

# Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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[www.good-shepherd-church.com](http://www.good-shepherd-church.com)

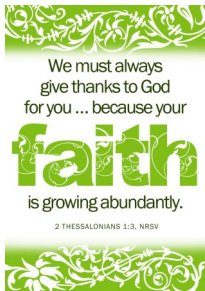
July 2020

## Green . . . Growth . . . Faith . . .

For some reason, when I look outside I can't help but notice how green everything looks. While that is certainly a testament to Hank Lang and the others who dedicate time to keeping the church landscaping so attractive, I think the green hits me for another reason.

It really is a color associated with growth. In fact, in this long season after Pentecost, the paraments are green to invite us to continue to *grow in our faith*.

I am reminded that the green growth we see today is a testament to the endurance of these plants through the challenges of the winter months. Our faith has certainly been tested lately by the pandemic as well as the outcry over the sin of racism. I have no doubt in my mind that this season of challenge brings with it a similar opportunity. One wherein we are invited to the work of growing to know and be faithful to the call given us by God.



I appreciate the way that you have continued growing in your faith by journeying along with all that Good Shepherd has been doing. We recognize that these changes have not been easy. Moving from Sunday worship in the sanctuary to worship at home through a screen and refraining from physically gathering for bible study to instead tuning into Facebook Live have both been big transitions. We have attempted to do our best but recognize our need for your grace as we stumbled through these efforts. *Thank you for extending that to us.*

We look forward to continuing our season of growth together as *we anticipate again holding physical worship services beginning August 2*. This target is dependent on both the movement of the virus as well as the willingness of members of the congregation to volunteer to help us institute the practices necessary so that we can worship in a meaningful and safe manner. We especially need volunteers who are under the age of 65 and in good health. If you are willing and able to help, please email [donna@good-shepherd-church.com](mailto:donna@good-shepherd-church.com) or call the church office and leave your name and number.

***We look forward to together seeing  
the message of Christ take root  
and grow in our lives and our world!***

***In Service,  
Pastor Chris***





## THE 2020 GRADUATES INCLUDE:



### Andrew

Danielle Miller

### Barron Collier

Kaleb Donnahue

### Bradley Bourbonnais

Gabriella Brownsey

### Chicago Christian

Caroline Huttner

### Lincoln Way Central

Ann Swanson

### Lincoln Way East

Zachary Sweeney

Audrey Zednick

### Lemont

Sean Franklin

### Lockport

Nickolas Mahoney

### Marist

Scott Modelski

### Mother McAuley

Lauren Hunt

### Minooka

Ryan Rushing

### Oak Forest

Margaret Altier

### Sandburg

Matthew Aurelio

Clayton Brobst

Shea Jones

Alyssa Kochanny

Alexandra Kolodziejczyk

Amanda Niemeier

Joseph Talluto

Rorie Wilson

### Shepard

James Boudreau

Rebecca Goebel

Kiley Simpson

### Stagg

Owen Erickson

Christian Gambotz

Jacob Gambotz

Jada Tomes

Michael Williams

### St. Rita

Griffen Drebing



*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 Joe or the Church Office, so that we can properly salute them as well.*

Sarah DeWolf, *Eastern Illinois University*, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Recreation Administration

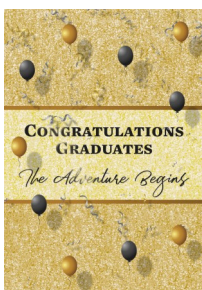
Ally Dowling, *University of Kansas*, with a Bachelor of Science in Geology

Ryan Hanrahan, *Loyola University-Chicago*, with a Bachelor's of Business Administration-Finance and Information Systems

Andrew Sombraske, *Robert Morris University*, with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Management and an Associate's Degree in Culinary Arts

Brian Zirbes, *Michigan State University*, with a Masters of Science in Supply Chain Management

## ***Congratulations to all of our Graduates!!!***



**High School Graduates:** We will be recognizing each of you at an upcoming service (date TBD) and presenting you with a small gift. Please plan on attending one of these services. If you are unable to attend a service on this day, please stop by the church office to pick up your gift.

# The People of Good Shepherd – June 2020 Report

## New Parents

Hilary Stark and Jason Barnish, a daughter, Riley Rose Barnish

## New Grandparents

Pastor Joe and Tammy Schultz, a grandson, Connor Michael Schultz



## Known to have been Ill or Hospitalized

Joanne Alsip, Myrna Bronson, Dee Drown, Jennifer Gibbs, Jeff Good, Char Mathis, Penny Mattes-Rumore, Warren Meneou, Jan Nelson, Ann Petersen, Joan Rauch, Sandra Reback, Linda Skopek, Charles Snow, Bob Sweeney, Nancy Thoss, Char Wolfe and Rich Wolfe



## Known to have Experienced Bereavement

The Duesing and Postweiler families upon the death of Joyce Duesing

The Rauch and Schmitt families upon the death of their friend, Joan Haywood

The Schmitt family upon the death of their friend, Mike Rachen

Kurt and Liz Spooner upon the death of their friend, Casey Cieniawa

The Montecki family upon the death of JoAnn's aunt, Ethel Sklenar

## Funerals

† Bonita Fay Reeder — June 13, 2020

† Charles Paul Buerger — June 16, 2020 — A faithful member of Good Shepherd who had a smile larger than his face. We take comfort in knowing he has joined the Church Triumphant with not only Jesus but also his beloved wife Jean. Our love goes to the Buerger and Zimba families.



## Confirmation Service Update

One of the disruptions created by COVID was that we have a tremendous group of young people who had their confirmation and first communion postponed. We look forward to celebrating these milestones with them and their families in the near future. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers as they approach these days of celebration.

## Update on our search for an Associate Pastor

Near the onset of the disruption caused by COVID-19, the Church Council met and reaffirmed our desire to seek an Associate Pastor. As we believe we have an acceptable process to see this work to completion, I am aware that several candidates have been sent by the synod and are currently being evaluated by Pastor Chris and the Call Committee to see if our needs and their gifts align at this time. Please keep these candidates as well as our Call Committee, our staff and our church leadership in your prayers as we strive to faithfully respond to the call to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves.

Sincerely,

Ron Jurkovic – Chairperson of Church Council

## Missions

Did you know that *your missions contributions to Good Shepherd are changing lives* within our community as well as in distant areas? During this time of “social distancing” we want to make sure to share how you are making a real difference. We hope you have noticed first hand accounts of thankfulness in the letters distributed in our regular emails. Your contributions are certainly appreciated.



This month, we want to cast a spotlight on the good work being done by the Palos Food Pantry. Each week the box in our narthex that collects for the pantry overflows and is taken to the pantry. Good Shepherd also supports the pantry with the “Easter Blessing Bags” which share God’s message of hope in a very powerful way. Palos Food Pantry also partners with the Chicago Food Depository and other local donors. Every Tuesday volunteers for the pantry, many from our Congregation, help distribute food to more than 90 families and individuals in need of assistance. Recipients of the food, called clients, select the items they and their family need making it a meaningful experience for both volunteers and clients. The Palos Food Pantry is a great blessing to our community and we thank you for supporting it so generously.



Another area of emphasis, particularly for our Mission Committee, is the way Good Shepherd responds to tornados, floods, and other natural disasters. Enhancing the desire for a personal connection for the purpose of sharing hope in every way, funds provided through your donations are given directly to congregations and their members who are in great need. Recently members of St. John’s

Lutheran Church in Nashville, TN were severely impacted by area-wide tornados and were recipients of your generous donations to assist in rebuilding lives. This is just one way your contributions are transformed into the message of hope that Christ offers.



During these days of the Covid 19 Pandemic we frequently hear the phrase “We’re all in this together.” Indeed, we are working together to share God’s love at home and throughout the world.

## Adult Education



During this time, the Good Shepherd Facebook Page has been hosting events daily Monday through Thursday. Continue to pay attention to the page for regular bible studies, music and times of reflection. Please be aware that the regular schedule will likely change as we invest time in getting prepared for resuming physical worship, so check in regularly to find out what is going on.

## Attention: Good Shepherd Bowlers

If you have not yet done so, please contact Bob or Erik Nelson to let them know if you plan to bowl on the church league this year. We need numbers so we can plan accordingly. Orland Bowl is now open and having summer leagues on a limited basis. The summer experiences they have will help to determine how fall bowling will be run. More details and planning are required to ensure the safety of all. We hope to hear from you soon and see you in September!





***HOORAY!***

## ***VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS ON ITS WAY!***

### ***"From East to West — All God's Children Gather"***



We definitely miss our VBS Friends and Volunteers! This year, in order to be safe, we are going to share God's word with one another in a different way. ***Our VVBS will be on Good Shepherd's YouTube page starting July 14.*** The remaining four lessons will follow on July 16, July 21, July 23 and July 28. We will be learning about God's word, making snacks or crafting, praying and singing. ***Check your email and the website regularly***

***for further details!*** Please be sure we have your current email address to receive notifications via Constant Contact. We hope to celebrate this time we have together virtually by hosting an in-person drive-by car parade on August 1 here at the church. The final details of the drive by car parade will be released by July 30.

### ***A word of gratitude for all those that made our Virtual VBS possible!***

- ◆ ***Members of the Youth and Education Committee:*** Edith Schmitt, Dawn Bronson, Paula Pries, Julie Maty, Steve Maty, Sara Hupe, Liz Gutierrez, Todd Bergmann, Katie Walsh and Jenn Krieher
- ◆ ***Director of VBS Music:*** Michelle Podewell
- ◆ ***and her assistants:*** Isabella Markel and Emie Choquette
- ◆ ***Videographer and Technology:*** Scott Bort
- ◆ ***Puppet Ministry:*** Jan Nelson
- ◆ ***VBS Committee:*** Patti Bareither, Olivia Bronson, Emily Bronson, Tracy Heilman, Wendy Heilman, Rita Petritsch, Michelle Bendoraitis, Jan Kolar and Sue Markel
- ◆ ***Administrative Assistant:*** Donna Choquette
- ◆ ***Interim Minister:*** Pastor Joe Schultz
- ◆ ***Senior Pastor:*** Pastor Chris Buresh
- ◆ ***Director of Children's & Family Ministry:*** Lori Puttkammer



**Sunday School Volunteers are needed for the fall!** While we are still brainstorming and planning as we go for the upcoming program year, we will need a few more teachers. If you would be interested in teaching Sunday school this fall, please email Mrs. Lori and let her know which of the following would apply to you: teaching virtually only, teaching in-person or teaching in-person and virtually as needed. We will also need classroom assistants once we determine when we will hold in-person classes. If you would like to be added to the assistant list, please email Mrs. Lori to let her know.





# YOUTH NEWS

## Summer Outing

With all we know about Covid-19, how it has affected our daily lives and its recent changes, the Youth are hoping to get together for a summer outing. The shelter-in-place order hit at a busy time for our youth group. We were not able to do the Lenten suppers, garage sale, mission trip and celebrate with our graduating seniors. But we are not giving up! We want to honor our graduating seniors, so this July we are trying to get a trip to Starved Rock or find a house on a lake. We are looking to go somewhere between July 13-17. Please look for more information to follow.



## Acolyting



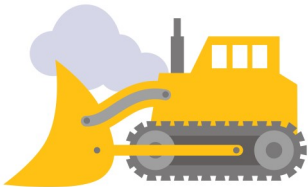
First, *a special thanks to any out-going seniors and juniors* who helped us out last year. Second, *we are grateful for any juniors and seniors* who have volunteered to continue to acolyte this year, even after their time is technically done. And finally, *for our new freshman class—there will be acolyte training* coming in August. Acolyting is an important part of our worship service. It is one of the ways we show reverence and honor for Christ. Stay tuned for more information.

## A Note of Thanks

We want to *thank all the parents and chaperones* for all your support for our youth group. We would not be able to do all that we do without your dedication. Thank you!



## A COUPLE MORE NOTES:



**Parking Lot Construction** — Due to a new water line being buried, a significant part of the church parking lot will be under construction in the near future. We look forward to the lot being returned to its normal state swiftly after the construction is completed.

The new church directory will be ready for publishing in late August. Anyone interested in placing a business advertisement or personnel message, in support of the new directory, should call Dick Garfield at (248)-515-5160 or email [dgarfield@cathedraldirectories.com](mailto:dgarfield@cathedraldirectories.com). Your current ad or business card could be used, or help in making up a new ad could be arranged. Please feel free to pass this information on to others. Advertisers do not need to be members of our church.

