



Good News From Good Shepherd

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."
John 10:11
March 2016

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Dear Friends in Christ,

While it will be quite a few months before we celebrate All Saints' Sunday again, it is good to continually give thanks for the faithfully departed, and remember the legacy of faith they handed down to their loved ones. It is not always easy to pass on this legacy by bringing young children to church, as the article reprinted below states, but it remains critically important. I am grateful to all you parents and grandparents (and others) who continue to pass it on. Thank you also to those who support them in this important task, be it through an encouraging smile in the pews; service through the Children's Messages, our Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and nursery; or in other ways.

One more thing: it may hard for your smaller children to see with all the "big people" in front of them. If this is the case, do feel free to sit closer to the front. I assure you that their presence will be a joy and not a distraction to me.

In His service,
Pastor Bill

Dear Parents With Young Children in Church

By Jamie Brueschhoff

Blogger, "I Am Totally *That* Mom"

You are doing something really, really important. I know it's not easy. I see you with your arms overflowing, and I know you came to church already tired. Parenting is tiring. Really tiring.

I watch you bounce and sway trying to keep the baby quiet, juggling the infant car seat and the diaper bag as you find a seat. I see you wince as your

child cries. I see you anxiously pull things out of your bag of tricks to try to quiet them.

And I see you with your toddler and your preschooler. I watch you cringe when your little girl asks an innocent question in a voice that might not be an inside voice let alone a church whisper. I hear the exasperation in your voice as you beg your child to just sit, to be quiet as you feel everyone's eyes on you. Not everyone is looking, but I know it feels that way.

I know you're wondering, is this worth it? Why do I bother? I know you often leave church more exhausted than fulfilled. But what you are doing is so important.

When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise. When you are here, the Body of Christ is more fully present. When you are here, we are reminded that this worship thing we do isn't about bible study or personal, quiet contemplation but coming together to worship as a community where all are welcome, where we share in the Word and Sacrament together. When you are here, I have hope that these pews won't be empty in 10 years when your kids are old enough to sit quietly and behave in worship. I know that they are learning how and why we worship now, before it's too late. They are learning that worship is important.

I see them learning. In the midst of the cries, whines, and giggles, in the midst of the crinkling of pretzel bags and the growing pile of crumbs, I see a little girl who insists on going two pews up to share peace with someone she's never met. I hear a little boy slurping (quite loudly) every last drop of his communion wine out of the cup, determined not to miss a drop of Jesus. I watch a child excitedly color a cross and point to the one in the front of the sanctuary.

I hear the echos of "Amen" just a few seconds after the rest of the community says it together. I watch a boy just learning to read try to sound out the words in the worship book or count his way to Hymn 672. Even on weeks when I can't see my own children learning because, well, it's one of those mornings, I can see your children learning.

I know how hard it is to do what you're doing, but I want you to know it matters. It matters to me. It matters to my children to not be alone in the pew. It matters to the congregation to know that families care about faith, to see young people... and even on those weeks when you can't see the little moments, it matters to your children.

It matters that they learn that worship is what we do as a community of faith, that everyone is welcome, that their worship matters. When we teach children that their worship matters, we teach them that they are enough right here and right now as members of the church community. They don't need to wait until they can believe, pray or worship a certain way to be welcome here, and I know adults who are still looking to be shown that. It matters that children learn that they are an integral part of this church, that their prayers, their songs, and even their badly (or perfectly-timed, depending on who you ask) cries and whines are a joyful noise because it means they are present.

I know it's hard, but thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church. Please know that your family -- with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy -- are not simply tolerated, you are a vital part of the community gathered in worship.

In His service,
Pastor Bill

MARCHing On

March 2016 – is the first quarter of 2016 coming to a close so quickly? I have heard it said many times from those wiser than me –

“The Lord did not create us to be idle!”

Maybe that’s why He named the month containing the start of spring “March”. Time is MARCHing on and bringing with it a full bouquet of opportunities at GSLC. So what kind of opportunities are we talking about? Let’s list a few –

Time in His Word – several opportunities are available to the friends and families of GSLC

Sunday School for the children to learn of His will for each of them

OWLS – Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors have the opportunity to share their faith and secrets to becoming wiser through fellowship and continued study of the Word

Men’s Bible study Tuesdays, 6:30 AM at IHOP

9:45 AM Sunday morning Women’s study of Thessalonians in the Duchow room

9:45 AM adult Bible study “The Great Deceiver” in the Family Life Center lead by Pastor Bill

Sunday morning worship services

Mid-week Lenten services

Service – opportunities to serve in various positions (During/following services)

Ushers

Readers

Greeters

Nursery assistance

Flowers and Alter care

Fellowship servants

Refuse duty

Offering counters

Sound ministry

Church officers for the upcoming elections

President

Treasurer

Elder (3 positions)

Board of Communications Chair

Board of Education Chair

Board of Outreach Chair

Board of Stewardship Chair

• **Giving** – during the First Quarter 2016 Voter’s Meeting, electronic giving was approved. This will give everyone the opportunity to include

tithes and offerings in their “auto-pay” systems just like they handle all their other household bills/responsibilities. Be watching for the details of this in the very near future.

As you can see, there are many MARCHing opportunities. If we all commit to do just one item, everything can be accomplished. If we think we are at our maximum capacity, just remember what our Lord said –

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Lee Brooks – President GSLC

Stewardship Corner - Happenings!

Financial Peace University, a Dave Ramsey Course

If you have not had the pleasure of learning about personal financial stewardship from Dave Ramsey, you are missing out on good old-fashioned, scripturally-sound money management and spiritually inspired giving. Dave speaks with authority, humor and experience having lived the high life to the point of going broke and starting over.

Plans are underway to offer the course in the April/May time frame, watch for details on logistics. There is a fee for the course materials, but no one should feel prohibited based on the fee.

Don't think you need a stewardship course on money management or giving? Consider this: 15 percent of everything Christ said relates to this topic (money and possessions) - more than his teachings on heaven and hell combined. That's a quote from Randy Alcorn's book *The Treasure Principle*. Jesus knows us humans and how we are prone to attachment and to accumulating things in this life, when it's the next life we should be focused on!

And from the Foreword to the book *Your New Money Mindset* by Brad Hewitt and James Moline*, Ron Blue, Founding Director of Kingdom Advisors, observed this in the early 80's on a trip to Kenya.

Chatting with a local pastor in Nairobi he asked the pastor “What is the greatest barrier to the spread of the gospel in your part of Africa.” Expecting an answer of transportation, communication, resources, tribalism, etc., he instead got this: “Materialism!” Asking for clarification, the pastor told him, “If a man has a mud hut, he wants a stone hut; if he has a thatched roof, he wants a metal roof; if he has one cow, he wants two cows;.....” Then came the realization that materialism is a disease of the heart and has nothing to do with money.

*Book is available to Thrivent members for \$5 from the web site. Read chapter 1 on line for free for a taste of the content.

PayPal - an Automated Giving Strategy

At the voter's meeting on 2/21, the voters approved getting GSL set up on PayPal and an expenditure to upgrade our member tracking software to accommodate imports from PayPal of member giving.

What does that mean? It means, once GSL gets set up in PayPal, you can be a better steward, save checks, and know that you are consistently giving to God your General Fund first fruits by opening or using your current PayPal account to automate your tithing to Good Shepherd. PayPal provides detailed member exports to make our Financial Secretary's life easier and accurate since he will be able to import rather than re-key data.

Once the account is established, GSL will be able to offer this service on the web site. Designated giving will be added after General Fund giving is deemed to be working smoothly.

Watch for more detail on the timing and logistics of this service in the coming weeks.

*Embraced by His Grace,
Empowered by His Spirit,
Embarking with you on our journey with Jesus.*

Marlis Norton, Stewardship

Servant Alert!

Good Shepherd is in need of willing servants for the following positions that will be voted in May and otherwise turnover come July 1: Council President, Treasurer, 3 Elders, Boards of Communications, Outreach, Education, and Stewardship. So far two members are willing to let their names stand for two of the Boards. Prayerfully consider serving as the Spirit leads. You know who you are and more importantly God knows who you are! Let Marlis Norton, Becky Aragon, Pastor, Lynn in the office or any current servant know your questions or interest in serving. The slate will be reviewed by Council on April 11 and the Voters will decide at the May meeting.

Nominating Committee, Marlis and Becky

Reminder



The deadline for ordering the Easter flowers is
March 13

Art with Angela

In addition to the many ways GSLC reaches the community, home school students have been meeting twice a month in the Fellowship Hall for "Art with Angela." Ms. Angela Bezilla and her daughter, Charity, help young students, ages 5 and up, find their inner artist. From



chalk pastels to acrylics and wool sweaters to soap, these students enjoy learning new techniques while creating stunning masterpieces! As a thank you for allowing the students to meet at GSLC, they would like to invite you to meet them and view their pieces in the Gathering Area on March 9, 2016 beginning at 5:00 p.m. until church begins at 7:00 p.m. Please try to go up and let the children show you what they have accomplished!



Good Shepherd Prayer Requests

Please contact the church office at [\(859\) 746-9066](tel:8597469066) or gslc9066@fuse.net if you have prayer requests. Unless requested otherwise, they will be listed for three weeks.



Whiz Kids celebrated Valentine's Day a week later because of a snow day that cancelled school and Whiz Kids. Games and treats were part of the fun. Students are growing with their reading and writing as well as learning more about their tutors. Leroy Raap showed the Whiz Kids what it is like to be an air traffic controller. In March, Vince Woolley will share his experience as an EMT and Bryce Calvert will discuss money saving tips.

The Lenton dinners are becoming a meeting place for some of our Whiz Kids and families. On March 16, we will host our families with a special dinner. The Whiz Kids will perform a song that night. We like to celebrate our families!

We have a new tutor from St. Henry District High School this year. Her name is Julia Barclay and she is a great addition.

This year on Easter we are inviting the Whiz Kids to an Easter egg hunt, crafts, and breakfast starting at 9:30.

Lisa Krejci
Whiz Kids Site Coordinator



OWLS

The next meeting of the OWLS is scheduled for March 8th at noon. We welcome anyone 50 and older. We will be looking ahead to what we want to do in the future.

Fred



A big thank you to **Judy Stetler** for our new banners! Judy made the new Baptism banner and also the Installation/Reformation banner we used in the fall! They are so beautiful!

Thank you for all your hard work Judy!
Also a thanks goes out to Lori Rapp, Kim Leavens, Mary Givhan for volunteering to change the messages on the church sign at the driveway entrance.

Good Shepherd Youth Ministry POUND-A-THON

- Keep us motivated as we seek to lose weight in a healthy way!
- Make a pledge for each pound of weight loss from February 1 to May 31.
- Our combined goal is 60 pounds. Whoever guesses the closest to our actual weight loss achievement gets to pick the hymns one Sunday!
- Proceeds benefit the Youth Ministry events of Good Shepherd.
- Participants: Pastor Bill Gauger Scott Holloway Jenn Ostermeier



Fellow Members of G.S.L.C

Additional hymnals are needed for the sanctuary. If you

would like to donate \$26 per hymnal and have it dedicated in memoriam on behalf of a loved one or special situation, a dedication label will be added with the information to the respective hymnal. Envelopes for this project can be picked up from the table in the gathering area or please mark checks or a special offering in an envelope noting the money is for the purchase of a hymnal(s) in memory “...”

Money can be placed in the offering plate.
Working together in His mission field.

Thank you!
Lori Raap



Good Shepherd will be hosting another session of Financial Peace University this spring. Participants will learn God's way of handling money as FPU presents Biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!

When: Sundays (April 3 - May 29) at 6:00 p.m.

Where: The Family Life Center

(Please note that we can be flexible on scheduling the final class meeting based on the needs of the participants, as it would fall on Memorial Day weekend.)

Stay tuned for further details in the Voice and our website.

Feb 2016		March 2016 ~					Apr 2016	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
		1 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am Home School Art Class 12:30 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm	2 PEP 8:00 – 4:00 pm Whiz Kids 4:00 pm Lenten Dinner – 6:15 pm Lenten Service – 7:00 pm	3 Classical Conversations 9:00 am – 3:00 pm In-Reach Meeting 7:00 pm Adult Inquiry Class 7:00 pm	4	5		
6 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship 6:00 pm – Confirmation	7 PEP 8:00 – 4:00 pm PEP Drama 6:00 – 8:30 pm	8 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am OWLS – Noon	9 PEP 8:00 – 4:00 pm Whiz Kids 4:00 pm Art Show – 4:00 pm Lenten Dinner – 6:15 pm Lenten Service – 7:00 pm	10 Classical Conversations 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Adult Inquiry Class 7:00 pm	11 Jr. High Youth Gathering	12 Women's Bible Breakfast 9:00 am Jr. High Youth Gathering		
13 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship Jr. High Youth Gathering LWML Mite Collection	14 PEP 8:00 – 4:00 pm PEP Drama 6:00 – 8:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm	15 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am Home School Art Class 12:30 pm	16 PEP 8:00 – 4:00 pm Whiz Kids 4:00 pm Lenten Dinner – 6:15 pm Lenten Service – 7:00 pm	17 Classical Conversations 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Adult Inquiry Class 7:00 pm PEP Meeting 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.	18	19		
20 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship 6:00 pm – Confirmation	21 PEP Drama 6:00 – 8:30 pm Elders' Meeting 7:00 pm	22 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am	23	24 CC Academic Boot Camp 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm	25 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	26		
27 Holy Communion 8:30 am – Worship 9:45 am – Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship Easter Sunday Egg Hunt	28 PEP Drama 6:00 – 8:30 pm	29 Men's Bible Breakfast 6:30 am	30	31 Classical Conversations 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Notes:			

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY AT GOOD SHEPHERD



The Human Care Committee will host the Free Store Food Bank Mobile Pantry at Good Shepherd on Saturday, April 23rd. We will begin distributing food at 9:00 a.m. We will be signing up 100 families by working with the schools in our area as well as the elderly. These families will receive 50 lbs. of food free of charge. We will need a lot of volunteers to make this work so be thinking ahead about volunteering to help out with this food distribution in May and marking it on your calendar.

We also will be having special collections to help defray the costs of this project. We used up a large portion of our Human Care fund by providing meals to families during the holidays. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Human Care Fund so we can continue our outreach to the community.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. (Matthew 25:35)



Lenten Services Continue

March 2nd, 9th and 16th

Soup & Sandwich Suppers precede the services at 6:15 p.m.

Mauudy Thursday, March 24th
Communion Service, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25th
Service, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Services, March 27th
8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Communion)

The youth will provide an Easter Breakfast between services.