

# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

GOOD SHEPHERD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
April 2022

Pastor Amy Zalk Larson

Music Director: Brooke Joyce

Director of Children Youth & Family Ministry: Kelli Gapinski

Ministry Support Coordinator : Erica Yaneff

## CONTENTS:

2-3 - Words from Pastor Larson

4-5 - Prayer for the Good Shepherd Community  
& Scripture for the Month

6 - Lenten Youth Project & Lent Recital Series

6 - Holy Week at Good Shepherd

7 - Yoga @ GS & Confirmation Spring Schedule

8 - Two Upcoming Sermon Series

9 - Ways to Serve at Good Shepherd

10 - Stewardship Committee SPLASH & MEF  
Scholarship Meeting

11 - WELCA Newsletter

12- Message from the GS Antiracism  
Taskforce & Hear the Good News Updates

13 - Announcements

14- Announcements & April Support

15- April Calendar

16-17 Council Meeting Notes



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

# BELOVED OF GOD,

I am so grateful for this congregation. I am so grateful that you have allocated funds that make it possible for me to have a sabbatical. **I will be on sabbatical April 24-July 24.** I trust that the sabbatical will benefit my ministry and the congregation. In December, the Congregation Council approved the general sabbatical project. In February, the Council approved the final proposal including the plan for ministry coverage, costs, and the reentry plan. I've shared more about the project here. I've also shared about pastoral sabbaticals in general in language offered by our Northeastern Iowa Synod.

**Sabbatical Project:** I will explore recent psychological and theological literature focused on tending to bodies in relation to trauma, racialized trauma, the body of Christ, and the body in worship. *(Events in Ukraine only heightened for me the importance of addressing issues of trauma and ministry. Lord have mercy, our world is facing such trauma. How can the church be part of the healing?)* I am especially interested in how the church can be part of the healing from the racialized trauma that impacts everyone in the US. I will develop a reading list and keep a journal of reflections to share with the congregation in worship, preaching, adult education, and our racial justice work. I will tend to my own body through intentional embodied prayer and yoga practice, time at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Cedar Rapids, and time at Holden Village.

**Statement of Intended Benefits:** Ministry has been quite intense during this time of Covid and racial reckoning in our country. Ministry in this time has also led me to think a lot about the importance of the body in worship and the role of the body of Christ in bringing healing within the body politic. I need some time to be renewed and ponder these issues for ministry at Good Shepherd. My family needs renewal together.

The congregation will benefit from the preaching and leadership of other rostered ministers. The congregation will be blessed by an Easter season sermon series on the book of Revelation offered by Rev. Rolf Svanoe (Good Shepherd member and retired ELCA pastor) and by a summer series called "Traveling with the Spirit—A Summer Travelogue Through the Book of Acts". The summer series will be developed and partially led by Rev. Svanoe. When Rev. Svanoe is away in July, Rev. Karla Wildberger will preach and lead worship. Rev. Wildberger regularly provides coverage for pastoral sabbaticals in the NE IA Synod.

Rev. Svanoe and Rev. Wildberger will lead nursing home services, provide emergency pastoral care support, and lead funerals during the sabbatical. Good Shepherd communion visitors will also provide care during the sabbatical. **If you need pastoral care, be in touch with Erica Yaneff, our Ministry Support Coordinator, who will connect you with the care needed. Call the church office or email her at [office@goodshepherddecorah.org](mailto:office@goodshepherddecorah.org).** I am grateful for our excellent ministry team of Erica Yaneff, Brooke Joyce, and Kelli Gapinski who are helping to make the sabbatical possible. They will have to take on additional responsibilities while I am away. In recognition and thanks for that, a portion of the sabbatical funds will be used to give both Brooke and Erica an additional week of vacation and to give Kelli more support for Vacation Bible School.



**Reentry:** I will return from sabbatical in time to accompany our youth on a summer trip July 24-27. We were going to participate in the ELCA National Youth Gathering. That gathering has been canceled but we are participating in a smaller gathering of youth from around the Midwest. That gathering will be held in Minneapolis. The first week of August, I will be part of Good Shepherd's Vacation Bible School, August 2-4. Then August 7-12 I will be a voting member at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Columbus, OH. It will be a full but renewing summer. As part of the summer "Traveling with the Spirit" theme, we will have a congregational potluck with Mediterranean food on Wed. August 17. This will provide a chance for the congregation to celebrate the fruits of the sabbatical time and say thank you to Rev. Svano. It will also allow us to practice doing a potluck again, as we look forward to once again offering our Welcome Friends and Neighbors Picnic on Sunday, September 11, 2022 (after a two year hiatus!)

I give thanks for you all and for this time ahead for us all. I look forward to seeing what the Spirit will do in and through us all in this time!

Peace to you

Pastor Amy

### ***Language about Sabbatical from the Northeastern Iowa Synod: What is 'Sabbatical'?***

"Sabbatical" is a significant amount of time away from ministry responsibilities and is to be used for both professional growth and personal renewal. The intent of sabbatical is to sharpen the recipient's skills and to refresh both the spiritual life and a sense of calling.

### ***Is there a need?***

Ministry changes often cluster around five-to-seven-year marks. At that time, it is normal for both the rostered minister and the congregation to become aware of the need for change. As a particular ministry unfolds over time, the cumulative weight of sharing crises, nurturing new programs and striving to meet ever-changing demands and expectations eventually affects the rostered minister's performance and attitudes. That might be called "burn out" or "fatigue." The most common recourse is to seek a new call. Effective use of a properly planned sabbatical will allow a rostered minister to more effectively utilize the experience already gleaned in a congregation. At the same time, well planned sabbaticals allow the rostered minister to bring new ideas and challenges, enthusiasm and directions to enrich and invigorate existing ministries. The sabbatical is one of the most effective ways for a rostered minister and parish to develop and maintain a long-term relationship. In that sense, both the rostered minister as well as the congregation benefit from the rostered minister's sabbatical.

# PRAYER FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATION

Offered by Jane Jakoubek

*Our prayer this month begins and ends with words from Marty Haugen's hymn  
based on the 23rd Psalm.*

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Merciful God, teach me to look beyond all the things I think I want—nice things, an easy and comfortable life, security, other people's approval, and more. Help me to see the deepest desires you planted in my heart when you formed me in your image: a desire to be filled with love and life and to radiate these to the world. Help me let go of the wants that will never truly satisfy me and to aim for the things that will truly satisfy my heart.

Shepherd me, O God.

Merciful God, help me look my fears in the face. They keep me from seeing your presence, the strength you give me, the life that satisfies. Help me discover that your love gives me the strength and courage I need to look my fears in the face. Help me to see how good life is when we place our lives in your hands. Shepherd me, O God. Merciful God, help me follow the path that leads to the life you offer, a life of abundance and love and joy. Help me to look to you for the guidance I need to follow this path. Help me to trust that all I need will be provided.

Shepherd me, O God.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
<b>April 3</b>	<b>Isaiah 43:16-21</b>	<b>Psalms 126</b>	<b>Philippians 3:4b-14</b>	<b>John 12:1-8</b>
<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	The Lord gives water in the wilderness to the chosen people	Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5)	To know Christ and his resurrection, to share in his sufferings	Mary anoints Jesus for his burial
<b>April 10</b>	<b>Isaiah 50:4-9a</b>	<b>Psalms 31:9-16</b>	<b>Philippians 2:5-11</b>	<b>Luke 23:1-49</b>
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	The servant of the Lord submits to suffering	Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)	Humbled to the point of death on a cross	The passion of the Lord
<b>April 17</b>	<b>Isaiah 65:17-25</b>	<b>Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24</b>	<b>Acts 10:34-43</b>	<b>Luke 24:1-12</b>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	New heavens and a new earth	This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)	God raised Jesus on the third day	The women proclaim the resurrection
<b>April 24</b>	<b>Acts 5:27-32</b>	<b>Psalms 118:14-29</b>	<b>Revelation 1:4-8</b>	<b>John 20:19-31</b>
<i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus	You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)	Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, is coming	Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ



# YOUTH LENT PROJECT: FIRST GOAL MET - PROJECT SHIFTS FOCUS

Thank you Good Shepherd for all your support of the Good Shepherd Youth Lent Project raising funds to help resettle Afghan guests in the US. The goal of \$5000 has been met already! **(As of March 28, \$5,714.40 has been given!)** The youth have decided that all additional funds raised over that initial goal will be given to our ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) for the Eastern Europe Crisis caused by Russia's war in Ukraine.



You can continue to place your gifts for this project in the globe in front of the altar during worship. You can also place checks in the offering plate or mail and note Lent Project on the memo line. These funds will be added to those already given to Good Shepherd and designated for LDR's Eastern Europe Crisis. 100% of gifts given to LDR for this crisis will go directly to those impacted. Learn more about LDR's work in Eastern Europe on their website.

## LENT RECITAL SERIES

Good Shepherd will feature a second Lenten Recital Series on

**April 6, from 12:15-12:45 pm, in the sanctuary.**

It is free and open to the public. Masks are required.

**Enjoy the 30 minute recital during your lunch hour!**

**Wednesday, April 6, featuring Craig Hultgren, cello, and Brooke Joyce, piano.**

- **Hultgren** is a long-time activist for new music, the newly creative arts, and the avant-garde. A recipient of two Artist Fellowships from the Alabama State Council on the Arts, he is principal cellist of the Oneota Valley Community Orchestra.





# HOLY WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

## MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14

- **12:15:** Brief, simple service of Holy Communion
- **7:00 pm:** Full Worship with Personal Absolution, Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar, a First Communion milestone for some Good Shepherd youth.

## GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15

- **Easter Egg Dying 1:00 PM:** Easter Egg Dying open to all kids in the Good Shepherd Kitchen. Elizabeth Kaschins will be hosting, and all eggs and food coloring will be provided!
- **Stations of the Cross:** Available all day in the Sanctuary for personal prayer
- **7:00 pm:** Jazz Worship with the Stations of the Cross, Reflections on "The Cross and the Lynching Tree"

## EASTER VIGIL, APRIL 16

- **7:00 pm:** A Service of Fire, Scripture, Water, & Holy Communion. Affirmation of Baptism for 3 youth. This one hour service will be followed by a dessert reception.

## EASTER BRUNCH following Easter Sunday Worship:

All are welcome to the Easter Brunch! Free will donations will be collected to support youth programming. The youth thanks the congregation for their generous support in our Lenten project! The menu for the brunch is egg bakes, mini quiches, muffins, fresh fruit, juice, and coffee. Please RSVP [HERE](#) or in the Gathering Space so we can plan food amounts.

**Easter Flowers for the Sanctuary** - As has become our tradition, Altar Guild welcomes members to provide flowers/flowering plants to be placed in the altar area for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services, April 16 and 17. Contributions can be designated in memory or honor of friends and loved ones. The flowers/plants can be removed after the Easter service. As many have sensitivities to odors and some pollen, we don't place Easter lilies in the sanctuary. **Altar Guild suggestions:** azaleas, tulips, daffodils, calla lilies, bulb gardens, kalanchoes. Direct questions to Elizabeth Kaschins, Altar Guild chair.



# YOUTH & FAMILIES:

**YOUTH LENTEN PROJECT:** April 3rd and April 10th we are in need of youth to share with the congregation about the project. Sign up on the website under "Sign-Ups"

**FAITH5:** Continuing April 3rd & 10th after worship

## **Easter Brunch- Good Shepherd Youth Fundraiser:**

Sign up to help today! This congregation supports the youth in so many ways! Helping with the Easter Brunch is just one small way to say thank you. Kelli and members of the Women of ELCA will be there offering support and help.

- For Fellowship Hall setup please arrive at 8:45. (20 minute time commitment)
- Brunch servers arrive at 10:30 (30 min time commitment).
- Fellowship Hall clean up will be at 11:30 (20 minute time commitment.)

**Sign up on the website under "Sign-Ups"**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH FORUM RETURN APRIL 24th:** Helpers are needed to help run these programs. Sign up on the website under "Sign-Ups"

# CONFIRMATION SPRING SCHEDULE

**April 6 - April 16- Lent Evening Prayer and Holy Week Worship Services** No Confirmation class. Confirmation students are expected to attend these worship services with their families.

- **Holy Week services, April 14-16 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 through 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 through April 10, 10:45-11:15am**

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

We 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!



## TWO UPCOMING SERMON SERIES:

### THE BOOK OF REVELATION: HOPE FOR OUR TIME

#### **Easter Season Focus starting April 24th**

While Pastor Amy is gone on her sabbatical, Rev. Rolf Svanoe will be providing pulpit supply through the end of June and on the last Sunday of the sabbatical, July 24. During the five weeks after Easter the lectionary gives us readings from the book of Revelation. Exploring the message of hope in Revelation will be our focus during the Easter season. This strange book offers such wisdom and help for us in our present difficult times. Rev. Svanoe has recently published a book on preaching through Revelation. He will share insights into this confusing and often frightening book during Thursday morning Bible studies in the Easter season. Each week we will explore one of the major characters in the book and try to understand its meaning for today. All are welcome to these Bible studies. They are held at 10am in the library. The first two of these Bible studies will be on April 21 and 28.

### 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 Sunday in worship, from May 29-September 4th, 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 sign up in the Spring Ministry Support SignUpGenius [HERE](#). The remaining slots will be available as we get farther into summer.

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?*



# WAYS TO SERVE AT GOOD SHEPHERD

***All sign-ups can be found on the website under "Sign-Ups" tab and in the Gathering Space.***

**LAWN MOWING SCHEDULE:** Spring is in the air! Volunteer to help mow the Good Shepherd lawn this growing season.

**YOUTH FORUM & SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT SUPPORT:** There are 4 weeks of Youth Programming left in the year: April 24, May 1st, 8th, and 15th. We ask for adult volunteers to be a welcoming supportive presence to the leaders.

## **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.

**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.

**Fellowship Hour:** Provide simple offering of treats and make coffee for Fellowship Hour following Worship. Responsible for setting up and cleaning up. 1.5 hour commitment.

**Cantor:** Lead congregation in singing Kyrie & Psalm. During Wednesday services leads sung liturgy. Meet with Pastor Amy 20 minutes before service to review. This position is now set up through the Church Office & Marion Pruitt-Jefferson directly.

**SUMMER SERIES- TRAVEL IMPACT TALK:** You are invited to share a brief reflection about how travel has impacted your faith during a summer Sunday service.

## YOGA AT GOOD SHEPHERD

**Join Kelli Gapinski, certified RYT 200, for two free yoga offerings on Monday, April 18th in the Gathering Space.**

These classes are free to all. Some yoga mats are available, but participants are encouraged to bring their own. Please wear clothes that are comfortable to move in.

### **12-12:30pm Chair Yoga**

This noon yoga offering will be gentle and accessible to all. An ideal class for beginners, individuals with limited mobility, or simply a time crunch. We will focus on breath, stretching, and centering ourselves for the day and week ahead.

### **5pm-6pm Gentle Vinyasa**

This hour long class will guide individuals through movement, breath, and a meditation at the end. Participants will move from the ground to standing positions in a gentle, repeated pattern. Come wind down and prepare for the week ahead!

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: CELEBRATING THE WORK OF WELCA

At Good Shepherd we are continuing to focus on the promises of baptism which we call SPLASH, which stands for:

- S—Serve all people, following the example of Jesus.
- P—Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed.
- L—Live among God's faithful people,
- A—Alleluia!
- S—Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.
- H—Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper.

Good Shepherd's Stewardship Committee continues to recognize the great work of its members and friends to live out these promises in diverse ways, as we show each other support and give thanks to God. Today we want to take a moment to recognize the work of Good Shepherd's Women of the ELCA (WELCA). Whether it be assembling kits for Lutheran World Relief, leading the Krumkake sales for Nordic Fest, serving at funerals, and a host of other activities, the women of WELCA have a profound impact on this congregation, community, and beyond. Did you know, all the funds they raise through Krumkake sales are given away? What a model of generosity. Let's all say Alleluia for Good Shepherd's Women of the ELCA as they continue to make a SPLASH!



## MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND: SCHOLARSHIP MEETING - APRIL 3

Each year the Good Shepherd congregation awards EPIC (Educational Partners in Covenant) **scholarships to members attending an ELCA college or university**. The scholarships are funded through the church's Mission Endowment Fund and are matched by partnering ELCA institutions.

The Good Shepherd MEF Committee is offering an **informational scholarship meeting on Sunday, April 3rd at 11:00 am in the church Gathering Space**. The committee invites anyone with an interest in using or supporting this ministry to attend. Applications for the 2022-2023 academic year will be available.

Last year's scholarship recipients and their parents, and this year's high school seniors and their parents, have received letters of invitation for the meeting.

**- Good Shepherd Mission Endowment Fund**



# WELCA - NEWSLETTER

Easter Brunch following the Easter service will be sponsored by the Good Shepherd youth and WELCA this year. We will need a few people to help in the kitchen and also to make egg bakes. Please contact Bev Sheridan if you would like to help. The youth will be raising money to support monthly activities and for a possible retreat. Please come enjoy fellowship and support our youth. RSVP in the Gathering Space or from the link in the weekly newsletter - this is so helpful to us in knowing how to best prepare.

Our Cluster D spring meeting will be held Saturday April 23 at Washington Prairie with coffee at 8:30 and the meeting starting at 9 am. The program is "Days for Girls" kits. "Days for Girls advances menstrual equity, health, dignity and opportunity for all. We transform periods into pathways." All are welcome to attend.

## **LWR Kits**

We will be collecting items for LWR personal care kits until Easter Sunday. Collection containers have been set up in the Gathering Space by Erica's office. After doing a quick inventory, 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; and 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 ; 4 oz bath-size bars of gentle soap, any brand, in original wrapping; and hand towels, dark color recommended.

## **GATHER BIBLE STUDY**

The kingdom of God: What does it mean for God to be in charge? Looking to the future: Life forever with God- Most of the time that Jesus talks about the kingdom of God or eternal life, he is referring to something we experience here and now—not later in heaven. But sometimes, he does talk about that future life and in this final session we will learn as much as we can about "the glory that awaits us." What will it be like to be perfect people in a perfect world, living forever with God and one another? (from Gather website)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 23: Cluster D Spring Gathering, Washington Prairie Church, 8:30 coffee

April 26: Gather Bible study, GS Gathering space, 7 pm, Wanda Rueber Bible study, Connie Buresh refreshments; assemble LWR kits at 6 pm

May 6: May Friendship day, Congregational UCC

May 7: LWR pickup, Olson Explosives

June 18: NEIA SWO Annual Gathering, St John Lutheran, Nashua, Iowa, 8 am

# MESSAGE FROM THE GS ANTIRACISM TASKFORCE

Congratulation Good Shepherd community on the unanimous adoption of the GS Racial Justice Statement ([insert link](#)) at our last congregational meeting! We are hopeful that the statement is an important milestone in our church's journey to practice antiracist thought and policy.

The final paragraph of the statement publicly declares that we "will actively pursue racial justice in all aspects of our congregational life and make changes to adopt antiracist policies and practices around worship, education, advocacy, stewardship, governance, and through our community partnerships and relationships."

In our Fall listening sessions, more than a few people expressed support for the statement along with concern that we might pass a statement and do...nothing! That's the crossroads we are at now as a community. How will we live into the commitments made in the statement? How will we keep from growing silent or apathetic?

We are asking individuals, committees, and the council to be bold and imaginative in the way their work can be seen through the lens of racial justice. We as a task force will walk with these groups as we develop new antiracist policies and practices.

Many of the TF members, including co-chairs Jon Ailabouni and Megan Buckingham, who shepherded the statement to a congregational vote are stepping down, so the Taskforce is in need of new members. Many gifts are needed. And no one person has all the gifts that are needed. Volunteers don't need to be experienced social justice advocates to be effective on this body. What is needed is a willingness to lead and cast our vision towards the new life apart from white supremacy and racial injustice.

Please talk to Jon Ailabouni ([jonailabouni@gmail.com](mailto:jonailabouni@gmail.com)) and Pastor Amy ([pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org](mailto:pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org)) if you are interested.

## HEAR THE GOOD NEWS UPDATES:

The installation for the new audio/video system is scheduled for the week of April 4. The piano has been repaired. Thank you Good Shepherd for your generosity in making this all happen!





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Lent Evening Prayer Services: Final service Wednesday, April 6 at 6:15pm - Holden Evening Prayer, "Lord, Teach us to Pray"**

This service turns 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 via the link in the weekly newsletter.

**KINDERHAUS COMMUNICATIONS:** Please direct any and all questions or concerns regarding Kinderhaus to Erica in the Office or Pastor Amy. This will help to further nourish a positive and healthy connection with our entire community. Any Church space or scheduling questions can be directed towards Erica in the Office.

**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 April meeting is Wednesday, April 20, 1:00-3:00 in the Good Shepherd Gathering Space with refreshments from Jeri Laursen.

**FAMILY PROJECT-LEARNING IDEAS ABOUT CLIMATE WARMING:** Good Shepherd's Social Justice Committee encourages our congregation to learn about climate change. Over the next few months, we will suggest activities through which we all can actively learn at home with our families. Watch this space for more details. - Lyle Otte

**Come Home: A Nordic Choir Festival of Hymns:** You're invited to join **Sunday, April 3 at 4 p.m.** for "Come Home: A Nordic Choir Festival of Hymns." The service, held in the Center for Faith and Life on the Luther College campus, will include readings, reflections, congregational hymn singing, anthems by the Nordic Choir, and student and faculty collaborations featuring brass, percussion, oboe, piano, and organ. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, as they seek to resettle refugees into safe, secure homes and communities. Come sing with us - all are welcome! Pr. Amy will be one of the worship leaders.

**NEW MEMBER INFORMATION SESSION:** There will be a brief Good Shepherd Information session to learn more about the congregation on **Wednesday, April 6 at 6:50pm in the Library (following Lent Evening Prayer)**. Talk with or email Pr. Amy at [pastoramy@goodshepherd](mailto:pastoramy@goodshepherd) if you are interested in attending the information session and/or joining the congregation. **On Sunday, April 10, we will welcome new members of the congregation at worship and Fellowship Hour!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 2022 AASE HAUGEN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN RAISES FUNDS FOR "SPA EXPERIENCE" FOR

**RESIDENTS:** This will "renew and refresh the spa experience for our residents" by adding a new lift with built-in scale, new bath chairs to raise and lower into the tubs, new bariatric shower chairs, towel warmers, wheelchair-friendly robes, personal hygiene compartments for each resident, no slip seating pads, and music options for easy listening and relaxation in their three spas. More information posted in the Gathering Space & Fellowship Hall- Tax-deductible gifts can be mailed to Aase Haugen Foundation Annual Fund, 4 Ohio Street, Decorah, IA 52101, or make an online donation at [www.aasehaugen.com](http://www.aasehaugen.com)

**DECORAH FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS:** We request the following items due to short supply: canned pork and beans, ketchup, small bottles of laundry detergent or paper towels. For more information, volunteering opportunities, or information on how to donate: consult [decorahpantry.org](http://decorahpantry.org)

**NEICAC CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP:** Scholarships will be awarded to low income individuals in our service area to help them continue their education. Application forms are available upon request from the Church Office. Applications must be submitted to our administrative office in Decorah by 4:30pm on Friday, April 29, 2022. All information, as outlined on the application, must be completed and submitted with the application for consideration.

## APRIL MINISTRY SUPPORT

<b>Sunday - April 3</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Harland Nelson	<b>Usher</b>	Jerí Laursen	<b>Fellowship:</b>	
Handbells in Service	<b>Reader</b>	Reg Laursen	<b>Usher</b>	Reg Laursen	<b>Fellowship:</b>	
			<b>Youth:</b>		<b>Fellowship:</b>	
<b>Wed. - April 6</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jane Jakoubek	<b>Usher</b>	Bob Naslund		
Lent Evening Prayer	<b>Cantor</b>	Tom Buresh				
<b>Sunday - April 10</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Bob Naslund	<b>Usher</b>	Bob Naslund	<b>Fellowship:</b>	Ingrid Callaghan
Choir in Worship	<b>Reader</b>	Harland Nelson	<b>Usher</b>	Christy Tomlinson	<b>Fellowship:</b>	Kathy Buzza
Palm Sunday & New Member Sunday			<b>Youth:</b>		<b>Fellowship:</b>	
<b>Thur. - April 14</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>		<b>Usher</b>	Dave Peterson		
Maundy Thursday	<b>Cantor</b>	Melissa Bills				
7:00-8:00 PM	<b>Reader</b>	Kris Peterson				
<b>Friday - April 15</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jane Jakoubek	<b>Usher</b>			
Jazz Worship - Good Friday	<b>Reader</b>		<b>Usher</b>			
7:00 - 8:00 PM	<b>Cantor</b>	Andrew Last				
<b>Saturday - April 16</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>		<b>Usher</b>		<b>Fellowship:</b>	
Easter Vigil	<b>Reader</b>		<b>Usher</b>		<b>Fellowship:</b>	
7:00-8:00 PM	<b>Cantor</b>	Megan Buckingham			<b>Fellowship:</b>	
<b>Sunday - April 17</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Bob Naslund	<b>Usher</b>	Bob Naslund		
Easter Sunday	<b>Reader</b>	Harland Nelson	<b>Usher</b>			
Band in worship						
<b>Sunday - April 24</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>		<b>Usher</b>	Christy Tomlinson	<b>Fellowship:</b>	Donna Bahr
Choir in Worship	<b>Reader</b>	Bob Naslund	<b>Usher</b>	Bob Naslund	<b>Fellowship:</b>	
					<b>Fellowship:</b>	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>27</div> <div>8:45am - 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/ANON @ GS</div>	<div>29</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12pm - Tithely Next March 29</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 - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10am - NO Bible Study @ Library</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>Fr. 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> <div>9:30am - DAR Group @</div>
<div>3</div> <div>8:45am - Handbell Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11am - Parent/Student EPIC</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div> <div>7pm - Youth Summer Trip mtg.</div>	<div>4</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/ANON @ GS</div>	<div>5</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 - Social Justice</div> <div>8pm - Jon A practice</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>12:15pm - Lent Recital: Craig</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>7</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>1:30pm - Facilities &amp; Grounds</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Fr. Amy day off</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>1pm - Council Agenda Planning @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div>	<div>9</div>
<div>10</div> <div>Palm Sunday</div> <div>8:45am - Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:45am - Faith5:</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div> <div>4:30pm - Farmers Market</div>	<div>11</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/ANON @ GS</div>	<div>12</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>13</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>7pm - Choir rehearsal</div> <div>8pm - Band rehearsal</div>	<div>14</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10am - NO Bible Study @ Library</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>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div> <div>4:30pm - Kelli's Office Hours</div> <div>7pm - Maundy Thursday Service</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Good Friday</div> <div>8:30am - Office Hours</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>7pm - Good Friday Jazz Service @</div>	<div>16</div> <div>7pm - Easter Vigil</div>
<div>17</div> <div>Easter Sunday</div> <div>8:45am - Band Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>10:30am - Easter Brunch - Youth</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div>	<div>18</div> <div>8am - Office hours</div> <div>12pm - Yoga with Kelli @</div> <div>1pm - Friends of Recovery @ GS</div> <div>5pm - Yoga with Kelli @</div> <div>6:30pm - AL/ANON @ GS</div>	<div>19</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>20</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>10am - Arlin Faick Communion</div> <div>10am - Kinderhaus Snack @</div> <div>10:45am - MEF Committee</div> <div>11am - Eastern Star Communion</div> <div>12:30pm - Kinderhaus Lunch @</div> <div>1pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry @</div> <div>1:30pm - ESL</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Newsletter Deadline</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 - Endowment Fund</div> <div>3pm - Erik Sessions lessons @</div> <div>3:30pm - Kinderhaus Clean-Up @</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Fr. 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>23</div>
<div>24</div> <div>8:45am - Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>9:30am - In-person Worship @</div> <div>11:30am - Online Worship @ GS</div>	<div>25</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/ANON @ GS</div>	<div>26</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>27</div> <div>8am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - Worship and Music</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>7pm - Choir rehearsal</div>	<div>28</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>29</div> <div>Fr. 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>30</div>

# CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

16

Tuesday, March 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, Tom Buresch, and Bonnie Johnson (filling in for Ingrid Callaghan). Tim Lecander and Hayley Jackson were absent.

**Devotions and Initial Actions:** Ann 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.*

Approval of the February 2022 Council meeting minutes.

Reception of committee reports as submitted.

Receive Rebecca Hanna as new member

Receive Randy Kittleson as new member

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

## **Discussion Agenda:**

**PPA Proposal from Jim and Liz Fritz, Mission Green:** Council discussed a proposal on solar unit from Jim Fritz. Bonnie Johnson made the motion to have Kate Narveson work on a process of getting congregational input on this project and report back to Council. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

**Governance and Ministry Proposal:** Pr. Amy shared proposed changes to ministry and governance at Good Shepherd. Proposed changes include having at-large members replace committee representatives on Council, term limits for Council members, staggering terms to ensure continuity of Council, monthly committee reports be sent to Council, replacing the Organizational Support Committee with both a Personnel Committee and a revised budget process, changes to duties of Facilities and Grounds Committee,. These changes would allow Council to focus on mission and governance and committees to focus on ministry. Committee representatives were asked to take this proposal to their committees and gather feedback.

Depot Grant: Good Shepherd received a grant from the Depot Outlet for \$5,000 dollars.

New Dishwasher and Cupboards: Council discussed using the Depot grant towards a new dishwasher. John Moeller made a motion that the Depot grant be put towards a new dishwasher and for WELCA to meet with Facilities and Grounds to come up with a plan and costs. Chris Johnson seconded, motion carried.

**Racial Justice Statement:** Council discussed the need for members to join the Antiracism Task Force to work on next steps.



**Treasurer's Report:** John Moeller reviewed the Treasurer's report. It was approved and passed.

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

*The Committee Reports were received and accepted as submitted.*

**Education:** Ann Naslund

Faith Five cross+gen ministry will go through February and Lent, return to Sunday School April 24-May 15. Lent project raising funds for Afghan arrivals to the US. Vacation Bible School will be Aug. 2-4, 5-7:30pm.

**Worship and Music:** Tom Buresch

We will not have soup suppers this year as we didn't have enough respondents saying they are comfortable participating and helping. There will be a summer series, Travels with the Spirit: A Summer Travelogue through the Book of Acts. Good Shepherd members will be invited to share what travels have taught them about faith. We began a discussion about paying royalties for spirituals used in worship. New sound system to be installed in March; outdoor bonfire on April 16; a series on Revelation begins April 24; and Neighborhood Potluck planned for September 11.

**Pastor's Report:** Pr. Amy

Pr. Amy encourages committees to look to the Racial Justice Statement to guide your work this year. First Communion for 2 Good Shepherd youth (Osro and Royal Biedermann) on Maundy Thursday, April 14; Confirmation for 3 youth (Brayden Bakke, Leah Holland and Gave Hiner) at the Easter Vigil, April 16. She also shared her proposal for revisions to Ministry and Governance as discussed above.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Moeller

Total income for this year as of January 31 was \$49,075.72 and expenses were \$52,381.04, leaving us with a deficit of \$3,305.32. Current planned giving is currently at \$49,770.00 (including funds given in 2021 but specified for 2022), with expected giving based on Statements of Intent being \$53,333.00, which puts us a little behind schedule. Good Shepherd received a \$5,000 grant from the Depot Outlet - instead of putting it in the General Fund, Council has been asked to make a decision on how to best use the funds.

Announcements:

**Newsletter Deadline: March 17, 2022**

**Next Council Meeting:** The next meeting will be April 19, 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