



2024 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING RECAP

A Diverse Experience of Christian Community in New Orleans

By Interim Director of Youth Ministry Sarah Iverson

Wow. What a week! Through the official gathering experiences we engaged in hard and complex topics – belonging, racism, loneliness, mental health, gender and sexuality, war and occupation, environmental destruction. Why? Because these things matter to God, in whose love we were made and whose image we bear. And so these things matter to the church.

These things already matter deeply to these kids who both love and fear the world they are inheriting. It was powerful for them to hear these topics held in the Gospel, amplified in the collective church, and to hear words of challenge and encouragement.

Not every Christian conference speaks into these things or welcomes these speakers – and we talked about that in our group. A divorced man. A queer pastor. A Palestinian woman. All evidence that we as Lutherans have discerned and encountered God's bigness and engage all of the Holy stories being lived. Not every speaker was for everybody, but everybody had a speaker that resonated with a truth they needed to hear.

And boy, these kids are articulate. It wasn't lost on them. The magnitude. The power. The challenge. The call. And that messy feeling they could never quite articulate – which is not a feeling but the presence of the Holy Spirit stirring within them.

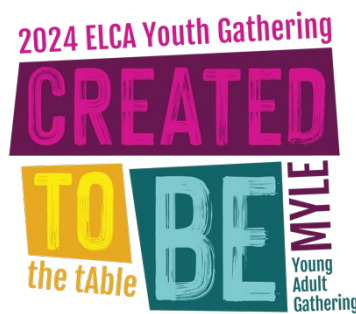
After a six year hiatus, there were definitely hiccups in the planning and logistics surrounding the ELCA Youth Gathering. But when it came to the stuff that matters, the Lutheran church didn't pretend, placate, or pander to

these kids. I was grateful. They have encountered a big church – and that Church looks like one of inclusion, of celebration, and of deep care for the brokenness and beauty of the world.

They quickly found their way into being a traveling community – and that is why they stand out. During the week, I heard from so many staff, other group pastors/leaders, and of course from our beloved driver Sammy, just how unique this group is – in their joy, their curiosity, their engagement, their respect and presence (we call that reverence). In a sea of 17,000 they truly stood out to people. And we named that for them – not as arrogance but as stewardship. This is how the Church becomes compelling. This is the work of God within and through them.

Does that mean they're perfect? No. Does that expression of community just happen? No. These kids have their own stories, hurts, bruises and scars. And these are teens who bump into each other in sometimes dramatic and less than perfect or kind ways. But we practice what we sing, and pray, and praise in worship. In that authentic and hard work, they become community.

Throughout the week we processed their pain and stories. We sat with one another in hard conversations. We worked through our drama and tension with honesty and forgiveness. We called ourselves to be better at inclusion, we made ourselves vulnerable. It was exhausting. And beautiful. And hard. This is being a person of faith. Doing justice. Loving kindness. Walking humbly.



Baptisms

July 7, 2024: Audrey Lynn Zeamer, daughter of Michael and Julie Zeamer

July 7, 2024: Chloe Nicole Prochnow, daughter of Nicole and Jordan Prochnow

July 14, 2024: Makenzie Monroe Sokn, daughter of Kristen and Erick Sokn

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Lisa Parry and family on the death of her father, Albert Miller of Madison, WI, who died on June 21, 2024

Christian Sympathy to Ginny Pike and family on the death of her husband, Darryl, of Madison, WI, who died on June 27, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to Tim Hughes and family, upon the death of his sister, Cathy Edmonds, of Toano, VA, who died on July 4, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Margaret Miller of Madison, WI, who died on July 10, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to Sandy Kershner on the death of her mother, Virginia Steward of Madison, WI, who died on July 5, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Ruth Wilbraham of Madison, WI, who died on July 14, 2024.

Weddings

Congratulations to Kyle & Paige Van Hammond who were married on July 13, 2024 at the Madison Campus.



Keep Good Shepherd Informed when you need Spiritual Care

If you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the church office at (608)271-6633.

Our pastors are very willing to make pastoral visits. However, our area hospitals are very busy and are not always able to track church affiliation so reaching out directly is best.

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD June 2024 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

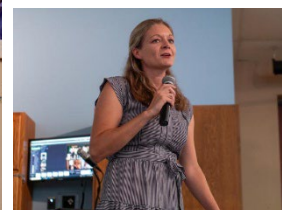
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 2,059,741	\$ 2,048,721	\$ 11,020
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(2,075,921)	(2,253,943)	178,022
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(55,490)	-	(55,490)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (71,670)	\$ (205,222)	\$ 133,552

Cash Balances

	June			
	June 2024	Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 496,430	\$ 607,582	\$	(111,152)
Board & Mortgage Reserve Designated Fu	36,110	112,154		(76,044)
Donor/Grant Restricted Funds	228,816	202,908		25,908
Beyond Campaign Projects Fund	75,504	117,699		(42,195)
Columbarium	63,195	63,969		(774)
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 900,055	\$ 1,104,312	\$	(204,257)

Mortgage Balance

	June			
	June 2024	Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 259,170	\$ 665,097	\$	(405,927)



2024 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Worshipping, Celebrating and Planning for the Future as a Congregation

On Sunday, July 21, Good Shepherd gathered as one congregation in one location for the 2024 Annual Meeting. The day began with a combined worship service at the Madison Campus bringing together all three services. Following worship, a hearty brunch was served in Peterson Hall as members connected across worship times and campuses. The Annual Meeting featured updates on the 2024 budget, an overview from the Lead Pastor Call Committee, elections of new Board members and a celebration of outgoing Board members. Stories of Good Shepherd's ministries at work in the world were shared – highlighting Music Mondays and the Friday Morning Men's Bible study. Good Shepherd will gather again for a combined worship service in a few weeks as we meet at Verona Campus on Sunday, September 1 at 10:00 a.m. for one service in one location – worshipping together.

Watch the replay and more at gslcwi.com/annual24



Camp Create-It

August 5 – 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Emily Gold | egold@gslcwi.com

Verona Campus

Featuring music, cooking, painting - explore your God-given creative gifts and use those gifts to glorify Jesus. Register at gslcwi.com/summer.



Women of the ELCA Event

Wednesday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Helen Sheahan | helenswo15@gmail.com

Bethel Lutheran Church | Downtown Madison

An evening with Dr. Jacqueline Bussie: an award-winning author, professor, public theologian and 2024 National Youth Gathering speaker.



2024 BBQ Rib Cook-Off

Wednesday, August 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Rick Thomas | rthomas@gslcwi.com

Madison Campus Front Lawn

Do you have what it takes to win the BBQ crown? Enter your pork ribs into this contest and let the community judges decide! Fun for all ages.

10:00 A.M. WORSHIP TEAM

Do you have a gift for music?

The Verona 10:00 a.m. Worship Team is looking to grow! We are looking for vocalists, musicians and sound techs (training provided). We practice on Thursday nights and Sundays prior to the service. If you would like more information, please reach out to Tracy Dahl at tdahl@gslcwi.com.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Stay Connected with Good Shepherd while on Campus

Graduating high school seniors, current college students, and any recent post high school friends - we would love to keep you connected to the Good Shepherd community by sending cards and small packages throughout the year to wherever you call home. If you would like to sign up, please complete the form online at:

<https://gslcwi.com/ktc24>

Recent Congregational Surveys

CHILDREN YOUTH & FAMILY SURVEY RECAP

How do families experience ministry for their children?



Staffing changes and a need to plan for programming and staffing prompted the Children, Youth and Family (CYF) Committee to plan and execute surveys of Good Shepherd families. The survey was written by the CYF Committee in July 2023 and included 11 open-ended questions.

Nine families were interviewed from August to November 2023. Responses were anonymous, but our responses included families with married parents, divorced parents, remarried parents, as well as including some families with LGBTQ parents. The range of ages of children at the time of interview were from newborn/expecting to college aged/grown. The average interview was 20 minutes long.

For entry points into CYF programming, the most common routes were Little Blessings Preschool, baptism, Pine Lake Camp, the 0-3 years Play Group and the High School Youth Group. Families continued engagement with Church School, AMPED, Youth Group and Family Friday Dinners. Some families mentioned a lack of engagement due to an LGBTQ child or a person with mental illness not feeling welcomed.

Read full report at gslcwi.com/cyfsurvey

ONLINE WORSHIP SURVEY RECAP

What does Online Worship mean to Good Shepherd today?



125 Total Responses

80% of Members who took the survey have been members for more than 10 years



21% of Online Worshippers Take Home Communion During Worship

Most Consider Madison Campus "Home"

Primary Campus
62% Madison
31% Verona
6% Both

42% Usually Watch The Whole Service



Online Worshippers are In-Person Worshippers Too



40% Worship Mainly In-Person



25% Worship Mainly Online

35% Prefer Watching on YouTube



Read full report at gslcwi.com/onlinesurvey24



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@gsclwi.com

gsclwi.com

Sunday Worship Times

In-Person & Online | gsclwi.com/live

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

Music Monday

Good Food & Good Music. *Live at Good Shepherd.*

Just two Music Mondays left this season - *don't miss out!*

It's been an unforgettable season of Music Mondays and it's almost done. Don't miss the final two concerts. Free music – pay what you can food cart – Unlimited fun! **5–7 p.m. at Madison Campus.**



AUGUST 5

Acoustic Collective
Feel-Good 70's



AUGUST 19

Top Shelf
'70s - 90s Pop Hits



JULY HIGHLIGHT
UW Marching Band