Karen Anderson (2): In memory of Gene & Helen Anderson and Glen & Erma Johnson

Lynn Eversman: In memory of family members & friend

Betty Fahrenz: In memory of Ron Fahrenz

Pastor Krista Henning-Ferkin & family: In memory of Arlyce Henning

Travis, Gina, Alese & Gavin Ihrke: In memory of Rich Klees

Ben & Jen Peter and family: In memory of Connie Peter

Elaine & John Salek (2): In memory of John & Amelia Salek and of Curt Holland

Kathy Sukalski (2): In memory of Grace & Bill Johnson

Joe & Dawn Suntken (2): In memory of Norman Sjarpe

Bob & Sue Tangen: In memory of Robert Sandberg and Orville & Helen Tangen

Stan & Donna Tesch (3): In memory of John & Elaine Tesch and Vern & Grace Juliar

EDUCATION

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS: January 3, 10, & 17 at 10:30 AM
TOPIC: THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Join us via Zoom as we discover the Good News of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Mark.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940295537?pwd=RkdaVWlnRVdCRnhzWWRZb0VZTlhMZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 4029 5537 Passcode: Bible

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM THANK YOU

Thank you to the amazing children and families for the wonderful message about Jesus' birth through "Who Is at the Manger?" During this unusual year, it was fun to gather safely to tell the story through video and photos. What a gift to have you share the Christmas story in this unique but meaningful way. Thank you to the musicians and technology team for making it happen. Thank you to Carole Joyce for putting the program together.

You can see a video on the website at [Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Plainview, Mn 2020 Christmas Program - YouTube](#)

LATEST ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

No in person Sunday school is planned for Jan-mid Feb. We will re-evaluate again then. For Jan-Feb, we continue with Faith at Home options: "Watch the Bible story and conversation with Pastor, Carole, and GS families". It comes on Facebook every weekend! Get a Faith at Home kit of activities. Pick it up at church OR get home delivery—email carole35@charter.net

FINANCE

Grateful Giving

If you have not signed up for On-line Giving – please consider. If you have any questions, please contact me – Tom Anderson at 507-993-8326 or the church office.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---11/30/20

General Account	\$ 44,989
Restricted Accounts	\$ 33,432 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	<u>\$ 171,909</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$ 250,330

Fixed Assets (old Bldg etc.)	\$ 905,479
New Bldg. to date	<u>\$ 1,280,645</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$2,186,124</u>

Mortgage Balance	\$ 771,109
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Equity	\$ 1,665,345
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Check Book Trends (General Fund- end of month) 2020

Jan \$ 39,021	April \$ 56,322*	July \$ 51,285*	Oct \$ 44,073
Feb \$ 31,100	May \$ 54,710*	Aug \$ 47,631*	Nov \$ 44,989
Mar \$ 29,502	June \$ 52,068*	Sep \$ 47,390	Dec \$

The PPP Loan has been forgiven and the Wabasha County Grant has been received.

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORK: OUR HANDS

Giving Tree

Thank you to the people of Good Shepherd for your generosity to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. A total of 38 gift cards, valued at \$25 each (\$950 total value), went to the Plainview-Elgin Area Food Shelf for distribution to their clients. A special THANKS to Kathy Sukalski for collecting the money and being "the shopper and delivery person".

Lights for Life Luminaries

Thanks to all who donated to Lights for Life luminaries. These lights celebrate those who have fought with cancer and remember those who lost the battle with cancer. Money donated goes to the American Cancer Society for cancer research.

Toys for Tots

Thank you to the many people who contributed toys to the Toys for Tots box. These gifts are distributed to children/youth in the area who might not otherwise receive any gifts.

Lefse

Thanks to all who helped with drive up lefse! It was eagerly purchased and eaten. Thank you to Thrivent Financial for providing the lefse this year.

Backpacks

Good Shepherd continues to pack backpacks for students in the PEM district. This year 31 backpacks feed 68 kids. This is about double what was needed last year. Thank you to Kaylee Peter and friends who make sure the backpacks are filled and delivered each week.

Online Benefit for Lifelong Member Rachael Grover Anderson

Rachael was diagnosed with Triple Negative Breast Cancer, a very rare form of cancer. While she has been receiving treatments at Mayo, Rachael's cancer is considered "chronic" requiring treatments long term. To help Rachael participate in an alternative treatment in Kansas, there is an online benefit (Gofundme) where people can donate. If you would like to participate go to: <https://gf.me/u/zb2rrj>

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

01/01	Merlin Mielke		01/18	Don Fiskum
	Annie Rahman		01/19	Sherry Tuxen
01/02	Kathy Sveen			Zachary Hassig
	Grace Wangen		01/22	Eli Mohs
	Christian Wangen		01/23	Gloria Keseley
01/04	Tucker Johnson			MariClair Schneider
	Charli Yust		01/24	Fran Grover
01/05	Don Weinrich			Deb Weinrich
01/08	Ron Kurth		01/25	Hayley Rau
01/09	Baylor Cada			Hunter Rau
01/10	Kelsey Rahman			Evan Kobler
01/11	Nicholas Hanson			Brandon Melcher
01/13	Trisha Schumacher		01/31	Tayla Erickson
	Emma LeVan			Alysha Mohs
01/15	Joe Crudele			Kinsley Ausman
01/16	Travis Ihrke			

Anniversaries

01/04	Bob & Jeanne Dunn		
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**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS
OR CORRECTIONS TO THE LIST OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**New Year's Day is the first blank page
of a 365 page of a good book.
Write a good one!**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

PO Box 355
Plainview, MN 55964

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The Shepherd's Staff is a communication tool among our friends and members spreading the word of Jesus Christ with news of our church and related events. It is published monthly by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Plainview-Elgin.

VISION STATEMENT, GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Claimed by God through Word & Sacrament, we move forward with a NEW VIEW:

Notice the needs of our congregation, community, and world with eyes of faith.
Educate all from cradle to grave.
Worship in thankfulness and joy.

Value all generations in passing on the faith.
Identify and affirm the gifts of God's people.
Energize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.
Welcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

The submission deadline for the February 2021 Newsletter is

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22.