

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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

www.good-shepherd-church.com



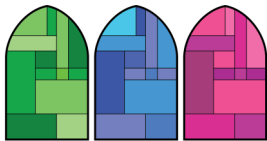
November 2020

Give Thanks to the Lord!

As we have experienced much change this year, we recognize the blessings we have been given. A common exercise that our 8th grade confirmation class does each year during the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving is to list 100 things for which they are thankful. I invite you to undertake that same practice this year, reflecting on the things for which you are thankful and recognizing them as blessings from God.

Spending time in giving thanks does not ignore the real challenges and lament of our current time.

Recently, the effects of COVID in our region reached a point where church leadership unanimously voted to suspend our in-person worship services. We give thanks for the last three months of being able to gather for in-person worship and will continue to monitor the situation and look forward to resuming in-person worship when appropriate. Due to this sudden change and the need to continually evaluate the situation, worship service details given in our newsletter are accurate at the time of publication. Please refer to the website (www.good-shepherd-church.com) or call the church office to find the newest information.



Welcome to Worship
ONLINE SERVICE AT 10 am

We will continue to hold worship services on our YouTube page every Sunday morning at 10:00 am regardless of the status of our in-person worship. This month invites several special days of worship that, while different, we hope you will find meaningful.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY, November 1 – This is a special day to remember the saints who have laid a path of faith for us and rest now in their eternal home. On this day we recognize the way they touched our lives with God's love and grace.



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY, November 22 – We end the church year by recalling how we all are part of the kingdom of God which is called to follow the good king of Jesus Christ.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

We give thanks to God and recall the blessings bestowed upon us. Offerings of both non-perishable food and financial contributions can be mailed or dropped off to the church as every offering will go directly to feeding the hungry in our community. Let us reach out and share in the abundant love of Christ. Service will be posted to YouTube at 7:30 pm on Thanksgiving Eve, November 25. Please check the church website for updated times of potential in-person worship or call the church office.



The People of Good Shepherd - October, 2020

Known to have been ill or Hospitalized:

Sue Albrecht, Marilyn Aspan, Katie DiMambro, Lindsey Dolezal, Jennifer Gibbs, Sara Goss, Betty Holke, Matt Husar, Bill Inglis, John King, Pat Kratz, Chris Light, Sue McCoy, Connor Mish, Adeline Petry, Sandra Reback, Brooke Rekar, Sandi Sandt, Bob Schaaf, Joe Schmitt, Edith Schmitt, Charles Snow, Beth Wetzig, Char Wolfe, Rich Wolfe and Chris Yazumbek

Sending thoughts . . .
Hospitalized
and Ill



Known to have Experienced Bereavement

Marilyn and Mike Aspan, upon the death of their grandson/nephew, John Aspan
The Castor family upon the death of their friend, Joey Lewendowski
The Mannix and Kriehner families upon the death of Mary's brother-in-law, Tom Pfeiffer
The Carvey family upon the death of Jane
The Holke and Sweeney families upon the death of Betty's cousin, Norman Johnsen
The Faklis family upon the death of Laurie's mother, Ethelyn Molander
The Menneou family upon the death of Carol's friend, Carol Grenchik
Pastor Chris and family upon the death of his friend's daughter, Carole Kruse
Char and Rich Wolfe upon the death of Char's cousin, Bob Burgess
Off Club upon the death of their member, Anita Berg
The Tellefsen family upon the death of Roy's sister, Claudette Lipsch
The Dinkmeyer family upon the death of their son, Blake



Funerals

† Tom Thoss — October 24, 2020 — A larger than life character who made friends with whomever he met, he could always be found holding court at Palos Golf. His faith in God and commitment to Good Shepherd left a profound impact. Our prayers and love go to his wife Nancy, his children and the rest of his family.



Clothing Drive, November 21 - Let that old coat or outgrown clothes be put to good use. We will again be holding a clothing drive on Saturday, November 21 from 9 am until Noon. Winter clothing/blankets will be accepted in the back by the life center and then taken to "God's Closet," a clothing pantry housed at First Lutheran Church of the Trinity in Bridgeport. Also, if you are able to give of your time, many hands make light work and we would greatly appreciate any time you could give.



Update on our search for an Associate Pastor

Just recently, the church was passed along names of two candidates that we will be meeting with about our vacant position of Associate Pastor. Please keep these individuals, the Call Committee, the Church Council and the staff in your prayers as we continue to search for the right person to help us faithfully serve God's mission.

Sincerely,

Ron Jurkovic, Chairperson of Church Council



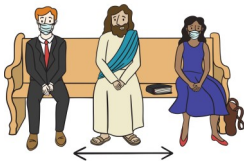
Parking Lot Construction Update: It's almost finished. All that's left is to help restore one of the greenspaces and we'll be back to normal. Thanks for your patience.



REASONS TO GIVE THANKS

- * for **Hank Lang and his team of volunteers** who dedicate themselves to making the church grounds so attractive. Thanks to them, the grounds do testify to God's great creation.
- * for **those who donated blood** last month to help share the gift of life. Special thanks to Shawn Erickson for her coordination of this effort. Twenty-three individuals donated drawing 21 donations which will serve area patients at Palos Health and other hospitals throughout Chicagoland.
- * for **our musicians** who have been going above and beyond to share their gifts with the congregation.
- * for our **Sunday School leaders** who have worked hard to make sure the message of Christ is shared with our young people.
- * for **those who have stepped up to be readers** during our worship services. Allowing God's Word to travel through your voice is a gift to us all.
- * for **our Tech Team** who every week create the online worship service and to Scott Tracy and Bruce Warner for your generous provisions of equipment and expertise. Your time and skill makes the gospel message from Good Shepherd accessible to hundreds each week.
- * for **the Missions Committee** for their dedication to make sure that God's work of loving our neighbor is done faithfully during these trying times.
- * for **our partner parish in Coronationville**. Their work to faithfully share God's Word helps their community know God's love.
- * for **the COVID Team from Good Shepherd** who work hard to help make worship and church activities as safe as possible during this pandemic.
- * for **those who volunteered and participated with the Trunk or Treat**. How great it was to see the community come out and come together with joy and laughter.
- * for **those who have volunteered to assist us at worship services**. Your dedication to seeing God glorified and worshiped testifies to the power of God in our world.
- * for **our custodian, Jan Nelson**, and her work to ensure our facility is both clean and safe.
- * for **the Trustees**, especially our head trustee, Matt Behrman, for the work to faithfully steward the facilities that God has blessed us to use.
- * for **the volunteers who freely gave of themselves in making this year's Virtual VBS** a time of finding joy in God's Word. A special thanks must go to Scott Bort for his technical insight and leadership.
- * for **your Church Council and Deacons** who have been diligent in desiring to be both faithful and responsible during the past year. We are truly blessed with great leadership.
- * for **the staff at Good Shepherd** who works tirelessly to serve God and share the good news of hope Jesus offers.
- * for **those who participate in the weekly bible studies and prayer times**. Your drawing near to God sets an example and helps the Kingdom of God break into our world.
- * for **all the faithful people who have continued to support God's mission** at Good Shepherd during this trying year. Your faithfulness and generosity are heartwarming.
- * for **the countless other expressions of love and generosity** undertaken by the Good Shepherd community in both formal and informal ways. God knows your efforts.

LEAVE ROOM FOR JESUS



Please sit 6 ft. apart

Please help us navigate the challenges of COVID by adhering to the protocols in place at the church to make gatherings as safe as possible for yourself and

others. In particular, please note that, as exposure to people who test positive has increased, the Church Council would ask you to follow the guidelines listed to the right:

-If you have tested positive for COVID, please refrain from coming to in-person church activities until 10 days after your positive test and having been symptom free for 72 hours.
-If you were exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID, please refrain from coming to in-person church activities for 14 days from your last exposure.



Giving Thanks by Supporting Missions

Palos Food Pantry . . . Specific needs for November include: cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, gravy mix, cake mix, frosting and Jell-O. Any donations other than those specifically requested are always appreciated. Thank you!



The Manteno Veterans Home

is in need of the following: any snacks, Gatorade, regular pop and L and XL sweat pants. You can drop off items at church or contact the church office to arrange for a pick-up. *The veterans truly appreciate our donations!*



Giving Thanks through Adult Education Opportunities

We continue to thank God by growing to know God each day. We have several weekly activities planned during November that help us to grow in our faith by experiencing God's presence, God's Word and the many God-given gifts of this world.

These events are live on the Good Shepherd Facebook Page at the time shown but remain on the page long afterwards so you can participate when it is convenient for you.

Tuesday, 10:30 am Bible Study



We follow the daily lectionary of readings (which can be found on the church website) and select one or two to dive into.

Wednesday Hymn of the Week



Michelle Podewell graces us with the playing and singing of a hymn. It's a time of reflection that invites us to rest in the gift of music.

Thursday, 7 pm Where is God? Time for reflection and prayer

This weekly time invites us to explore where God is at work in our lives and world. We spend time in prayer and exploring God's work.



Would You Like a ZOOM time for gathering? A time of gathering where we can see others and participate more fully could be arranged if we have interest. If this sounds of interest to you, please contact Pastor Chris and let him know if you would like to participate.



GIVING THANKS FOR YOUTH, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES!

Confirmation Continues: Keep following the schedule to stay on top of this exciting time of learning about and living the faith of our baptism.



Youth

Mission Trip? As we look ahead, we would love to hear from our high-school age youth concerning a summer youth mission trip. Please contact Pastor Chris right away as we look to plan for this summer.



Gift Cards: As you prepare for your Christmas holiday, we will again be taking gift card orders to help not only you do your one-stop shopping but also to support our youth mission trips. For every gift card purchased, we receive a percentage back that we allocate for our summer mission trip. We ask that orders be placed with the



church office by November 22 for pick-up on November 29.

The Sunday School Virtual Classroom is a great place to view the weekly YouTube lesson, to sing along with Mrs. Jen, find a link for the Zoom activity and find a copy of this year's memory recitation assignments. Each Sunday at 9 am, the Sunday school families will receive an email giving them a link to access the classroom.



Please, let Mrs. Lori know how the virtual classroom and Zoom activities are going for your family by sending her a quick email.

—STAYING— CONNECTED

Sunday School Zoom Activities give our children an opportunity to see their Sunday School friends and teachers! Mark your calendars to join us! A Zoom invite will be emailed to those families in each of the groups listed below a few days prior to their activity date. The teachers will be hosting these events at 11:30 am.

November 1 Preschool 3s and 4s
(Craft and more)

November 8 Grades 3-5
(Turkey craft and Game)

November 15 Grades K-2
(Craft and Game)

THANK YOU to all of our **Trunk or Treat volunteers!!!** It was successful and we appreciate your time.

Trunk Decorators: The Walsh, Choquette, Buresh, Pajak, Anderson, Molloy, Kirkner, Dalton, Podewell, Erickson, Dispensa, Huttner and Puttkammer families.

Planning and execution of the event: Edith Schmitt, Todd Bergmann, Dawn Bronson, Liz Gutierrez, Sara Hupe, Jenn Kriehner, Julie & Steve Maty, Paula Pries, Katie Walsh, Amy & Deane Meier, Vickie Molloy and Donna Choquette.



Have leftover or too much Halloween candy?

The Good Shepherd Sunday School and congregation are invited to share your Halloween candy. The candy has gone to various

organizations, our service men and women and has been used for the gingerbread house decorating in December. We will collect Halloween candy the week of Nov. 1 thru Nov. 6. You may drop it off at the church office.





Decorate a Gingerbread House at YOUR house!

While we would love to gather and create these homes in the family life center, unfortunately we will have to decorate at our individual homes this year.

We are in need of a few donations to help create a kit for the additional decorating items we usually have on hand. If you could donate any of the following we would be grateful:

any bags of Christmas candy

(ex. gumdrops-red and green, M&M-mini, M & M-regular size & any other candy)

marshmallows (both small and regular size)

cereal (Frootloops or Frosted Mini Wheats)

sugar ice cream cones

lollipops

mini candy canes

pretzels

white coconut

Christmas colored

sprinkles

Ziploc baggies (snack, sandwich & gallon)



candy donations needed

We will be collecting these items until Nov. 29. You may bring them to the church office.

Reserve your Gingerbread House! We have 25 houses. Please call the church office or email Lori to secure your house by November 29.

Gingerbread House Distribution will be on



Sunday, December 6 from 11 am – 2 pm as a drive-thru pick up. Please plan to pull up to the family life center doors and we will hand you the house kit and a bag of

additional goodies to create your masterpiece. A free will offering can be dropped off at time of pick up. Pick-up is also available Dec. 7 – Dec. 9 during church hours . . . enter through front wooden doors.

Pictures are needed!!!

Please send in a picture of your completely decorated Gingerbread House with the Builders, so that we can load them on our Facebook page. There will also be a bulletin board decorated with picture prints for anyone to catch a glimpse as you stop by the church this season. You can send your picture via email to Lori anytime between Dec. 6 & Dec. 20.



An opportunity for a heart-warming tradition to continue . . . Christmas gifts for the L.S.S.I Foster Children

Due to Covid, this process is different this year. L.S.S.I is unable to provide the individual kids' wish list ornaments like they have provided in the past. They are providing us with one list of all the children and their wishes. We will have 175 children's names. L.S.S.I is kindly asking for gift card donations in order for the children and foster families to be able to safely shop online.



To make sure each child is touched by God's love, we want to provide each of them with a \$25 gift card to a place of their choosing. If you would like to help make Christmas extra special for these foster children, please drop off a donation of \$25 dollars and an *unsealed* Christmas Card at the church. Mrs. Lori, along with her volunteer crew, will match the gift card with the Christmas Card. We can provide you the child's name and age which can help you write a note of inspiration inside the card. Please *do not* include your full name when signing the card.

We will purchase gift cards through our Gift Card Fundraiser Program (that benefits our Youth program). If you wish to give more than \$25 towards this great initiative, we can match you with more than one child as long as names are available. Donations and unsealed Christmas Cards will be gladly received November 8 thru December 6.



A few Miscellaneous Notes:

OFF Club Members: There will be no Christmas party this year as the venue has cancelled all events through February. We look forward to the day when we can meet again.

Check out the new church directory, specifically your record, and let the office know of any changes. Thank you!

The church phones have been problematic over the last few weeks due to an issue with AT&T's main cable line in our area. We have been assured they are working on the problem, but as of this newsletter mailing, it has yet to be fixed.



LIST OF COLLEGE STUDENTS—2020/2021

68 college students — 2 in graduate programs*

Please notify the church if your student is not on the list . Thank

Caroline Aurelio	Georgia Tech	Atlanta, GA
Matthew Aurelio	Western Michigan University	Kalamazoo, MI
Melanie Behrman	Moraine Valley Community College	Palos Hills, IL
Lauren Birmingham	Illinois State University	Normal, IL
Sara Birmingham	St. Xavier University	Chicago, IL
Donna Booe	Trinity Christian College	Palos Heights,, IL
Jamie Booe	Moraine Valley Community College	Palos Hills, IL
Jim Brady	University of Michigan Dental School	Ann Arbor, MI
Charles Brobst	Pepperdine University	Malibu, CA
Clayton Brobst	Texas Christian University	Ft. Worth, TX
Olivia Bronson	Elmhurst College	Elmhurst, IL
Sydney Brown	University of Illinois	Champaign, IL
Emie Choquette	Bradley University	Peoria, IL
Jenna Cianci	Western Kentucky University	Bowling Green, KY
Jack Cody	University of Illinois	Champaign, IL
Kaleb Donnahue	University of Indiana	Bloomington, IN
Kyle Donnahue	Auburn University	Auburn, AL
Makayla Dundek	Illinois State University	Normal, IL
Zach Dundek	Miami of Ohio	Oxford, OH
Owen Erickson	Ohio State	Columbus, OH
Christian Gambotz	Marquette University	Milwaukee, WI
Jacob Gambotz	Western Michigan University	Kalamazoo, MI
Hayley Goebel	SIU Edwardsville	Edwardsville, IL
Rebecca Goebel	University of Wisconsin-Parkside	Kenosha, WI
Thomas Hassel	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN
Maria Hennessy	University of Missouri	Columbia, MO
Lauren Hetzler	Bradley University	Peoria, IL
Caroline Huttner	Carthage College	Kenosha, WI
Mitchell Janik	Joliet Junior College	Joliet, IL
Abby Joritz	Michigan State University	East Lansing, MI
* Kylie Kratz	Arizona State University	Phoenix, AZ
Will Kretzer	Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN
Eric Kruszynski	University of Illinois	Champaign, IL
Henry Light	Lake Forest College	Lake Forest, IL
Brian Maty	Loras College	Dubuque, IA
Eric Maty	University of Illinois	Chicago, IL
Max Meneou	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN
Kaitlyn Meyer	Indiana University	Bloomington, IN
Natalie Miller	Trinity Christian College	Palos Heights, IL



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Wendy Moore	University of Illinois	Champaign, IL
Hunter Morris	USC-Université Bocconi	Milan, Italy
Amanda Niemeier	Illinois State University	Normal, IL
Edward Nelson	Illinois Wesleyan University	Bloomington, IL
Colin Page	Washington University	St. Louis, MO
Maureen Page	University of Colorado	Boulder, CO
Josh Pappas	DePaul University	Chicago, IL
Lauren Pengiel	Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN
Brad Petersen	University of Illinois	Champaign, IL
Victoria Puttkammer	Joliet Junior College	Joliet, IL
Alyssa Rusco	Chamberlain College of Nursing	Tinley Park, IL
Ryan Rushing	Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN
Ryann Scanlan	St. Xavier University	Chicago, IL
Samantha Schoell	Ball State University	Muncie, IN
Alexandria Stark	Governors State University	University Park, IL
Nicole Steffensen	Columbia College	Chicago, IL
Ann Swanson	University of Northern Iowa	Cedar Fall, IA
Hunter Sweeney	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
Rebecca Sweeney	Trinity Christian College	Palos Heights, IL
Zachary Sweeney	University of Missouri	Columbia, MO
Joseph Talluto	Moraine Valley Community College	Palos Hills, IL
Nolan Trost	St. Xavier University	Chicago, IL
Alexa Tunzi	Illinois State University	Normal, IL
Gianna Tunzi	University of California	Los Angeles, CA
Michael Williams	Moraine Valley Community College	Palos Hills, IL
Rorie Wilson	University of Wisconsin	White Water, WI
Drake Wolan	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN
Garrett Wolan	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN
Lauren Yazumbek	Bowling Green State University	Bowling Green, OH