



Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
⁵Yet you have made them little less ^l than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

Dear friends,

These are the words of the Psalm assigned for New Year's Eve 2021. On December 31, I often pause to look back not just on my life of the last year but on the ministry we have accomplished together in Jesus' name. When I pray the words of this Psalm, I immediately feel grateful... and thankful. That's a good way to look back on our year of life together.

2021 was a year of constant change. We confronted the reality that COVID-19 was going to hang around in some form for a long time. 2021 was a year that called for resilience and adaptability. 2021 was a year that found us tired or at the end of our rope. Yet amid all this, the people of Good Shepherd continued to welcome, forgive, and serve.

Welcome.

I give thanks for the outdoor tent and the technology upgrades that allowed us to gather in multiple ways to worship God. Our worship band, choir and musicians also celebrated the ability to meet in person, even with COVID safety mitigations. We had Easter and Christmas services in person even while our online presence has developed into a strong community. Looking forward, I hope we move through this latest variant with our staff and community safely, so we can continue to grow our in-person worship opportunities while keeping a vibrant presence online.

Forgive.

There is no better way to talk about forgiveness than to look at all the ways we continue to practice forbearance and love with each other even as the world changes around us. I am grateful to my staff colleagues who continue to work for the sake of the mission and vision of Good Shepherd, while navigating their own spiritual and physical needs. I am amazed in a world that only shows the hard-hearted side of people, we find ways to be together even though we don't always agree. This is the only way God's people should operate, and I am hopeful we continue to model that life here.

Serve.

The people of Good Shepherd are truly servant leaders. They serve the needs of our community. They serve the needs of our members. They serve by participating in committees. They serve by offering their time and talents at worship. And they serve by saying yes when called upon. Thank you for jumping into our shared leadership vision and for being a part of the mission we share. Dear siblings in Christ, thank you for your continued prayers and support for our church. I do not have a crystal ball on what 2022 might hold. But I know that this is God's story, and we are a people deeply rooted in it.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastor Chris Enstad



FINANCIAL DASHBOARD December 2021 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 936,041	\$ 879,674	\$ 56,367
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(875,917)	(907,493)	31,576
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(77,536)	(55,023)	(22,513)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (17,412)	\$ (82,842)	\$ 65,430

Cash Balances

	December 2021	June 2021	YTD Change
General Fund	\$ 630,263	\$ 528,060	\$ 102,203
Board Designated Funds	526,141	643,169	(117,028)
Restricted Funds	386,617	505,107	(118,490)
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,543,021	\$ 1,676,336	\$ (133,315)

Mortgage Balance

	December 2021	June 2021	YTD Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 1,491,126	\$ 1,761,942	\$ (270,820)

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Linda Higdon on the death of her son, Ben, of Madison, WI who died on December 18, 2021

Christian Sympathy to Darcy Wanzong and family on the death of her father, Warren Haganes, of DePere, WI who died on December 19, 2021

Christian Sympathy to Jean Pivovar and family on the death of her husband, Bill, of Madison, WI who died on December 21, 2021.

Christian Sympathy to Kathryn Winch and family on the death of her sister, Karolyn Johnson, of Lake Mills, WI who died on December 27, 2021.

Christian Sympathy to Allen and Diane Wenzel and family on the death of his father and mother, Donald and Marie Wenzel, of Wausau, WI. Donald died on December 26, 2021 and Marie died on January 11, 2022.

Christian Sympathy to Bob and Carolyn Anderson and family, and Laurie Anderson on the death of their son-in-law/brother-in-law, Bill Roth, of Black Earth, WI who died on December 30, 2021.

Christian Sympathy to Doug Baez and family on the death of his father, Lyle Baez, of Madison, WI who died on January 2, 2022.

Christian Sympathy to Kris Zimmerman and family on the death of his mother, Mary Boehm, of Marinette, WI who died on January 9, 2022.

Christian Sympathy to Norma Clementi on the death of her son, Dennis Embert Topper, of Madison, WI who died on January 4, 2022.

Christian Sympathy to Betsy Reck and family on the death of her sister, Margaret Weaver, of Campbellsport, WI, who died on January 14, 2022.



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 13

Learn about the impact Good Shepherd made with members and in the community by attending the church's annual meeting which starts at noon on Sunday, February 13 in the Verona Worship Center. The meeting will also be available via zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3835283640>. Besides electing new officers for different boards, you'll get an up-close look at some of the ways the church made a difference and find out how you can make a difference at Good Shepherd in 2022. You'll also get to see some of the upgrades at the Verona Campus that were made possible, thanks to your donations.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Help Yourself to a Helping Hand

Good Shepherd members help Orchard Ridge students and teachers by fulfilling requests from teachers for supplies to use in the classroom. Please consider helping out a teacher! Thank you to those who have helped out already! The 'Hands' are located on the large 'hand' in the lobby at the Madison campus. Pick up a hand, purchase the item, tape the 'hand' to the item and return to the ORE donation box located at either campus. New 'hands' will be found monthly on the board. Reminder: you can stop by during church building hours to pick up a hand. (M-TH, 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.; 1:30-3:30 p.m. F, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

Thank you so much for being willing to make a difference at ORE.

SOUPER BOWLSM HELP TACKLE HUNGER



The Souper Bowl Kicks Off Soon!

Playing Times for Souper Bowl XXI Week Feb. 6-11

- Sunday 2/06/22 6:00 p.m. Service at the Verona Campus
 - Tuesday 2/08/22 6:15 6th Grade AMPED at the Madison Campus
 - Wednesday 2/09/22 6:15 7th & 8th Grade AMPED at the Verona Campus
 - Little Blessings Pre-School – Madison & Verona Campuses
 - **Soup can be brought to each Campus during Souper Bowl Week.**
- There will be Soup Buckets in the lobby for your soup donations.**

Playing Times for Souper Bowl XXI Sunday Feb. 13

- Sunday, 2/13/22 9:00 a.m. Service at the Madison Campus
- Sunday, 2/13/22 10:30 a.m. Service at the Verona Campus

Soups requested: Cream of Chicken, Cream of Mushroom, Chicken Noodle, Chicken with Rice, Vegetable Beef, any Chunky Style and packets of Ramen Noodles. No tomato soup please.

The Soup is donated to the Good Shepherd, Allied and Badger Prairie Food Pantries. We are also asking for your help with monetary donations, so the Pantry Coordinators can use the money to purchase needed food and other items given at the Food Pantries. Checks can be made to Good Shepherd with Souper Bowl in the memo line. If you donate cash, please do so carefully and indicate that it is for the Souper Bowl. You can also donate online at gslcwi.com/SouperBowl. Select 30-Souper Bowl from the drop-down selections under 2022 General Fund. The Souper good news is you can make your monetary donations any time before Souper Bowl Sunday.

Our Goal for Souper Bowl XXI 2,000 Cans of Soup

More than 1,909 Cans of Soup from Souper Bowl XX

WOMEN'S MINISTRY Women of the ELCA Book Group

Women of the ELCA South-Central Wisconsin Synod are sponsoring discussions of four books this year by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color authors. The first book is, "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones. She is an African American author of four novels. This is her most recent book from 2018. It was an Oprah's Book Club Selection and won the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction. The discussion will be held via zoom with members of the Synod's Racial Equity Team leading small groups/breakout rooms. Registration required.

Registration link – <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvc06sqTotHdfBq2klAaFF5tIsZcwFori4>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY Baptism Class on February 17

Instruction for Holy Baptism is available to anyone wanting to be baptized or have their child baptized. All ages are welcome. You are welcome and encouraged to attend a baptism class before your child is born.

The next baptism class will be held virtually via Zoom on Thursday, February 17 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the Baptism Class Registration form to receive a link to the Zoom meeting. To learn more about baptism at Good Shepherd visit gslcwi.com/baptism. Contact: Joanne Zastrow, jzastrow@gslcwi.com



Save the Date: Shrove Tuesday Pancakes!

We are currently planning to have pancakes and bacon "To Go" at Good Shepherd on Shrove Tuesday, March 1st



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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gslcwi.com

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Madison, WI
Permit No. 1265

Upcoming Events | gslcwi.com/events

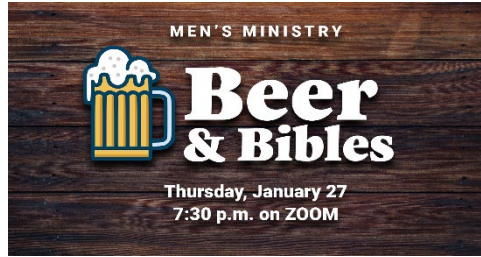


FAITH & FITNESS

Holy Yoga

Starts Wednesday, January 26
10:00 a.m. | Verona Campus

Holy Yoga classes will begin January 26 and run through May. Classes will be held Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. at the Verona campus. All are welcome for this all-levels gentle flow class. No registration needed. Fee is on a donation basis. Breathe in the breath of God and feel his presence in your heart, soul, mind, and body!



MEN'S MINISTRY

Beer & Bibles

2nd & 4th Thursday of the Month
7:30 p.m. | Varying Locations

Dust off your bible and grab a favorite cold beverage as Good Shepherd's Men's Ministry gathers for the first Beer and Bible group of 2022. Our first meeting will kick-off virtually, but we plan to meet in a local establishment soon for fellowship, faith questions and conversation. Look for a ZOOM link in eNews or e-mail Eric Holmer at eholmer@gslcwi.com to get connected – see you there!



RED CROSS EVENT

Blood Drive

Monday, February 14th
12 – 4 p.m. | Madison Campus

In recent weeks, the Red Cross has had less than a 1-day supply of critical blood types. With blood product distributions to hospitals outpacing donations coming in, the Red Cross is facing a crisis that is threatening patient care. Sign up at rcblood.org/donate. As a thanks for coming to give blood, the Red Cross will send you a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, thanks to their partners at Amazon!