



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 Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 20th & 23rd, 2025



*...There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the
King of the Jews." -Luke 23:38*

55 YEARS



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: Thursday 6:30 pm;

Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 am

Holy Communion is celebrated almost every Thursday.

We also celebrate the Holy Supper Sundays at 8:00 am on the 1st/3rd week of the month and the 2nd/4th Sunday at 10:30 am. (Next week is the 5th Sunday, so no communion!)

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...

*Greetings and welcome to **Good Shepherd** Lutheran Church. It's our honor and privilege to have you with us as we celebrate the Last Sunday of the Church year, worship the One True God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit, and receive the gifts of forgiveness and grace our God loves to give...and even more, to celebrate the life we have on account of our Good Shepherd, Jesus. Please make yourself at home, you are among family.*

The disciples had hoped for thrones and power to rule beside Jesus, but the throne on which He pronounced His greatest edict was a cross. On it He prayed for forgiveness for His executioners. From it He promised paradise for the thief on a neighboring cross. And because of His royal sacrifice, the Father "delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son." Like the people of Malachi's day, who saw evil running rampant, we may not understand all that is happening in the world around us. But we trust that in Christ God has made "peace by the blood of His cross." So lift high the cross, for by it our sins are forgiven and paradise is open to us!

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 ***Divine Service Setting Four*** beginning on **page 203** in the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*). An outline of the service is printed for you below. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the order of worship before we begin. You may also want to mark the additional songs: **837, 534, 742, 610, 634 & 549** in the *LSB*. **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..." 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 "Crying Room" is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those "difficult" times. *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 Lord's Supper: *(Thursday Evening & Sunday at 10:30 am)* ***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 46** today).

Prelude...

Words of Welcome...

The Opening Song: "Lift High the Cross"

(LSB pg. 837...Please stand for verse six)

Confession & Forgiveness...

(LSB pg. 203)

The Introit (Latin for "enter"; verses spoken at the beginning of the Divine Service): From Psalm 46 & Colossians 1

Pastor: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: He has delivered us from the domain of darkness

All: and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

Pastor: in whom we have redemption,

All: the forgiveness of sins.

The Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy Mark 10:47 (pg. 204 top)

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory to God in the Highest (pg. 204 middle)

The Salutation (Prayer) of the Day (pg. 205 top)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: (*We pray*)...Lord Jesus Christ, only a few people watching saw Your royal rule and gracious gift of salvation as You died on the cross.

All: Forgive us for focusing on worldly events, and open our eyes to see You graciously working around us and through us each day;

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

+ *We Hear God's Word* +

The First Reading: Malachi 3:13-18 (Distinction between the righteous and the wicked)

“You have said harsh things against me,” says the Lord. “Yet you ask, ‘What have we said against you?’
¹⁴ “You have said, ‘It is futile to serve God. What did we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the Lord Almighty?’¹⁵ But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly the evildoers prosper, and even those who challenge God escape.”¹⁶ Then those who feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the Lord and honored his name.¹⁷ “They will be mine,” says the Lord Almighty, “in the day when I make up my treasured possession.^a I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.”¹⁸ And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

From Psalm 46

Pastor: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress... God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Left side: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

Right side: though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

Left side: though its waters roar and foam,

Right side: though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Left side: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

Right side: God will help her when morning dawns.

Left side: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

Right side: He utters His voice, the earth melts.

All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

Left side: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

Right side: He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God.

Left side: I will be exalted among the nations,

Right side: I will be exalted in the earth!”

All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

^a Or Almighty, “my treasured possession, in the day when I act

The Second Reading: Colossians 1:13-20 (He is before all things.)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption,^c the forgiveness of sins.¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.¹⁶ For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

We Stand and Sing our Alleluias...

(pg. 205 middle)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord!

The Gospel Reading: Luke 23:27-43 (Today you will be with Me in Paradise.)

A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.²⁸ Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.²⁹ For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’³⁰ Then ““they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!””^a ³¹ For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?” ³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”^b And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.” ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar³⁷ and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”^c ⁴³ Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.” ... This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

^c A few late manuscripts *redemption through his blood*

^a Hosea 10:8

^b Some early manuscripts do not have this sentence.

^c Some manuscripts *come with your kingly power*

The Apostles' Creed

(LSB pg. 207 top)

(Sunday 8:00 am Children's Message: "Jesus Forgives and Welcomes Us." -Lori Sansoucie)

We Sing: "Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor" (LSB pg. 534)

The Message: "The Middle Man"

(Sermon Application)

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...



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

Pastor: Let us pray for all people around the world, for the Church wherever it is found, and for ourselves in our daily living as God's people....To our eyes, heavenly Father, arrogant and evil people get rewarded in this fallen world at the expense of those who would try to remain true to Your will and rule in their lives. Hear the cries of those who call to You for justice, human rights, and dignity. Grant them an increase of faith and hope as they long to see Your gracious plans come to fruition.

All: Remember them, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: At times it is difficult, O Holy Spirit, to recognize the growth of the Church, either in numbers or in steadfast faith. Where the Church has been part of society for ages, church buildings are put to other uses and attendance is sparse at worship services. Hear the prayers rising to You from Your Church, and by Your Word cause those who do not know You to come to saving faith. Assure them that the Lord of hosts is with them.

All: Remember them, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and hear our prayer.

(Continued...)

Pastor: Lord over all, the world's increasingly violent weather puts travelers on land, sea, and air at risk; it calls into question each season's harvest and raises the specter of famine. Wherever people are anxious about food, clothing, or shelter, and whenever they must seek help for ills of any kind, be their refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. [*We include those near and dear to us . . .*] Visit, relieve, console, and strengthen them as fits Your gracious plans.

All: Remember them, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, without Your aid, faith can grow cold, questions about Your love and mercy can arise, and the problems in front of our eyes can seem more real than Your abiding presence. O image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, renew strong faith and urgent love in us and all Your brothers and sisters in the faith so that we each hear for ourselves the clear promise of paradise You announced from the throne of the cross. Strengthen us for joyful service in Your kingdom.

All: Remember us, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and hear our prayer.

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

All: Amen.

(The Sunday 8:00 am Service continues with the Lord's Prayer, the benediction and the closing Hymn. Thursday and Sunday at 10:30 am continue as follows...)

The Service of the Sacrament... (LSB pgs. 208 & following)

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.

During the Distribution...

We Sing: "For Me to Live Is Jesus" (LSB pg. 742)



"Lord Jesus, Think on Me" (LSB pg. 610)



"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord" (LSB pg. 634)

After Communion, the service continues with Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon Luke 2:29-32
(LSB pg. 211)

Post Communion Collect ~ Prayer (Top of pg. 212)...

Benedicamus (*Benedicamus* is Latin for “Bless we the Lord”...pg. 212)...

Benediction...

The Closing Song: “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” (LSB pg. 549...vs. 1, 3, 5 & 7)

*Thank you for worshiping with us!...It’s better with **you** here!*
*Please stick around for some food and fellowship in the **lower Fellowship Hall**. Check out the last of the Craft/Bake Sale items and maybe do some early Christmas shopping!*

Sunday School will be in the sanctuary this week, (9:15-10:15)

If you’re visiting us today, please remember to sign the guestbook before you depart...and come soon to see us again!

If you haven’t checked in at the Good Shepherd Kiosk, please take a moment to do so before you leave! It’s fun!

To God Alone all Glory Goes!

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

Postlude...

Next Week’s Texts: Is. 2:1-5; Rom. 13:11-14; Matt. 21:1-11

Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)

Today’s Altar Flowers are sponsored by Tim & Liz Hoversten
In celebration of their 37th wedding anniversary

OUR FATHER’S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 23	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Wednesday, November 19	6:30 P.M.	Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
	7:00 P.M.	Pie Social
Sunday, November 30	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service

Serving Us Today

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell
Organist.....(Thu) Stuart Giese (Sun) Cam Bedroske
Choir.....(8:00) Adult Choir (10:30) Bell Choir
Elder.....(Thu) Gary Bedroske (Sun) Gary Bedroske & Jon Mielke
Ushers.....Steve Bridwell, Becky Siegrist & Howard Hoppe

VOTERS MEETING: Please plan on attending the next Voters Meeting on December 14th. We will be discussing & voting on the 2026 Church Budget. The meeting will be held between worship services.

PIE SOCIAL: Please plan on joining us for a time of fellowship and thankfulness at our annual Pie Social following Thanksgiving Eve service. If you would like to bring as dessert, there is a sign-up sheet on the atrium bulletin board.

SPECIAL SHELTER MEAL: Friday, December 5th, Good Shepherd will be serving a meal at the Day by Day Shelter. It is our last meal of the year and we are making it an early Christmas-style meal. If you are interested in contributing food to this meal or volunteering to serve, the sign-up sheet is on the atrium bulletin board. Thank you for helping support this wonderful community outreach. If you have questions, contact Silvie Weiss (920)-376-3426

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT: Registration is open for Advent by Candlelight. Ladies of all ages are encouraged to join us on **Thursday, December 4 at 6:00 PM** for an evening designed to help you slow down, set aside the holiday to-do list, savor the season, and prepare your heart for the birth of the promised Messiah. Activities for the evening will actively engage you in Scripture, music, and creativity, all to point you to the manger where we find our Savior, veiled in flesh, the newborn King and Messiah. Sign up on the bulletin board in the atrium, and invite some friends to join!



DIRECTORY PHOTOS: First round of photo packages ordered from In-Focus Photography have arrived and are ready for pick up. You may pick up your photo packages before or after all church services or during office hours (M-Th 8:00-1:00 pm) See you soon!

NOVEMBER FOOD DRIVE: Members of Good Shepherd, thank you for all of donated items last month! For the month of November, Good Shepherd is hosting a “Holiday Baking Drive.” Please donate baking ingredients (flour, sugar, baking soda, vanilla extract, etc), cookie decorating items, pie filling & crusts, or cookie/cake mixes. Let’s make these lovely people’s holidays SWEET!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: This month's mission of the month is Good Shepherd's new young adult connection ministry: **Anchored Away**. The ministry is designed to support and encourage our young people in their endeavors following high school graduation. **"Anchored"** emphasizes the aim: Keep young adults anchored to the congregation, to others, and to Christ. **"Away"** reflects the college setting where students are away from home, away at school, but not far from their church family. But this ministry isn't just for those who go away after high school. It also supports and encourages those who choose to study locally, while living at home; those who choose to enter the military; and those who choose to enter the workforce. We support our young people in their faith and in their life journey by regularly sending notes of encouragement along with gift cards so they can take a moment away from life's demands for themselves. Financial gifts will be used to purchase cards, gift cards and postage so that we can stay in touch with and continue to support our young people in their faith walk. Learn more on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

THANK YOU: Many thanks to the members who donated money for the Food Assistance Fund. Thanks to your generosity we now have a large supply of Scrip cards for purchasing food. These cards will be distributed as needed, with Good Shepherd members having priority.

PRAYER GARDEN INSTALLATION: Exciting news! The main work of the prayer garden installation was completed this week. This new area next to the parking lot, south of the garage, will provide a quiet, peaceful outdoor space for prayer and stillness. While it might be getting a little too cold to enjoy now, come springtime it will be ready and waiting! Finishing touches will be completed in time for springtime enjoyment. We are looking to allocate around \$3000 to go towards adding the benches and displaying Scripture verses. If you would like to contribute specifically for this, please note "Grounds" with your contribution.

MANY CHILDREN WILL SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE THANKS TO YOU, YOUR KINDNESS, AND YOUR GENEROSITY! Good Shepherd's October Mission of the Month, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, was a huge success, stirring your hearts to give \$4,093.93 to purchase new beds and bedding for many Oshkosh children! Jesus loves the children and, it is obvious, so do you!

HOLY GUACAMOLE! Monday, December 1, your dinner plans can both satisfy your hunger and support our amazing youth group. Just head over to Qdoba in Oshkosh, from 4:00 – 8:00 pm, grab your favorite bowl, burrito, or extra-cheesy queso, and a portion of the proceeds will go straight to our youth fundraiser! Be sure to show them the flyer from the atrium or enter code "QDOBAGIVES" for online orders. Bring your appetite, bring your friends, and we'll see you at Qdoba!

CHRIST FOR YOU THIS WEEK ON KFUE AM850 & KFUE.ORG: We're continuing our series, "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! Each day, we'll study a new hymn of Thanksgiving from Lutheran Service Book. Tune in to Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we wrap up our study of the Gospel of Matthew. This week, we are covering chapters 26-27. Don't forget to join us this Saturday (11/8 at 10 a.m. CT) for Concord Matters! We're beginning a new study of the Lord's Prayer in the Large Catechism. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or in the KFUE Radio app!

Last Week at Good Shepherd...

Attendance: Thursday: 57 Sunday 8:00: 143 10:30: 121 Total: 321

Please remember in your prayers:

Church Members:

Josiah Charles; Cody Skadahl; 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; and Doug Flouro's brother, Allan.

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), and Chris Hibben

****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***