



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
March 2022

Pastor Amy Zalk Larson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Director of Children Youth & Family Ministry: Kelli Gapinski

Ministry Support Coordinator : Erica Yaneff

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

BELOVED OF GOD,

As we enter the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on March 2, I wanted to share with you about our Lenten theme for this year: **Full to the Brim: An Expansive Lent**. This theme is offered by A Sanctified Art, a team of artists who create resources for congregations. The writers for the Lent series this year offer the following reflection.

"The scriptures for this Lenten season (in the Revised Common Lectionary, Year C) are filled with parables and promises of God's abundant and expansive grace. Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured out lovingly and freely, stones shouting out with praise—these sacred texts are brimming with a gospel of grace. We've done nothing to deserve or earn this grace, and yet, like water, it spills over. *Full to the Brim* is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full

life. It's an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. It disrupts the scarcity mentality that capitalism, oppression, or hierarchy can plant inside of us. When we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God's lavish love, that love spills over. It reaches beyond ourselves; like water, it rushes and flows, touching everything in its path.

We recognize that traditional iterations of Lent often emphasize restraint, confession, and piety. The origins of Lent were that one was to leave their old life behind to fast and prepare to be baptized into a new way of living. In essence, this was a practice of stepping away from the rat race, corrupt power, scarcity mentality, and empty rituals in order to live a more expansive and full life of faith. And so, *Full to the Brim* trusts the promise of our baptisms—God has already claimed us as God's own and nothing we can do will ever change or erase that.

Full to the Brim doesn't ignore or deny sin and suffering. It doesn't absolve accountability for wrongdoing. Instead, it contextualizes our faith. If love is our beginning, how can we live our lives led by love's promises? It reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us."

continued on next page



At Good Shepherd, we will hear these themes throughout Sunday worship this Lent. During Lenten midweek evening prayer services, we will also turn toward God's abundance in prayer. We'll sing Holden Evening Prayer and reflect on the theme: "Lord, Teach us to Pray." We'll explore our questions about prayer in conversation with Martin Luther's wisdom about the Lord's Prayer. **What are your questions about prayer? Please write them on the cards in the pews, fold cards, and put them in the offering plate or submit questions in the google form found [HERE](#) and in the weekly news.** See more details about Lenten worship in this newsletter. Our Lenten devotional from Augsburg Fortress: [Grace Unbounded](#), will also guide us into an expansive Lent. We ordered some extra copies, pick one up today!

May you be filled to the brim with God's abundant love for you. May it spill out in love for the world.

Peace to you, Pastor Amy

PRAYER FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATION

offered by Jane Jakoubek

*This month's prayer is based on Pr. Amy's January 30, 2022 sermon on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a
- listen or read the sermon [HERE](#) on our website*

Merciful God, the struggles and worries of our lives and the world weigh on us. It is hard in so many ways. Have mercy on us! Help us to face life the way Jesus teaches: to face it all with love. Help us to remember that love is the way. Help us to put love into practice today.

Help us to be patient today.

Help us to be kind today.

Help us to let go of envy and instead rejoice in the good fortune of others.

Help us to be silent rather than boast.

Help us to be humble.

Help us to be polite today.

Help us let others have their way.

Help us be cheerful.

Help us be grateful each moment today.

Help us keep from gloating over the mistakes and misfortunes of others.

Help us rejoice in the truth.

Help us bear all things today.

Help us to face everything with hope.

Help us to keep going when things are hard.

Help us to be loving today, Loving God. Help us to be loving.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH

	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
March 6	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
<i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand</i>	<i>God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)</i>	<i>If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved</i>	<i>The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days</i>
March 13	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
<i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>The covenant with Abram and his descendants</i>	<i>In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)</i>	<i>Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior</i>	<i>I have desired to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood</i>
March 20	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
<i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Everyone who thirsts, come to the water; seek the Lord</i>	<i>O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. (Ps. 63:1)</i>	<i>Israel, baptized in cloud and seas, ate the same spiritual food as Christians</i>	<i>Unless you repent, you will perish: parable of the fig tree</i>
March 27	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
<i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land</i>	<i>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord. (Ps. 32:11)</i>	<i>The mystery and ministry of reconciliation</i>	<i>The parable of the prodigal father and the repentant son</i>

FULL TO THE BRIM: AN EXPANSIVE LENT

Our Lenten theme this year is ***Full to the Brim: An Expansive Lent***. We're reflecting on God's extravagant, unbounded grace which is poured out upon us and all people. We'll ponder this during Lenten and Holy Week worship services.

ASH WEDNESDAY, March 2: two offerings:

12:15 pm: 15-minute Holy Communion service with Imposition of Ashes. There will be no singing and worshippers will be able to spread out in the sanctuary. Prepackaged communion will be used.

7:00 pm: Full worship service with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.

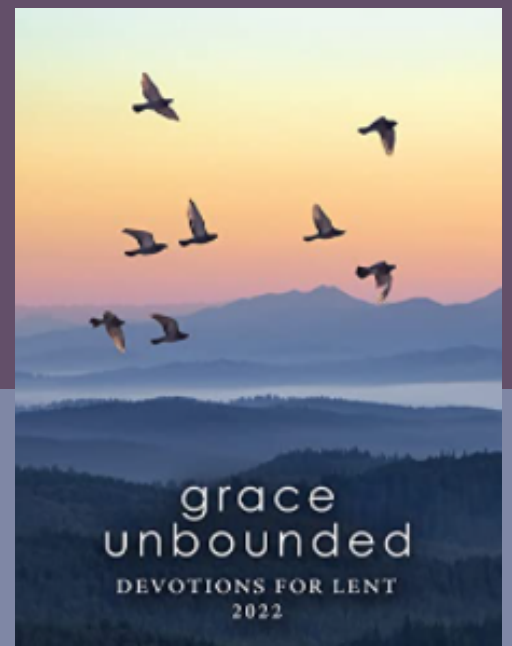
**The Lent Evening Prayer Services: Wednesdays 6:15pm
March 9-April 6 - Holden Evening Prayer, "Lord, Teach us to Pray"**

These services will turn us toward God's abundance in prayer. We'll explore our questions about prayer in conversation with Martin Luther's wisdom about the Lord's Prayer. ***What are your questions about prayer?*** Please write them on the cards in the pews, fold cards, and put them in the offering plate or submit questions online, [HERE](#).

On Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7pm, we will share in Holy Communion, a First Communion milestone for some Good Shepherd youth, and Stripping of the Altar.

On Good Friday, April 15, 7 pm we will share in jazz worship and reflect upon the connections between lynching in modern times and crucifixion in Jesus' time. We will share in a liturgy of confession and lament for white supremacy.

The Easter Vigil, April 16, 7 pm will include the new fire of resurrection (a bonfire in the backyard) and will move indoors for worship with Holy Communion. Three Good Shepherd youth will affirm their baptisms with the Rite of Confirmation.



We'll also ponder God's extravagant, expansive grace using the Augsburg Fortress devotion [Grace Unbounded](#). Pick up your copy today!

LENT RECITAL SERIES

Enjoy two 30-minute recitals during your lunch hour in the Good Shepherd sanctuary

Wednesday, March 23, 12:15 pm

Jonathon Struve, baritone

Brooke Joyce, piano

Wednesday, April 6, 12:15 pm

Craig Hultgren, cello

Brooke Joyce, piano

LENTEN YOUTH PROJECT

This year our **Lent giving** will go towards Lutheran Services of Iowa specially designated to **Afghanistan guests resettling in Iowa**. The funds we raise will support Afghanistan guests having access to resources, education, and overall community connection.

Each Sunday in Lent Good Shepherd youth grades 2nd-12th grade will help share a short scripture, prayer, or story that connects the congregation to this cause.

Donations will be received beginning on Ash Wednesday and will continue through the Lenten Season. Place these donations in the globe in the Sanctuary during the offering. Please write Sunday School Project on your check. Thank you for your support of this project!

Children will work together in pairs (one older/one younger) to give a reading and announcement each Sunday during Lent. For each week we try to arrange a simple /short part for the younger child, and a slightly more difficult/longer part for the older child. If a child is a new reader or a not-quite reader we would still love for you to participate! Please connect with Kelli what week(s) work for your child, and we will write single-line roles for them to memorize.

Kids have done a great job with this in the past. This opportunity helps us all to learn more about how issues in the world relate to scripture, and our faith. Please sign up for a reading **HERE** and on our website under "Sign-Ups".



YOUTH SAVE THE DATES:

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL GAME NIGHT! Youth Forum students come for an evening of board games and (hopefully snacks!). Bring your favorite game and a friend! **March 18th, 7-9pm.** Games will be played in the Fellowship Hall.

Good Shepherd VBS will tentatively be held on August 2nd-4th, from 5:00-7:30, ages 4 through 6th grade. A simple supper will be provided. Cost is \$10 per child. More information and registration coming later.

BE LOVED.
BE KIND.
BE YOU.



SUMMER YOUTH TRIP

July 24-27. Together, as the NE IA Synod we have put together our own "mini gathering" in St Paul, MN. We will be taking over the campus of St. Thomas--utilizing their dorms, large group spaces, and dining facilities. On Monday, we will be breaking into small groups and taking time to explore the city. On Tuesday, we will be partnering with Learning Service Camps to find sites within the city that we can help with servant hearts, for our Service Day. Each morning, we will rise and shine with breakfast and morning worship before tackling the day. Each night, we will have evening programming. That will consist of processing the day, worship, games, activities, and speakers. Contact Kelli for more information.

CONFIRMATION SPRING SCHEDULE

March 2-April 16- Ash Wednesday, Lent Evening Prayer and Holy Week

Worship Services No Confirmation class. Confirmation students are expected to attend these worship services with their families.

- **Ash Wednesday, March 2, and Holy Week services, April 14-16 are at 7pm.**

On April 16, at the Easter Vigil Worship, we will share in Affirmation of Baptism for Brayden Bakke, Leah Holland Gabriel Hiner

- **Lenten Evening Prayer services are at 6:15pm March 9-April 6** We'll sing Holden Evening Prayer. Theme: "Lord, Teach us to Pray." We'll explore our questions about prayer in conversation with Martin Luther's wisdom about the Lord's Prayer. The students had lots of questions in our class on prayer. We'll get to spend more time wondering and learning about prayer.

April 20, 7pm: Last Confirmation Class of the year

Sundays, Feb. 27-April 10, 10:45-11:15am

Confirmation students and families are asked to participate in the Sunday Faith5 Cross+Generational Conversations.

We not having Lent soup suppers with Confirmation mentors this year. We still want to give Confirmation students a chance to connect with Good Shepherd members of other generations. We ask that Confirmation students and families participate in the Faith5 conversations during Lent. The students are great at doing Faith5 and can help people of all ages to do it!



CROSS GENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS

The Outreach and Hospitality and Education committees invite the whole Good Shepherd community, all ages, to join in cross generational conversations through the season of Lent. **These offerings began in February and will continue Sundays, March 6-April 10 in Fellowship Hall from 10:45-11:15am**

All are welcome to these opportunities to connect with others, deepen faith, and build relationships with people of all ages. This is a wonderful way to connect the wonder of the child with the wisdom of the elder.

We share in the simple Faith5 practice that allows us to

SHARE highs and lows

READ a passage of scripture

TALK about what we notice, any connections we see to our highs and lows

PRAY for each other using a simple practice of saying "thank you for the high, help with the low."

BLESS each other.

We will remain masked but have Dove chocolates to sneak under your masks before and after the conversations!



UPDATE ON FELLOWSHIP HOUR & SOUP SUPPERS

So far, 43 members of the congregation have responded to the survey about Fellowship Hour and Lenten Soup Supper. Only 19 indicated they would feel comfortable attending soup suppers and only 12 said they could help. **Consequently, the Worship and Music Committee has decided Lenten Soup Suppers will not be offered this year.** There was a bit more support for Fellowship Hour (23 would attend, 15 would help). We may be able to add Fellowship Hour again soon. If you haven't done the survey please do so today or write your answer on a card and put it in the office. You can skip the survey questions about Soup Suppers as that has been decided.

We can all look forward to an Easter brunch offered by the youth!

GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ON DEAN'S LIST

Hallie Johnson and Ava Holland, recipients of Good Shepherd EPIC scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year, have been named to the 2021 fall semester Dean's List at Luther College. EPIC (Educational Partners In Covenant) scholarships are awarded annually to Good Shepherd members attending ELCA colleges or universities. The Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund, established in 1993 and managed by the MEF committee, is the funding source for the scholarships.

To be named to the Dean's List Hallie and Ava had to earn a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale for the semester. Hallie is a junior majoring in English and Nordic Studies and Ava is a sophomore majoring in Global Health.

Each academic year Good Shepherd members attending ELCA colleges or universities have the opportunity to apply for a Good Shepherd EPIC scholarship. Announcement of award recipients is made on June 1st. This year Good Shepherd will have five members of the congregation eligible to apply for a scholarship, the largest number since the ministry began. The growth of eligible scholarship applicants is in direct correlation to the overall growth of our congregation.

Each EPIC award is \$1000 and that amount is typically matched by the ELCA college or university. Applications for MEF scholarships for the 2022-2023 academic year will be available April 1st and must be returned to the church office by May 1st. The committee is planning to conduct an informational meeting for eligible students and their parents on Sunday, April 3rd in the Gathering Space after the worship service. Any member of the congregation interested in this ministry is also invited to attend.

Gifts and memorials are encouraged to help support this ministry. Growth projections indicate that the fund will need to support eight to ten students annually within the next three years. Presently the fund can support up to five awards.

- Jerry Bruce - For the MEF Committee



Hallie Johnson



Ava Holland

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

MAKING A SPLASH: STANDING WITH OUR SIBLINGS FROM AFGHANISTAN

How are we living out our faith in our personal lives, in our congregational life, and in the world as a whole? At Good Shepherd we're focusing on the promises of baptism. The first letters of each promise, with an Alleluia in the middle, can spell the word SPLASH

Serve all people, following the example of Jesus

Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed

Live among God's faithful people

Alleluia!

Strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper



Our Stewardship Committee is working to help our congregation recognize the good efforts of members and friends to live out these promises in diverse ways, as we show each other support and give thanks to God. This month we are spotlighting the Sunday School students and their work to raise funds for Afghan guests resettling in the US. You can find some good news about this project in this newsletter. We appreciate the SPLASH that our youth are making with this project, and thank them for their initiative and ministry. For this, let's all say, Alleluia!

Thank you, Good Shepherd, for supporting the youth in this project.

The Stewardship Committee: *Chris Johnson, Luther Snow, Jerry Bruce*

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER: AN INVITATION TO SHARE ABOUT HOW TRAVEL HAS SHAPED YOUR FAITH

When summer comes, we usually think about vacation and travel. This summer Good Shepherd will share in a summer series called "Travels with the Spirit: A Summer Travelogue Through the Book of Acts." The Book of Acts is all about travel. "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The book begins with Jesus' Ascension and the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. The Spirit is the one in charge throughout the book, and the church is always struggling to catch up to what the Spirit is doing. In fact, we could call Acts the Fifth Gospel, the Gospel of the Holy Spirit! As the church travels, it learns and grows and changes in response to the Spirit's leading.

Each week, a Good Shepherd member will be invited to share a brief reflection about how travel has impacted your faith. Please consider if you would like to do this and watch for a SignUpGenius that will be shared soon. As you consider this, you can ponder these questions: *What has been the most meaningful or impactful trip you have taken? How has travel changed you or changed the way you view the world? Have you felt closer to God as a result of your travels? Have your views of God changed as a result of your travels?*

UPDATE FROM GOOD SHEPHERD SEMINARIAN: KATHRYN THOMPSON

Beloved Good Shepherd,

As I begin my fourth semester of seminary, I again send my thanks for the continued financial support for my seminary and candidacy journey. It means so much to have my home congregation support my family and I in this way.

After the conclusion of this second year of seminary, I will begin my year of formal internship. My internship will be a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) residency at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, WI. This will begin in August and continue for one year. It will serve as my formal internship for candidacy to become a pastor in the ELCA. The residency will help me to continue my own personal growth and training for providing spiritual care while also serving as a chaplain-in-residence at Gundersen Hospital.

Our family has decided to relocate to La Crosse, as the demands of the residency will be great. We will be moving from Decorah this spring and resettling in La Crosse before summer. We plan to remain in La Crosse for another year after my residency concludes, which will be my last year of academic study at seminary.

Good Shepherd will remain our home congregation and my sponsoring congregation for candidacy for Word and Sacrament ministry in the ELCA. Our family looks forward to visiting often and remaining connected to Good Shepherd through my ordination.

Again, many thanks to you for your continued support. Prayers in this time of transition would be greatly appreciated.

Peace to you!

Kathryn (Sara, Greta, and Gus too!)

WELCA - NEWSLETTER

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Kits: Once again this year, we will be collecting items for LWR personal care kits during Lent. Collection containers will be set up in the Gathering Space by the secretary's office.

- **We are in need of:** light-weight bath-size towels (between 20"x 40" and 52"x 27"), dark color recommended; 4 oz bath-size bars of soap, any brand, in original wrapping; sturdy combs; metal nail clippers (attached file optional).
- **We will also have a basket set out for baby care kit items. Items we are in need of are:** receiving blankets, medium weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square ; cloth diapers, flat fold preferred; hand towels, dark color recommended; 4 oz bath-size bars of gentle soap, any brand, in original wrapping. Diapers can also be made from flannel by using pinking shears to cut pieces approximately 22" X 27". If the flannel is especially lightweight, consider making the diapers two layers thick. It may also be necessary to zig zag the edges to prevent raveling.
- **Thrivent Action cards** are always appreciated. If you are a Thrivent member, you can apply for an Action card to purchase items for the kits. Contact Bev Sheridan if you have questions about the kits or the action card.

Gather Bible Study:

The kingdom of God: What does it mean for God to be in charge?

New Testament scholar Mark Allan Powell looks at a widely used biblical image and invites us into a discussion of what it might mean for Lutheran women today. The phrase "kingdom of God" and similar expressions turn up repeatedly in sayings of Jesus, so understanding what that expression means helps us to make sense of numerous parables and popular Bible passages (including the Lord's Prayer). [Eternal life in the Gospel of John](#) – In the fourth Gospel Jesus uses the expression "eternal life" to talk about what he calls the "kingdom of God" in the other Gospels. The phrase does not just refer to life that is eternally long, but also (indeed, especially) to life that is eternally deep—life that is endless in value and meaning. We will look at some popular passages, including John 3:16 and the story of Jesus and the woman at the well to discover how our lives can be marked by love and purpose. (from Gather website)

Upcoming Events

March 4: World Day of Prayer, 9:00 am at Decorah Lutheran

March 22: Gather Bible study, GS Gathering space, 7 pm. Gail Judisch Bible study, Wanda Rueber refreshments

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: All are welcome on the third Wednesday of each month to come together to knit or crochet, share skills and conversation! Yarn and patterns are available. The March meeting is Wednesday, March 16, 1:00-3:00 in the Good Shepherd Gathering Space with host Marion Pruitt-Jefferson.

DECORAH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY ANNUAL MEETING: All are invited to our annual meeting Monday, March 7th at 4:00 pm in the Spectrum Kitchen. In 2021 we faced the ongoing challenge of COVID, but we were still able to provide over 215,000 pounds of food to more than 1300 of our neighbors. The generosity of faith congregations was one reason we were able to serve food insecure people and we are grateful to you.

DIRECTORY CORRECTION: Barbara Berg's phone number was incorrect in the printed directory. Find the correct version Online or by contacting the Church Office.

LUTHER COLLEGE SEMINAR OPENINGS: Good Shepherd Member, Professor Emeritus of Religion, Brad Hanson, is leading the Lifelong Learners Seminar for March: "Finding Grace in Caregiving". Participants will need to get a copy of Brad Hanson's new book, Finding Grace in Caregiving. Sessions are FREE and meet from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays in March. (March 2, 9, 16, and 23). More information and Online Registration [HERE](#).

LAVERNE RAMSEY BIRTHDAY PARTY: All are invited to come celebrate LaVerne Ramsey turning 90! Come say hello and enjoy a treat Saturday, March 12th 1:30-4:00 in the Good Shepherd Fellowship Hall.

REQUEST FOR USED DRESSERS: AMMPARO is seeking the donation of several (used) dressers for newly arrived immigrant families. To arrange pick up, call or text Kathi Mitchell at 563-419-6795.

RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT ON WEBSITE: At the annual meeting, members unanimously approved the adoption of the Good Shepherd Racial Justice statement. The statement is now on the website under "About". Members, regular worshippers, committees, and all Good Shepherd groups are asked to reflect on the statement and consider how you can help us to live this out. The Antiracism Task Force has said thank you to some of the members who served on the work of creating the statement and whose terms of service have ended. **The task force is now receiving new members.** Please consider if you can serve on the task force and contact Jon Ailabouni with interest and questions: jonailabouni@gmail.com

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: March 4th, 9:00 am at Decorah Lutheran

MARCH MINISTRY SUPPORT

Assisting Minister: Read prayers and serves communion during service. Meet with Pastor Amy 20 minutes before service to review. During Wednesday Services also do the scripture readings.

Reader: read first and second scripture. Meet with Pastor Amy 20 minutes before service to review.

Cantor: Lead congregation in singing Kyrie & Psalm. During Wednesday services leads sung liturgy. Meet with Pastor Amy 20 minutes before service to review.

Usher: Arrive @ 9:00 to greet worshippers. Pass and present offering plate. Guide flow to communion. Count offering & drop at bank deposit box following service.

Wed. - March 2	Assisting Minister	Megan Buckingham	Usher	Jeri Laursen
Ash Wednesday	Reader	Kate Narveson	Usher	Reg Laursen
7:00 - 8:00 PM	Cantor	Jonathon Struve		
Sunday - March 6	Assisting Minister	Jane Jakoubek	Usher	Reg Laursen
Jazz Service	Reader	Cindy Bellrichard	Usher	Dave Peterson
			Youth:	
Wed. - March 9	Assisting Minister	Jane Jakoubek	Usher	
Lent Evening Prayer	Cantor	Karin & Mikayla Martin-Hiner		
6:15-6:45 PM				
Sunday - March 13	Assisting Minister	Harland Nelson	Usher	Chris Johnson
Choir in Worship	Reader	Allie Scott	Usher	Erik Johnson
	Cantor	Jonathon Struve	Youth:	
Wed. - March 16	Assisting Minister		Usher	
Lent Evening Prayer	Cantor			
6:15-6:45 PM				
Sunday - March 20	Assisting Minister	Reg Laursen	Usher	
Band in Worship	Reader	Cindy Bellrichard	Usher	
	Cantor	Reg Laursen	Youth:	Sam Bills &
Wed. - March 23	Assisting Minister	Jane Jakoubek	Usher	
Lent Evening Prayer	Cantor	Megan Buckingham		
6:15-6:45 PM				
Sunday - March 27	Assisting Minister	Jane Jakoubek	Usher	
Handbells in Worship	Reader	Kate Narveson	Usher	
	Cantor		Youth:	Aidan & Keaton Nalean-Carlson
Wed. - March 30	Assisting Minister	Jane Jakoubek	Usher	
Lent Evening Prayer	Cantor			
6:15-6:45 PM				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>27</div> <div>8:45am - Band Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div>	<div>28</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>12pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/LANON @ GS</div>	<div>1</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>2:45pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Ash Wednesday</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>12:15pm - Ash Wednesday</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1:30pm - ESL</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>3</div> <div>10am - Bible Study @ Library</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1:30pm - Facilities & Grounds</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4:30pm - Education Committee</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Pr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:15pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>5</div> <div>12pm - Jazz Worship rehearsal in</div>
<div>6</div> <div>Jazz Service</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div> <div>7pm - Youth Summer Trip mtg.</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>1pm - Monday club</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4pm - Decorah Food Pantry</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/LANON @ GS</div>	<div>8</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>2:45pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>9</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10:30am - Aase Haugen</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Wellington Place Worship</div> <div>1:30pm - ESL</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:15pm - Lent Evening Prayer</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Lutheran Day on the Hill</div> <div>Recycle</div> <div>10am - Bible Study @ Library</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1:30pm - Travel Club @ Good</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Pr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Council Agenda Planning</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4pm - Party Set-Up @ Fellowship</div>	<div>12</div> <div>1:30pm - LaVerne Ramsey</div>
<div>13</div> <div>8:5a - Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div>	<div>14</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>11am - Lutheran World Relief</div> <div>12pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/LANON @ GS</div>	<div>15</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>2:45pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>5:30pm - CARE @ Gathering</div> <div>6:30pm - Sons of Norway @</div> <div>7pm - Cong. Council Mtg. @</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>16</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Arlin Falck Communion</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10:45am - MEF Committee</div> <div>11am - Eastern Star Communion</div> <div>12pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry @</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Newsletter Deadline</div> <div>10am - Bible Study @ Library</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>11:15am - Service of Holy</div> <div>12pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>3pm - Endowment Fund</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Pr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:15pm - Learning Group: Me &</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>7pm - Middle/High School Game</div>	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div> <div>8:45am - Band Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div> <div>2pm - Aase Haugen Annual</div>	<div>21</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/LANON @ GS</div>	<div>22</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>2:45pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>7pm - WELCA Circle Mtg. Gather</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>23</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - Worship and Music</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:15pm - Lent Recital: Jonathon</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1:30pm - ESL</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:15pm - Lent Evening Prayer</div> <div>7pm - Choir rehearsal</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Recycle</div> <div>10am - Bible Study @ Library</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4:30pm - Kelli's Office Hours</div> <div>4:30pm - Staff Meeting</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Pr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div> <div>8:30am - Handbell Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div>	<div>28</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/LANON @ GS</div>	<div>29</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>2:45pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>30</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1:30pm - ESL</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>6:15pm - Lent Evening Prayer</div> <div>7pm - Choir rehearsal</div>	<div>31</div> <div>10am - Bible Study @ Library</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4:30pm - Kelli's Office Hours</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Pr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>2</div>

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 - 7:00pm

Preparing Our Hearts and Minds to Serve

Present: Pr. Amy Zalk Larson, Cynthia Ernst, Ann Naslund, Bob Naslund, Chris Johnson, John Moeller, and Hayley Jackson. Ingrid Callaghan present over speakerphone. Tim Lecander and Tom Buresch were absent.

Devotions and Initial Actions: Cynthia led devotions.

Consent Agenda:

Items in the Consent Agenda are designed to be approved by consent of the council without discussion or formal vote. The items in the consent agenda are considered approved when the meeting agenda is approved. Before approving the meeting agenda, the chair asks if any member wishes to move an item from the consent agenda to the discussion agenda if the member feels a discussion is warranted.

1. Approval of the February 2022 Council meeting minutes.
2. Reception of committee reports as submitted.
3. Reception of two associate members, Dave and Jan Siefken

The Consent Agenda was approved by the consent of the Council.

Discussion Agenda:

Authorize President and Vice-President to Access Bank Account and Safety Deposit Box:

Council authorized President Cynthia Ernst and Vice-President Tim Lecander to access the Good Shepherd bank account and safety deposit box. John Moeller and Hayley Jackson will continue as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Final Sabbatical Proposal: Pr. Amy shared her finalized sabbatical proposal, including information on pastoral coverage and re-entry and the proposed budget. Pr. Rolf Svanoe, Pr. Stacey Nalean Carlson, and Pr. Karla Wildberger will provide coverage during the 13 weeks she is on sabbatical. Erica Yaneff and Brooke Joyce will be given an additional week of vacation and Kelli Gapinski will have additional support for VBS, already built into the Education budget. She also reviewed planned sermon topics and events, including Summer Travel Series potluck being planned by Outreach and Hospitality. Pr. Amy will return in time for the high school youth trip, July 24-27 (no longer the ELCA Youth Gathering, as that was canceled) and will participate as a voting member in the Churchwide Assembly, August 8-13. Council was supportive of the full proposal and budget. Questions included whether or not Pr. Svanoe, who is providing the bulk of the coverage, would be working with committees during her absence. Pr. Amy explained he would not be, and she will spend time with committees before the sabbatical to ensure they are prepared before she leaves. Pr. Svanoe will attend the May Council meeting, but not the June one. Bob Naslund moved to accept the final sabbatical proposal and its budget. Chris Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

Kinderhaus Rent Discussion: Cynthia and Pr. Amy caught up new council members on past discussions of the Kinderhaus rent agreement. The three-year space-sharing agreement concludes at the end of this school year, so a new one will need to be established. Cynthia intends to meet with the Kinderhaus director soon, as their board meeting is March 9 and they will need to discuss their options. Council discussed various options for space-sharing agreements and rental rates, taking into consideration potential agreement lengths, increased costs of utilities, space usage, and benefits of Kinderhaus being in the space. Questions included how much the cost of heat has increased (last year we paid about \$3,800 for electricity, this year we have budgeted for \$5,000), and how much an increase should be (the current rent is \$600 per month). The increase in costs were due more towards the increase of utility prices rather than usage. Council agreed to have Cynthia discuss rent with Kinderhaus. Chris moved to authorize Cindy to discuss rent with Kinderhaus and to have a discussion about facilities usage for the upcoming school year. Ann Naslund seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller reviewed the Treasurer's report. Chris moved to approve the report. Bob seconded. Motion carried.

Recurring Work of the Body – Committee, Pastor, and Officer Reports

The Committee Reports were received and accepted as submitted.

Education: Ann Naslund

The Faith5 cross generational ministry will take place in February and go through Lent. This year's Lent project is raising funds for Afghan refugee arrivals to the United States. Vacation Bible School will be August 2-4, 5-7:30pm

Outreach and Hospitality: Ingrid Callaghan

An All-church potluck is tentatively set for Thursday, August 18th. The Annual Fall Friends and Neighbors Picnic will be held on September 11, 2022. Members of Outreach and Hospitality will be assisting with the Faith5 cross generational ministry.

Pastor's Report: Pr. Amy

Pr. Amy continues to serve as dean of the ELCA congregations in our area. She encourages committees to assess their work with regard to the Racial Justice Statement. She also encourages everyone to participate in the Faith5 ministry.

Treasurer's Report: John Moeller

Total income for this year as of January 31 was \$25,898.34 and expenses were \$21,170.89, leaving us with a surplus of \$4,727.45.

Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline: February 17, 2022

Next Council Meeting: The next meeting will be March 15, 2022, 7:00 PM in person

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: The meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM. Pr. Amy Larson led the council in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting.

---Submitted by Hayley Jackson, Congregation Secretary