



Shepherd's Staff

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL & MAY 2011

As many of you know, the mission statement of Good Shepherd is to “Develop people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ”. We have defined a “*fully devoted follower of Christ*” as one who is involved in four key areas: **WORSHIP, SERVE, GROW, and CONNECT**. To get a baseline as to how we are currently participating in these areas, we passed out a survey during several worship services in March. I thank all of you who participated in the Good Shepherd survey. This survey was filled out from the perspective of our activities in 2010. In a year, we will take the survey again to see how we are progressing in “developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.” (A separate enclosure is included to see visual results of the survey.)

Of note, the surveys were filled out mostly by people who worship often. Sixty-six total surveys were filled out, and 97% of the respondents indicated they worship once or more a month. A total of 61% of these respondents indicate they read their Scriptures at home at least once a week. When church sponsored Bible studies and small groups are included, 75% of responding worshippers read or study Scripture outside of Sunday worship services. Twenty-four percent worship regularly, but rarely read their Bibles.

In terms of service, 87% have participated in at least one servant event, with many of them serving in multiple events. Thirteen percent have participated in no servant event. Connecting also is going on within our community. Seventy percent have shared their faith or encouraged another believer at least once a month (or greater). Sharing with non-Christians was less frequent, but it was not sure whether this was due to a reluctance to share with non-Christians, or whether there were fewer opportunities to share. Our God Sightings Bible Study is designed not only to get us reading Scripture, but also to encourage us to see God’s hand working in our day-to-day life. You can share God Sightings on our Good Shepherd Facebook page, in Sunday morning Bible study, or small group study. As we get more comfortable sharing God’s activity in our lives with fellow believers, we should feel more comfortable sharing with those outside our church walls.

An encouraging note: our congregation is a praying congregation. Eighty-eight percent of those responding pray either frequently or constantly. This is truly a blessing as all aspects of ministry and sharing need to be saturated with prayer, as we pray and support each other, and as we make decisions in our lives.

So where do we go from here? This data is not meant to pat ourselves on the back or to make anyone feel guilty. But it is an opportunity to take self inventory as we ask **ourselves** *what kind of disciple am I? Is my faith growing? Am I living the life of a Christian as I connect with those around and care for their needs?*

There are still 24% who do not read Scriptures at home. The survey showed that those who read Scripture at home tend to be more active in other areas, as God’s Word works in their heart and challenges them to be the disciple that He desires. **I challenge you** to consider the love that Jesus has for you as he died on the cross. **I challenge you** to look at *everything* you have in life—be it friends, family, home, clothing, food—everything is a gift and blessing provided by our Lord. What love He has for us! Our whole walk is a response of that love. May we walk it with Him.

Pastor Ted

Holy Week

Holy Week is the last week of Lent, the week immediately preceding Easter. It is observed in many Christian churches as a time to commemorate and enact the suffering (Passion) and death of Jesus.

Sunday, April 17—8:00 & 10:30 am

What is Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday? Palm Sunday begins with the sixth Sunday in Lent. This Sunday observes the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem that was marked by the crowds who were in Jerusalem for Passover waving palm branches and proclaiming him as the messianic king. This Sunday is also known as ***Passion Sunday*** to commemorate the beginning of Holy Week and Jesus' final agonizing journey to the cross.



Maundy Thursday—April 21—7:00 pm—(Special drama)

What is Maundy Thursday, or Holy Thursday?

On Maundy Thursday (also called Holy Thursday), Christians recall the events that took place the night Jesus was betrayed. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke concentrate on the institution of the Lord's Supper. The true climax of Maundy Thursday worship is the celebration of the Lord's Supper. This night is the "anniversary" of the sacrament and therefore a memorable event. After the sacrament has ended, the stripping of the altar takes place. The pastor and several assistants remove all vessels, crosses, books, candles, linens, paraments, banners, and other decorations from the altar and chancel area. The altar, left bare or adorned only with black paraments, is transformed from the communion table of Maundy Thursday into the tomb slab of Good Friday.

Good Friday—April 22—7:00 pm

Good Friday

What is Good Friday?

Good Friday, is the solemn remembrance of Jesus' death on the cross. Good Friday worship is marked by soberness and silence. The passion narrative from the gospel of John is traditionally the appointed text for this day.

***We look forward to you worshipping with us!
Alleluia, He is Alive!***

Easter Celebration

On Easter Sunday, Christians celebrate the *resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ*. It is typically the most well attended Sunday service of the year for Christian churches.

Christians believe according to Scripture, that Jesus came back to life, or was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross. As part of the Easter season, the death of Jesus



Christ by crucifixion, is commemorated on Good Friday, always the Friday just before Easter. Through his death, burial and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Christ Jesus.

Join us, along with family and friends, to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on **Easter Sunday, April 24: 8:00 AM traditional service; 9:15 & 10:30 am contemporary services**. Enjoy songs of praise and a message of joy and assurance from Pastor Ted.

Easter breakfast will be served from **7:00-10:30 am** in the lower level of the church. What's on the menu? Homemade pancakes, sausages and a beverage. A free will offering will be taken.

Youth Help Needed... Easter Breakfast Fundraiser

Help is needed for the annual Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 24. As youth, it is important to remember this fundraiser event helps keep the cost down for special events such as our upcoming lock-in event, National Youth Gathering, Boundary Waters camping trip, etc.

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the wall outside the kitchen door.

Donations are welcome:

- Rolls
- Fruit
- Apple and orange juice

If you have any questions on the sign-up or donations, contact Carrie Hoshaw at 763-784-8417.

Easter Breakfast



Summer Stretch!



The message: We can all learn a valuable lesson from Daniel in the Old Testament about building a strong and Godly reputation.

We too can seek...

- √ A Reputation for Strength
- √ A Reputation of Courage
- √ A Reputation of Being Humble
- √ A Reputation of Faith

Participating congregations:

- Good Shepherd—Circle Pines
- New Life-Hugo
- South Shore Trinity—White Bear Lake

Good Shepherd *Summer Stretch* is in its seventh year in our community. *Summer Stretch* brings youth currently in 6-8th grade kids (2010-2011) together for a terrific youth ministry opportunity.

This year's *Summer Stretch* will be Tuesdays, June 14, 28, and July 12, 26 with our end of summer fun day on Thursday, August 4 at Valleyfair. Registration packets with more information will be available at church the week of April 3.

The support most needed is adult and high school youth willing to enter into the spirit of *Summer Stretch*. It is necessary for all families to give of their time. Although adults are encouraged to be present as often as they are able (even every week), each family is required to volunteer for a minimum of two half-days, mornings or afternoons.

If you have any questions please contact Carrie Hoshaw at 763-784-8417 or carrie@goodshepherdlink.org.

Registration forms are due by May 8 along with a non-refundable \$50 deposit made out to *Good Shepherd...write on memo line Summer Stretch*.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUMMER STRETCH!

Registration begins on April 3:

Registration packets available at the Welcome Center in the church lobby.

Deadline to register: May 8

Sunday, May 22—(required meetings):

6-7 pm—Parent and participant orientation and Q & A at Good Shepherd.

6-7:30 pm—Teen Leader Meeting at Good Shepherd.

Thursday, August 4:

Valleyfair day (*leave from Good Shepherd—time will be announced.*)

Youth Plant Sale

Coming Soon! The youth this year will sell flowering hanging baskets from Bergens Greenhouse and Lebens Floral & Garden.

Help support our youth programming by purchasing these beautiful hanging baskets ranging from \$17 to \$21 between services beginning **Sunday, April 3**. *\$5 will go towards youth ministry for each basket sold.* It's as easy as 1,2,3. Just fill out an order form with your payment, and your hanging basket will be delivered to Good Shepherd for you to pick up.

Orders will be taken in the church lobby on the following dates: Sundays April 3, 10, and 17 from 8 am—12 pm; and on Sat., April 16 at the Good Shepherd Rummage Sale.

Your hanging baskets can be **picked-up** at Good Shepherd on the following dates and times:

Saturday, April 30—2:00—4:00 pm

Sunday, May 1—9:00 am—12 pm

Good Shepherd Youth Plant Sale Plant sales April 3 rd , 10 th , April 16 th & April 17 th Pick up plants on April 30 th & May 1 st												
\$17.00 10" Shade Hanging Basket						\$17.00 10" Sun Hanging Basket			\$21.00 12" Sun		\$20.00 12" Sun	
Fuschia	New Guinea Impatiens	Pink	Red	Pink	Red	Purple	Non-Stop Begonias	Geranium	Trailing Petunia	Geranium Hanging Basket Combo	Patio Planter Combo	
		Pink	Red	Pink	Red	Yellow						
	Pink	Red	Pink	Red	Pink	Red	Lavender	Pink	Purple			
Name & Phone #:										Total		THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT Checks to: Good Shepherd

Confirmation 2011

Confirmation Sunday will take place on **Sunday, May 15** at the 10:30 am worship service.

Dates and Things to Remember!

Faith Affirmation for the 2011 Confirmands will be held on **Wednesday, May 4 at 6:00 pm**. All are welcome to attend.

- **Wednesday, May 4th:** Confirmation pictures will be taken from 5:30-6:00 PM. Allow time to choose picture packets and to get ready for pictures.

Vacation Bible School 2011

Vacation Bible School this year is a drop-off experience for preschool children (ages 3 & 4) through 5th grade.

VBS will be held Monday, June 13 through Thursday, June 16, 5:30-7 pm. Please register by Sunday, June 5.

There will be four nights of fun, with creative learning experiences which will provide kids

an opportunity to hear what it means to believe in Jesus Christ and be fisher of men. Our theme this year is **"Hooked On Jesus!"**

Each evening we will explore fun and exciting Bible stories through song, energetic puppets, crafts, games, and snacks as we build our friendship with Jesus. Thursday night is "Family Night" where parents stay and share in the experience with their children.

Registration forms are available at the church or on-line at www.goodshepherdlink.org or call the church office at 763-784-8417.



Save the Dates! Sr. High Youth

Good Shepherd Senior High Youth will help with flood recovery efforts this summer. More details will follow as the flood-

waters recede. Information will be available in the youth room and on the website as details are finalized.

Please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet in the youth room

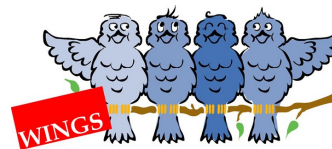
Wings

The Women in God's Service (WINGS) will meet on Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 pm in the lower level of the church.

The program for the evening will be the video "Build a Bible."

All ladies are invited to attend. Hostess for the evening will be Charlene Behne.

If you have any questions, please call Charlene at 763-784-8320.



LWML Rally

The Spring Rally of the St. Croix River Zone will take place at Good Shepherd on **Thursday, April 25** from 8:15 am—noon. Registration will begin at 8:15 am with brunch being served at 8:30 am. Registration fee is \$7.00, which includes all activities for the morning.

Pastor Ted will lead the devotion and Bible study. Our guest speaker will be Rev.

Stephanos who will talk on "Reaching Ethiopia and the World Around Us."

Everyone is welcome to attend. Please register by Sunday, April 24 by calling Melodee Belford at 763-238-6851 or the church office at 763-784-8417.

The mission project for the rally is bringing any of the following items: new baby clothing, baby quilts/blankets, baby supplies (diapers, wipes) or women's care products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes). A box will be in the church lobby on Easter Sunday if you would like to donate any of these items, which in turn will be donated to the City Life Center.



Prayer & Praise Retreat 2011

We are already planning ahead for our *Women's Prayer & Praise Retreat!* We'd love to have you join us **Friday, August 12** through **Sunday, August 14**.

This is a great time to get away from the regular routine and re-connect with God in the tremendous beauty of His creation at a lovely resort in northwestern Wisconsin. Most of our time is unstructured so people can choose their own activities—and there is a whole lot to choose from!

We come together for meals and have short devotional times

following breakfasts and dinners.

The cost per person for the weekend is **\$155** (which includes meals and is based on two people per room). There is also a “single room” option available for some people who may prefer that. Cost for the single option is the same. ***Detailed information can be found on the Welcome Center in the church lobby.***

If you would like to reserve your spot, please be sure to fill out a registration form and include your payment of at least 1/2 of the cost (\$77.50) by **Friday, April 15**. Place your completed registration form and payment in an envelope marked **“Women's Prayer & Praise Retreat”** and put it in the **drop box** at the Welcome Center in the church lobby. *Checks are payable to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.*

Please contact Val Hicke with any questions at 763-780-8398 or the church office.

All women of Good Shepherd are welcome! Invite a friend, sister, mom to attend with you...it's a great way to bond and to grow in your friendships and faith with your sisters in Christ!



Everyone Helping on Wednesdays

“Everyone Helping on Wednesdays” has been created to provide opportunities to serve at Feed My Starving Children as a family in the name of Jesus Christ. Feed My Starving Children packaging location address is 401 93rd Ave NW, Coon Rapids.

Please note dates and times we are committing to as a congregation. Feel

free to sign-up as many times as your schedule allows:

☀ Wednesdays—June 1; July 6 and August 3

Time schedule:

☀ 5:30 pm—meet at Good Shepherd if you need a ride or are willing to drive to Feed My Starving Children.

☀ 5:50 pm—Arrive and check-in at Feed My Starving Children.

☀ 6-7:30 pm—Volunteer work shift starts.

☀ 7:30 pm—Return back to church or go home.

We encourage adults and children to participate. Children ages 6 years through 5th grade will need to participate in service event with a parent. Watch for more details and sign-up sheet in the church lobby.

Centennial Community Food Shelf News!

Thank you for supporting the food shelf during our “Tuna Drive” in March and throughout the year.

The food shelf needs for this spring are:

- Canned fruit
- Tuna/canned meat
- Baked beans

- Rice
- Ramen noodles
- Meal helper
- Jell-O

- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Condensed tomato & chicken noodle soup

Remember...the on-going collection bin is located in the church lobby.



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

Rummage, Bake & Plant Sale



Please bring your donated items to Good Shepherd the week of **April 10** and place them along the wall in the lower level. Label them "Rummage Sale Items." Baked goods may be brought on Friday, April 15 and the morning of April 16.

The WINGS group is sponsoring a rummage, bake, and plant sale on **Saturday, April 16 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.** Donations for the sale are appreciated. The following items are especially needed: Baked goods, good clean clothing for all ages, knick-knacks, jewelry, plants, tools, toys etc. *We cannot accept large items as they are difficult to handle if not sold.* Any items that do not sell will be donated to agencies helping the needy here and throughout the world.

If you would like to help on April 16 or assist with setting up the rummage sale on April 14 and 15, please contact Charlene Behne at 763-784-8320 or sign-up sheets will be available in the church lobby beginning April 1.

The profits will be \$100 toward purchasing or making a funeral pall; the remainder will be divided among the following: purchasing ceramic pot water filters for Haiti; Kenyan Hymnal Project; City Life Center; Matt and Angie Kuschel via Interserve.

Make sure you stop in on Saturday, April 16 to enjoy the baked goods and fellowship, along with the fun of searching for treasures. Invite your neighbors, friends, and relatives to come along!

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

In April we will meet *April 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 9:30-11:00 am* in the lower level of the church. We continue to study the book of Proverbs.

If you would like further information, please call Charlene Behne at 763-784-8320.



Puppets..Puppets.. Puppets!



Puppeteers Needed for Vacation Bible School

June 13-16, 2011

- √ Are you a 5th grader or older?
- √ Would you like to try puppets on a trial basis?
- √ Are you able to commit to practice for two months?

Please contact Lissa Marcello at 763-783-3790 or tlmarcello@msn.com to share your interest and talent!

Do you like to?

- ✱ Color
- ✱ Paint (regular & air brush)
- ✱ Use your imagination
- ✱ Make doll or children's clothes
- ✱ Write scripts
- ✱ Create puppets

Would you like to?

- ✱ Spread the Word of Jesus
- ✱ Be a puppeteer/probateer
- ✱ Video tape puppet performances

- ✱ Record puppet skits and sound effects
 - ✱ Learn how to make puppets and/or props
- #### Do you?
- ✱ Know of an organization or group who would benefit from a visit by our puppet team

- ✱ Have Wednesdays available for practice 4:30-5:30 pm
- ✱ Have a song or skit ideas to share with the puppet team

Worship

Sunday, March 6

8:00—59; 10:30—171; Sunday School—32

Ash Wednesday, March 9—124

Sunday, March 13

8:00—43; 10:30—139; Sunday School—21

Wednesday, March 16—72

Sunday, March 20

8:00—65; 10:30—116; Sunday School—22

Wednesday, March 23—62

Sunday, March 27

8:00—57; 10:30—151; Sunday School—32

Wednesday, March 30—67



Offering

- Sunday, March 6—\$8,033
- Ash Wednesday, March 9—\$713
- Sunday, March 13—\$5,777

- Wednesday, March 16—\$291
- Sunday, March 20—\$6,802
- Wednesday, March 23—\$381
- Sunday, March 27—\$6,453

Continue to pray for Good Shepherd daily.



Prayers

If you or a loved one is in need of personal prayer, please call the church office at 763-784-8417 or the following Prayer Ministry Team Leaders, Bev Decker at 651-484-1996 or Loretta Zarambo at 651-484-0322.

A gentle reminder to please contact the church office to update us on prayer requests.

- Peace & comfort for the Rode family on the death of Wilbur, Ed's brother.
- Pray for all the families that were affected from the horrific earth quake and tsunami in Japan. Give them strength, comfort, and hope.
- Pray for protection of all marriages and people involved in the marriage study, pray they are strengthened, protected and built-up.
- Reinhold West, pray for a full recovery from a fall.
- Jennifer Diedrick as she moves forward with her chemo treatments for colon cancer. Give her patience, comfort, and a full recovery.
- Pray for our "God Sightings" Bible study; may it strengthen those through God's Word.
- Pray for all our ministries here at Good Shepherd.
- Veronica Baker, that she is able to find strength and guidance through difficult times.
- Continue to pray for the congregation and staff at Good Shepherd.
- Pray for people who are unemployed; give them hope & encouragement during difficult times.
- All of our troops & loved ones in the armed forces, keep them safe so they can return home soon.
- People struggling with alcoholism & drugs, give strength to overcome their addictions.
- People diagnosed with cancer, pray for healing and strength for them and their families.
- People who are struggling emotionally and financially, pray for guidance and hope.
- People struggling with eating disorders, pray for strength and healing.
- Families going through divorce and marriage problems, pray that God will heal their hearts and guide them.
- People in nursing and extended care facilities, pray for their care and comfort.
- People struggling with the loss of a loved one, give them hope and comfort.
- People dealing with depression, give them reassurance and strength to overcome.
- Pray and give thanks to God for all the blessings he bestows on us each and every day. Thank Him for being our Savior!

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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Sue Carlson..... Administrative Assistant
office@goodshepherdlink.org—763-784-8417

www.GoodShepherdlink.org

WORSHIP WITH US

- **8:00** — Traditional Worship
- **9:15-10:15** — "**LIFELINE HOUR**" - Pastor led Adult Bible Study; Sunday School (3 yrs-5th grade); Middle/Sr. High School Bible Study
- **10:30** — Contemporary Praise Worship

Return Service Requested

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
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