



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**7800 W. McCarthy Rd., Palos Heights, IL 60463**  
**[www.good-shepherd-church.com](http://www.good-shepherd-church.com)**

*March, 2025*

**Our Mission Statement**

*A caring fellowship of all God's people empowered by grace to proclaim the gospel and lovingly serve as Jesus teaches.*

**Our Vision Statement**

*Transforming lives by making the hope of God real through bold faith, service, outreach, discipleship and helping all people discover their God-given value.*

**Core Values**

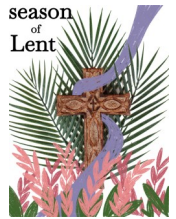
*Encouraging each other in our lifelong journey of faith through our core values of:*

- Drawing nearer to God
- Prioritizing Love over Judgment
- Practicing Grace
- Welcoming All
- Generously Serving

**The Season of Lent**

**We gather this month and begin the season of Lent.**

During this season, you are invited to reflect on what you have and how you can use it to care for others. Our worship services on Ash Wednesday will share a way that we can all come together around this Godly call and faithfully live during this season of reflection.



**Special Lenten Services and Fellowship**

**March 5, Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday Services at 10:30 am and 7:30 pm. Drive-Thru Ashes around the back of the building from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

**Ash Wednesday Luncheon on March 5!**

**Slainte!** Please join us after the 10:30 service for food and fellowship. Shepherds Pie, desserts, and a little St Patrick's Day trivia is a pretty good way to spend a day! Hope to see all who would like to come. RSVP to the office so we can properly plan.

**Lenten Services each Wednesday in Lent**

Lenten Services at 10:30 am and 7:30 pm. The services will include dramatic readings that reflect on the story of Abraham and his family.



**Wednesday Lenten Suppers**

Lenten Supper at 6:15 pm in the FLC Center with freewill offering to support *RefugeeOne* serving refugees in the Chicagoland



**Witness to the Faith**

**Lent sees our young people give their Witness to the Faith.** Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be sharing their Witness to the Faith during our Lenten services. Come and support them while also listening to what God is sharing through them.

**Wed., March 12**

Lent  
 Confession and Forgiveness  
 Ephesians 2:8-10

Ian Schroers  
 Henry Jacobek  
 Sara Held

**Wed., April 2**

Baptism  
 Communion

Lexie Facko  
 Cody McCoy

**Wed., March 19**

The Great Commandment  
 The Great Commission  
 The Lord's Prayer

Ruby Gutierrez  
 Alex Jaksich  
 Lucy Wilkerson

**Wed., April 9**

Ten Commandments  
 Psalm 23

Mitchell Good  
 Hattie Courtney



**Thu., April 17**

Maundy Thursday

Nick Schmidt

**Wed., March 26**

The Apostle's Creed  
 Romans 8:38-39

Isaac Bell  
 Marek Bell

**Fri., April 18**

Good Friday

Lexi Miskovic

# People of Good Shepherd – February 2025 Report

## Baptisms

Jane Elizabeth Brennan — February 23, 2025



## New Parent/Grandparents

Allison and Jason Mai, a daughter, Olivia Jean, granddaughter of Edith and Joe Schmitt, great-granddaughter of Nancy Metro



## New Members

Betsy and Kurt Karlson



## Known to have been ill or hospitalized

Ron Jankowski, James DiMambro, Matt Wolan, Donna Dinkmeyer, Carol Ross, Bill Johnsen, Gerhard Haigis, Chriss Hassel, Nicole Baldwin and Georgia Brennan



## Known to have Experienced Bereavement

The family and friends of Sharon Cyrnek  
Bill and Lori Innocenti upon the passing of Bill's father, Al  
The family and friends of Marilyn Breen



**Thank You to all** who participated in our Congregational Meeting last month. We're very excited about our new Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support.

**Welcome Jill Price to the Good Shepherd Staff.** Jill is coming on to provide some custodial help for Jan. She has been faithfully volunteering at Good Shepherd for the past two years; organizing, doing light cleaning and assisting in a multitude of ways. We're thrilled to have her come and join Jan in keeping the facilities maintained and clean.



**Stewards Lunch on March 2 at noon.** All the stewards (those that count the offering) are invited to come together at church for a nice lunch in appreciation of Joe Perry. We'll also introduce new members of the team, go over the necessary recording and review the schedule.

## **DEADLINE APRIL 1 for the Germany Trip, October 8-18 2025.**

The Good Shepherd Germany Trip is all set and ready to be finalized. We're still short 8 people to make this a reality. If you've been thinking of participating, sign up before our deadline of April 1. If for some reason we do not get enough people and cancel the trip, your whole deposit will be refunded. For specifics about the trip, go to the "Ministry" tab on our website and choose "Adult Ministry." From there, you can click the link to get specific information about the trip such as a full itinerary, cost and how to register.



Photo Directory  
We Want You In It!!

**Church Photo Directory.** . . The Photo Directory pictures begin this month. An email from Burns Photography will be arriving soon or may have already been sent for scheduling your photo session. We would love to have all our church family be included. Pictures will be taken from 1 pm - 7 pm on March 13 and April 3 and from 3 pm - 9 pm on March 27 and April 1. Sign up instructions will be in the email from Burns Photography or you can contact the church office if you need help getting signed up and don't have email.

**Do you want to help elect a new bishop?** Good Shepherd has been allotted 4 voting members to the Synod Assembly on May 30-31 in St Charles. The assembly will vote on new leaders in the synod (including bishop), reflect on the past year's events and share the plans for the new fiscal year. If you are interested in attending, contact Pastor Chris.



# MISSIONS

## Annual Easter Blessing Bag Mission Project

Grocery bags with a list of selected items will be distributed in the Narthex on Sundays, March 30 and April 6. Bags will also be available on the table outside the church office during the week.

Each bag should contain a mix of the following: *Non-perishable staples:* Jell-O, cake mix and frosting, boxed potato mix, rice mix, canned fruit and vegetables, pudding mix, muffin mix, coffee, tea *Special Easter Treats:* jelly beans, marshmallow eggs, chocolate rabbits, Easter themed paper products.

Filled bags can be returned between April 6 and April 13 to the Galilean Room. If you would like to help transport them to the Food Pantry, let the church office know.

*Thank you for being part of sharing God's abundance  
as we celebrate God's abundant love at Easter.*



The *usual Pantry needs for March* include: Spaghetti O's, canned ravioli, canned meats, canned fruit, crackers and baby food. All donations are always appreciated.



Our "Cooking with Care" group meets this month on Tuesday, March 11 at 9:30 am. Come and help prepare a meal for the Joliet Mission.

*Remembering our veterans at the Manteno vets home!* They are specifically in need of **men and women's diabetic socks** but can use any of the following: cans of pop, gallon size Hawaiian Punch (regular flavor); individual bags of chips/snacks; treat-size candy bars, and individual bags of cookies.



## ADULT EDUCATION

As Lent begins, now's the time to take up the spiritual discipline of gathering with others around God's Word. Consider attending one of our weekly groups as part of your Lenten discipline.

**"Just A Quick Word"** We will examine the teachings of Jesus and the teachings of Paul on today's world.

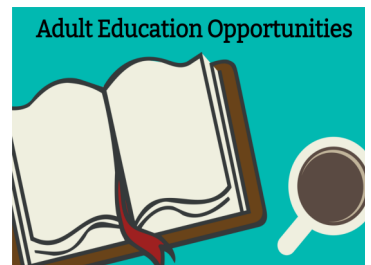


**Body & Soul: Monday at 8:00 pm in the Life Center.** All are welcome to come beat the cold by coming to the Life Center for some basketball and friendly banter.

**Faith, Prayer and Joy Small Group: Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Galilean Room.** We are beginning a new video series so now is the perfect time to join.

**Bible Study: Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Galilean Room.** As we explore the book of Romans, we contemplate what this scripture means for our lives. All are welcome.

**Discovering the Bible: Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Conference Room.** We take up our exploration of the New Testament, reading scripture together and learning the context in which it was crafted.



**"Spiritual Fitness" Woman's Bible Study.** Monthly meetings in Bethany Hall on the 3rd Monday. This month we meet on March 17, at 1:00 pm. The video series for spring begins with author Amberly Neese, as we explore together, the joy in "Untangling Faith." For information, contact the church office.



# ACTIVITIES

**Save the date for the BIG MAY Activity: IT'S GARAGE SALE TIME!!**

**Friday, May 2, 8 AM – 3 PM Saturday, May 3, 8 AM – Noon.**

Mark Your Calendars as it's only two months till Our Garage Sale! NOW is the time to look around, help declutter your house and help raise money for our youth program. As a reminder, we can no longer accept the following: *Televisions, computer monitors, car seats, cribs, bed frames, mattresses, sofa-beds, entertainment centers, dining hutches and any electronic item that doesn't work.*



**GAMERS ANONYMOUS...**Game day is on Wed., March 12 due to the timing of Ash Wednesday. We start playing at 1:00 pm and end about 3:00 pm. New gamers are always welcome! Come and join the fun. We would love to see you!



**BOWLING NEWS...***It's Card Game Night* at the next bowling session on Sat., March 8. See you at 3:00 for practice; games start 3:15. If you are unable to bowl, please let your teammates know. Also, if you owe money from an earlier session, please pay those funds. See you on the 8th!

**SAVE THE DATE:** *The spring blood* drive with Versiti is set for Sunday, May 4 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Life Center. Sign up online now at [donate.illinois.versiti.org](http://donate.illinois.versiti.org) (look for the event scheduled at Good Shepherd). In-person signups in the narthex will begin on Sundays starting in April.



**"OFF" CLUB...**Our March meeting is Wed., March 19 at 11:00 am. Lunch is \$8.00 monthly. **Annual dues are \$20.00 and are due now.** Everyone over the age of 55 is welcome. We have great lunches and a lot of fun. After lunch, we will be entertained by singer, Larry Levin. We look forward to seeing you.

**EASTER FLOWERS** are available if you would like to purchase any to add to the beauty of the sanctuary on Easter. They can be taken home after the 11:00 service. The order deadline is April 7. See page 5 for the order form.



**Remodeling Bethany Hall and the Basement Classrooms.** As mentioned at the Congregational Meeting, we will be undergoing a remodel of these downstairs areas in the near future. A group is beginning the work to plan how to best make the space fit our needs. As we know more information, particularly the timing of this project, we will make sure to inform you so we can together plan accordingly. We're looking forward to God's work making this space a joy for all.



# YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**K1 Indoor Go-Karts – Part Deux...**March 30 – 1:00 pm...We have rescheduled our indoor racing day with K1 Speed in Mokena and lunch is included! This is open to all 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders and their friends and parents who are 58" or taller. We are asking for \$25 per driver, but please don't let money stop you from coming. For more details, contact Pastor Bell.



**Mission Trip Group Meeting...**Our next Mission Trip meeting will be Sunday March 9 at noon, after church services. There will be lunch and then we will be planning T-shirt designs, talking about possible service projects while in Detroit and a little more about Detroit history and culture. Any questions, please see Pastor Bell.

# CHILDREN & FAMILY



**Sunday School Kids in Action!** Our Sunday school children wish to thank all those that generously donated the items to create the Birthday Boxes for the Palos Food Pantry clientele. We were able to make **68** Birthday Boxes. Thank you!!

**Bingo and Pot Luck Lunch!** Join us on March 16 for an afternoon of great fun playing Bingo and enjoying lunch. All ages are welcome! Everyone attending should bring a side dish or dessert to share and a prize (from the Dollar Store or similar) for each Bingo card they would like to play. No need to wrap the prizes this year! Categories for prizes are Women, Men and Children. RSVP is necessary to be properly prepared. Sign-up Sheets are on the bulletin board or email Lori Puttkammer.



**Planning for the Easter Eggstravaganza has begun!!** We need your help... Donations of the following items would be helpful and greatly appreciated; individually wrapped candy (please no peanut products) and small toys/stickers that will fit in a plastic egg. These items can be brought to Mrs. Lori's office on or before April 3. We will begin stuffing the eggs soon thereafter.

## EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA



**Save the Date!** Easter Eggstravaganza is on April 19 from 10 am – 11 am!! Looking forward to seeing many of you!! Invite a neighbor or a friend to come along, too! Grandparents, bring your grandkids!!



**Get ready for the summer event that points Kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust!**  
**TRUE NORTH...Vacation Bible School... July 7-11 9:00AM – 12 Noon**  
**Registration begins May 4 and goes through June 22**

We need **MANY VOLUNTEERS** to run a successful week of Vacation Bible School. There are many different areas that need to be filled...Crew Leaders, Crew Assistants, Craft Site Leader and Assistants, Rec Assistants, and more. We will need volunteers to help register our VBS kids on Sundays in May and June. Sign-up sheets will be up very soon, so please consider joining us this year. It is a great blessing working alongside fellow brothers and sisters in Christ and having the opportunity to deepen the Christian faith of many children. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Puttkammer.



**EASTER LILIES, TULIPS AND HYACINTHS** will add to the beauty of our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Anyone wishing to make a gift of a flower may do so by using this form and leaving it in the church office or by signing up on the bulletin board **by April 7**. Donors of the plants may take them home after the 11 AM service on Easter Sunday. Please indicate the number of plant(s) you desire.



\$17.00 Lilies \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Tulips \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Hyacinths \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person(s) donating:

\_\_\_\_\_

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