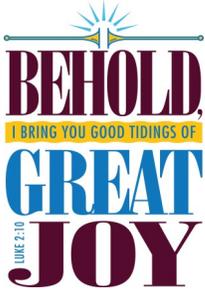


Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

7800 W. McCarthy Rd., Palos Heights, IL 60463

www.good-shepherd-church.com

January, 2022



The Joy of Christmas 2021

carries us forward to sharing God's love in 2022.

Last month saw some amazing things happen in the life of Good Shepherd. We invited everyone to participate in sharing the Joy of Jesus with \$24,500 distributed for missions, a project we're calling Joy21. We celebrated the birth of Christ with music, laughter and reflection during our Christmas Concert, online Sunday School Christmas program and special Christmas services. We reflected on the year past and dreamed of what is possible through God in the year ahead.

These things do not happen by accident. We want to pause and express thanks for all who were part of this great last month. We want to give special thanks to the following:

- Those who helped decorate the church building and grounds for Christmas.
- The gifted musicians who shared their abilities in our Christmas Concert.
- All who contributed to the various services through Chancel Guild, ushering, lecturing or any other way.
- Everyone who helped Good Shepherd share the Joy of Jesus through our Joy21 project. A special thanks for all who shared the stories of how this project touched the world with the joy of Jesus.
- All who sent in Christmas cards or gifts to the church and staff. Your generous words and treats helped share the Christmas spirit in meaningful ways.
- Everyone who purchased gift cards to support our youth mission trips.
- For the generosity you have shown through your giving of time, funds and energy that has helped Good Shepherd continue to be faithful during this most trying year.

Congregational Meeting – January 23, 2022 at 9:50 am

This is a great time of hearing about the events of the past year and planning for the year ahead. We ask all to come and be part of helping us pave the way to answer God's call in the year ahead by participating in this necessary annual meeting.



Also, we are looking for individuals to fill some positions and get involved in our various committees. Of particular help, we're looking for people to serve on Chancel Guild and as Ushers. If you are interested in knowing more about these positions or other ways to be part of leading Good Shepherd, please contact Pastor Chris.



Generously Reflecting the Light of Christ... Good Shepherd is incredibly blessed and reflects that abundance through its generosity towards God's mission in the world. During the year, you helped collect over 175 Christmas gifts for foster children, pack dozens of boxes of clothes to be distributed to those in need, brought in items for the Manteno Vets, distributed food to our local food pantry, cooked for the homeless, built a home during the Big Build and made countless other efforts to make God's love real through tangible means. On top of

all this, it was our privilege to send out more than \$180,000 for mission and ministry to places local, national and global. Please join us at the Congregational Meeting to hear more about how Good Shepherd is a vessel for sharing God's love with others. Thank You,

The Missions Board – Judy Lang, Chairperson

People of Good Shepherd – December 2021

Additional College Student

David Lyons, *St. Xavier University*, Chicago, IL

New Parents/Grandparents

Julie and Michael Fewkes, a son, Jasper Davis, grandson to Theresa and David

Transferred In

Marilyn and Barry Garr from St. Mark's Lutheran, Worth

Known to have been ill or hospitalized

Mike Aspan, Myrna Brejcha, Henry Brewer, Myrna Bronson, Katie DiMambro, Matt Husar, Karl Krout, Connie Lamparter, Lael Mathis, Sue McCoy, Connor Mish, Cheryl Morg, CJ Muller, Frank Muller, Priscilla Overgaard, Hank Paulsen, David Podewell and Josh Podewell

Known to have Experienced Bereavement

Connie Lamparter upon the death of her husband, Earl

The Krueger family and "OFF Club" upon the death of Roy Krueger

The Hassell family upon the death of Chriss' father-in-law and mother-in-law, Charlene and Tom Hassell

The Yazumbek family upon the death of Lauren's friend, Katrina Carrico

The Kurt Spooner family upon the death of a student of Liz's, Kevin Lober

Clarice Rudolph and the Macek family upon the death of Jim Macek

The Borner family upon the death of Ray's nephew, Richard

The Buerger family upon the death of Sue's father, John Bambule

The Mayers family upon the death of Wendy's brother-in-law, Eric Mayers

The Held and James family upon the death of Lucette's friend, MaryJo James

The family and friends of Barbara Brown

The Sombraske family upon the death of Cathie's husband, James

Don Radtke and the Radtke family upon the death of his mother, Dolores



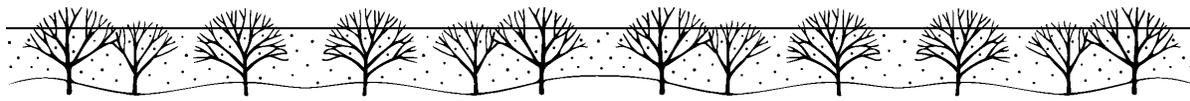
*Please Pray for
These Hospitalized
and Ill Members*



Funerals

† *Adeline Petry* — November 27, 2021 — A sweet person who made everyone feel special, Adeline's friendship, joy and faith were inspiring. She will be missed in the OFF Club, worship and as a "happy" character wherever she went. Our prayers go out to her family especially her children: Linda, Theodore III, Terry and Laura.

† *Helen Jean Meier* — December 4, 2021 — Helen's grace and thoughtfulness left an impression on everyone who knew this, "coaches wife". Her insight in Bible Study, friendships in OFF Club and profound faith echo in the lives of many. We send our love to her family and friends especially Deane, Mark and Amy.



Good Shepherd has a New Website! We've been hard at work to better provide an online presence that fits the character of Good Shepherd and meets the need of you and our community. One of the neatest developments is that you can now watch our Weekly Online Message directly from our website. Look through it and let us know your thoughts.

The Joy of Missions . . .



FOOD PANTRY
We continue to take food to the Palos Food Pantry. The need continues. Requested items for January include: skillet dinners, Jell-O, cereal, spaghetti sauce and pasta noodles, canned meats and canned fruit.

“Cooking with Care” . . . The next cooking date is scheduled for January 11 at 9:30 am. *New members are always welcome!*

The Manteno vet home appreciates the support they receive from Good Shepherd. They can always use toiletries in trial or full size and snacks and canned diet pop for their snack shop. There are two BLUE bins in the narthex to collect these items. Thank You!



The next Missions Committee Meeting is scheduled for January 12 at 1:00 pm. Please mark your calendars.

The Joy of Bible Study Groups . . .

The new year is a great time to pick up the habit of investing in your faith. Good Shepherd has lots of opportunities to help kick-start this life-giving habit in your new year.



Bible Studies

“Just A Quick Word” Mondays at 4:00 pm on Facebook and the YouTube Channel. A short 3-5 minute reflection on life and faith with Pastor Bell.

Faith Discussion: Monday at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. We support one another as we continue to grow and discuss how faith and life intersect.

Faith, Prayer and Joy: Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Galilean Room. The way God reaches out and invites us to grow with one another is truly inspiring. Come and connect with others as well as with God.

Bible Study: Tuesday at 10:30 am in the

Galilean Room. We continue to explore God's response to the Israelites in 2 Samuel. We laugh and explore together to help us learn and grow in our faith

Discovering the Bible: Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Galilean Room. The book of Isaiah is full of encouraging and challenging lessons. Come and journey alongside others as we discern what its wisdom means for us.

A Half Hour with God: Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. Gather online for a time of sharing and reflecting on God's wisdom and presence. Join in live or check out the Facebook Page to watch anytime afterwards.

Please pay attention to the church calendar to find out when these groups are starting back up after taking a brief Christmas break.

Prayer Walk Group Sign Up

Since Pastor Bell started his prayer walks here, there has been interest in starting a prayer walk group. Prayer is an important part of our work as a church and with the pandemic (hopefully) waning, we are looking to put this group together. Right now we are gauging interest and availability. So if you are interested in coming to a prayer walk group, please sign up on the sheet on the Youth bulletin board by Lori's office, with your name the evenings or early mornings you are available. You can also email or text PB or stop by his office. The group will likely start in February or March depending on conditions.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



The Joy of Church Groups and Activities . . .



Good Years Group

“What better way of welcoming in the New Year of 2022 than with the **OFF Club meeting on Wednesday, January 19.**

After lunch we will have some fun playing the dice game LCR...Left, Center, Right. Everyone planning on playing needs to bring about \$1.00 worth of dimes. The current Covid guidelines still require everyone to wear a mask except while they are eating or drinking. **IMPORTANT... YOU MUST CALL AND RSVP** by the Sunday before each meeting. Coffee will be available and a bottle of water will be included with your lunch. You are welcome to bring a beverage of your own if you so choose. Everyone over the age of 55 is welcome. Dues for the year are \$20.00 and we pay \$6.00 at each meeting. We look forward to having you join us.

Gamers Anonymous . . .

The gamers group has now had a few afternoons of fun and laughs. The gatherings are on the first Wednesday of each month from 1:00 to about 3:00 pm. If you like to play fun, fast and easy card and dice games and are looking for others who enjoy the same, we would love to have you join us. Our next fun afternoon will be on Wednesday, January 5 when we will be playing a new game called Tenzi. Come and check us out—the more the merrier.



Happy New Year Bowlers! Our next session is January 8. Remember, bowling begins at 3:50 pm with warm-ups starting around 3:40. Please try to

be there and ready on time so your teammates and opponents are not kept waiting. Thank you!

Check out the flyer below for the **upcoming blood drive** in the Family Life Center.

Giving 
WARMES THE HEART
DONATE BLOOD

Sunday January 30
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BLOOD DRIVE

Life Center, 7800 W. McCarthy, Palos Heights, IL
 Give blood & help us reach our 14-donation target to supply Northwestern Palos Med & 82 other local hospitals

To make an appointment, visit www.versiti.org, call 1-800-7TO-GIVE or scan the QR Code with your smart phone's camera below!

Helpful tip: Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

Giving warms the heart! Donate and receive a limited-edition pair of Versiti socks, while supplies last.

NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH 2022

versiti Blood Centers

The **2022 Flower Chart** is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. The cost of the flowers is \$40.00 and checks should be made payable to Good Shepherd Chancel Guild.

The Joys of the Youth Group . . .



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

- The Good Shepherd High School Basketball League will have an organizational meeting and scrimmage on Tuesday, January 11 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the Family Life Center. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to participate in the league, please sign up on the bulletin board or call Pastor Bell or the church office. Any High School Youth and their Friends are welcome to participate. There is a cost of \$20 to participate in the league. Games will most likely begin on Tuesday, January 25 at 7:00 and 8:00 pm and will continue on Tuesday nights through the end of February. An exact schedule will be handed out on January 11 as will any safety protocols. Please see Pastor Bell or Pastor Buresh if you have any questions.

Next page for **Confirmation basketball.**



The Joys of the Youth Group continued . . .



C O N F I R M A T I O N BASKETBALL will have an organizational meeting and scrimmage on Saturday, January 15 at 9:00 am in the Family Life Center. If you are unable to attend this meeting

but would like to participate in the league, please sign up on the bulletin board. All Confirmation Students and their friends are encouraged to participate. There is a cost of \$20 to participate in the league. Games will most likely begin on January 29 at 9:00 and 10:00 am and will continue on Saturdays through late February. A specific schedule will be handed out on January 15 as will any safety protocols. Please see Pastor Bell or Pastor Buresh if you have any questions.

Would you like to go to a Chicago area Lutheran Youth lock in?



The Metro Chicago Synod of the ELCA is tentatively scheduling an “Ultimate Lock-in” for **Friday March 11** and into Saturday. It would be held at Enchanted Castle in Lombard and open to youth from 6th-12th grade. There will be a big group service project, games, food and lots of youth and young adults from ELCA churches across Chicago and the suburbs. The question is: **Are you interested in going?** Before we dive in with all the other churches, we want to know that our youth are interested. So while you don’t have to commit, we would like to know if you would even be interested in attending. So please call the office, text Pastor Bell, sign up on the interest sheet on the bulletin board, or send a clever carrier pigeon with your answer. If we get enough people interested, we’ll do it! If not, we will make other plans.



Pastor Bell is looking for input regarding 2022 events from our youth and families! So, *what events, programs, trips, ideas would you like to see us*

try? We can't promise we can do them all, but the more we know what our youth and their families are looking for, the more we can keep planning stuff that is interesting and engaging. You can email, call, text or make an appointment with Pastor Bell as he always loves to talk with people.

Youth Group Remind Group

— Pastor Bell has set up a remind group for the high school youth to keep everyone up to date on what’s going on with the youth here at Good Shepherd. *Just email or text PB with your cell number or text @b2h4ea to 81010* to join the remind group. There are also groups for 6th, 7th & 8th grade confirmation if your student needs to be part of those.



Prayer, Food & Coffee — Sunday, January 16 at 6pm . . .

This month we are changing up our meeting once again. Since it will be pretty cold for ice cream, we are gonna add goodies and coffee! So we hope you’ll join us on Sunday, the 16, at 6pm. We will start upstairs in the youth room again with games, conversation and prayer and then head to Starbucks in Palos Heights for coffee or whatever else you like. It’s a great way to meet more of the youth here at Good Shepherd and grow spiritually. This is open to Confirmands, High School and anyone else who would really like to try it out. We gather for Jesus but we stay for the goodies. *Because eating together is a great way to make friends* and Pastor Bell LOVES his coffee.





Attention Acolytes!!

Here's the schedule for January, 2022.

If you are unable to acolyte on your assigned day, please contact the church office or Pastor Bell.

Thank you!

Acolytes January			
Date	Service	High School	Jr. High
1/2/2022	9:00	Martin Walsh	Samantha Jacksich
	11:00	Evelyn Dalton	Jack Dalton
1/9/2022	9:00	Jacob Canvin	Justin Canvin
	11:00	Isabella Podwell	Joshua Podewell
1/16/2022	9:00	Quinton Pempek	Luke Kruzynski
	11:00	Camden Revoir	Henry Lindgren
1/23/2022	9:00	Matthew Schroers	Nathan Schroers
	11:00	Emma Kampwirth	Merrick Gamble
1/30/2022	9:00	Aiden Collins	Patrick Collins
	11:00	Joshua Talluto	Jacob Talluto



The Joys of Children and Family Ministry . . .



THANK YOU to our Sunday school Children who shared "Christmas Around the World" on December 19. Many thanks to all of our Sunday school Children and their Families, the Podewell cousins, Mrs. Michelle Podewell and Mrs. Donna Choquette.

"Spare" us some of your time and join us for Cosmic Bowl at Orland Bowl on January 29 from 12:45 pm till 3 pm. All Sunday school, Confirmation and High school students and their families are encouraged to attend. We meet at Orland Bowl. Shoe rental, 2 hours of bowling, pizza and pop are included. **Treats for strikes and spares!** A fee of \$10 per person attending is due to Mrs. Lori. Please RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board, emailing Mrs. Lori or calling the church office by January 23.



Cosmic Bowling



In-Person Sunday school continues to see more and more of our young friends as we gather together safely to hear Bible stories and have some fun together. Please remember that everyone checks in at the Welcome Table by the staircase (nearest to the church office). Once checked in, you will receive a name tag.

A new Virtual Sunday School lesson will be available on January 2 and can be viewed all month long on our YouTube channel.



Attention all Early Childhood Moms...a freezer meal making event is scheduled for Friday, January 21. Those that participate, sign up for either one or both of the meals that are planned for. There is a fee for the meals and that is determined after the shopping is complete. The fee is payable that night. You will need to RSVP for this event. Please email Lori, call the church office or sign up on the Frolic bulletin board by January 19 to let us know you are attending.

Looking ahead...Vacation Bible School 2022 — Planning and brainstorming meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in being a part of VBS and would like to join us we would be grateful for your input and participation at this meeting. If you have helped (any area) in the past or are planning to join us this summer, please attend and share your thoughts.

