

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
7800 W. McCarthy Rd., Palos Heights, IL 60463
www.good-shepherd-church.com

June 2021

Pastor Bell's Installation as Associate Pastor at Good Shepherd

Pastor Bell will be formally installed as the Associate Pastor at Good Shepherd during the 10:00 am service on Sunday, June 27. This is a special occasion where he makes promises to the congregation and we make promises to him as we together step forward in ministry. We will still have our regularly scheduled 8:30 am service that day but the Installation will be a special part of our 10:00 am service. Come and be part of this occasion as we continue to grow together in Christ.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING

All aboard! Climb aboard the Rocky Railway Express Vacation Bible School July 12-16!



At Rocky Railway VBS, kids discover Jesus' power can pull them through life's ups and downs. Rocky Railway is **completely outdoor** and will be filled with fun as they rotate through Worship Express, Bible Adventures, Craft Depot and Loco Motion Games. We plan to follow COVID Safety Guidelines given for those age 11 and under. See page 6 of the Newsletter for more information.



Good Shepherd responds to new COVID information.

On May 24, the Church Council and Deacons met to review updated information from the CDC, IDPH and our synod for the sake of refining our policies and practices related to COVID. Below you'll find some bullet points that highlight their decisions.

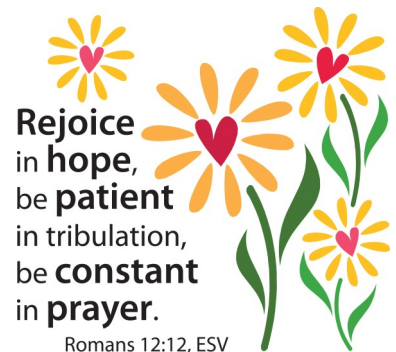
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- ♦ We encourage those who have not received their COVID vaccine to wear masks during functions at Good Shepherd but allow for those vaccinated to remove their mask. This will be an exercise of trust as no one is asking for proof of your vaccination status.
- ♦ Please continue to RSVP as we are following current IDPH capacity limits which allow for 140 people in our sanctuary. We certainly have room for you.
- ♦ To the benefit of everyone, we would ask that if you are not feeling well, please refrain from attending church functions until you feel better.

In addition to these changes, we also *anticipate the following adjustments* **EFFECTIVE WHEN WE MOVE TO "PHASE 5" OF RESTORE ILLINOIS.**

These changes may be altered to adhere to updated future guidance.

- ♦ No longer asking people to RSVP for service.
- ♦ Resuming the sung liturgy and communal singing.
- ♦ Resuming the practice of coming forward for communion. This practice may be somewhat adjusted from past practices but will involve coming forward to receive the sacrament. Individuals who would prefer can still receive the pre-packaged elements and partake in communion at their seat.
- ♦ Allowing communal food and drink for small groups.
- ♦ Children's ministry events will continue to operate with the protocols as outlined on Page 6 of the Newsletter.



Of utmost importance is recognizing that all are free to take individual efforts such as wearing a mask, socially distancing or using other personal practices that allow them to comfortably partake in activities at Good Shepherd.



THE 2021 GRADUATES INCLUDE:



Andrew

Jessica Cano
Jessica Gibbs
Braden Rabold

Carl Sandburg

Gabriella Morris
Matthew Yazumbek

Chicago Christian

Brian Huttner
Nolan Light

Lincoln-Way Central

Sarah Lange

Lincoln-Way West

Emma Rauch

Lemont

Leah Pengiel
Sophia Scribano

Marist

Joseph Brady
Samantha Ekhart
Cecilia Light
Malia Pellegrini

Minooka Community

Mary Rushing

Mount Carmel

Martin Walsh

Oak Forest

Joshua Huiner

Portage Indiana

Alex Wise

Providence Catholic

Isabella Markel

Shepard

Matthew Huston
Alexis Menou
Tyler Rosecrants

Stagg

Campbell Brown
Christian Ladewig
Brianna Mattson
Amelia Pempek
Brian Sweeney
Alaina Wolan

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 a few graduates, we ask that any not identified inform Pastor Buresh, Pastor Bell or the Church Office, so that we can properly salute them as well.

Charles Brobst, *Pepperdine University*, with a Bachelor of Art in Economics with minors in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science

Emie Choquette, *Bradley University*, with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Lauren Hetzler, *Bradley University*, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Abigal Joritz, *Michigan State University*, with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Leadership of Organization

Brett Ladewig, *Valparaiso University*, with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

Tim Ladewig, *Ripon College*, with a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science and a minor in Strength and Conditioning

Max Meneou, *Valparaiso University*, with a Bachelor of Science in Business

Natalie Miller, *Trinity Christian College*, with a Bachelor of Science in Education with a minor in Special Education

Nicole Steffenson, *Columbia College-Chicago*, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance

Hunter Sweeney, *University of Alabama Honors College*, with a Masters of Science in Finance and Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Business Administration

Gianna Tunzi, *University of California, Los Angeles*, Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience and Global Health



High School Graduate Sunday – August 1



So much of our world has been flipped upside down this past year by COVID. This has led to some losses but also some unexpected opportunities and blessings for those leaving high school! So we at Good Shepherd would like to take an opportunity to recognize our graduates from both the class 2020 & 2021, celebrate their accomplishments and bless them on their way. On **Sunday August 1**, we will invite our graduates to come forward in worship, share their name and plans, offer them a small gift and bless them for this new season of life. We hope that this date will allow them to take part before fall programs and classes begin. Please contact the church and let us know if you can come to either the 8:30 am or 10:00 am service on August 1st so we can plan

accordingly. We will recognize graduates at both services. God Bless our students as they finish high school and the first year after and we hope to see everyone soon.

The People of Good Shepherd – May 2021 Report

New Parents

Michelle and Brian Ladewig, a son, Lucas Lee

Catherine and Greg Postweiler, a daughter, Molly McCarthy



New Grandparents

Mike Aspan, a granddaughter, Lillian James Cowhey, great-granddaughter to Marilyn Aspan

Michele and Phil Fasel, a granddaughter, Rachel Judy Kezios

Known to have been Ill or Hospitalized

Nicole Baldwin, Frank Bort, Matt Husar, Chuck Krout, Michelle Ladewig, Sandra Lignell, Dawn McNicholas, Connor Mish, Hank Paulsen, Diane White, Char Wolfe and Rich Wolfe



Known to have Experienced Bereavement

The Sensmeier, Dobbs and Tylkowski families upon the death of Greg's mother, Donna

The Pearson family upon the death of their relative, John Swanson

The Choquette family upon the death of their friend, Sean Kenny

Ray Wilk upon the death of his wife, Vicky

The Puttkammer family upon the death of Tony's mother, Tella

Funerals

† Karen Sweet — May 2, 2021

† Vivian Anderson — May 8, 2021

† Bruce Nurnberg — May 16, 2021

† Robert R. Goss, Sr. — May 17, 2021 — The mighty captain of the Snowgoose, Bob's willingness to practice his faith in caring for others was second to none. Although he spent time in Florida, he always called Good Shepherd his church home and held it close to his heart. Our love goes out to his wife Sara and the rest of his family and friends.

† Incononata "Tella" Puttkammer — May 22, 2021



MISSIONS



The Good Shepherd family *continues to help with much needed donations to The Palos Food Pantry.* While any food item is ALWAYS appreciated, special requests for June include: tuna, canned meats, rice and noodle dinners, Jell-O, baby food and crackers. Personal size toiletries are always welcome. **Sincere thanks for your ongoing support!**

Let's not forget our veterans! They are always in need of toiletries in trial or full size and diabetic socks. Individually wrapped snacks and cans of pop for the Manteno snack shop are appreciated too. There are two BLUE bins in the narthex to collect these items. Thank you for your donations!



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

In worship, the common color for the summer months is green, a color that symbolizes growth. We grow together by exploring our faith not only in worship on Sunday, but also during the week.

“Just A Quick Word” Mondays at 4:00 pm on Facebook and the YouTube Channel. Pastor Bell invites you to ponder how real life and faith intersect.

The topics each week are different so stop by each week and let this thought-provoking time inspire you to tackle the week ahead.



Bible Study Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. The daily lectionary gives us help for how to dive into scripture each day. Once a week, we do a deep dive into one of the lessons for the sake of learning and living the wisdom found in scripture. Join in live or check it out anytime afterwards.

Hymn of the Week on Wednesday mornings on Facebook. Music is a

powerful tool for connecting. We are blessed with such wonderful musicians at Good Shepherd. Join one of them, Michelle Podewell as she reflects on and shares a hymn.



“Where is God? A time of prayer and reflection” Thursday evening at 7:00 on Facebook. In the breakneck

pace of life, it's easy to lose sight of God. Thursday evenings bring a time where we try to slow down for the sake of exploring how God has been and is at work in our life. Share in this time of prayer and reflection live or anytime afterwards.



All of these weekly activities require no prior discussion or reading. Simply stop by or check them out and integrate them into your weekly schedule.

OTHER NOTES OF IMPORTANCE



From the Off Club . . . summer is here! The OFF Club officers truly regret that we still have not yet been able to get together

for our monthly meetings, lunch and fun. However, we remain optimistic and hope that these will be able to resume sometime soon. For now, we hope you stay safe and have a very safe and enjoyable summer.

Volunteer to help at in-person worship. A big thank you to all who have volunteered to help as we gather for worship. As we resume other parts of our regular worship, we are in need of even more assistance. ***Would you be able to help in one of these significant ways?*** If so, contact the church office and let us know and thank you for your ongoing support as we navigate these temporary changes.



Rudolph's Big Build is happening on September 24, 25 & 26, so mark your calendars! If you happen to have usable lumber to build walls, please consider holding on to it and donating it later to help with high cost of lumber due to COVID.

Summer Outdoor Help Needed! The Landscape Team is looking for more volunteers in the coming season. Pick your own personal plot of land to care for around our church. Just be responsible for maintaining your plot by pulling weeds, cultivating and removing spent flowers. We'll do the watering. Contact Hank Lang at 708/371-0378 to sign up. You'll be working on your own schedule; whenever is convenient for you and as the work is needed. Thanks for volunteering!



Do we have a good phone number and address for you? Please take a minute to look up your name in the church directory and make sure we have the most current information listed for you. If the information is not up-to-date or not there, please either contact the church office at 708-448-4170 or email donna@good-shepherd-church.com. Thank you!

ALL IMPORTANT YOUTH NEWS

2022 Youth Trip Info Meeting

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

Calling all parents and high school students including those entering 9th grade in 2021. It's time to talk about next summer's Youth Trip! We will be having two information meetings to

discuss our summer 2022 Youth trip to try and catch everyone. **The first is Sunday August 8 at 11 am and the second will be Wed., August 11 at 7 pm. You only need to be at one.** We know this is almost a year early but some reservations have to be made in the early fall and we want as much input as possible from our youth and families before that happens. ***So mark your calendars and please join us*** for one of these meetings. We will meet in the *Family Life Center* so there will be plenty of room.

Meals for Bed's Plus Youth Group Service Project

Let's care for our neighbors! For years Good Shepherd has supported *Beds Plus* and its ministry to the homeless. One way we do that is to have you in the youth group prep and deliver meals for them. During COVID there are no public meals, so meals have to be individually prepped and then delivered to the office for distribution. So this service project will be in two parts! First on Saturday, June 12, a group is going to gather at 9 am at Good Shepherd to go shopping for our meal supplies. Then on Sunday, June 13, another group is going to gather at about 11 am in the Family Life Center to assemble the meals and deliver them to the offices. ***You can choose one or both parts of this service project to attend*** depending on what fits in your schedule. This is open to members and youth in the community, so the more the merrier! Please do call Pastor Bell at the church to let us know you'll be there.



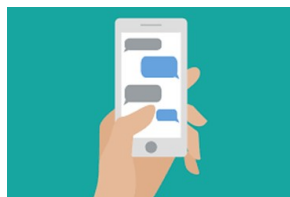
Prayer Book for the Armed Services

As our young adults graduate and head out into the world, we want to offer the church's ongoing support, especially for those entering military service. So if you have a man or women entering the armed forces this summer or anytime in the future, we would like to bless them and give them a copy of the Prayer Book for the Armed Services created by Augsburg. It is an excellent spiritual resource for our soldiers in training or in the field. **Just contact Pastor Bell and he will get you all squared away.**



Contact Info for Youth Group

Pastor Bell is collecting contact info for high school youth as we plan for the future. He's reached out to all families we have phone numbers for but just in case, we're asking here as well. If



you are interested in hearing about and attending future youth events, we'd love a cell phone number for the high school student or parent, whichever is best. That way

we can keep everyone in the loop. This is especially important as we start conversations about next school year and summer 2022 trips. Of course we will email and post events here in the newsletter, but texting often reaches people faster. So contact the office to get Pastor Bell's number and share your information.

Confirmation Day at LOMC!

Tuesday June 22, 2021

Summer is coming and ***we are ready to get off of Zoom and into the sunshine with our Confirmation Students!*** LOMC is offering one day events this year that we think will be perfect for our 6th-8th graders. So if your student is in confirmation or just finished, we want them to join us for a day at camp! There will be hiking, archery, Bible Study, games, events led by the camp staff and a great day full of fun, faith and friends. Pastor Chris, Pastor Andrew and Lori will be leading this event, but we may also need additional parents to help drive and chaperone for the day depending on numbers. We will leave the church at 7:30 am and should return by about 5:00 pm that evening. The cost for students is \$10 with the church covering the rest. If you are interested, reach out to Pastor Bell or Lori for more details and to reserve your spot.



VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!



We need Crew Leaders and Assistants for our wonderful Outdoor VBS in July and the Youth Group can help! These volunteers help lead the kids from class to class and assist the teachers. Crew Leaders should be 16 or older and assistants should be 7th graders or older. So sign up today and help our kids learn the Gospel! See Mrs. Lori or Pastor Andrew if you are interested.

ALL IMPORTANT CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

All aboard! Climb aboard the Rocky Railway Express Vacation Bible School July 12-16!



Students will need to Pre-Register, beginning June 1, to secure their spot on the Rocky Railway Express. The Rocky Railway Express departs for the 2-hour journey twice daily. Get your registration done early so that you can climb aboard the session you'd prefer. Pre-Registration will open up to the greater community on June 7.

Sessions are 10 am – 12 Noon OR 1 pm – 3pm.
Sessions have limited capacity.

Pre-Registration will take place at the church during normal business hours or on Sundays from 9 am – 10 am through June 30. The registration form is on our website so you may print it at home (we will also have copies available at church) and bring it in filled out with a \$10 fee per student payable with cash/check.



Help! A few more VBS volunteers are needed including: Crew Leaders, Crew Assistants and Photographers. Please let Mrs. Lori know if you are able to help as soon as possible and if you are able to do one or both sessions.

VBS VOLUNTEERS, please take note and mark your calendar for the ALL STAFF MEETING on June 28 at 7 pm. It will take place outside (weather permitting) in the back parking lot. All final details will be shared and some fun will be had, so it will be important to attend.



VBS needs help in many ways prior to the first day...helping to register participants, preparing decorations, prepping various steps of a craft, making cement posts, setting up temporary fencing (July 11) and setting tables and chairs up under the tents (July 11). Please let Mrs. Lori know if you are able to help.

Thank you to the 2020-2021 Sunday school Staff!!

We appreciate all the dedication, creativity and flexibility you put towards Sunday school during this most unusual year. The children and their families are grateful.



Virtual Teachers: Jenn Anderson, Eileen Armbricht, Beth Bort, Nicky Davies, Jenn Kriehner, Sue Markel, Melinda Moore, and Shana Scott. **In-Person Teachers:** Jenn Anderson, Sharon Courtney, Jill Dalton, Nicky Davies, Lauren Kirkner, and Sue Markel. **In-Person Classroom Assistants:** Sydney Anderson, Evelyn Dalton, Isabella Markel, and Kalleigh Miskovic. **In-Person**

Support Staff: Michelle Bendoraitis, Jamie Ekhardt, Paula Pries, and Katie Walsh. **Music Director:** Jennifer Miller-Corp **Good News Gang Puppet Ministry:** Jan Nelson



In-Person Summer Sunday School is eager to welcome you! It begins on June 6 and runs through August 29. Plan to join us as we gather together to hear God's word and have some fun. Invite a friend to join you. *Please remember the following details for attending in person:*

Please RSVP: When calling to reserve for worship, let us know the names of your children who will be attending Sunday School. Please make every effort to complete your RSVP by Friday each week.

Plan to bring and wear your mask the entire time inside the building.

Symptom Screening: Take your child(ren)'s temperature prior to coming to the building. If they are running a fever or experiencing other symptoms of illness, please stay home. You will be asked to self-certify at check in.

Bring Supplies: The first time your child(ren) attend...bring a gallon size baggie with your child's name on it. This bag will be kept at the church and only they will use those supplies from week to week. *Include the following:* crayons, glue stick, scissors, markers, and a pencil. Children may bring a water bottle with their name on it.

Check In: Please escort your child(ren) to the Sunday School table for check-in. It's located by the stairs by the church office. Once checked in, your child(ren) will be escorted to their class location. You will also receive your Family Pick-UP sheet for your dashboard.

Pick Up: Drive-Up to Pick UP! Once worship is complete, pull your car to the back Family Life Center doors (double brown doors). Please have your Family Pick-UP sheet on your dashboard. The teachers or assistants will escort your child(ren) to the car. Please plan to pull forward to do any buckling so that we can keep the line moving.

In-person Summer Sunday School is looking for teachers and assistants for this fun and less formal session. Please call/email Mrs. Lori if you are interested. You may volunteer for just one Sunday or more as your schedule will allow.



Virtual Summer Sunday school will be offered on Sundays at 8:30 am. You may view the Lesson on our YouTube channel. We are always looking for those that might like to **"STAR"** in one of our video lessons by leading a segment of the video. Let Mrs. Lori know if you are interested.

