



## PASTOR'S NOTE

# Created for Community

We enter Lent this year having already been on a wilderness journey for many months.

It has become difficult to come up with anymore synonyms for the word, “unprecedented”. And yet, the movement of the seasons of our church year, just like the weather, remind us that we continue to be drawn forward moment by moment, sustained by our Creator and Sustainer.

The invitation to Lent in the Ash Wednesday liturgy says that we enter the season, “together with the whole church.” It goes on to state that, “we are created for communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation.”

In the same way, the Good Shepherd Mission Statement states, “By the grace of God and the love of Jesus Christ, we will meet each person where they are, and invite them into transformative relationships with God, each other, and the communities in which we live and serve.”

Although Lent is rightly seen more often as a time for individual practices of repentance, prayer and fasting; Lent can also be seen as a time for the deepening of community.

Using readings from the Gospel of Mark, this Lent we invite the entire congregation to reflect on what it means for us to be in community with God, each other and our world. We invite each of you to join us in worship, study and prayer each week as we remember our own baptismal formation, look more closely at the dynamic Jesus presented in

Mark's Gospel, and apply that teaching and preaching to our own lives.

Over this past year we have come to value and create community in new ways. We have learned to gather by the Holy Spirit using new tools for worship, learning, and even fellowship. The virtual tables around which we have learned, have expanded the conversation across generations. We have remembered the importance, and how much we have taken for granted, the nurturing of the individual connections in our lives.

Absent from each other physically we have learned what it means to long, what it means to be lonely, what it means to feel “outside” – these may have been new and uncomfortable situations for many of us. We are uniquely situated in this moment to be able to talk about what it means to be community – to be in community, to build community and to nurture community. This Lent we want to let the Spirit lead that conversation among us and we hope you'll join in the many opportunities we will offer. Let us remember and discover and lean into God's messy, wonderful and expansive desire for community.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ. May you continue to find ways to stay connected even in these times apart.



*Chris Enstad*

**Pastor Chris Enstad** | Lead Pastor



*Sarah Iverson*

**Sarah Iverson** | Director of Adult Faith Formation

## Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Karen Wedward on the death of her son, Matthew Schlagenhaft of Madison, WI who died on December 2, 2020.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Judy Patterson of Madison, WI who died on December 24, 2020.

Christian Sympathy to Patti Jackson and her extended family on the death of her father, Fritz Paske of Rio, WI who died on December 25, 2020.

Christian Sympathy to Donna Quandt on the death of her mother, Gert Quandt of Baraboo, WI who died on December 25, 2020.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Les Marshall. Les died on December 26, 2020 in Verona, WI. Sympathy is extended to Jean Marshall, Brent & Beth Marshall and their family, and Nan & Dan Schilling and their family.

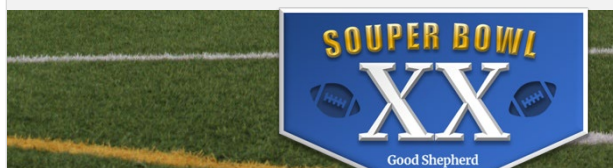
Christian Sympathy to the family of Jeanne Shutter of Madison, WI who died on January 9, 2021.

Christian Sympathy to Hal Olsen and family on the death of his wife Marlene of Madison, WI who died on January 22, 2021.

## Baptisms

Knox Aaron Simon, son of Holly and Nicholas Simon, January 3, 2021.

James Brian Rinehardt, son of Sage and Daniel Rinehardt, January 6, 2021.



## Souper Bowl Thursday

This year, soup will be collected **ONLY** on Souper Bowl Thursday, February 4. There will be a bin for your Souper Bowl Thursday donations outside the front entry doors **ONLY** at the Madison Campus. The soup will be collected during the regular Food Pantry hours of 10 a.m. – Noon and again from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Monetary donations are also appreciated!**

## FINANCIAL DASHBOARD December 2020 Update

### Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Contributions and Other	\$ 878,973	\$ 965,453	\$ (86,480)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(925,221)	(983,341)	58,120
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(59,442)	(56,294)	(3,149)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (105,690)	\$ (74,182)	\$ (31,509)

\* In addition to above, in July 2020 an estate gift of \$460,097 was received.

### Cash Balances

	December 2020	June 2020	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 779,626	\$ 821,623	\$	(41,997)
Board Designated Funds	514,787	137,000		377,787
Restricted Funds	434,677	354,294		80,383
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,729,090	\$ 1,312,917	\$	416,173

### Mortgage Balance

	December 2020	June 2020	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 2,065,030	\$ 2,412,739	\$	(347,709)

## ANNUAL MEETING

### Attend the Virtual Annual Meeting online on Sunday, February 7 at Noon

The Good Shepherd Board has announced the Annual Meeting for the Church will be held Sunday, February 7 online. The meeting will focus on a celebration of all the programming done at Good Shepherd in 2020, along with electing new members to the Board and the Foundation Board. Due to the change in the fiscal year, the meeting will not involve passing a budget. A separate congregational meeting will be held this summer to approve the budget. Members are encouraged to download the 2020 Annual Report - available now in digital form at [gslcwi.com](http://gslcwi.com). A Zoom link to the meeting will be emailed out the week of February 1.



## LITTLE BLESSINGS PRESCHOOL

### Now Enrolling for 2021-2022 in Madison, Verona

Little Blessings is enrolling for the Fall of the 2021-2022 school year at our Madison and Verona Preschool. The Verona Preschool is offered two or three days a week, mornings only, during the school year for children ages 3-5. Preschool hours are 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Beginning in September 2021, Madison will be offering the option of preschool during the school year or year-round preschool. Families can choose mornings only, or mornings and afternoons 2-5 days a week. Mornings only hours are 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Full day hours are 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Enrollment begins February 1, 2021. Please contact Devora Ballo at [dballo@gslcwi.com](mailto:dballo@gslcwi.com) for enrollment details.

## CREATED FOR COMMUNITY

## Experience Lent with Good Shepherd

## Weekly Themes &amp; Opportunities

Events happening via Zoom will have links sent in eNews the week before the event.

## Lent 1

## In Community with Creation | Mark 4:35

**Outdoor Masked Hike**

📍 UW-Arboretum 📅 Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Bring your mask and we will split into appropriately sized groups and enjoy the late winter creation splendor.

## Lent 2

## In Community with All of the Saints | Mark 9:2

**Prayers Around the Cross Worship**

📍 Zoom 📅 Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a time reflection, prayer and song.

## Lent 3

## In Community with Our Neighbor | Mark 2:1-12

**What is Community? An Intergenerational Discussion**

📍 Zoom 📅 Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an intergeneration conversation on the topic of community. Through reflection and discussion, we will look at what community is, how it is created and nurtured, and why it is important.

## Lent 4

## In Community with Those on the Margins | Mark 5:1-20

**Documentary and Discussion**

📍 Zoom 📅 Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for conversation on the film "Thirteen." You can watch the film ahead of time and join the conversation at 7:30 p.m. Or join us at 6:00 p.m. to watch together.

## Lent 5

## In Community with Christ | Mark 10: 32-45

**An evening of Song and Psalms**

📍 Zoom. 📅 Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for reflection using songs and psalms of the season.

**Weekly Podcast: "Created for Community"**

Each episode of the Lenten Podcast will feature an interview discussing what community looks like in their daily life.

## Monthly Opportunities

## Mid-Week Worship

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for live worship streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels. Let us worship into and through this season together. However you find yourself, you are welcome!

## Daily Opportunities

## Devotional Guides

Often during the seasons of Lent and Advent we create a devotional of stories submitted by members of our congregation. This Lent, however, as we explore what it means to be in community with others, we are encouraging our members to engage in devotionals published by other communities.

Daily devotions are not a one size fits all experience. By engaging with the devotional patterns and voices of other communities, we hope to introduce folks to new ways of taking this daily pause, as well as hear voices from the larger Christian community.

If you would like a printed copy of a devotional sent to your home, we will send you the Augsburg Fortress Lenten Devotional "A Story to Tell". Please call the church office at 608-271-6633 or email Judy Hoard at [jhoard@gslcwi.com](mailto:jhoard@gslcwi.com) if you would like a copy.

If you are comfortable using online resources, here are a few we suggest. We will provide you with more information on them as we get closer to Lent.

- **Luther Seminary God Pause**  
[luthersem.edu/godpause/](http://luthersem.edu/godpause/)
- **Jesuit Sacred Space**  
[sacredspace.ie/](http://sacredspace.ie/)
- **Taize Worshipping Community in France**  
[taize.fr/en](http://taize.fr/en)





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](http://gslcwi.com/live)

Fax 608-271-2657  
[info@gslcwi.com](mailto:info@gslcwi.com)  
[gslcwi.com](http://gslcwi.com)

## LENT 2021

# Your Lenten Journey Begins with a Free Drive-Thru

## Shrove Tuesday



Pick-Up Pancakes

February 16<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

**Madison Campus Parking Lot**

Traditionally, Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday) is marked with a celebration of pancakes before we enter into the season of Lent. You are invited to continue this tradition with Pancakes-to-Go. Stop by the Madison Campus-Parking Lot and get a FREE drive thru meal of pancakes with toppings and bacon.

## Ash Wednesday



Ashes To-Go

February 17<sup>th</sup>  
11:30 a.m.  
& 5:30 p.m.

**Madison & Verona Campus Parking Lot**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is a day of prayer and repentance as we pause and recognize our mortality and our sinfulness. We express our repentance by putting a cross on our foreheads with ashes. This year, you are invited to pick up ashes to take home with you, so that during the service you can mark an ash cross on your forehead.

**Online Worship at 7:00 p.m.**