



Green Pastures

Every day, everywhere, by everyone...sharing the grace of the Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, WI 53094 (920)261-2570

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

www.goodshepherdwi.org

FROM THE PASTOR

By Pastor David K. Groth



“ON GOOD GOVERNMENT”

Years ago, I was at a football game, just seven rows from the field. After participating in the pre-game ceremonies, Gov. Doyle was walking by in front of us. A number of men a few rows in front of me stood up and started shouting at him, calling him names, demanding he do something about their taxes. Clearly, Gov. Doyle heard their remarks. Their disrespect, emboldened by alcohol, was shocking and contemptible.

I don't think you and I would do that; I sure hope not. However, our cynical contempt for government comes from that same poisonous well. Many hold a rather dim view of government. We think of government as inefficient, bumbling, intrusive, and above all, expensive, and therefore less is always better than more.

Maybe we should be a little more thoughtful on the topic. Martin Luther said, “After the Gospel or the ministry there is on earth no better jewel, no greater treasure, no richer alms, no fairer endowment, no finer possession than a ruler who makes and preserves just laws” (AE 13:54, quoted in Paul Altheas, *The Ethics of Martin Luther*, 116). Government is put in place by God to protect us and help us prosper. Therefore, Luther referred to governing authorities as “masks of God.”

After all, what would life be like in Watertown without the police or fire departments? What would life be like without infrastructure that enables local commerce? Are we ready to drive on unplowed streets? Are we ready to see state parks handed over to developers or strip miners? Are we prepared to trust that industries will voluntarily limit their pollution? Can we trust all builders to voluntarily construct sound structures, or might some be tempted to cut corners? Can we trust all restaurants to operate clean kitchens and all farmers to deliver safe meat, or might a few of them need some persuasion? Can we trust that our enemies have no interest in doing us harm, or must we maintain a strong defense?

You get the point. We should never begin to think that less government is always better than more, or that no government is best of all. Moreover, it is in none of our interests to lower our expectations of the government. We don't want government to live down to our cynical views of it. We need some of our best and brightest to aspire to government, even as we need them to aspire to be doctors, engineers, etc.

Paul wrote, “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. The one in authority . . . is God's servant for your good” (Rom. 13:1ff).

Paul also exhorts us to pray for those in authority (1 Tim. 2:1-2). Surely that's easier on God's ears than our habitual ingratitude and grumbling.

Pastor Groth

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

By Amy Gromowski



“EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING”

“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31

Good News!

- Following the Lutheran Education Association (LEA) Convocation last month, our staff came back on FIRE with the Holy Spirit!
- We came up with 121—yes you heard it correctly—121 new ideas to enhance student learning and family ministry!

Great News!

- We have already started implementing some of those ideas!
- We have started our own Good Shepherd YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_nkVTuI-PLZIRVsJzKa9bw. Check us out!
 1. We have started production of a school app to make our school information and communication easier on cell phones!
 2. GSLS apparel now lives in Mrs. McGuire’s office. Watch for the updated logo and MORE choices of School Spirit Wear!
 3. STEM activities bags will soon be available for students to check out from the school library.
 4. Family Faith Boxes are now available for purchase- a month of activities and devotions.
 5. Comfort Dogs now come to visit out school monthly.
 6. Research is happening on the topic of LGBTQA so students are better informed of God’s plan for their bodies.
 7. Meetings have taken place to see what it would take for us to partner with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
 8. It’s time to update the website! Keep an eye out for changes.

Best News Ever!

It’s time to celebrate the birth of our Savior who came to save us all from our sin so we can have eternal life with Him! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

In His Service,

Amy Gromowski



Special thanks to all of our volunteers who helped make this year's book fair a success. Many of you volunteered with the setup and takedown of the fair, during shopping hours, and also in running our special events. Our school greatly appreciates it. This is our sixteenth year hosting the Scholastic Book Fair at GSLS. It is always an incredible fundraiser for our school. This year we accomplished our goal of \$3,600.00 in sales! **Our total sales were \$4,270.00!!!! Outstanding! Special Events totaled more than \$1,000.00 in sales.** 50% of our sales will go to support our classroom and school libraries. That means **over \$2,000.00** goes towards purchasing books for both libraries. We thank you for your continued support of our school.



Midweek Advent Services

10 am and 7 pm, Wednesday
December 4, December 11, December 18

Midweek Advent 5:30 pm Meals

Dec 4th - Roast Turkey with Gravy, Dinner Rolls, Mashed Potatoes

Dec 11th - Sirloin Tips with Buttered Noodles, California Blend Vegetables

Dec 18th - Baked Chicken, Dinner Rolls, Mashed Potatoes, Corn



“WHAT ABOUT YOUR DASH?”

The true joy of life is the trip from beginning to end. I challenge you to enjoy this month’s “trip” through December as you prepare for our Savior’s birth. After all, He’s what this holiday preparation is all about.

Some of us (me too, sometimes) make the holiday planning very stressful. We try decorating the house in and out. The perfect gift purchases and wrapping seem essential. Let’s not forget the baking, cooking, and candy making we try to accomplish. All of this can easily affect our health as we become stressed to accomplish it all. Stress is our body’s response to anything that makes us feel pressured.

What does stress do to our bodies? We can experience headaches, nervousness, difficulty sleeping, GI issues, fatigue, irritability, muscle tension-i.e. jaw, neck or back. Over time stress can lead to chronic (long term) illnesses such as high blood pressure, increased blood sugar and cholesterol and heart disease. Prolonged or frequent stress can decrease our memory and ability to fight infection.

What can we do? Let’s look at our own personal “dash”:

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the date on her tombstone from the beginning of life to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears,

And he said what mattered most was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth...

And now only those who loved her know what that line is worth.

For it matters not how much we own, that car... the house...the cash.

What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard...are there things you’d like to change?

For you never know how much time is left (you could be at “dash mid-range”)

If we could just slow down enough to consider what’s true and real,

And always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger, and show appreciation more,

And love the people in our lives like we’ve never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect, and more often wear a smile...

Remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy’s being read with your life’s actions to rehash...

Would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?!

Bonnie Mihal, Parish Nurse



HAPPY BIRTHDAY – DECEMBER, 2019!

If you don't see your name listed for birthdays this month and you should be, please give the office a call to update our records. If you see a name that should not be listed, I would like to know that also. Thank you. Dee

Chris Draeger	12/1	Julie Butler	12/10	Arthur Turke	12/20
Cheryl Crawford	12/2	Gail Wegner	12/10	Danielle Kiesow	12/21
Paul Eggers	12/2	Rhayn Bruske	12/11	William Rex	12/21
Carrie Degner	12/3	Mikayla Stelloh	12/11	Deborah Roser	12/22
Mikayla Jensen	12/3	Margaret Oestreich	12/12	Rev John Zellmer	12/22
Jennifer Laurence	12/4	Jill Geske	12/13	Rachel Krueger	12/23
Beth MacMartin	12/4	Shari Zietler	12/13	Mary Lentz	12/25
Ashley Prockl	12/4	McKenzie Dettmering	12/14	Robbie Tietz	12/26
Braydon Beeney	12/5	Dylan Geske	12/14	Landyn Zoellick	12/27
Peter Schubert	12/5	Susan Blasing	12/15	Ryan Bartels	12/28
Amy Bilgrien	12/6	Ted Algiers	12/16	Walter Boris	12/28
Robben Peplinski	12/6	Brynn Stockhus	12/16	Seth Kaddatz	12/28
Kathy Porter	12/6	Jeremy Wrolstad	12/16	Timothy Raether	12/29
Zack Wegner	12/6	Gerald Kuhnle	12/17	David Weber	12/29
Daniel Menzel	12/7	Britney Klokow	12/18	Daniel Rahfaldt	12/30
Skylur Godfroy	12/8	Dennis Dorn	12/19	Scott Strege	12/30
Julie Brzozowski	12/9	Jada Wegner	12/19	Alexander Dishneau	12/31
Ava Kiesow	12/9	Dale Bowgren	12/20	Bonnie Kikkert	12/31
Jon Sutherland	12/9	Sharon James	12/20	Erin Maron	12/31



1 Timothy 2:1, Paul: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for everyone--for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in godliness and holiness."

GREETERS DECEMBER 2019

Welcome!

Greeters—please do not take your name tags home; leave them in the ushers' room. Thank you.

First	Last	Date/Time
Craig & Katherine	Godfroy	WEDNESDAY 12/4 @ 7:00 PM
Dale & Janis	Goetzke	SATURDAY 12/7 @ 6:00 PM
Greg	Graglia	SUNDAY 12/8 @ 8:00 AM
Curtis & Susan	Grendahl	SUNDAY 12/8 @ 10:30 AM
Julie	Brzozowski	WEDNESDAY 12/11 @ 7:00 PM
Amy	Gromowski	SATURDAY 12/14 @ 6:00 PM
Dale	Grosenick	SUNDAY 12/15 @ 8:00 AM
Phil & Gretchen	Grosnick	SUNDAY 12/15 @ 10:30 AM
Reverend David	Groth	WEDNESDAY 12/18 @ 7:00 PM
Charlotte	Groth	SATURDAY 12/21 @ 6:00 PM
Ryan	Hepp	SUNDAY 12/22 @ 8:00 AM
Eleanor	Gudmundson	SUNDAY 12/22 @ 10:30 AM
Julie	Brzozowski	TUESDAY 12/24 @ 4:00 PM
Tricia	Haines	TUESDAY 12/24 @ 9:00 PM
Dawn	Hale	WEDNESDAY 12/25 @ 9:00 AM
Mark & Amy	Hartwig	SATURDAY 12/28 @ 6:00 PM
Joseph & Judith	Hasslinger	SUNDAY 12/29 @ 8:00 AM
Timothy & Julie	Haversack	SUNDAY 12/29 @ 10:30 AM
John & Dani	Heese	WEDNESDAY 12/31 @ 7:00 PM

*Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel,"
which is translated, "God with us"(Matthew 1:23).*



“GOD CREATES A WORLD AND A KINGDOM”

The Children’s Worship Service is Sunday, December 15, 2019, during the 10:30 service. Parts were handed out the first week in November.

Please connect with Gretchen Grosnick for any questions. The children started learning the music in November during Sunday School. There are two practices scheduled for the Children’s Worship Service – December 7 and 14 from 9 to 10:30 AM. The children should attend at least one practice. This is for grades 1 and above.

During the month of December, your children’s Sunday School classes will be discussing the following Bible lessons:

Dec 1 – Comfort in Captivity:

“Comfort in Captivity” is the theme for our lesson this week. When Nebuchadnezzar takes the Israelites into exile in Babylon, Jeremiah writes to the exiles, assuring them of God’s continuing care for them. Through Jeremiah, God promises a new covenant where His people will live eternally through Jesus. Discuss, “How does God comfort us today?”

Dec 8 - A Trap and A Release:

In our Christian education time this week, we study the account of Daniel in “A Trap and a Release.” Daniel’s promotion to a high leadership role in Babylon causes political jealousy among other leaders. King Darius decrees that everyone must worship only him, but Daniel remains faithful to the one true God, praying three times daily. The king condemns Daniel to the lions’ den, but God’s angel shuts the lions’ mouths so Daniel remains unharmed. Discuss how God protects His people from danger today.

Dec 15 - A Nativity Night:

In this week’s lesson, “A Nativity Night,” Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where a simple stable serves as the birthplace for the promised Christ Child. Angelic hosts announce the birth of the Savior to ordinary shepherds, who hasten to worship the child. Having seen the Savior in the flesh, the shepherds quickly spread the news of His birth. Ask one another, “How can we share the message of the birth of the Savior today?”

Please talk with your children each Sunday and listen to them as they tell you about the lessons they’ve learned in Sunday School.

Sincerely,

The Board of Parish Education

Barb Wegner, Naomi Neuberger, Laura Dobbratz, Becky Rather,
Jan Schadt, Heather Steinhart, Tanya Demetropoulos

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next BDSE Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 9, 5:30 pm; **All Boards** meet at 7 pm followed by the **BOD Meeting**.

Men's Bible Study/Breakfast will be on Saturday, December 14, at 7:30 am. All are welcome! Please sign up in the narthex. Thank you.

Scrip Program: Makes great gifts too! If you need gas and food, it's easy to pick up a card and help your school and your budget all at the same time! Scrip gift cards are perfect for following a household budget. Families can shop both in-store or online with participating retailers. Scrip gift cards are just like using a credit/debit card, but without the fraud risk. Scrip program earnings are greater than credit card rewards (typically 3 – 15%). Please see/call Heather McGuire 920-744-7942 if you have any questions.

The Sunday School Christmas Service will be on December 15, 2019 at 10:30 am. Children need to arrive by 9 am that morning. Children in grades 1-8 are expected to attend 1 practice. Thank you for helping your children prepare to share the message of Christ's birth.

Blood Pressure checks will be Dec. 7 & Dec. 8 between services. Bonnie Mihal, Parish Nurse

Stephen Ministers can help when life gets out of balance. If your life or that of someone you know has shifted out of balance, consider Stephen Ministry. Call Pastor Groth 253-6735 or Kathy Wagner 261-0221.

Family Night, Tuesday, January 14, 6-7:15 pm in fellowship hall. Soup and Sandwiches for Dinner. All are welcome. Please remember to sign up in the narthex. Thank you. Dee

Save the Date! Bowling for the Band is scheduled for, Sunday, January 26, 2019. Come join us in the fun....Bowling with your family and friends! Wonderful auction items!

Join us December 7 & 8 for the Ties That Bind sale in the Fellowship Hall. Come see the handmade items after the church service Saturday evening and between services on Sunday. We have made table runners, wall decor, and kitchen items as well as many great gift ideas. Let us help you complete your gift giving while you help us to continue

making banners, baby blankets, lap quilts and more. We appreciate your support in these projects. Our group will be serving for the coffee hour and would be happy to answer any questions you might have about Ties That Bind Quilters. See you there. Janet Fiess and Sharon Pederson



The Annual Christmas Giving Tree, sponsored by the Board of Human Care, is now in the narthex!

Each post it tag has a number above the description and there is a clipboard with all of the tag numbers. Please sign your name next to the tag numbers that you choose. If a tag gets lost, we can check the sign up list, and easily replace the item that is needed!!!! Please feel free to take as many as you would like, to help fulfill the needs this year. Please attach each post it tag to the gift it matches (if you wrap it, make sure tag is visible please). Bring all the gifts to church by the 8 a.m. service on Sunday, December 15. Any unwrapped gifts will be wrapped between services. All gifts will be delivered to the families during the following week. The recipients are families from Good Shepherd who could use some support this Christmas, and Bethesda group home residents. Please contact Lisa Martin at 920-285-1895 if you have any questions. Thank you!

Board of Human Care will be sponsoring Advent meals every Wednesday, Dec. 4th, 11th and 18th. These meals are a wonderful time for our members to enjoy fellowship and warm, delicious food! The main courses for each meal are provided, but we do need help with desserts, side dishes, and salads (fruit, pasta, greens, jello), There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. At each meal, there is a basket for free will offering to help offset the cost. We also need help with clearing tables and cleaning up at the end of each meal - many hands make the workload lighter! We are looking for groups within the church to serve each week. Would your group consider helping out either Dec. 4th or 11th? LWML will be helping on the 18th and we are truly grateful for their time, effort and service. Please call Lisa Martin at 920-285-1895 or email at lisa@jodelmedia.com. Thank you!

Every time a hand reaches out
To help another....that is Christmas
Every time someone puts anger aside
And strives for understanding
That is Christmas
Every time people forget their differences
And realize their love for each other
That is Christmas
May this Christmas bring us
Closer to the spirit of human understanding
Closer to the blessing of peace!



*Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached
in the whole world as a testimony to all nations
(‘ethne’, people groups), and then the end will come."*

*GSLC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 2019 CHANGES

Address/Phone Change: Ruth Schoenike, 1402 Evergreen Dr #7, Watertown, WI 53098, 920-675-6004; Delle Boyer, Ingleside Communities, 405 N 8th Street, #101, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572-3424; Karen Beckman, 1301 Allwardt Street, **Apt. 9B**, Watertown, WI 53098 (eff. 12-1-19)

Release of Membership: Kim Grinwald and Tahlia Koehler to Immanuel Lutheran

Funerals: Joseph Loesl, Phillip Singletary

Marriages: Lisa Meincke & Robert Kaminski

**Note: New directories will not be printed until the end of the year. Please make these changes to your paper copy of the 2019 membership directory available in the narthex. Thank you.*

FINANCIAL

	<u>Month Ending 10/31/19</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Total Giving	\$87,894.49	\$532,925.73
Total Expenses	\$133,754.79	\$513,676.23
Net Income (Loss)	\$(45,860.30)	\$19,249.50
		<u>Balance Due</u>
Long Term Debt		\$218,399.24
LOC		\$76,500.00
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Dedicated Accounts	\$189,727.92	\$607,177.35

If you have questions regarding the following information, please contact Steve Zillmer @ 920-261-1224, Ron Bartels @ 920-988-2993 or Phil Zastrow @ 414-313-5247.



2019



DECEMBER



2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 am W/C B/SS 9:15 am 10:30 am W/C Y 6 – 7:30 pm	2 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm	3	4 ADVENT SERVICE 10 AM 7 PM CC 3:30-5 pm Bethesda 4 pm	5	6	7 Ties That Bind Sale (TTBS) BP W 6 pm
8 TTBS 8:00 am W B/SS 9:15 am 10:30 am W/C Y 6 – 7:30 pm BP	9 BDSE 5:30 BOD Mtg FH	10 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 7 pm	11 ADVENT SERVICE 10 AM 7 PM CC 3:30-5 pm Bethesda 4 pm SC 7-8 PM	12	13	14 7:30 am Men's Bible Study FH Rev. Thompson W/C 6 pm
15 Dr. Paavola 8:00 am W/C B/SS 9:15 am 10:30 am W/C SS Program Y 6-7:30 pm GP articles due	16 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm	17	18 ADVENT SERVICE 10 AM 7 PM CC 3:30-5 pm Bethesda 4 pm SC 7-8 PM	19 PTL Christmas Store CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT 7 pm	20	21 W 6 pm
22 8:00 am W K3-K4 Choir B 9:15 am 10:30 am W/C Y 6 – 7:30 pm	23 CHRISTMAS BREAK NS Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm	24 Office closed pm CHRISTMAS EVE 4 pm Family Service W/C 9 pm Candlelight Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9 am service W/C Church Office Closed No CC	26	27	28 W/C 6 pm
29 8:00 am W/C B 9:15 am 10:30 am W/C Y 6 – 7:30 pm	30 NS	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE Office closed pm 7 pm service	1 JANUARY NEW YEAR'S DAY No service Office closed No CC	2 CLASSES RESUME		
				W = Worship C = Communion CC = Confirmation Classes SS = Sunday School B = Bible Study WCCT—Cross Country Team	Y = Youth Group NS = No School RJ = Resounding Joy Bell Choir SC = Shepherd's Choir S = School ST = Sanctuary CR—Conf Rm	BP—Blood Pressure Checks BDSE—Board Day School Ed FH—Fellowship Hall GP = Green Pastures



*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School
1611 East Main Street
Watertown, Wisconsin 53094*

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Watertown, WI 53094
PERMIT NO. 198

Return Service Requested

Our Sun. service is televised Tuesday mornings at 8 am and afternoons at 3:00 pm as well as on Sunday at 2 pm on cable channel 98 and the high-definition cable channel 985. <http://bit.ly/gslcvideo>

Bible Studies

- **Sun. Morning Bible Study** held at 9:15 am in the Seminar room.
- **Men's Thurs. Night Bible Study at 7 pm Wrolstad home.** Please call Jeremy Wrolstad for details. 920-248-6591.
- **Women's Bible Study** held Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Seminar room. No bible study on 2nd Monday of month due to Board Meeting. New members welcome. (Heather 920-285-7110)
- **2nd & 4th Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm** Please call Rich Moen (920-988-0588) if you would like to attend.
- **1st & 3rd Thursdays** at 1:30 pm. Led by Dorothy Degnitz. New members welcome! (Dorothy 261-9629)

If you have any prayer requests, please call the church office at 920-261-2570 during regular hours 9 am to 3:30 pm Monday-Friday. Prayer chain, please call Fern Tegtmeier at 920-262-9188. In the case of an emergency after church office hours, please call Pastor Groth's cell phone (920) 253-6735. Thank you.

Taxi Tokens Reminder— Board of Human Care has taxi tokens available for those who need a ride to church services or events. Call Julie Haversack.

Hospitalizations: *Please remember to notify us if you are hospitalized or have a family member do so before you are discharged. We desire to be of service to you. Thank you.*

Find us on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv4K_33sX4w5AwL3g1kR1OQ



DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION:

- ~Weekly Bulletin Announcements -Wednesday
- ~Monthly Green Pastures Newsletter— 3rd Sunday of the month



Worship Services
Saturdays 6:00 pm
Sundays at 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Church : 920.261.2570
School : 920.261.2579
Fax: 920.261.2574

Day Care: 920.261.0242
Email: mail@goodshepherdwi.org
www.goodshepherdwi.org
Twitter: [@GoodShepherdWI](https://twitter.com/GoodShepherdWI)
Facebook: facebook.com/GSLCWTTNWI

Pastor: Rev. David K. Groth
Christian Education:
Ms. Naomi Neuberger
School Administrator:
Ms. Amy Gromowski
School Administrative Assistant:
Mrs. Heather McGuire
Church Administrative Assistant:
Mrs. Dee Kuhlman
Volunteer Coordinator:
Mrs. Kim Schram
Parish Nurse:
Mrs. Bonnie Mihal