

ADVENT 2020

The Weary World Rejoices

“Advent is a season for the weary.... It is a weariness that tugs at the soul and sits deep in the bones.... It is a weariness that reminds us that we know there is something better to come, we need something new to come, we desire something liberating to come... And so, we light the candle of hope once again...hope for the weary.”

These words, spoken a few years ago at “Christmas Around the Tree”, echo even more loudly for us today.

Our weariness, this year, has been compounded by the waiting. Waiting for a vaccine in the midst of a never-ending pandemic, waiting for a resolution to our most recent national election and waiting to be together again at church. These are just a few of the many stresses and anxieties that have forced many of us to another level of weariness altogether.

We are waiting to a degree and a depth that we have not experienced before. And now we enter Advent. Advent is a season created specifically to remind us, that as people of faith, we are a waiting people. Each year we bring out hymns and texts that speak of waiting. This year we may find these words reach us at a new depth, a depth that – though it may be uncomfortable – may be fertile ground for us to experience the longings that are met in the Incarnation of Jesus.

We will prepare. We will gather (virtually or socially distanced). We will wait as a people of hope. Because, just like we know there is a Christmas on the other side of Advent, there is also a

tomorrow on the other side of today! Let us be love incarnate this season in our care for one another.

“The Weary World Rejoices.” These words from O *Holy Night* speak of a truth. We are tired, yet we have hope. We are weary, yet we will find ways to celebrate. We are divided, yet we will find ways to be reconciled to each other just as God found a way to be reconciled to us. It is our hope and our prayer that you will make use of the opportunities to gather virtually to celebrate the hope of Jesus Christ for a weary world. May you be that reconciling voice of hope in the world. May we be a church that brings Christmas, Christ Incarnate, to the world every day.

Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!



Chris Enstad

Pastor Chris Enstad | Lead Pastor



Sarah Iverson

Sarah Iverson | Director of Adult Faith Formation

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to the family of Gail Nelson. Gail died in Middleton, WI on October 31, 2020.

Christian Sympathy to Pastor Dara Schuller-Hanson and family on the death of her grandmother, Alice Schuller of Monona, WI who died on October 31, 2020.



Baptisms

Lane Peter Morehouse, child of Rachel & Tyler Morehouse, November 1.

Weston Archer Vogt, child of Andrea & David Vogt, November 4.

Alice Catherine Panzer, child of Anne & Ryan Panzer, November 8. *(Pictured)*

Benjamin Laine Spreeman, child of Meagan & Nathan Spreeman, November 11.

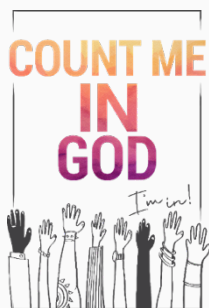
Axxel Knight Deininger, child of Kelly Knippel & Jared Deininger, November 15.

Jared Lynn Deininger, November 15.

Leighton Lee Harried, child of Erin & Ross Harried, November 22.

Grant Orville Simon, child of Sarah & Brad Simon, November 25.

Generosity Campaign Update



Thank You to more than 450 members who returned their Intent to Give card for 2021 or set up recurring giving with Good Shepherd. Last year, more than 600 people returned their intents. If you haven't returned yours yet, YOU can still be counted IN! The best way is to complete the form at gslcwi.com/count.

You also can mail your card to 5701 Raymond Road, Madison, WI 53711. Please email Director of Administration Rick Blum at rblum@gslcwi.com with any questions.

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD October 2020 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Contributions and Other	\$ 516,778	\$ 636,238	\$ (119,460)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(642,979)	(649,446)	6,467
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(39,340)	(37,529)	(1,811)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (165,541)	\$ (50,737)	\$ (114,804)

* In addition to above, in July 2020 an Estate Gift of \$460,097 was received

Cash Balances

	October 2020	June 2020	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 690,133	\$ 821,623	\$ (131,490)	
Board Designated Funds	548,836	137,000	411,836	
Restricted Funds	374,065	354,294	19,771	
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,613,034	\$ 1,312,917	\$ 300,117	

Mortgage Balance

	October 2020	June 2020	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 2,199,666	\$ 2,412,739	\$ (213,073)	

FAITH FORMATION

January – March Devotionals Available

During the pandemic, more than ever before, we've relied on our faith in God to see us through these challenging times. A source of strength is our daily devotional - Word in Season and the large print Christ in the Home. If you are already receiving a devotional, you don't need to ask for the January – March devotional. The devotional will be mailed to you during the week of December 21. If you are requesting a devotional for the first time, you can either send an email to Judy at jhoard@gslcwi.com or call 608-271-6633. Thanks for including your mailing address with your request.

KEEPING NEIGHBORS CONNECTED

An Invitation to be a Part of an Advent Jubilee

In ancient Israel, there was the concept of Jubilee where every 50 years people's debts were forgiven, and slaves were set free. While there is debate over whether it was ever actually celebrated, the concept is one that we need to apply to 2020. As the year ends, we have an opportunity to help the poor in our community. Thankfully, Good Shepherd is already affiliated with a collaboration of churches, schools and neighborhood social workers called Keeping Neighbors Connected. This organization, created through the efforts of Pr. Joe, works to make sure families in our Madison neighborhood receive help that keeps them in stable housing. Please consider making a donation to this fund as part of your Christmas offering. Your donation can help set a family free from worrying about losing their housing in 2021. If you wish to donate to this fund, please mail a check made out to "Good Shepherd" with "KNC" on the memo line to 5701 Raymond Rd, Madison, WI, 53711. You can give also online at gslcwi.com/jubilee and change the fund line at the top from 2020 General Fund to KNC.



Rick Thomas
Director of Facilities and Outreach

Advent Events



Christmas Eve Worship
The Weary World Rejoices
Thursday, December 24th

10:30 a.m. | Family Worship (*Online Stream*)
4:30 p.m. | Candlelight Worship (*Online Stream*)
6:00 p.m. | Candlelight Worship (*Online Stream*)
9:00 p.m. | Christmas from Good Shepherd (TV: Fox 47)

«¶» Indicates Event Will be Streamed Online

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

“O Holy Night” Advent by Candlelight 2020 «¶»

Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. (Streamed online)

Women of all ages are cordially invited to be a part of this year's virtual Advent by Candlelight! This year's event will include a short service of lessons, music, reflection and small group discussion. While we can't gather in person, we encourage you to prepare a space for yourself with some tea or coffee, a dessert and a candle. It is our hope to also be able to provide a dessert “cookbook” for attendees, so if you are willing to share the recipe for a dessert you would have shared, we would greatly appreciate it. We will stream the service and create “tables” for discussion using zoom. Please contact Sarah ahead of time if you would like some help at siverson@glscwi.com. If you are willing to be a hostess for this year's event please indicate that on your registration. We hope that you will join us! Register for the event at glscwi.com/candlelight

UPCOMING CONCERT

Christmas Sounds from Good Shepherd «¶»

Saturday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Christmas Concert will feature Good Shepherd bands, choirs and duets from Jared Stellmacher and former Good Shepherd Director of Worship & Music, Ben Johnston-Urey. They're teaming up again! The program will include favorites from past concerts and some new soon-to-be favorites. Don't miss out on this wonderful way to highlight the season through music! You can also watch the concert Christmas Eve morning and Christmas morning at 7 a.m. on Fox 47.

SPECIAL SERVICE

Blue Christmas Worship «¶»

Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.

The holiday season is hard for those whose hearts are hurting. Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Know...you are not alone. Blue Christmas is a gentle, contemplative service for those who are dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease such as the coronavirus that puts a question mark over the future and a number of other situations that make this time of year hard and painful. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it no matter how much it seems like the darkness is winning.

GET OUT THE PJ'S

Christmas around the Tree «¶»

Sunday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m.

We've always invited kids to wear pajamas and for folks to come cozy to this service - this year more than ever! Join us for an evening of readings, prayers, silence and songs to help you reflect and prepare for Christmas. The tree may not be in the center of this year's gathering, but Christ will continue to be. Watch eNews for information about how this gathering will be hosted as we find the coziest of options!

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

Enjoy a Night of Caroling, Cabernet & Cookies «¶»

Sunday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us on Sunday, December 13 via Zoom for this year's annual night of "Caroling, Cabernet & Cookies!" Even though we are not able to meet in-person this year at Toot and Kate's Wine Bar, Sarah Iverson, Jared Stellmacher and other Good Shepherd members will be leading Christmas carols from their homes. Join us and sing-along or simply listen and enjoy the company. Come one, come all for an evening of Christmas songs and spirits!

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

Advent Fun for Kids

Join us during Advent for Virtual Church School at 10:00 a.m. on December 6, 13 & 20. We'll prepare for Jesus' birth with stories, Christmas songs and prayer. The Zoom link will be included in the weekly Children's Ministry email. Connect with Joanne at jzastrow@glscwi.com to sign up! Find Advent and Christmas resources for home! Learn at your own pace with weekly Bible videos, Christmas music, activities and snacks posted at glscwi.com/kids-connect

Community Gift Drop-Off Instructions

If you purchased a child's gift for Meadowood, please return gift wrapped, labeled with number and letter of child, and drop off during the following times at Good Shepherd's Madison or Verona Campus by Sunday, December 6.

Madison Campus

Tuesday, December 1st
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. & 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 3rd
12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Verona Campus

Wednesday, December 2nd
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 4th
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 6th
8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.



Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Madison, WI
Permit No. 1265

Madison Campus

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

Verona Campus

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

Online Worship Services

Sundays at 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
gslcwi.com/live

Fax 608-271-2657
info@gslcwi.com
gslcwi.com

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Watch Good Shepherd's Christmas Eve service and Christmas Concert on Fox 47!

In an untraditional year, let Good Shepherd help you celebrate Christmas in a traditional way at home. Enjoy familiar carols and an inspiring message from Good Shepherd, as *The Weary World Rejoices* on this Holy Night. Watch **A Candlelight Christmas at Good Shepherd** on Christmas Eve at 9 p.m. on Fox 47.

Start your Christmas celebration with holiday music - piano duets, traditional carols and classic choral pieces led by our own Jared Stellmacher and former director Ben Johnston-Urey. Watch **Rejoice! The Music of Christmas at Good Shepherd**, Christmas Eve Day and Christmas Day at 7 a.m. on Fox 47.



Here's where viewers can find Fox 47:

Charter Spectrum Channel 8 (SD) and Channel 617 (HD) | **ATT U-Verse** Channel 47 | **TDS** Channel 47 (and 1047 on **TDS fiber**) | **Dish Network** (Standard and HD) Channel 47 | **DirecTV** (Standard and HD) Channel 47