

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff



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WEEKLY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*During May, worship will continue at 9 AM on Sundays **in the building, parking lot on 88.3 FM and on Facebook Live.** Even if you are not a member of Facebook you can go to the Facebook page to watch: <https://www.facebook.com/GSLCPLAINVIEW>

*Worship on **YouTube** will be available at 10:30 AM (or anytime after). When you go to YouTube, click on subscribe (right hand side of the page – opposite the church name) and this will help for the latest videos to pop up toward the top. Our church's YouTube page is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbUP9UrAzhhXWo078UXGXPQ>

*For those living in Plainview, with **Midcontinent**, the worship service is broadcast on the local cable channel.

*The change in timing for the YouTube service is being done to provide the best quality for both the Facebook and YouTube viewing experiences. If you are interested in helping the AV team, please contact the church office.

SIGN UP NOW FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

June 14-16

6:00-7:30 p.m.

*See Education page for more details

PLEASE SIGN UP BY MAY 15TH

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PASTOR'S NOTE

May 2021

“See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert.” – Isaiah 43:19

Whenever I picture spring, I think of light, gentle, warm rains, sunny days, perfect temps and trees and flowers coming back to life. Those things are certainly a part of spring but so is the mud season, and unusual but too usual cold snaps and even snow, and all the dead branches and leaves on the ground that need to be cleaned up. Sometimes the path to new life is messy and less ideal than we would like it to be.

When I picture the scene described in Isaiah, I always picture something beautiful like lush green grass and flowers blooming, and the idea of something new sounds exciting! After all it's making a “way in the wilderness” and “streams in the desert.” It must be beautiful and wonderful. But then I wonder maybe that road or way to new life is messy as well. Maybe it doesn't just suddenly spring up, maybe there's a mud season there too.

Life with God is messy (even muddy). Over and over again, we see Jesus moving toward people's messes. Whether it's a person with a demon, a woman caught in adultery or a cheating tax collector, Jesus steps into the mess by purposely stepping into their lives. God, in Jesus Christ, doesn't love us from a distance. God willingly steps into the messiness of this world to be with us. There are no quick fixes for the messes and wounds that are part of our lives: depression, anxiety, loneliness, eating disorders, broken relationships, miscarriage, children who are struggling, death of a parent, unemployment, disability, injustice and the list can go on and on.

Life is messy. As hard as we try to avoid the messes, they seem to find us. In the midst of the mess, God in Isaiah promises a way through (not around) the mess. This is why God sends Jesus into this messy world. Jesus too goes through the messiness of life and this world, rising from the dead. The mess is never too much or too big. Jesus always brings us through to life. But sometimes we have to walk through the mud and sometimes we have to walk with others through the mud.

It's never easy going through the mess or the mud. But as we lean in with God's people, dependent on God's grace, we may discover the flowers that are blooming, the gentle rains, the warm temps. As Isaiah says, take a look and see what God is doing (even in the mess).

In Christ,

Pastor Krista

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

The updated state guidelines on congregational singing state: congregational singing MAY occur if **ALL** participants wear face coverings. Based on these latest guidelines, the council updated Good Shepherd's COVID plan to be current with the new guidelines.

In order to make sure we're following the guidelines and that risk factors don't increase, and to honor the work that has already gone into recruiting musicians and musicians already preparing their music for the Sundays ahead, we will be gradually adding more congregational singing. Musicians and singers are often planning well in advance of a Sunday service, some taking time off from work and rearranging their schedules; as well as the time that is spent in choosing music that works with people's voices and talents and then the practicing that happens outside of a Sunday morning in addition to the time right before worship. Therefore, the first part of May will include singing the offertory ("Give Thanks" or another offertory) and the sending hymn and the rest will be done as special music. As long as the risk factors don't increase, we will be looking to add in another hymn for congregational singing the last weeks of May.

If you are wondering, is this a hymn/song for congregational singing or not, pastor will announce the congregational hymn for singing and we will be starting with the offertory ("Give Thanks" or another offertory) and the sending hymn. Another way to determine if there is congregational singing with the music, simply watch the screen. If the words are printed out, we invite you to sing.

THANK YOU TO OUR MUSICIANS

We are very blessed at Good Shepherd by the rich talent of musicians who have stepped up to provide music during the pandemic. For about a year, Karen Anderson has been playing and planning Sunday music, only taking a few Sundays off over this whole year. Evie Pfeilsticker was one of the very first singers and musicians to step up about a year ago. From spring through summer she was our primary singer (and only ukulele player) and has even covered all of the music when Karen has been gone.

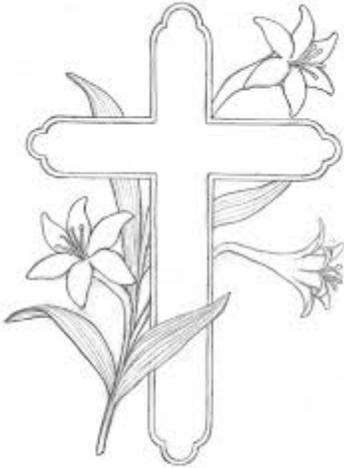
In addition Tom Overlie, Kaylee Hutchison, James and Lila Bigalk began sharing their gifts of music with us at least monthly, and over the months we have added in: Linda Theisen, Izzy Appel, Sherry and Annaliese Tuxen, Norman Wahl, Kari, Kailyn and Joren Solak, Cameron and Jes Bluhm and Lucy Loya, Kaitlyn Weinrich, and Kelsey Rahman.

Thank you to all of these wonderful musicians. You have blessed us greatly by sharing your talents and enriched our worship of God. - Pastor Krista

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST

During the summer months we are going to experiment with a digital newsletter. The newsletter (or a link) will be sent to your email. If you would prefer to still receive a hard copy of the newsletter, let the church office know and we will mail your newsletter. Toward the end of the summer we will be asking for your feedback on the digital newsletter.

Thank you to those who donated Easter flowers:



Travis, Gina, Alese & Gavin Ihrke – in memory of Rich Klees
Betty Fahrenz- in memory of Ron Fahrenz
Kathy Sukalski – in memory of Grace & Bill Johnson & David Miller
Stan & Donna Tesch – in memory of John & Elaine Tesch and Vern & Grace Juliar
Bob & Sue Tangen – in memory of Robert Sandberg and Orville and Helen Tangen
Pastor Krista & Family – in memory of Arlyce Henning
Elaine & John Salek – in celebration of Easter
Joe & Dawn Suntken – in memory of Norman Sjarpe
In Thankfulness of Pastor Krista
In Memory of Jan Fiskum
In Memory of Deb Bristow
Tom & Karen Anderson – in memory of parents

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

*Thank you all who participated in the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday breakfasts! Here are a few of those who helped: Jason, Jes, and Cam Bluhm, Ben and Joe Suntken, Christian Dunn, Skylar Beckel, Kathy Sukalski, Brenda Crudele, Shelley Henry, Franny Schwantz, Kristen Ausman, Karen Anderson, Angie Beckel, Sue Tangen, Confirmation students...

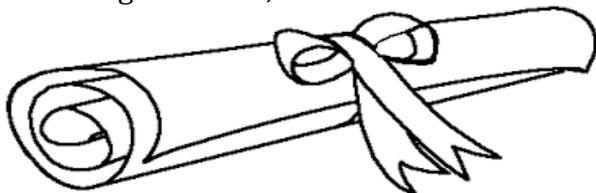
*Thanks to the “egg hidiers” for the egg hunt: Jessica & Pierce Wilkes, Charlie & Lexi Yust, Christian Dunn!

*Thank you to Sue Tangen and Donna Tesch who beautify the sanctuary for the different seasons of the church year and to Deb Weinrich and Tina Wangen for choosing plants for the sanctuary and Gathering Space.

*Thank you to Bob Tangen and the DNR for burning the prairie grass. (When managing prairie grass, the annual controlled burn is the “magic bullet” to control unwanted invasive plants and bring out the richness of the prairie grasses.)

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, MAY 16th

To honor our 2021 graduates, a special bacculaureate service will be held on **Sunday, May 16th** at 9:00 am. Students – please come at 8:45 for photos with your robe (no hats). This bacculaureate service will be a time for us at Good Shepherd to show our love and support to these graduates, celebrate God’s love that has brought them to this day and leads them into a bright tomorrow. God’s blessings to all our seniors on their graduation, and we look forward to celebrating with them on May 16th.



EDUCATION



The following students recently studied Holy Communion and had or will have their first communion soon. **Welcome to the Lord's Table; there is a place for you!**

Jackson Young - Evie Pfeilsticker - Desirae Wehrs - Laney Gusa - Landon Gusa - Khloe Peter - Christian Klug - Aiden Klennert - Lukas Klennert - Nichole Hall - Colin LeVan - Ava LeVan - Camryn Nesler - Amelia Wilkes - Izzy Appel - James Bigalk - Lila Bigalk - Mason Rahman - Tyler Engler - Brynn Koepsell - Brennan Clements - Jackson Niemeyer

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Sunday Mornings for Bible Study starting at 10:30 AM on Zoom. We're exploring the Gospel of Mark, and looking at a different chapter each week. Go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940295537?pwd=RkdaVWlnRVdCRnhzWWRZb0VZTlhMzZ09>

Meeting ID: 859 4029 5537 Passcode: Bible.

There will be no Bible Study on Sunday, May 9th.

MAY 2ND OUTDOOR CELEBRATION AT 9:45 A.M.

Families are invited to some outdoor faith fun: Scavenger hunt, music/dance fun, craft project, Bible story. Play and learn together as a family. Let Carole Joyce know if you can help with one of the stations.

SUPER HERO SUMMER SERVICE RETURNS!

For youth: 6th-grade-high school

Youth are invited to join in Super Hero service days on the Wednesdays in June - 9, 16, and 23 from 9 am-5 pm. They have a blast serving in the community and beyond!

Our adventures will include service at Good Earth Village, preparing for VBS, preparing food for the hungry and more. New service ideas are always welcome. If you know of a community member who needs help, please let us know.

We need two things to make this happen.:

1. Most Important—awesome youth to participate (You can participate around sports and appointments.)
2. A few caring adults to spend a day driving OR help finalize project ideas.

Please contact Carole Joyce to sign up: carole35@charter.net

THANK YOU CONFIRMATION GUIDES & OTHER EDUCATION LEADERS!

Good Shepherd has the most amazing team of people who pass on the faith by being part of the Confirmation ministry. Thank you to the following people for the commitment they made to grow in faith and relationship with our children all year—when we could meet in person and also when we met on-line: Erin Bluhm, Franny Schwantz, Gina Ihrke, Nate Pfeilsticker, Bernie Klennert, and Nicole Engler.

A special thank you to Karla Appel, Alicia Pfeilsticker, Sarah Niemeyer, Sherry Tuxen, Pastor Krista, and Carole Joyce who helped guide education decisions during the pandemic.



Register for VBS 2021Now!

We look forward to holding VBS this spring! Three days of outside fun for kids and parents or caring adult. Kids will travel with their adult. Of course we will be flexible as needed, but we are hopeful and plan to have a picnic meal, Bible story, games, and crafts/science in small groups!

Monday - Wednesday, June 14-16 from 6pm - 7:30 pm

- Children currently in Grades Pre K- 4th
- All youth and adults who would like to help are welcome - 4th grade on up!
- Registration is open now! Forms can be found on Good Shepherd's Facebook page and website www.goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org

A \$10 donation per child or \$20 per family is encouraged but not required.

***Meal served - starting at 5:25 pm for the whole family.**

VBS youth & adults needed! VBS is so fun you won't want to miss out! People are needed for all these areas:

- Shepherd a group of kids
- Make & serve snacks.
- Lead & play games
- Help prepare a simple meal
- Help with crafts.
- Lead the dancing & music

Contact Carole Joyce carole35@charter.net or 507-269-9374 with questions or to volunteer.

- Current 4th graders on up are encouraged to volunteer.
- Parents or grandparents of preschoolers are invited to attend with them—an opportunity to play and learn together!
- **Everyone is welcome, so invite a friend, neighbor, or family member.**

Grateful Giving

If you have not signed up for On-line Giving – try it out.

Go to our Website as listed below, using your computer or mobile device

<https://goodshepherdlutheran-plainview.org/give/>

Click on “Give” - Follow prompts to Give a one-time Gift or recurring Gifts. YOU have full control at all times.

If you have any questions, please contact me – Tom Anderson at 507-993-8326 or the church office.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Financial Summary Notes ---3/31/21

General Account	\$ 39,069
Restricted Accounts	\$ 35,453 (w/o Bldg. Fund)
Capital Campaign Account	<u>\$ 195,722</u>
Total Short Term Assets	\$ 270,244

Fixed Assets (old Bldg etc.)	\$ 905,479
New Bldg. to date	<u>\$ 1,280,645</u>
Total Assets	\$2,456,638

Mortgage Balance	\$ 764,194
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Equity	\$ 1,692,174
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Check Book Trends (General Fund- end of month) 2021

Jan	\$ 48,609	April	July	Oct	\$
Feb	\$ 41,493	May	Aug	Nov	\$
Mar	\$ 39,069	June	Sep	Dec	\$

MEMORIAL FUNDS

In honor of Jan Fiskum, a charter member and multi-decade musician at Good Shepherd, the council has established a **Baby Grand Piano Fund**. If you would like to contribute, make a note in the memo of your check, on your envelope, or select the Fund on-line. Feel free to contact Tom Anderson (507-993-8326) or the church office for more details. What a great way for Jan's music to live on for many years to come!

MINNESOTA TWINS VS. CLEVELAND INDIANS

Thursday
June 24, 2021



Jay Schmidt is planning a bus trip to the Minnesota Twins vs. the Cleveland Indians on Thursday, June 24th. The game starts at 7:10 p.m. (Bus will leave at 3:15 p.m.)

Pod seating would be in groups of two or four. Masks are required at the stadium when not eating or drinking.

If questions, please contact Jay at: jay@journeysbyjay.com or at 507-273-3262. (Email is preferred)

FOOD SHELF HELP NEEDED

The Food Shelf is seeking volunteers to help distribute food a couple of Wednesdays each month (just a few hours on those Wednesdays). Please call 876-0112 for more information.

RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE

Trinity Lutheran Church of St. Charles is holding a Rummage and Bake Sale:

Friday, April 30th – 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 1st – 8:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.

All proceeds go to missions. For Sale: fresh baked goods, clothing, household items, white elephant, and much more. Address: 748 Meadow View Drive St. Charles, MN

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE FINANCIAL COUNSELING

Times of uncertainty – especially the times we are living in right now – can create financial stress. For anyone struggling to manage a monthly budget, facing unaffordable debt, or just needing to talk with someone and make sure they're on the right track – LSS Financial Counseling is ready to provide that support. Experienced staff offers free, confidential counseling by phone or online. The staff does not work on commission and won't try to sell anything to those they support. If questions, please contact them at: lssfinancialcounseling@lssmn.org or 1-888-577-2227.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

05/04	Nate Pfeilsticker		05/17	Lisa Beck
	Sara Dick		05/18	Corbin King
05/05	Samantha Kroening		05/19	Karly Peter
05/06	Amy Thompson		05/20	Kelly Engler
	Wade Holst		05/21	Dawson Koepsell
	Addyson Schneider			Brittany King
	Alex Hanson			Grace Wolf
05/07	Chelsea Weinrich		05/22	Kim Lyons
	Kit Sackreiter		05/24	Sheila Grover
	Nolan Bartsh			Kaylee Peter
05/08	Misty Biers			Destiny Kraemer
05/09	Lee Olson			Cory Kroening
05/10	Deb Ninas		05/25	Cal Hansen
	Hanna Sveen		05/26	Juniper Holst
05/11	Clint Schreiber		05/27	Raelee Dick
05/12	Sibyl Mason		05/28	Kristen Folkert
	Easton King		05/29	Annaliese Tuxen
05/13	George Tesmer			Blake Burkick
05/14	Brady Melcher		05/30	Jason Folkert
05/15	Ryan Castle			Jackson Niemeyer
05/16	Peyton Schumacher			Kayden Merchlewitz
	Cassie Cray		05/31	Mark Timm
05/16	Aspen Young			Taylor Nelson

Anniversaries

05/01	Tim & MariClair Schneider		05/16	Marc & Rachael Anderson
05/05	Jon & Becky Klug		05/17	Nicholas & Cathe Hanson
05/08	Scot & Nicole Engler		05/25	Joe & Brenda Crudele
05/11	Ron & Roberta Kurth			Eric & Leanne Brevig
05/14	Ben & Alysha Mohs		05/31	Gary & Joanne Melbostad
05/16	Jon & Stephanie Amos			

*NOTE: Birthdays and anniversaries listed in the newsletters are now being limited to active members and their children (college age and under). If you have questions and/or concerns with this, please contact the church office.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS
OR CORRECTIONS TO THE LIST OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

It takes both rain and sunshine to make a rainbow.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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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 June 2021 Newsletter is
May 20, 2021**