



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24


Candlelight Christmas


We are grateful to gather in-person and online to celebrate the birth of our Savior. We will be offering candlelight Christmas Eve services at both of our locations with a streaming option available for each campus:

Madison Campus

-  9:00 a.m.
-  4:30 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m.

Verona Campus

-  10:00 a.m.
- 4:30 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m.

 Livestream available at gslcwi.com

ADVENT
**BREAKING
THROUGH**

“Make your face shine on us”
PSALM 80:3

Looking for the Light this Advent Season

As we begin the season of Advent, a time of spiritual preparation and anticipation, I invite you to join the rest of your church community to embark on a profound journey. This year, our Advent theme is "Breaking Through," inspired by Psalm 80:3 – "Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved." This theme reflects our collective aspiration to seek God's light and guidance as we prepare for the coming of Christ in a world that often seems dark and divided.

The Good Shepherd staff and our committees have been intentionally working to help this be a blend of reflection, prayer and active participation.

Each Sunday, our worship will be enriched with Advent-focused elements. This includes special hymns and litanies, as well as the traditional lighting of Advent candles, symbolizing the light of Christ breaking through the darkness.

I invite you to actively engage with these themes, both in your personal spiritual practices and in our communal activities. Ask yourself each day: How can I best have God

breakthrough in my life and my community? What new pathways of faith and action might God be illuminating for me this year? As we move through the four weeks of Advent, let us pray and work together, allowing the light of God to break through in our hearts and in our community, guiding us towards the celebration of Christ's birth.

Come Lord Jesus, come!



Pastor Chris Enstad
Lead Pastor

Baptisms

Henry Mason Giebel, son of Mikayla and Mason Giebel. Baptized on November 26.

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Joe Price & family on the death of his father, Joseph William Price, Jr. of Iron River, MI on October 24, 2023

Christian Sympathy to Herb Hopen on the death of his wife, Joanne Hopen of Madison, WI on October 30, 2023.

Christian Sympathy to Carol Nielsen & family on the death of her husband, Bob Nielsen of McFarland, WI on November 9, 2023.

Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Gisela Rosenkranz of Madison, WI who died on November 22, 2023.

Christian Sympathy to Heidi Anderson on the death of her grandmother, Donna Duha of Seneca, WI on November 22, 2023.

Foundation Awards Grants

Recently the Good Shepherd Foundation approved grant requests totaling \$43,545 to fund the following projects:

- A new refrigerator for the Allied Food Pantry
- Refurbish the Good Shepherd Handbells
- Converting Room 4 at the Madison Campus into a chapel for small groups and reflection.
- Sponsoring buses for 60 of our youth to travel to the National Youth Gathering this summer.

The Foundation thanked outgoing board members Cathy Percy and Andrew Seaborg for their 3 years of service and Pastor Chris for his leadership.

The Foundation’s mission is to expand and continue the legacy of our church and transform lives by reflecting Jesus’ love. Both current and deferred gifts are welcome. Additional Foundation information is available at gslcwi.com/foundation.

466 Served on Thanksgiving

Thanks to everyone who made Good Shepherd’s annual Thanksgiving meal a great success. More than 100 volunteers served 466 meals to our members and our community! Our leftovers went to the Safehaven Shelter and served even more people! Thank you to our volunteers!

**FINANCIAL DASHBOARD
October 2023 Update**

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 600,504	\$ 635,144	\$ (34,640)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(619,551)	(676,266)	56,715
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(31,450)	(24,180)	(7,270)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (50,497)	\$ (65,303)	\$ 14,806

Cash Balances

	October 2022	June Fiscal 2022	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 727,111	\$ 691,410	\$	35,701
Board Designated Funds	126,143	411,295		(285,152)
Restricted Funds	368,072	376,270		(8,198)
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,221,326	\$ 1,478,975		(257,649)

Mortgage Balance

	October 2022	June Fiscal 2022	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 1,167,977	\$ 1,306,410	\$	(138,433)

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Lead Pastor Transition

Pastor Chris Enstad accepts new call in Minneapolis



Pastor Chris Enstad has accepted a call to a new congregation in Minneapolis. We are grateful for the many years of fruitful ministry we have shared together at Good Shepherd and we wish Pastor Chris and his family well as they embark on this new journey at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. At gslcwi.com/transition you will find a letter from Pastor Chris, some frequently asked questions and more details about this transition. We’ll say thank you and farewell to Pastor Chris after the morning worship services in Madison and Verona on December 31.

Thank you for your Generosity!

Your response to our Ready, Set, Grow generosity campaign has been **uplifting!** Thanks to you, we're now at **96% of our goal.**

You can still mail in your card or go to gslcwi.com/giving to indicate your support for Good Shepherd in 2024.



Upcoming Featured Events & Opportunities



The Gathering: A Brunch for All

- Tuesday, December 5 @ 10 a.m.
- Pastor Sheryl Erickson | serickson@gslcwi.com
- Peterson Hall @ Madison Campus

Enjoy brunch with a cup of coffee and good conversation. Bring a dish to share – fruit, muffins, egg bake, yogurt, etc. Jared Stellmacher will lead an Advent/Christmas Hymn Sing!



Christmas Camp

- December 15, 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Emily Gold | egold@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus Coffee Area

Drop the kids off for an evening of Christmas joy with crafts, music, and games. Register online at gslcwi.com/christmascamp



Christmas around the Tree

- December 17 at 6 p.m.
- Sarah Iverson | siverson@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus Sanctuary

An evening of stories and songs to ponder, pray, praise, and prepare in this Advent season.



Christmas Concert

- December 18 at 7 p.m.
- Jared Stellmacher | jstellmacher@gslcwi.com
- Madison Campus Sanctuary

Scripture readings, meditations and numerous familiar Christmas carols are woven into this festive program, featuring K. Lee Scott's "Gloria" and Robert Hobby's Candlelight Service of Carols: "Holy Light."



Playgroup

- Tuesdays 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. (Off 12/24 -1/7)
- Emily Gold | egold@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus Gym

Our playgroup for caregivers and their children ages 0-3 are welcome to join us on Tuesday mornings. No need to sign-up, just come when you can!



New Years Eve Worship

- December 31 at 9:00 & 10:00 a.m.
- Jared Stellmacher | jstellmacher@gslcwi.com
- Madison, Verona & Online

Gather for worship and ring in the new year! This is also the final Sunday with Pastor Chris, with opportunities to say farewell after each service. There will be no 6 p.m. service on this Sunday.

Jessica McCarty Ordained December 9

After completing her Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry from Wartburg Theological Seminary and completing the ELCA Candidacy process, Good Shepherd's Jessica McCarty will be ordained as a Deacon at the Madison Campus: 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 9. All are invited to the ceremony and for refreshments after the service. Please wear red!

Help Serve Home Communion

Members of Good Shepherd church make in-person visits to fellow church members who are homebound. We visit once a month, bringing pre-packaged Holy Communion elements and speaking the communion liturgy with those we visit. We need a few more Home Communion Servers. Every other month, you would visit 2 – 4 individuals from our congregation and serve them communion in their homes. You make these visits according to your own schedule. Interested in volunteering? Please contact Pastor Sheryl at serickson@gslcwi.com

Holy COW Year-End Highlights

The Holy COW (and the volunteers that make it possible) would like to thank you for your support during this last season. The Holy COW served 7,288 meals during 91 events in 2023! We also distributed over 1500 lbs. of fresh produce at our Monday evening events throughout Madison. We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Save the Date:

Souper Bowl XXIII on February 11

Please mark your calendars for Souper Bowl XXIII on Sunday, February 11, 2024. The kickoff to Souper Bowl XXIII will be at the 6 p.m. Service on Sunday, February 4, followed by big plays from by the AMPED students and the Little Blessings Pre-schools during the week. All the soup donated will go to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry, the Allied Drive Food Pantry and the Badger Prairie Food Pantry in Verona. Our challenge is to donate more than the 1,685 cans of soup donated during Souper Bowl XXII.

2024 Altar Flower Signups Available

You can sponsor an altar flower bouquet(s) for 2024 in memory or in honor of a loved one, or for a special occasion. Sign up on the altar flower chart at the Madison Campus or online at gslcwi.com/flowers OR by sending an email to Judy at jhoard@gslcwi.com. Each arrangement is \$50. When paying by check, please make it payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with "altar flowers" in the memo line.



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Madison Campus (MAILING ADDRESS)

5701 Raymond Rd.
Madison, WI 53711-4231
608-271-6633

Verona Campus

7291 County PD
Verona, WI 53593
608-845-8955

Fax 608-271-2657

info@glscwi.com

glscwi.com

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ADVENT BREAKING THROUGH



COMMUNITY

Carols & Cabernet

Sunday, December 3
7:00 p.m. | Toot & Kate's

Join us on Sunday, December 3 for this year's annual night of Carols, Cabernet & Cookies at Toot and Kate's Wine Bar at 109 S. Main St., Verona.

DEVOTION

Advent by Candlelight

Thursday, December 7
7:00 p.m. | Verona Campus

We'll read scripture. We'll sing carols. Storytellers will share with us what Advent means to them. We'll also share devotional materials that could be a good anchor for you in this holy season.

CONCERT

The Brilliance

Friday, December 8
7:00 p.m. | Madison Campus

This New York based group, will perform original and familiar Advent songs that illuminate the Season's rich promises. The concert is also a fundraiser for Good Shepherd High School Ministry travels.

Explore even more at glscwi.com/advent