

# You're Invited...to Worship

## Good Shepherd Announces Worship Times for the Fall

Dear Friends and Family at Good Shepherd,

As we try to process what we have experienced over the past year, some of us are weary going into the fall. Many of us are broken. We are worried about uncertainties and upcoming changes. But we want you to know that one thing will never change – how much you matter here.

The mission and vision of Good Shepherd to welcome, forgive and serve belongs to us all, not just pastors and staff. Good Shepherd is the greeter, welcoming a new family in the door. Good Shepherd is the server, connecting with our community through coffee. Good Shepherd is the seeker, trying to find where God is in our lives. No matter where you find yourself in this season at Good Shepherd; you are seen, you are heard, you are invited.

While we cannot quite say that the disruptions of the pandemic are over as there are still health and safety concerns, we can confidently say that this is God's church, and we will do our best to make wise, Spirit-led decisions throughout the year ahead. With input from staff, the Worship, Music and Arts Committee and individual members, we have decided what worship will look like in the months to come.

Starting Sunday, September 19, Good Shepherd will offer three in-person worship services indoors – Madison at 9 a.m., Verona at 10:30 a.m. and Verona at 6 p.m. All three services will be streamed. Church School will be offered at Madison at 9 a.m. and Verona at 10:30 a.m.

We believe keeping worship times consistent with the schedule used since Easter will allow us to re-incorporate different music groups, gain

additional volunteers and provide flexibility to add more in-person worship as attendance increases.

Some members of our community may be disheartened by Good Shepherd sticking with three services, rather than returning to five. Those feelings are valid. And while we do not want anyone to feel further dislocated in this process, we do need to start somewhere that allows us to best utilize our current resources to provide worship across three locations. A few factors helped shape this decision:

- In-person attendance numbers are below pre-pandemic levels.
- Our 9 a.m. Verona worship band retired at the start of the pandemic, and an assistant director has not yet been hired.
- Pr. Joe continues to recover and will be participating in a month-long speech aphasia therapy in Michigan this month.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 says, "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

If this year has taught us anything, it is that God is not confined to a time or place. We have seen God working through each of you at Music Mondays, outside the Holy COW and around campfires. These may be different service times than in the past, but still demonstrate we are one church, guided by the Holy Spirit. No matter when, where or how you worship, you are a valuable member of our congregation who belongs here.

Sincerely,

The Pastors & Staff of Good Shepherd

### Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Joe Herr and family on the death of his brother, Andy Herr, of Indianapolis, IN, who died on June 22, 2021.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Sue Kaestner of Madison, WI, who died on July 17, 2021.

### Baptisms

Julie Elizabeth Marby, child of Jaclyn & Geoffrey Marby, baptized July 4.

Quinn Gertrude Kennedy, child of Heather & Matthew Kennedy, baptized July 11.

Paisley Lynn Prochnow, child of Nicole & Jordan Prochnow, baptized July 18.



### FY '22 Budget Passed at Town Hall Meeting

Nearly 90 members attending in-person and online passed a budget for Good Shepherd's Fiscal Year 2022 at the first annual Town Hall meeting Sunday, July 18. The budget of more than \$1.9 million includes the addition of an assistant music director to primarily serve the Verona campus starting in January. Those attending also got to see several videos showing how Good Shepherd weathered the COVID-19 pandemic. Head to [gslcwi.com](http://gslcwi.com) to see those videos. To see a recording of the Zoom call and to view the budget slides please visit our website at [gslcwi.com](http://gslcwi.com)

## FINANCIAL DASHBOARD June 2021 Update

### Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 1,698,575	\$ 1,930,906	\$ (232,331)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(1,791,811)	(1,966,682)	174,871
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(124,738)	(112,587)	(12,151)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (217,974)	\$ (148,363)	\$ (69,611)

\* In addition to above, in July 2020 an Estate Gift of \$460,097 was received and in May 2021 the PPP loan of \$244,100 received in April 2020 was formally forgiven by the SBA

### Cash Balances

	June 2021	June 2020	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 778,060	\$ 821,623	\$	(43,563)
Board Designated Funds	393,169	137,000		256,169
Restricted Funds	505,107	354,294		150,813
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,676,336	\$ 1,312,917	\$	363,419

### Mortgage Balance

	June 2021	June 2020	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 1,761,941	\$ 2,412,739	\$	(650,798)

### Altar Flowers Resume in September

After a long pause, beginning in September you will be able to sponsor altar flower arrangements in memory or in honor of a loved one, or for special occasions. You can sign up on the Altar Flower Chart at the Madison Campus located in the lobby by the entrance to the office. You can also sign up online by going to [gslcwi.com/flowers](http://gslcwi.com/flowers) OR sending an email to Judy Hoard at [jhoard@gslcwi.com](mailto: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.

### "Back to School" Clothes Closet Drive

Do you remember, as a kid, the feeling of wearing a nice, new pair of shoes that you were proud to wear on the first day of school? The Clothes Closet provides shoes for our neighbors, but at the start of school it's nice to have something special. We will be requesting a Thrivent Action Team Grant and asking for name brand children through teen sized shoes and/or monetary donations with '2021 Cool School Shoe Drive' specified on the memo line. Shoe donations can be dropped off this month and in September at Madison Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - noon and 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays as well. Thank you for helping to make the school year a little brighter for kids in our area schools. Please email [dmaysack@gslcwi.com](mailto:dmaysack@gslcwi.com) or call Donna at (608) 640-4931 with any questions



## Help Fill Shoebox Gifts

Even though it is midsummer and hot - it's not too early to begin thinking about Shoebox Gifts for Kids. We are changing things a bit this year and asking for specific items in August, September and October. For August we are requesting donations of Men's and Women's Deodorant. There will be donation bins at both sites beginning the weekend of August 7/8 where you may place your donation(s). And as always - we need large shoeboxes! Be on the lookout for September's requests. Thank you!



Women of the ELCA



...in the Neighborhood

## Women of the ELCA Retreat

Women of the ELCA Synod wide Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 25, and the convention business meeting is Friday evening, September 24, 2021, at Lutherdale Bible Camp. Attend either or both days. Overnight accommodations at the camp are available. Saturday keynote speaker is Pastor Lily Zeich Brellenthin from Faith Lutheran Church in Walworth. She will share her experiences in South Africa with Young Adults in Global Mission. Babysitting, pontoon riders, and several workshops are also offered. For more information or questions, email Helen Sheahan at [sheahan1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sheahan1@sbcglobal.net)

## Media Intern Emma Conway Shares Summer Highlights



While I walked towards Good Shepherd's Madison entrance on Monday, May 17, nothing could calm my excitement. It was my first day interning at Good Shepherd, and I was ready to see the church, meet the staff, sign the paperwork. But nobody could have prepared me for how this congregation would make me feel.

From the moment I stepped foot in Good Shepherd, I felt like I belonged. There were little ways the staff made me feel at home on May 17. They gave me a tour, made me a name plate. They even let me snap photos of the new beehive being set up in Verona's Food Pantry Garden. Throughout my 12-week internship, that sense of excitement never went away, all thanks to this community.

Little gestures from the staff only continued. Early-morning games of catch from Judy Hoard, batches of candy from Donna Maysack, hot cups of coffee from Jessica McCarty,

gourmet cookies from Sarah Iverson and college stories from Jared Stellmacher helped me see that these people were not just my coworkers, not just my friends - these people became my family. And I am not just talking about the staff.

As I navigated my first apartment and internship away from home, the entire Good Shepherd community welcomed me in unimaginable ways. Members greeted me with a smile during Home Communion, surprised me with a Vera Bradely bag during Campfire Worship and challenged me with a hula hoop competition during Music Monday. In this inclusive and supportive environment, I have been able to grow.

Going into this summer, I thought I was only capable of covering ordinary people doing extraordinary things in a written format - patient teachers like Eric Holmer showed me otherwise. He sparked creative ideas and pushed my comfort zones. I never would have pictured myself as the person behind the camera, snapping photos and capturing videos, yet here I am. Every smile, every story brought me closer to God. Beyond specific communication skills, I have learned so much more this

summer about love, life and faith. I realized small acts of kindness really are not so little. The cards, the hugs, the meals, they matter. People go out of their way to welcome here. Those little actions make this community special, and make members feel not only invited, but valued. After my experience here, I believe anyone who steps foot in Good Shepherd can feel like they belong.

I truly have been blessed to be a part of this community this summer. And I am excited to share that I am not saying goodbye to Good Shepherd just yet. For the rest of August, I will be traveling and spending time with my family in Minnesota. On September 7, I will rejoin Good Shepherd's Communications Team for the school year.

I am excited to jump in this fall, just like when I started on May 17. While I study journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, parts of my position here will change, but most of the work I do will stay the same. I still will be snapping photos at events, posting on social media and sending out e-news emails. Most importantly, I still will be learning from every one of our members.

God is working at Good Shepherd, and I am lucky to be a part of it.

# You're Invited.

Welcome to the theme of our 2022 Generosity campaign. These two key words will be used often as Good Shepherd welcomes people back following the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the campaign, you will be hearing people's stories of how they were invited at Good Shepherd. This month, **Liz Deterding** explains how she was connected to Christ through Good Shepherd...and a couple of beers.



## Liz Deterding was looking for something at a vulnerable point in her life.

She had been a part of a faith community growing up in Minnesota and while attending college. But when she moved to Madison for a job in 2009, she was a stranger in a strange land. She wanted to find a connection to a church like she had at home. The problem: her new job required her to work on Sunday mornings, when most churches usually meet.

Without many options, she tried The Deep at Good Shepherd, since this service was held on Sunday night. She liked the service, but the real connection came when Christy Bartels invited her to join a few other people for beers at her house after the service. "It was a kind thing to do to someone who was a complete stranger," said Liz. Soon, connections like that made Good Shepherd feel like home.

"Despite its size, the church wants to know people at a personal level," said Liz. "I don't do well in large groups. I relied on those relationships to feel connected."

People like Sarah Iverson helped deepen Liz's involvement with the church. She connected her with groups like the 20 and 30's and Wine and Word. Sarah encouraged Liz to speak to confirmation groups through the church's AMPED program and to serve on the church's Board in 2021. "I trust her insight and discernment," said Liz. "If she feels like I have something to contribute, she's probably right."

That involvement at Good Shepherd was important during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Liz's workload exploded at her job creating media for Trek Bicycles. But she managed to stay connected via Zoom meetings with her Wine and Word group, along with the virtual services provided by the church. "I valued the virtual services," said Liz. "It allowed me to have a Sabbath moment during the pandemic."

Now, she hopes to use her gifts to welcome others to Good Shepherd. She has enjoyed watching the development of the RIC (Reconciling in Christ) Task Force to assure that Good Shepherd is welcoming to the LGBTQIA+ community. She also has become the Board liaison to the Hospitality committee, where she wants to make sure others feel the same welcome she experienced.

"This doesn't stop at a surface level," said Liz. "These are actual friends I've developed here." While Liz has built relationships, she has also built spiritual gifts of her own. She went from searching to sharing. She went from being the stranger to providing and leading the welcome. "I want to extend the welcome I have received."

Your generosity to Good Shepherd makes it possible to provide an intentional Director of Spiritual Programming and Development position held by Sarah Iverson. As a faith community, we are transforming your good gifts into welcome for all those new to our community searching for true welcome. We are helping them find connection to others and their own spiritual gifts. Thank you for the ways in which you make this transformation in the lives of members like Liz possible.

Read more stories at [gslcwi.com/stories](https://gslcwi.com/stories)



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**CHILDREN & YOUTH MINSITRY**

# Here's to Summer! Get Excited for the Fall!

Throughout the summer we utilized the outdoor space at Verona for children and youth to become reacquainted with each other and meet new friends – all while keeping Christ at the center of their relationships. There was a lot of laughter, water balloons, prayers, popsicles, and food from the Holy COW. Elementary age kids connected through Rise Up Nights, Middle Schoolers through Fun Nights, High School students held youth group prior to campfire worship and young kids learned alongside their parents at Grow Together Family VBS.

This fall, children and youth are invited to continue connecting with each other and Christ through church school, Amped confirmation, and high school youth group. Registration for Church School and Amped confirmation begins in August. For more information, visit [gslcwi.com](http://gslcwi.com)