



Hello people of Good Shepherd,

May 2024

Council, leadership, and staff have been hard at work preparing for the Fall when Pastor Leesa is on sabbatical and I am on parental leave. We are excited for Pastor Karri, our coverage pastor, and so grateful for the hard work of our key leaders. Staff and leaders have a plan to ensure that programming from Adult Ministry to Care, Prayer, and Support will happen during those weeks. Pastor Karri will oversee worship, pastoral care, and other duties.

But we need you too! Currently, on Sunday mornings, pastors do our best to connect with each of you, making sure that no one is sitting alone during coffee hour, and checking in on folks we know have had a big week or a medical test. This fall, we hope that you will step into this role and greet those around you—even those you don't know very well. We encourage you to get to know the cares and concerns of other folks at Good Shepherd and pray for them. Check in on them, expand your relationship networks, and maybe even sit at a different table for your cookie and coffee after worship.

And while we hope this work begins in earnest this fall, we encourage you to start now so that when fall comes, you know the names and a little bit of the stories of those sitting near you or at the table across from yours. You may have to venture out of your comfort zone to introduce (or reintroduce) yourself, find a different seat at Table Talk, or go out of your way to greet a new person each Sunday.

I especially encourage you to get to know the children and young people seated near you. Find out what sports or instruments they play, what their favorite TV show is, or what their hopes are for this summer vacation. Start now so that when fall comes, you can connect with other adults, children, and youth when Pastor Leesa and I aren't around to do so.

Sabbatical and parental leave are not just for us as pastors. The Holy Spirit continues to be at work in our congregation, ministry continues to happen, even when your pastors aren't in the building. You all will learn more about who you are as a congregation, your amazing capacity for ministry, and your capacity to build and maintain relationships.

Thank you for stepping into this experience with courage and faithfulness. I imagine that we will all return with stories and praise for the God that promises to show up even where we least expect it.

Peace,
Pastor Courtney

SUMMER WORSHIP

One service
at 9:00am

begins May 26

From May 26-September 8 we will come Together on the Journey for one service that is more traditional. Last year we loved our full sanctuary followed by Coffee & Cookie fellowship in the Commons. We enjoyed seeing people we thought gone but were in fact attending the other service! Who knew?

Healing After Loss Worship

Tuesday, May 14

6:30pm

For any and all of us who grieve loss. Please join us for this moving and profound worship experience as we remember our loved ones who have reached their final destination – whether it was this year, last year or ten years ago. There will be a reflection on God's healing word and a candle lighting ceremony. You are encouraged to bring a photo of your loved one to be placed on the altar during worship.



HOLY COMMUNION DURING SUMMER WORSHIP AT 9:00AM

Starting May 26, during summer worship, we continue our tradition having Holy Communion every week through "intinction" which is a fancy way of saying "dipping the bread into the cup"! Practically speaking - to give our altar care helpers a little break from serving. Spiritually speaking - to provide us knowledge that there are a variety of ways to experience the Lord's Supper - that it is not in the method that we receive the promise of grace, but in the Word spoken - this bread and wine is "for you"!



Confirmation Sunday

May 19

The following youth will profess their faith in the promise God made them at baptism. Pray the Holy Spirit continually stirs within them the joy of being in God's presence.

Jack Anderson, Jaymik Ellingson, Lyla Faust, Daniel Glebus, Hannah Hobot, Evelyn Killeen, Anna Larsen, Maggie Marcotte, Paytyn Salscheider



Pentecost Sunday

May 19 @ 8:30 & 9:45

In honor of the Holy Spirit - Wear Red!!!

Did you know that Pentecost is to be recognized like Christmas and Easter? Let us celebrate the birthday of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit at this festival worship service. The Holy Spirit has come and we will party! Yes! A worship party!

Meet Pastor Karri Anderson our Coverage Pastor during Pastor Leesa's Sabbatical:

Pastor Karri received an Associate of Arts degree in Nursing from Anoka-Ramsey Community College and later graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota with a Master of Divinity in 1994. Her internship year at the seminary was spent as a resident chaplain at North Memorial Hospital in Robbinsdale, and after graduation she worked as an LSS chaplain in a large senior long-term care facility in New Hope. In 1997 she received her first call as Pastor of Congregational Care at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Maple Grove and began serving as an intentional interim pastor in 2006. Her ministry experience has been diverse, serving from solo to senior pastorates, inner city to rural settings, and in congregations with less than 50 members to those with over 7000.



Ministry Continues during Sabbatical:

Beginning August 1, Pastor Karri's responsibilities include areas Pastor Leesa typically tends to: Planning Sunday morning worship, overseeing pastoral Care, teaching adult Life-long Learning studies, some Administration, supporting volunteers and attending events. Pastor Karri will not be making any mission and vision decisions, but is covering the day to day ministry.

Pastor Courtney will continue in her $\frac{3}{4}$ Associate Pastor role until her baby arrives in early September, when she will take a 10-week parental leave. Pastor Leesa will keep in touch with the congregation through a regular "Where in the World is Pastor Leesa" video message. Church Council & Ministry Teams are planning ministry opportunities before Pastor Leesa leaves for sabbatical that will be ready to implement while she is gone.



Finances during Sabbatical:

The funds for pastoral coverage will be part of our 2024 budget. In order to meet this goal, we need member giving to match the 2024 budget the congregation approved at the Annual Meeting.

GOOD SHEPHERD IS CAN-TASTIC!

Two Can

Who Can?

One Can



We Can!

During the month of March, you provided Neighbors Inc, our local food shelf, 955 pounds of food and \$833 through our Can-struction Zone! Thank you for helping those who are hungry!

SecureGive

DOWNLOAD THE APP

Consider automating your summer offering to Good Shepherd



Directions at the Welcome Center

Why not check something off your "to do" list now and keep Good Shepherd's ministry happening while you're enjoying summer at the cabin, camping under the stars, making memories with loved ones or just relaxing and enjoying the weather?

Scan our QR code to provide one-time or establish a recurring offering.



Download the **SecureGive mobile app**, set Good Shepherd as your home organization, and establish a recurring donation.

Text the word **Give** to **855-997-6955** (example: Give 100 to donate \$100 - for a one time offering.

Go to our website at www.goodshepherdigh.com under the giving tab to establish a recurring or one time offering.

If you have questions about automated giving, you can reach out to admin@goodshepherdigh.com.

Awaken! Care For Creation

Reusable Cup
Winner of the Month

Congratulations to Adam Johnson!

Thank you for caring for creation now by reusing your own cup for coffee hour.

Welcome New Members!

We are blessed to have the following join the ministry of Good Shepherd: Jan Behnken, Michael Crace, Tyler Gross & Jacquelyn Johnson, Scott Portz, Cheryl Schriener, Robert & Leslie Wolfgram

Good Shepherd's Instant Church Directory

If you haven't already, we encourage you to download the Instant Church Directory app from the App Store or access our online directory at www.instantchurchdirectory.com



- You will use your email on file in the church office for you to create a login and access Good Shepherd's secure directory.
- You are able to update your family's contact information in your account profile once you are logged in.
- Update your profile picture whenever you want!
- Have access to call or email your church community right from the secure app on your phone!

This is an excellent way to reach members of our church community.



CAMPING TRIP JUNE 14-16

JOIN US FOR THE WHOLE WEEKEND
OR JUST FOR THE DAY.

SWIMMING, POTLUCK DINNER, CAMP FIRE,
WORSHIP, HIKING, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP.

US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS CAMPSITE
SPRING VALLEY, WI

\$56 FOR ELECTRIC CAMP SITES

REGISTER WITH THE CHURCH OFFICE

Men's Ministry HOT DOGS AND LAWN GAMES

Good Shepherd Back Parking Lot
7:00 PM Wednesday, May 15th

RSVP to the Office

\$5/person

VBS REGISTER NOW! JUNE 10 - JUNE 13 9:00 - NOON



SCAN ME

Pre-K through 5th Grade
Join us for SCUBA:
Diving into a Relationship with God.
Cost: \$40/student
Scholarships Available

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE DAYS

Tuesday, June 25
Thursday, July 18

Join us for some local service projects and fun!
Contact Pastor Courtney for more information.



Friends are Needed

If making a phone call and sending a card and making a visit, is in your wheelhouse, then being a friend for a home-centered member is the ministry for you. Please consider providing a monthly check-in to one of our church members that isn't able to get to worship as often as they once did. For more information about our Be a Friend Ministry, sponsored by our Care, Prayer & Support Team, see Lori Howard or Pastor Leesa.

Please consider supporting VBS by donating some of the following items. Our theme is Scuba and we will be creating coral and underwater creatures while learning about God's love!

We would love to have donations by May 27th.

Newspaper, Solid blue table cloths, Paper lanterns (small or medium), Brightly colored/neon tissue paper, Brightly colored/neon pipe cleaners, Pool noodles (even in rough shape or broken), Large plastic bowls, Floral Wire, Craft foam blocks, Rolls of Mesh Ribbon (pref. 10 in), Cub Foods Gift Cards (for VBS snacks)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7600 Cahill Avenue
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

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PAID
PERMIT NO. 143
SO. ST. PAUL, MINN.

**Together on the Journey
Sharing God's Love**

Worship with us!

**Sundays @
8:30 & 9:45am**

**Summer Worship
Begins May 26
One service at 9:00am**



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH