



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Mission & Ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod that is ...
Proclaiming Christ's Word through Truth, Innovation & Fellowship!*

Celebrating the Third Sunday in Advent

December 14th, 2022



*With Advent hope our praises reach out joyfully
To greet our Lord's arrival In His humility...*



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2450 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 920-231-0530

Web Site: www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

E-Mail Address: church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Pastor Greg Koepsell:

Cell 763-913-8445

Email: pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Director of Christian Ministry (DCM)

Lori Sansoucie: Cell 314-956-1709

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Worship Services (For Advent): Wednesdays: 10:30 am & 6:30 pm

(Back to Thursday Eve. Jan. 8th 2026)

Sundays: 8:00 & 10:30 am

Holy Communion is Celebrated almost every Sunday

(The 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 8am; the 2nd and 4th at 10:30am)...

Sunday School/Bible Study: Sunday mornings 9:15-10:15

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00-1:00 pm

(Pastor always available via cell! Call or text!...763-913-8445)

As We Gather...

Welcome to **Good Shepherd** Lutheran Church! It's a privilege and honor to worship our One True God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit with you on this Third Sunday in Advent & this NEW day of salvation!

We are so happy and blessed that **you** are here! As always, make yourself at home, you are among family!

Today we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. You'll notice it's the only pink candle. Pink is a color of joy. In fact, this Third Sunday in Advent is commonly referred to as "Rejoice Sunday." But don't confuse the joy we celebrate this Advent with a passing happiness. No, the joy we have this Advent is greater. It lasts always. That's what today's Epistle assures us when Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). Only in Jesus, the coming Savior, can we rejoice in good times and bad times, busy times and quiet times, sick times and healthy times. In Christ, we rejoice always!

Service Notes...

In preparation for worship: Please take some time to greet the people you are worshiping with! The order of worship for today is printed for you below, you may want to take a few minutes to look it over and mark the hymns **331, 345, 348, 797 & 333** in the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*) as you prepare to receive the gifts of God and sing His praises. **Reminder:** If you have a smart phone, and you're on Facebook, please "check in" at *Good Shepherd* Lutheran Church...then turn the sound off! May our Good and Gracious Shepherd bless your worship this day...this NEW day of salvation!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, "wrestling" with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable... please know: **It is okay to either stand or sit. Both are appropriate!** So please, make yourself comfortable, receive the gifts God loves to give and **BOLDLY** sing His praises!

Children: We are blessed to have a lot of young families and young children here at *Good Shepherd*. We take Jesus' words very seriously when He says, "Let the little children come to me..." We also know how difficult it can be to keep children sitting quietly for any period of time, much less an hour long church service! For your convenience, "Quiet Bags" have been provided for young worshippers. They are located in the narthex to your right (on the "Noah's Ark" wall mounting, next to the big bulletin board) when exiting the sanctuary. Also, for your convenience, a "Quiet Room" is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those "difficult" times. Also, please keep in mind that everyone here loves to have the children here and will help you in any way they can! **Please note:** *Non-communion services may have a children's message which could be recorded via Facebook live. If you have any issues with your child being seen at church on the World Wide Web just listen from the pew!*

Guests, Visitors & The Offering: If you are our guest today, you are **not** expected to contribute monetarily to God's work at *Good Shepherd* ... you are our guest! Please take this service as our gift to you! But please do take a minute to check in at one of our kiosks in the atrium and sign the guestbook so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again! If you choose to give an offering, know this: **The gifts we give back to God are used by His church to transform lives.** (*The Offering plate is located at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary*)

The Lord's Supper: (*10:30 service*)...*Good Shepherd* joyfully celebrates the Lord's Supper, and we do that in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*. **Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes** *Matthew 5:23; 18:15-35*. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession *Matthew 10:32* differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. Because Scripture says we ought "examine ourselves" before receiving the Holy Meal *1 Corinthians 11:28*, it is recommended that we review the "Christian Questions with Their Answers" section of the *LSB* before communion (pg. 329), please take a few moments before the service or during the offering to do so. Thank you! **Please note:** *There are two or three cups at the center of each tray that are non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer such for personal or medical reasons (The wine containing alcohol is white, the non-alcohol is red/pink).*

Pre-Service Meditation...

*Please check out some of the pre-service prayers in the front of the LSB and/or meditate on one or more of the Psalms printed in the LSB (specifically **Psalm 146** today)...or just spend some time quietly in prayer before we begin.*

Prelude...

Words of Welcome...

The Opening Song: "The Advent of Our King"

(LSB pg. 331...please stand for verse six)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18-20]*

All: Amen.

Pastor: Praise the LORD!

All: Praise the LORD, O my soul!

Pastor: I will praise the LORD all my life;

All: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. *—Psalm 146:1-2*

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;

All: I will say it again, Rejoice! *—Philippians 4:4*

We Confess Our Sins [1 John 1:8-9].

Pastor: Lord God, we confess that we have failed to be patient as You desire. We have not endured suffering with our eyes on the cross of Christ. We have looked inward at ourselves instead of seeking the Lord and His kingdom. Grant us refuge in Your infinite mercy, O God, our heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ.

All: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

We Hear God's Forgiveness [John 20:19-23]

Pastor: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God. *Psalm 146:5*
Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

We Pray

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

All: And also with you.

(A prayer is spoken...)

+ *We Hear God's Word* +

Isaiah 35:1–10 (The ransomed shall return)

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus,² it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.³ Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; ⁴ say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.” ⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. ⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. ⁸ And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it.^a ⁹ No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰ and the ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away... This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

(8:00 am) The Good Shepherd Choir Sings: “Carol for Advent” -Nancy Price & Don Besig

*Amid the winter's cold embrace, clothed in a shroud of white,
An anxious world in silence waits through the dark of night.
As the lonely song of a dove echoes across the sky above,
We can feel the moment is near; soon the Child of Peace will appear.*

*What child is this the world awaits with quiet expectation?
When will He come, the promised one, to bring us peace and salvation?
Raise, raise your prayers on high. Prepare His way the time is nigh.
Come, come Emmanuel, O Child of Love and Peace.*

*The air grows colder, the light grows dim, dark'ning the sky above.
But soon the chill of the winter wind will warm with God's gift of love.
And a star will brighten the sky, songs of joy will echo on high!
We will know the moment is here; the Child of Love and Peace will appear.*

(10:30 am) The Bell Choir Plays: “Savior of the Nations Come”

James 5:7–11 (Patience in suffering)

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You too, be patient and stand

(Continued...)

^aOr / the simple will not stray from it

firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! ¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy...This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

All: See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation... *Zechariah 9:9*

Pastor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: From the house of the Lord we bless you. *Psalms 118:26*

We Sing: "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"
(LSB pg. 345; Please stand for verse 5)

Matthew 11:2–15 (Go and tell)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?" ⁴ Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy^b are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me." ⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written: "*I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.*" ^c ¹¹ I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears, let him hear...This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

(8:00 am) Children's Message: "Is Jesus Really the One?"

^bThe Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

^cMal. 3:1

We Profess our Christian Faith with the words of the Apostle's Creed

"For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." –Romans 10:10

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

The Message: "The Joyful Way"

(Sermon Notes...)

What did God teach you in His Law today *(What you should do, or have failed to do for God)?*

What did God teach you in His Gospel today *(What God has done for you through Christ)?*

What is the main thing you're taking home from this message today?

Have a comment or question about today's message? Have any questions about any of this Jesus/Christian stuff? Text the pastor at 763-913-8445 or email him at pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org. If you'd like to hear Sunday's message, or share it with a friend, it posts on our Facebook page and/or Website by 10 am on Monday...



We Welcome Good Shepherd's Newest Members

+We Celebrate the Lord's Supper+

(The 8:00 am service continues with the Prayer of the Church, the Lord's Prayer, the Blessing & Closing Hymn. The 10:30 service continues with the Holy Meal...)

The Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]...

(The Pastor will conclude each short petition with the words, "Rejoicing in the Lord, we ask..."
Please respond with, "Hear our prayer.")

Words of our Lord...

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. *Matthew 6:9-13*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the + Lord be with you always. *John 20:19*

All: Amen.

The Distribution...

We come forward to receive the Body & Blood of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine for remembrance; for forgiveness; for the strengthening of our faith. You may sit and sing while you wait for the Holy meal. The ushers will assist you.

Sung During the Distribution

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" (LSB pg. 348)

&

"Praise the Almighty" (LSB pg. 797)

(After communion...)

We Pray...

(A Prayer is spoken)

The Blessing

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;

All: I will say it again, Rejoice! *—Philippians 4:4*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you + peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

All: Amen! Amen! Amen!

The Closing Song: "Once He Came in Blessing"
(LSB pg. 333)

Postlude...

(Bell Choir Plays: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel")

*Thank you for worshiping with us today...it's better with **you** here!*

*Please stick around as long as you desire for some food & fellowship **Good Shepherd Style!***

Sunday School and VOTERS meeting begin at 9:15!

If you're visiting us this morning, please remember to visit our guest table & sign the guestbook before you depart...and come soon to see us again!

Welcome Newest Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

To God Alone the Glory Goes!

Questions about the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod? Check out www.lcms.org

Next Big Things...

Saturday, December 20, 9:00–11:00 am final Children's Christmas program rehearsal

Saturday, December 20, 11:00–11:30 am Sunday School Kid's Birthday Party for Jesus

Sunday, December 21, 10:30 am Children's Christmas program

Worship on Christmas Eve: 10:30 am,
4:00 pm, & 6:30 pm

Worship on Christmas Morning: 9:00 am

<p>Today's Altar Flowers are sponsored by Becky Siegrist In memory of her husband, Bill</p>
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**Today's Bulletins are sponsored by Charles & Barbara Burr
In memory of Tami and Aaron Holguin**

Next Week's Texts: Is. 7:10-17; Romans 1:1-7; Matt. 1:18-25

Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)

Serving Us Today

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell
Organist.....Cam Bedroske
Choir.....(8:00) Adult Choir (10:30) Bell Choir
Elder.....(Sun) Tom Dunham & Dave Eichhorn
Ushers.....Noah Hinrichs, Aaron Bray, Jane Eichhorn & Richard Cullen

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 14	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Sunday School
	9:15 A.M.	Voters Meeting
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Monday, December 15	5:30 P.M.	Bell Choir
	6:30 P.M.	Adult Choir
Tuesday, December 16	6:30 P.M.	Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 10	10:30 A.M.	Midweek Advent Worship Service
	5:15 P.M.	Confirmation Class
	5:30 P.M.	Advent Mission Meal
	6:30 P.M.	Midweek Advent Worship Service
	7:00 P.M.	Youth Group
Saturday, December 20	7:00 A.M.	Men's Group
	8:30 A.M.	Women's Group
	9:00 A.M.	Christmas Program Rehearsal
Sunday, December 21	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
	9:15 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Kids Christmas Program

VOTERS MEETING: Please plan on attending the Voters Meeting today between services We will be discussing & voting on the 2026 Church Budget.

2025 & 2026 CONTRIBUCTIONS: If you'd like to receive your 2025 giving statement electronically, please email Chris Feutz (chrisfeutz@yahoo.com) or Diane Flouro (flourodi@yahoo.com). This helps save paper and mailing costs. If you no longer need offering envelopes, please let Chris or Diane know as well. Envelopes will still be available for special offerings such as Mission money. Thank you - Chris Feutz and Diane Flouro

SUPER SUNDAY: Today is Super Sundae Sunday! Enjoy an ice cream sundae as a “thank you” for helping meet the needs of people in our community by donating non-perishable food items for food pantries.

THEY'RE HERE! The picture packages have arrived for those of you who had your photos taken on November 10, 2025 for the Church Directory. If you purchased a picture package, you may pick it up in the church office during regular office hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A few packages remain in the church office from the September 29 to October 4 photo sessions, and you may pick up your photos during these same times. If these times do not work for you, please contact Jan at 920-216-6230, and we will work out a convenient time for you to pick up your picture package. Thank you for your participation in the Church Directory!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Help. Act. Restore. Journeys Lutheran School in Hales Corners, WI is an LCMS affiliated school with Recognized Service Organization Status, offering a place to belong for children with unique needs, learning disabilities, and heavy life experiences. Journeys' declared mission is to be centered on Christ, preparing students with unique learning challenges to maximize their God-given spiritual, academic, emotional, physical, and social potential. On August 9, 2025, Journeys experienced an unexpected and devastating flood, causing over \$1,000,000 in damages to the building, equipment, and resources, plus immeasurable emotional damage to these precious children through disruption of their daily routine. Good Shepherd's December Mission of the Month is reaching out to help Journeys restore what was stolen by the August 9 flood. Good Shepherd notices. Good Shepherd acts. Jeremiah 29:11: *"For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous support of this Mission, allowing God to love the precious children, staff, and work done at Journeys Lutheran School through us! Please check out the Mission of the Month bulletin board for more information.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS: Thank you, members of Good Shepherd, for donating baking ingredients for the month of November! Many people will have sweet holidays because of your generosity. For the month of December, we will be collecting most needed items for each food pantry. The Lutheran Food Pantry is requesting: macaroni & cheese, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, soups, canned meats, rice/noodle packets, as well as cash donations. They recently lost their funding and deliveries for butter, milk, meat and cheese. This means that they have no plans of any perishables being delivered in the upcoming months. You can place any cash donations in the offering plate labeled “Lutheran Food Pantry.” Trinity Food Pantry is requesting: Jello, pudding, canned fruit, and canned veggies (specifically sweet potatoes.) Thank you for your help!

CHRIST FOR YOU THIS WEEK ON KFUE AM850 & KFUE.ORG: We're continuing our series, “Yearning for the Day of Christ's Returning” on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! This week, we'll be studying 1 Thessalonians 5-2 Thessalonians 2. Tune in to Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we continue our series, “Prophecy and Fulfillment, looking at Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Christ in the New. On the Coffee Hour this week (weekdays at 9 a.m. CT), we have some fun things to share, including a new learning opportunity through Concordia Nebraska, and an update from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or in the KFUE Radio app

Last Week at Good Shepherd...

Attendance: Wednesday: 53/56 Sunday 8:00: 118 10:30: 137 Total: 364

Offerings For Week of 12/07:

- General Fund: \$8,763.00
- Missions: \$128.00
- Strategic: \$70.00
- Flowers: \$899.00
- Crafts: \$220.00

Total Offerings: \$10,080.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$8,400.00

("...So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.") -1 Corinthians 14:1

Please remember in your prayers:

Church Members:

Family of Allan Flouro; Kelly Crowe; Family of Al Reisler; Josiah Charles; Cody Skadah!; David Doan; Al Reisler; Shirley Radloff; Jen Dunham; Don Davis; Bev Zink; JoAnn Meier; Dorothy Roehlig; Joanne Behm; Jim Purath; Pastor Meier; Frank Jarvenpaa; Donna Gohlke; Shirley Radloff; Dian Sheldon; Gary Schmude; Jim & Sharron Ziemer; and Louise Gabert

Friends & Relatives of Church Members:

Nicole Schroeder's father, Ray; Glen & Iris Lienhard's friend, Pastor Bob Benke; Pastor G's neighbor, Paul; Erlinda's friend, David; Tim & Liz Hoversten's friend, Monty; Anne Fogtman's sister, Jane; Brian Luethy's mother, Cindy; Barry & Linda's niece, Jenni Fuhrman; Gary Bunke's daughter, Brielle; Barry & Linda Brehmer's friend, Jeff Freund; Lee Paris' son, Andy; Pastor Koepsell's mother, Lorraine; Jan Peterson's sisters & niece & son, Scot and daughter, Paula; Ron & Chris Feutz's grandson, Logan Feutz; Janet Weier's son, Adam & family; Gene & Donna Gohlke's nephews, Kirk and Michael, granddaughter, Karley & friend, Paul.

Those Who Want to Worship with Us But Aren't Currently Able:

Bev Zink; Bonnie Wenzel, Verna Butt, Joann Behm, Shirley Radloff, Jane Nowicki, Manette Flouro, Pastor & JoAnn Meier, Bill & Louise Gabert, Jim & Sharron Ziemer, Lee Paris, Emily Brunner, Jean Stauber, Vicki Beck, Bill Zorr, Marge Bolding & Milt & JoAnn Haskins.

Military/Overseas Members & Their Families:

Malayna Brehmer (granddaughter of Barry & Linda Brehmer), Ryan Weber (son of Tim & Liz Hoversten)

Congratulations to Master Sargent Chris Hibben who retired from military service after 34 years. Thank you for your service!

**Please let Lynn Paulus, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, know when we can take you or your loved one off the prayer list lynn@travelleaders.com*