



Cross *your* Hearts

LIVING TOGETHER IN GOD'S PROMISES

Did you ever make a promise as a kid using the words, “cross my heart”?

That action of crossing your heart made the secret you kept or the bond you made that much more sacred. Hearts and promises are the themes for the season of Lent at Good Shepherd this year. Lent 2024 begins with Ash Wednesday, which this year also happens to be Valentine's Day.

It doesn't always happen that the day our culture focuses most on love is also the day we remember God's promise to be present with us in life and in death. And the indulgent ways we show people we love them, usually with chocolates and flowers, may not seem to fit together well with the more somber reflection, with ashes and repentance, on why we need God. But the combination of Ash Wednesday with Valentine's Day can serve as the perfect framework for our Lenten journey.

During Lent, we are called into a time of reorienting our hearts toward the God who sent Jesus Christ into our world to die for us and save us from our sins. The 40 days in between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week are meant to be an opportunity to let go of what is getting in our way and to make Christ our center again. And by doing so, we hear the promises of God.

That centering and reorienting of our lives is meant to inspire us to then go and love the world God created and to love the people God loves indulgently. With a cross on our heart, we hear God's sacred promises for us: to love us, forgive us and never leave us. Join us this Lent!

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31:33-34



Ash Wednesday Worship

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

Worship Together | February 14
12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Madison Campus
7:00 p.m. Verona Campus



Dara Schuller-Hanson

Pastor Dara Schuller-Hanson
PASTOR OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Baptisms

Eliana Kay Johnson, child of Hannah and Patrick Johnson baptized 1/14/24.

Elisabeth Georgia Steinhauer, child of Lisa and Brian Steinhauer baptized 1/14/24.

Grahm Nicholas Simon, child of Holly and Nick Simon baptized 1/21/24.

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Sandy Stark on the death of her husband, Charlie Stark of Madison, WI on January 3, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Sue Owen of Madison, WI who died on January 8, 2024.

Pizza Ranch Event Rescheduled

The January 22 Youth fundraiser at Pizza Ranch was postponed. We have now rescheduled Pizza Night at the Verona Pizza Ranch for Monday, February 5 from 4-8 p.m.

Order Flowers for Easter Sunday Worship by February 14

It's time to sponsor a beautiful plant for the Easter Flower Garden on Easter Sunday. Easter is on March 31 this year. The flowers can be "In Memory of a Loved One" OR "In Celebration of a Special Occasion." Please use the pink order form in your bulletin insert or online at gslcwi.com/Easterflowers. Questions? Please contact Judy at jhoard@gslcwi.com or 608-271-6633

Pine Lake Registration Now Open

Good Shepherd week at Pine Lake Camp near Waupaca, WI is July 14-19. Camp is open to students who've completed 1st-12th grades. Thanks to generous donations from the Good Shepherd Foundation, each camper receives a \$25 discount for half-week & \$50 for full week. Additional early-bird registration discounts are available from Crossways if campers register by March 1. More information is at gslcwi.com/pinelake.

Chili Cook-Off & Pie Auction Returns to Verona March 15

Tickets for this beloved Youth fundraiser go on sale February 15. More details to come! Sign up to cook or bake at gslcwi.com/chili24

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD December 2023 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 1,007,947	\$ 1,010,975	\$ (3,028)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(1,050,355)	(1,114,919)	64,564
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(28,650)	-	(28,650)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (71,058)	\$ (103,944)	\$ 32,886

Cash Balances

	June			
	December 2023	Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 518,973	\$ 607,582	\$	(88,609)
Board Designated Funds	66,962	112,154		(45,192)
Restricted Funds	331,119	384,576		(53,457)
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 917,054	\$ 1,104,312	\$	(187,258)

Mortgage Balance

	June			
	December 2023	Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 464,453	\$ 665,097	\$	(200,644)
				0

LEAD PASTOR CALL PROCESS

Transition Task Force Begins Work

Group created to determine gifts needed for new Lead Pastor

Congregation President Bob Beggs recently shared a three-step approach Good Shepherd is taking to find a new Lead Pastor.

1. Find an interim Pastor;
2. Create a transition task force to determine what the church needs in a new leader;
3. Create a call committee to search for, interview and recommend a new Lead Pastor to the Board of Directors and congregation.

Although an interim Pastor has not been found yet, the Transition Task Force has been created. Members include: Rick Blum, Jen Holmer, Sara McCormack, Don Nelson, Kay Simmons, Katie Wagner and Steve Frei, who is serving as chair of the task force.

The task force will develop materials to show prospective candidates what our church looks like today, what our mission, vision and strategic plan is for the future and why a new lead pastor should consider serving our vibrant congregation and community.

The task force will also create a Ministry Site Profile (MSP) for the ELCA to determine the top ministry tasks of our next Lead Pastor and the key ministry gifts we want this person to have. The group has developed a brief survey and will conduct listening sessions for all Good Shepherd members to get their input. Members should put three dates on their calendars:

- **Sunday, February 25** – Survey link shared with congregation.
- **Friday, March 8** - Deadline for members to complete the survey.
- **Sunday, March 10** - Listening sessions after all services.

I hope Good Shepherd members will trust in the Lord to bring our church a new Lead Pastor that will strengthen our community, help us grow in faith and increase our desire to Welcome, Forgive and Serve!

Steve Frei | Transition Task Force Chair



Register Today for First Communion Instruction

Registration is open for First Communion instruction for students in Kindergarten-5th grade. Communion is the center of worship and Good Shepherd offers two family-friendly options for parents and siblings of different ages to learn together. Options include group class February 27, 6:00 p.m. at the Verona Campus (parent & kids attend together) or at-home family-led instruction available with materials provided by Good Shepherd. First Communions will be recognized during Lent. For more information and to register for instruction, please visit gslcwi.com/first-communion



Gather for Midweek Lenten Worship & Soup Lunch

Soup lunch: 11:30 a.m. Madison Campus

Worship In-person and online: 12:00 p.m. Madison Campus

During Lent, we will once again offer a midweek worship service. This contemplative worship service will feature Marty Haugen's "Holden Evening Prayer" while we explore our theme: "Cross Our Hearts: Living in God's Promises" through music, scripture, reflections and prayer. Join us Wednesdays at noon at the Madison Campus for in-person worship and online February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20.



Concordia St. Paul Concert February 29

We will be hosting the Concordia St. Paul Concert Band in concert at the Madison Campus on Thursday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m. We are one of many stops on their Spring Concert Tour. The Band is a 35-piece ensemble made up of music education majors and non-music majors alike who rehearse twice a week and perform at least 2 times a semester. The concert is free and open to all! A freewill offering will be collected, and a reception will follow.



Souper Bowl XXIII Kicks Off February 4

Playing Times for Souper Bowl XXIII Week Feb. 4-11

- Sunday 2/04 | 6:00 p.m. Service at the Verona Campus
- Wednesday 2/07 | 6:15 AMPED at the Verona Campus
- All Week | Little Blessings Pre-School in Madison & Verona

Soup can be brought to each campus during Souper Bowl week. There will be buckets in the lobby for your soup donations.

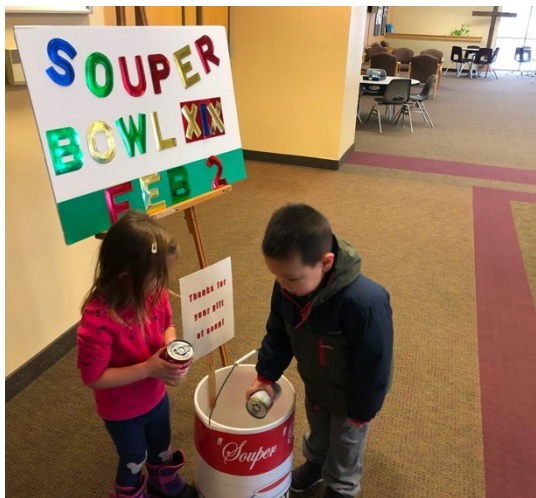
Playing Times for Souper Bowl XXIII Sunday Feb. 11

- Sunday, 2/11 | 9:00 a.m. service at the Madison Campus
- Sunday, 2/11 | 10:00 a.m. service at the Verona Campus

Soups requested: Packets of Ramen Noodles, Cream of Chicken, Cream of Mushroom, Chicken Noodle, Chicken with Rice, Vegetable Beef and any Chunky style. No Tomato Soup please.

All 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.

You can also donate online at gslcwi.com/SouperBowl. Select 30-Souper Bowl from the drop-down selections General Fund. The "Souper" good news is you can make your monetary donations any time before Souper Bowl Sunday.



Our Goal for Souper Bowl XXIII
1,690 Cans of Soup
 More than 1,685 Cans of Soup
 from Souper Bowl XXII



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@gslcwi.com

gslcwi.com

Sunday Worship Times

In-Person & Online

9:00 a.m. Madison Campus

10:00 a.m. Verona Campus

6:00 p.m. Verona Campus

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Madison, WI
Permit No. 1265

Upcoming Events | gslcwi.com/events



February 2 | Share the Love Camp

Drop off your kids ages 3-5th Grade as the High School Youth provide a night of crafts, games and fun. Your freewill offerings support Youth Ministry travels for the year ahead. 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Verona Campus.



February 13 | Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

All are invited to stop by Madison Campus for a free in-person meal at Good Shepherd on February 21st from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.



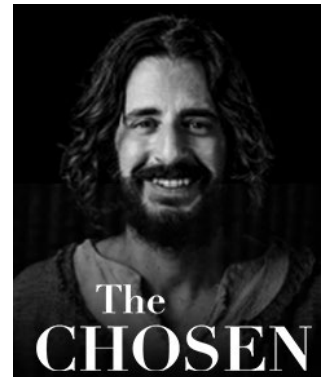
February 18 & 25 | Conversation Sundays

Theologian-in-Residence Ryan Panzer preaches at all services and leads our community in conversations during worship and throughout the week with engaging digital resources.



March 8 & 9 | Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack

Register today to sign up for the Mobile Pack event coming to Verona Campus next month! Visit give.fmsc.org/verona today!



Returns this Lent

Weekly gatherings to watch & discuss season three of this powerful series.

Gather in-person or join online to discuss!

Contact Eric Holmer eholmer@gslcwi.com for more info!