



## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

### 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
- Fostering Community



**Deacons' Picnics June 9 and 10.** Gather in the Life Center beginning at 6:30 pm to share a meal and compete in the water balloon toss while getting to know your Deacon and others in the Good Shepherd community. Please RSVP by calling the church office and also bring a side or

dessert if you are able. Don't miss out on this fun summer time. You're welcome to come to one or both

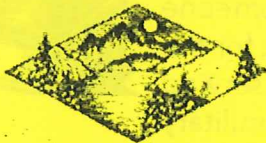
### **High School Graduate Sunday—June 7 at both services.**

On **Sunday, June 7**, we invite our **2026 high school graduates** to come share their plans, offer them a small gift, and bless them for this new season of life. Whatever your plans are from college, trade school, military service, to the workforce, we want to take a moment to celebrate you and pray for you. We will recognize graduates at both the 8:30 am and 10:00 am services. **Please contact the church office and let us know if you can attend either service so we can plan accordingly with our gifts.** God bless our students as they finish high school, and may God guide them in their next chapter of life.



**Mission Trip to Appalachia...June 13 - 20.** Our youth and chaperones will be heading out to Summersville, WV for our mission this month. Please keep them and that community in your prayers. We hope and pray for a safe journey and that this trip has a lasting impact on all those attending. Finally on behalf of Pastor Bell, Dr. Rich, Dr. Tamara, Camden, Kalina, Thalia, Rachel, Cody, Isaac, Marek, Lexie &

Rich, thank you to everyone for your support and generosity that helps make this trip possible.



**It's Vacation Bible School Time!!!**  
**Get ready for the summer event that guides kids in exploring the nature of God!**

**July 6-10 9:00 AM - 12 Noon**

**Vacation Bible School Registration** began in May and goes thru **June 21**. **Pre-Registration is required.** VBS registration fee is \$15 per student payable with cash or check. Children age 3 (by July 6/potty trained) through completed 5<sup>th</sup> Grade can register for this fun summer event. Registrations will be taken between services and after late service, as well as during the week during office hours. You can access the VBS Registration forms on our website or if you prefer, we will have copies at the church. As a reminder, 1 form per child. If your plans are to join us for VBS this year, *please don't delay, register today!*

**See page 6 for VBS Volunteer and Donation information!**

# WE CELEBRATE OUR 2026 GRADUATES!

## Congratulations to our High School Graduates

**Alan B. Shepard**  
Harrison Strooboscher

**Carl Sandburg**  
Ave Bernardi  
Jacob Talluto

**Marist High School**  
Michael Kapustianyk, Jr.  
Cassie Ogarek

**Amos Alonzo Stagg**  
Sydney Anderson  
Graham Courtney  
Kalleigh Miskovic  
Ryan Rozak

**Chicago High School for  
Agricultural Sciences**  
Gunner Trost



## Congratulations to our College Graduates

At present, it is difficult to accurately list all of our College and University graduates due to the changing of majors or extension of programs which frequently occurs. While we list the graduates we are aware of, we ask that any not identified inform Pastor Buresh, Pastor Bell or the Church Office, so that we can properly salute them as well.

**Jonathan Castor**, *Spring Harbor University*, Bachelors in Science in Business Administration

**Tyler Klappauf**, *Lewis University*, Bachelor of Science in Aviation Administration

**Linnea Marsh**, *University of Illinois*, Bachelors in Computer Science

**Jersey Merrick**, *Augustana University*, Bachelors in Business Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship

**Edward Nelson**, *University of Cincinnati Law School*, Law Degree

**Erik Nelson, Jr.**, *Marquette University*, Bachelor of Liberal Arts—Psychology

**Lauren Pengiel**, *Purdue University*, Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine

**Joe Talluto**, *Trinity College*, Bachelors in Music and History

**Karsyn Williams**, *Illinois State University*, Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science.



## Prayer Book for the Armed Services

As we head into summer and our young adults graduate, we want to offer the church's ongoing support, especially for those entering military service. So if you have someone entering the armed forces, we would like to give them a copy of the Prayer Book for the Armed Services. It's also a great spiritual resource for those who are currently serving and for a veteran who has served. This is a prayer book by veterans and military chaplains. Contact Pastor Bell for more details.



**Join us as we spend an evening cheering on the Windy City Thunderbolts Baseball Team!!** Reserve your tickets by June 14 for the game on Saturday, June 27 at 6:05 pm. Ozinga field is located in Crestwood and all participants meet at the ballpark. Tickets are \$5 each. Those age 2 and under are free if they sit on a parent's lap. You will be able to pick up your reserved tickets on June 21 and payment will be due.

**Welcome to Good Shepherd Night at 7 pm on Tuesday, August 25:** Every year, we have an evening dedicated to those who have recently joined the church, are thinking about joining Good Shepherd or long-term members who want to know more about Good Shepherd. If that fits you, come to our *Welcome to Good Shepherd Night* where we will share the history and structure of Good Shepherd, listen to ways that you can join in God's work through the various ministries and also answer questions people may have. Anyone is welcome to come to this night of sharing and listening. More information will be posted in the August newsletter but get it on your calendar now.



# People of Good Shepherd – April 2026

## Baptisms

Bennett Petrusevski — May 3, 2026



## Marriages

Kaitlyn Meyer and Joshua McGrath — May 16, 2026



OUR CONFIRMANDS

## Those Confirmed

Noah Payne Bergmann, Lukas Robert Bort, Vivienne Rose Pegorin, Garrett Andrew Pempek, Emma Margaret Sage, Tate Christian Spencer, Eloise Ada Wagner, Jack Henry Wiltgen, Grace Lillian Wolcott



## New Members

Jessica Petrisko and Andrew Mason, Paula Krapf, Ron and Hazel

## Transferred Out

Keith and Susan Alberts to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lake Geneva, WI

## New Parents

Michael and Kimberly Dolce, a son, Otis James, grandson of Cathie Sombraske



## Known to have been ill or hospitalized

Myrna Bronson, Carole Helfert, Jamie Ekhart, Chris Yazumbek, Christine Ricca, Myrna Brejcha, Carol Miller, Judy Oster, Lynn Evers, Liam Garr, Jim Srbeny, Larri Lyn Rauch, Bill Innocenti, Ernie Neely, Makenna Beattie and Carole Peterson.



## Known to have Experienced Bereavement

Andrew and Lauren Kirkner upon the passing of Andrew's mother, Mary John and Kathleen Vinson upon the passing of their friend, Karen Browne and relative, Michael Poch



Sympathy

Wendy Mayers upon the passing of her sister-in-law, Kym Gerlick

Bill and Kathy Webber upon the passing of Bill's nephew, Jeff Hale and their friend, Ron Lamb  
The Kozlowski family upon the passing of Tom

## MISSIONS



**"Cooking with Care's" next cooking date is Tuesday, June 9 at 9:30 am.**

**Reminder:** We will be taking a break in July for VBS and will return to the kitchen in August.

**Remember our veterans at the Manteno Veterans' Home!** They are especially in need of toiletries and regular and diabetic socks for men AND women. *They can also use any of the following:* cans of pop, gallon size Hawaiian Punch (regular flavor); individual snack bags chips, Cheetos, etc., bite-size candy bars, and individual bags of cookies. Please place your items in the two BLUE bins in the narthex. **The vets are very grateful for our support!**



**The Palos Food pantry so appreciates our donations!** Special requests for June include:

tuna, canned meats, rice and noodle dinners, Jell-O, baby food and crackers. July requests include: spaghetti sauce, pasta, crackers, baby food, cake mix, frosting and canned meat. Personal size toiletries are always welcome.



MISSION meetings

**The missions committee has a lot going on these next two months. They'll meet at:**

- ♦ 4:30 pm on Monday, June 15 to review the Capital Improvement Grant applications
- ♦ 4:30 pm on Thursday, July 16 for the 2nd Quarter Distribution meeting.

*This group is dedicated in ensuring the resources of the church are used to promote God's message of love and hope. If you're interested in the work of this committee, contact the church office as new members are always welcome.*

## ADULT EDUCATION



**Just A Quick Word continues on Mondays at 4 pm.** In these summer month, Pastor Bell will introduce some of the books of the Apocrypha. Check the video dates on the calendar.

**Body and Soul will continue during the summer on Mondays at 8 pm in the Life Center:** Come on out and get some exercise and have some fun along other great guys. Pay attention to the calendar for several weeks where we won't meet due to VBS.



**Spiritual Fitness Woman's Bible Study** meets monthly in Bethany Hall at 1:00 pm. Come join us on June 15 and July 20 for "Growing in Faith" as we begin a new book and video series for the summer. **June:** Hostess: Sandra Leach, Inspirational Reading: Ann Peterson, Bible Lesson: Ruth Schlange. **July:** Hostess: Judy Lang, Inspirational Reading: Joan Meyers, Bible Lesson: Linda Francis. New friends are always welcome!

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU from the Church & Community Committee.** Thank you to everyone who participated as a donor in our blood drive May 17. Thanks to several people who donated double red cells and a few walk-ins, we were able to surpass our goal, collecting 22 units of blood. The next blood drive is planned for December 6, and it's already listed on Versiti's website.



## SUMMER ACTIVITIES



**Gamers**—Our game days this summer will be on Wednesday, June 3 and Wednesday, July 1. We start playing at 1:00 play till about 3:00 pm. Anyone who likes to play fun, fast and easy card and dice games are welcome to join us. You do not have to be a member of the church. Even if you have never played before we are always learning new games. Most of all, we have a lot of fun. We would love to see you.

**BOWLING**—Our 2025-26 season has come to an end. Thank you to all who participated! Prize money will be distributed when we start again on Sept. 12. Have a safe and happy summer!

**The Church Grounds Proclaim God's Glory...Be a part of it.** Our fantastic team of landscapers and gardeners would love some help with simply watering the bushes from time to time. If you can turn on a watering hose, you're qualified to help. Sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office to find out more. Also, let us know if you're interested in attending to one of our church garden areas.



Additional group garden dates will be scheduled in June through August and posted to our weekly emails and Sunday bulletins.



**Can you help set up and clean up from Holy Communion?** If so, please contact the church office. Our Chancel Guild could use some help.

**"OFF" Club**—Our monthly meetings will take place on Wednesday, June 17 and Wednesday, July 15. The meetings start at 11:00 and lunch is \$8.00 monthly. Everyone over the age of 55 is welcome. After lunch in June, we will be entertained by singer, John Barbush.



For lunch in July, we will be having fried chicken from Jewel and members are requested to bring in either a side dish or dessert to share. After lunch we will be playing the game Left Right Center so members need to bring a dollar's worth of dimes. **If you did not sign up at a previous meeting, please call Bonnie Sweeney by a week before the next meeting date if you are planning on attending.**

## YOUTH, CHILDREN AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### YOUTH, SAVE THE DATE FOR... Escapology - August 16



We are kicking off the program year with a real puzzler! Join us for a game at Escapology in Orland Park. This is a fun filled event that involves teamwork, puzzle solving, and finding the clues to help you escape before the clock strikes zero! So, mark your calendars! You can invite your friends, form your own team, and join us at Escapology in August! It's \$20 per person to help defray costs, but don't let money be a barrier. See Pastor Bell for questions and details.

**Thank you to the 2025-2026 Sunday school Staff!!** We appreciate all the dedication and hard work you put into Sunday school this past year. The children greatly reflect all your efforts!

**Teachers:** Joanna Bergmann, Barb Chudy, Amy Chudy-Miskovic, Megan Landis, Sarah Massett, Kalleigh Miskovic, and Melinda Moore.

**Substitute Teachers:** Karen Delcourt and Debi Pope

**Sunday school Supplies Coordinator:** Jill Price

**Break Out Days Leaders:** Sharon Courtney and Karen Delcourt

**Welcome Table Assistants:** Beth Bort, Karen Delcourt, Julie Maty, Nikki Naughton, Sara Nicholson, Paula Pries, and Lauren Schmitt.

**Good News Gang Puppet Ministry:** Jan Nelson; Director, Lukas Bort, Skylar Bort, Adam Buresh, Ethan Kapustianyk, and Michael Kapustianyk.



### Special Thanks to...

...the members of the Youth and Education Committee for putting together such a wonderful Appreciation Breakfast for the Sunday school Staff!!

...the Church Nursery Caregivers for your willingness to be ready to care for our youngest friends each week during the program year.



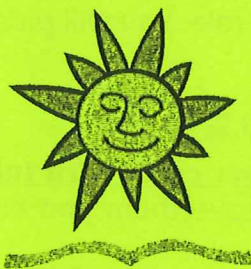
## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Summer Sunday school is in full swing, and we need Volunteer leaders and assistants, please!** Volunteers are needed to lead on Sunday mornings throughout the summer.

A Sign-Up sheet is on the bulletin board, or you can email Mrs. Lori to let her know you are interested in helping.

Parents, this is a great opportunity to get involved with your kids. High School Junior and Seniors can lead, Jr. High students are able to assist and this is a great opportunity for service hours!

**Summer Sunday school** offers a less formal learning environment. Those age 3 (potty trained) thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade learn together in one classroom. The older children are encouraged to help with the lesson of the day by assisting those younger than themselves and assisting with activities as necessary.



SUMMER  
SUNDAY  
SCHOOL



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Help! More VBS Volunteers are needed** to run a successful week of Vacation Bible School. The following help is needed: 20-25 Assistants for a Crew of kids (those completed 6<sup>th</sup> Grade -Adult).

**VBS DECORATING and SET-UP NEEDS YOU!!** We need many volunteers, so if you can spare any time during this time, come on over to church and we will put your hands to work. We will need help with tracing, coloring, cutting, sorting, counting, basic painting, setting up table-chairs-Pipe-n-drape wall, covering tables, and creating scenery with supplies given.

Here are the following dates and times:

June 23, 24, and 25 from 10 am – 2 pm

June 29, 30, July 1, 2 from 9 am – 12 Noon, 1 pm-4:30 pm, 5:30 pm-7 pm

July 3 from 9 am – 12 Noon and 1-3 pm

July 5 from 11 am – complete

If you can only spare an hour or two, that's wonderful and we'd be most grateful, plan to join us during one of the time frames.

**On Tuesday, June 30, we will serve lunch at 12:30 pm** to those that are there to help. Set up and decorating sheet is on the bulletin board...sign up on this date is especially helpful for planning. You can also call the church office or email Lori to let her know you will be stopping by to help.



## **VBS TRAINING MEETINGS have been scheduled. ALL Volunteers Take Note...Very Important!**

Please let Lori Puttkammer know if you are unable to attend these meetings asap. We will need to schedule an alternate time to meet and review the information. EVERYONE MUST complete the training meetings by July 1.



Seymour says,  
"Come to the  
meeting!"

**VBS Crew Leader Meeting is scheduled for June 8 at 6:30 pm.** Crew Leaders, only, should plan to attend this meeting to receive training of ins and outs of the program this year, receive your Leader folder and staff T-shirt.

## **ALL STAFF Meeting is scheduled for June 22 at 7 pm.**

*No matter your role, we will ALL gather together on this date to learn what's new this year, and review safety procedures. All the site groups will then gather to go over any information necessary for their site. Crew Assistants will be given training specifically to their role. You will pick up your staff T-shirt as well. Yes, staff shirts are still Lime Green.*

## **VBS DONATIONS NEEDED**



**Please help us gather empty paper towel and toilet paper cardboard tubes** for VBS crafts. We still need many more of each. Please save them and bring them to Mrs. Lori's office.

**Vacation Bible School has a WISH LIST** of items that would help with décor, crafting, and for general use during the VBS week.

*If you can donate any of the following items, it would be greatly appreciated.*

**Needed:** pkgs. of baby wipes, rolls of clear packaging tape, paper drink cold cups (8 or 9 oz. size), paper napkins or Gift Cards to Walmart, Amazon, Target, Hobby Lobby, Michaels or Menards. Gift cards are used to purchase items we need to complete decorating and run a successful week of VBS.

**Donations for snack supplies** are welcomed to make all those scrumptious snacks during the week of VBS. You can find this list on our snack board by the VBS registration table. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please have all donations to church by June 21.