

The Parish Pulse

Bi-monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

April/May 2020

“I Know a Guy”

By Pastor Koepsell

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ tell him, ‘The Lord

You know what happened next. Just what Jesus said would happen. They borrowed the colt. Jesus made His triumphal entry. And that was the beginning of your Holy Week leading to the pinnacle of your salvation.

Jesus, “knew a guy.”

I know a guy...It’s good to know a guy. I’m only in my fourth year living amongst you, and the people of Oshkosh, and it’s taken that long, but I’ve gotten to the point where, for mostly anything I need, “I know a guy...” And sometimes you, “know a guy who knows a guy.”

Need something plumbed? I know a guy. An electrician? I know a guy. Need some earth moved, some snow plowed, some landscaping done? I know a guy. Need a cow artificially inseminated? I know a guy. Need some construction work done? Your lawn mowed? A pigeon coop moved? Some cabinetry done? Some beautiful, hand-crafted wood work? Some Green Bay Packer paraphernalia ? A baby lamb? A Harley to borrow? Someone who knows where the fish are biting? A painter? Someone to clean your house? Someone to lay some carpet? I know some “guys”.

Need a baptismal banner? Some cool crafts? Tech help? A radio transmitter? A side of beef? Some corn for a corn roast? An organizer? Some caring people to help with funerals, make church beautiful, play some music? Help with your taxes? Help with your will or insurance, give a good haircut?...I know some “guys” who can do all that too...and much more.

It takes a little while to build all those connections and I hope you have them if you need them...if not, let me know, because I probably know a “guy” who can help.

Apparently Jesus knew a guy. Someone with a donkey He could borrow, for maybe an hour or two. He Himself will bring it back, or someone will, “better than we found it” as we often say when we borrow stuff from “the guy.” All this to fulfill the words of the prophet spoken so many years before, “Say to the Daughter of Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’” (Zechariah 9:9)

I would’ve liked to have been privy to that conversation between Jesus and His “guy” before that day we call Palm Sunday. I imagine it went something like this...

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“I Know a Guy” (Continued from pg 1)

(Jesus) “Hey, can I borrow that donkey next week for an hour or two?”

(The guy) “Why?”

(Jesus) “So I can make my triumphant entry into Jerusalem...So I can fulfill the Scripture.”

(The guy) “Um...Okay...what makes it such a ‘triumphant entry’?”

(Jesus) “You’ll see.”

(The guy) “Sure, borrow the donkey. But have it back by 5...”

(Jesus) “Thank you, and be blessed...some of my guys will pick it up, code word is: ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Whoever Jesus’ “guy” was, did eventually see why His ride in on that donkey was triumphant. The grave, at the end (or beginning) of the week, was empty...and He certainly brought things back “better than He found it.” Including you.

Whatever “guy” I have for this or for that, I am very thankful. But I am most thankful that I know THE GUY. And that you know Him too.

Hang in there, Good Shepherd! We’ve got this.

Pastor G.

*Disclaimers... “Guys” means men and women. And sorry, I didn’t talk about the Covid 19/Corona thing...we get enough of that all day. Please make sure to watch my sermons on line and stay tuned for Easter celebration news...

God is Our Fortress

By Keith Casey, Congregational President

God is Our Fortress

46 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah* ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah* ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire. ¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Greetings and the Lord be with you!

The past month has been of the most unusual in recent memory. The wisest and best of our leaders at Good Shepherd have worked together to make the best decisions possible about things coming up. I pray that we can all have perspective and patience in the midst of changes and disappointments of changed plans and things that could be considered “inconveniences”—in some cases substantially so. Those are all realities. In the midst of this, I pray that we can care well for each other and about each other and that we can be smart and safe in our health practices.

Some might even compare the uncertainty now to the time right after 9/11 when the terrorist bombings impacted our country—certainly very different but in some ways similar in unsettling many people. God was not surprised then nor is He now about things that have happened and that will happen.

I want to thank everyone for all of their efforts and dedication to Good Shepherd. We are financially doing well and our mortgage debt is under \$330,000! Look for new and innovative ways to help us continue to drive down our mortgage from the Stewardship Committee. Please seek out areas where you can lend a helping hand.

This past week in Bible Study at Concordia University, we looked at Psalm 46—a great psalm of confidence in God’s love and presence and protection: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in time of trouble...Be still and know that I am God.” I pray that all may have calm hearts and confidence in God today and each day.



Together in Faith

By Tom Dunham, Head Elder

Needless to say, we are in the middle of some very trying times with the Corvid-19 Virus. The church is trying to do everything it can to comply with the requirements of our authorities to follow the rules to stop the spread of the virus. This is a very fluid situation and is changing constantly. Please continue to review the information being communicated by the church and Pastor Koepsell for sermons, communion, when services will be available etc. If you have some needs or concerns, please feel free to contact the church office or the Elders to try and help you. Be in prayer for our church family, our cities, states, nation and the world. Together with our faith in God we will weather this storm.

Stay Safe, Be Well,

The Greatest Gift

By Daniel Weiss, Stewardship Chair

Stewardship Update

When I started as Stewardship Chair late last year, I began to think about what, exactly, needed stewarding at Good Shepherd Church. To be a steward means to manage the gifts or resources that God has entrusted to you.

Then I realize that the greatest gift God has given to Good Shepherd is her members. *You* are God's gifts to this community of faith. Accordingly, we must ask, "Are we stewarding our members well?" and "Can we do better?" Thanks be to God that our church has been growing steadily over these past few years. Now there are more of you to steward well.

To this end, I've reworked the "time and talents" survey we have asked members to fill out. I am asking all adult members (18+) to take less than 5 minutes to fill out our new "Connecting Well" survey. Our hope is to learn more about your gifts and interests and to help you connect well in this congregation. We may all be homebound these days, but this will help us prepare for more robust ministry once we can gather again in loving community.

Please visit: <https://connectingwell.questionpro.com> to take your survey today. If you don't have access to a computer, you can get a paper copy from the church office. moments to fill it out.

Joyful Response

Joyful Response is a way to electronically give your church offering. No more forgetting your offering envelope on a busy Sunday morning or worrying about missing offerings when you are sick or on vacation (or practicing social distancing.)

If you are interested in setting up a Joyful Response account please call the office to have a form sent to your house or download the paperwork by going to <https://www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com/changes-due-to-covid-19.html> and look under how to continue to support the church. the Contributions (On the form you can now designate what ministry programs your funds go to!



Scrip

Thank you to the many members who have helped support the church by buying Scrip. We are temporarily suspending the Scrip program until the social distancing restrictions are relaxed.

Thank you for your support and understanding!



How Big is Our God

By Matthew and Julie Toll , Youth Leaders

As COVID-19 has swept across the world and has so quickly changed the landscape of our daily lives and routines, it gives us all pause to reflect on our priorities and principles we stand by. All too often we get caught up and captivated by the things of this world, comfortable and relaxed in our earthly life. Sometimes it takes something a little uneasy or scary that shakes our world to lift our eyes from it. When difficult times like these are upon us, let us be reminded of Jesus' words recorded in John 16:33b, "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." We don't need to be afraid or fear when times get tough and it feels like the world is crumbling beneath our feet. Jesus has already told us that we will face these challenges. He reminds us where our hope lies, not in the shifting, sinking sands of this life, but on Christ, the solid rock. That is where we stand and where our hope lies. The writer to the Hebrews reminds us in chapter 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." How great a comfort to know that our God is bigger than anything this world throws at us.

As you find yourself with a little more extra time at home these days, it just might be the perfect opportunity to spend some of that time strengthening and enriching our family lives through some of the great Christian resources available online. Each of the following organizations has many resources available and offers daily podcasts on a variety of family topics. I hope you'll tap into these resources to receive encouragement and hope in your family lives.

Family Life <https://www.familylife.com/>
Focus on the Family <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/>
Parenting Today's Teens <https://parentingtodaysteens.org/>

God's blessings to you and your families,
Matt and Julie Toll

Praising Him!

By Cam Bedroske , Music Director

I know that in our soul we long to praise God. This is part of who we are as children of God. We do it in our thoughts and actions, AND we do it together as a congregation each Sunday in worship.

That is part of what my calling is to the congregation. To organize and support the worship life of the congregation through music in various forms.

All of us will miss that glorious sound of voices united in the text of a hymn, BUT I am working on a way to make it still happen when we are apart.

Pastor is recording his sermons and starting very soon, (or maybe already) we will record a hymn with that sermon and I have asked some of the choir to be a part of that. We are eager to do it. That way you can sing along and feel supported in your singing. Remember we are invited to make a joyful noise to the Lord. This will be a blessing.

Be ready because I am a creative person who loves to look at many ways to make things happen and work! Gary can account for that! Poor guy!

Maybe sometimes I will feature a soloist or a little choir piece.

If you have ideas or a favorite hymn, please either call me or email me so that we can include that.

Here is my contact info. Phone: 920-379-2037 or cbedroske@sbcglobal.net

I know that there is no way we will travel through Holy Week and Easter without our Good Shepherd family united in song!

God bless, Cam Bedroske

"I will praise the Lord at all times. I will constantly speak his praises". Ps. 34:1



Brushfires Update

By Daniel Weiss

As the nation grinds to a halt because of COVID-19, it seems as though my workload has increased! Maybe it just feels that way because my kids are home again, but the truth is that Brushfires hasn't slowed or stopped because of the virus.

I continue to line up speakers and workshops for our Sexual Integrity Leadership Summit in Portland this coming September. I am also working with a group of nearly two dozen other ministry leaders to lay the foundation for a new organization that can run the annual summits and provide a leading voice in the growing community of Christian leaders dedicated to sexual integrity work. Recently, we adopted a mission statement, core values, and a statement of faith.

This work is harder than you might think. Each of these leaders runs his or her own ministry and has experience and expertise worth considering. Everyone generally agrees with the overarching principles, but would each would do the work differently. Finding agreement, even among like-minded leaders, is a true work of the Holy Spirit.

I want to thank you for your consistent prayers for our work and your financial support during this uncertain time.

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." – Phil. 1:3-5

Yours in Christ,

Daniel Weiss

dweiss@brushfiresfoundation.org

920-642-3990

Treasurer's Report

Compiled by Treasurer
Heather Klauer & Joan Warwick

January

Bank Deposits:	\$139,179.08
Bank Withdrawals:	\$113,746.99
End of month bank balance:	\$97,278.68
Mortgage Balance:	\$384,343.80
Joyful Response:	\$5,845.00

February

Bank Deposits:	\$29,500.23
Bank Withdrawals:	\$80,732.95
End of month bank balance:	\$32,792.93
Mortgage Balance:	\$329,704.39
Joyful Response:	\$5765.00

Official Acts of the Church

Baptisms:

Katherine Marie Purath - March 22, 2020

Wedding:

Jacob Schroeder and Nicole Reifschneider—March 28, 2020

Called to Eternal Home:

Herb Edwardsen February 11, 1935—March 15, 2020



Board Reports (January 2020)

Evangelism: Vivian Mittelstaedt

New Members were welcomed on Dec 22 with photos taken. There are still a few additional people to be welcomed & photos taken I hope this can happen in the next few weeks. When members have their personal/family info handed into the office Krista will see they get their envelopes. I have also asked a few previous members to share some info in the next newsletter. Everyone needs to get to know these new members. Please continue to make them feel welcome. Krista will also be printing a sheet for family directories.

Coffee Hour: I've asked a few groups to assist each week.

1st Sunday School, 2nd Cindy Meir & Chris Feutz, 3rd Fellowship, 4th Youth Group.

There is plenty of coffee and cookies available. Also coffee in kitchen fridge. Thank you to all for assisting.

Board of Youth: Matt & Julie Toll

-The youth group had a very successful pizza fundraiser last Sunday, January 5. We had 13 youth in attendance to help with the pizza building along with a number of other parents and volunteers. We had received orders for around 250 pizzas! Everything went real smooth with preparations and pickup and was a great opportunity for us all to join together. From donations and the sale of those 250 pizzas we received around \$2100, of which just over \$900 was profit.

-With the holidays we didn't meet too many times on Sunday this past month, but continue to have 4 – 6 youth attend between services.

-The statewide bible bowl is coming up in March. This year's topic is the book of Judges. We have encouraged the youth to participate and hope to have a team or two compete.

Fellowship Board: Lori Purath and Sharon Leinweber.

Events for the past month have been the advent soup suppers hosted by the confirmation class, choir, and fellowship groups. Fellowship also helped serve for the luncheon for Donna Daniels funeral. The left-over funds from the Thrivent Acton card from the advent suppers have been used to stock the coffee hour supplies. Thank you to all who make fellowship fun.

Stewardship : Daniel Weiss

1. Stewardship reworked the time and talent survey and will be presenting a draft for review at the January council meeting. If approved, the survey will be printed in hard copy and put online in order to capture as many of the congregation as possible. Council members are encouraged to review the draft prior to the council meeting and bring any additions or edits needed.

2. Debt reduction: Have drafted a plan for debt reduction for 2020. Using data from the past three fiscal years, have determined how much we can speed up the payment of the mortgage debt and will be using stories and stats to encourage the congregation to sign a pledge and use the monthly debt reduction envelopes.

Board of Elders: Tom Dunham

Notes of the Elders meeting 1/14/20

Elders present: Gary Bedroske, Aaron Bruss, Fred Kirchenwitz, Craig Dreger, Tom Dunham, Todd Klauer, Rick Dittberner plus Pastor Koepsell. Excused: Craig Mittelstaedt

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm

Pastor Koepsell provided the opening devotion from the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Tom passed out an agenda and provided some opening comments.

Music Directors questions/comments: Copy of schedule passed out to adult choir was attached to the agenda for review.

Request for clarification of Easter Service times so musicians can be scheduled. Indication is that we may not have an Easter Breakfast as fellowship will not be able to host and prepare it. More discussion to follow.

Worship Services:

Gary Bedroske and Tom Dunham will serve for services on Sunday 1/19/20.



Board Reports (Continued)

Good Friday – 4/10/20 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm, Easter – to be determined by next meeting (Pastor will be contacting Cam). Confirmation – 5/31/20, Polka service at the Park – 6/14/20 @9:00 am, Change to 1 service @ 9:00 am on 5/31/20 and return to two services on 9/13/20 @ 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

Old Business: Updated Elder assignment lists were passed out and discussed. Rick will be contacting a potential new Elder.

New Business: Elders will host the 4th Lenten meal on 3/18/20.

It was decided to change the Elder's meeting from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 1st Tuesday to meet the Church Council's timing associated with consent resolutions.

Memorials and Church wish list. Further follow-up is needed including procedures, approvals and accounting.

Other discussion items:

It was suggested that the new 2020 officers be installed at the next congregational meeting.

Pastors vacations: 7/30/20-8/2/20, 8/27/20-9/30/20. Pastor Hayman will be covering.

Elders will review the remaining offering envelopes and make contacts as necessary.

Rick to contact Chad Smith to have the youth start ushering for services to get them more involved.

The meeting closed at approximately at 8:15 pm with a prayer by Pastor Koepsell and with the Lord's Prayer.

Pastor's report:

- Pastor thanked Elders for their service and assistance.
- December 2019 average weekly attendance was 300 vs 245 for 2018.
- December 2019 Thursday average attendance was 105 vs 104 for 2018.
- Christmas Eve 2019 attendance was 406 vs 306 for 2018.
- Christmas Day 2019 attendance was 81 vs 102 for 2018.
- 1 baptism. No weddings but several scheduled in 2020, 1 courtesy funeral for Steve Fogtman.
- Wednesday morning bible studies having 10-15 in attendance. Pastor Mark Hayman leading the Sunday morning bible study on Revelations with 10-20 attending. Saturday Men's bible study has 4 -5 attending. Tuesday Women's bible study has 5-8 attending.
- All shut-in calls are up to date. Pastor Koepsell and Pastor Hayman are making shut-in calls. Pastor Koepsell is also visiting Trinity members in the hospital.

There are 21 students in confirmation classes. A teacher is needed for 6th & 7th grade for February – May so Pastor can work with the 8th grade in preparation for their confirmation.

Vowels family transferred membership to Grace in Omro.

Treasurers Report: Heather Klauer (See attached)

Trustees Report: Not Submitted

Board of Education: Jennifer Charles and Judy Mehn

Bible studies: I'm working on creating more opportunities and small group Bible studies. A tool we wanted to use was called right now media. It was not put into 2020s budget so it is going to be put on the back burner for now. I will be purchasing a Bible study curriculum called the "Red Letter Challenge". This will be a church-wide Bible study with a sermon series for pas-



Board Reports (Continued)

Junior High youth ministry program: I am currently working with a couple that have stepped up with interest to work with me in creating a junior high youth ministry program. The goal is to meet once a month. We are going to meet soon and try to gather ideas and look at activities and events that we want to participate in. One of their goals is to take the confirmation class on a confirmation retreat at camp Luwisomo in the fall. Information about that will hopefully be coming out soon for families to start planning.

Sunday School. The children's Christmas program the Fumbly Bumbly Angels a great success. The children did a wonderful job and they sounded beautifully.

The children's Sunday school will be singing again on February 9th. I'm waiting to hear from Cam on dates for future months. They will definitely be singing Palm Sunday and the last Sunday Sunday school which is in May.

Family 345: the group did not meet in December due to all the holiday festivities. We are meeting in January for a family game night. February we hope to go snow tubing at Sunburst and in March bowling.

Potential Topics of discussion:

Memorials:

I was asked to do some research on the memorial that was discussed at the last council meeting and now I am researching another. In that research I found the "Red Memorial Books" In reviewing them it appears that there have not been any entries since 2014. In talking with Krista, it will take some work to bring it up to date but I will try to find as much information as I can. I think memorials should be a topic possibly for new business as a procedure should be established for accepting memorials, approvals and accounting and setting up a church "wish list".

From talking with Krista all memorials go into one account but are not specifically listed for each memorial. As an example, Krista stated she will have to go through all of the counting sheets for 2019 to come off with who and how much has been donated for the new sign.

Also, I wanted to give Krista some dates for the master calendar for two groups willing to host the upcoming Lenten meals. She stated she did not have the master calendar and that I should contact Fellowship. I had to leave a message for Lori and I followed up with her on Sunday and she stated it would have to go through the Church Council. Just so there are not overlaps with other groups the Choir will host the 3/4/20 meal and the Elders will host the 3/18/20 meal.

RightNow Media

Grace Lutheran Pre-school

Request for brainstorming time for debt reduction campaign near end of meeting (will bring paper copies to meeting if needed). Medium discussion time (~15 min.) anticipated.

Council Minutes (January 21 2020)

Transcribed by Chad Smith

Present: Tom Dunham, Pastor Koepsell, Judy Mehn, Heather Klauer, Frank Jarvenpa, Matt Toll, Julie Toll, Keith Casey, Dan Weiss, Lori Purath, Sharon Leinweber, Chad Smith

Guests: Patti Phillips, Krista Weiss

President Casey called the meeting to order at 6:59pm. Pastor Koepsell opened with a prayer from Isaiah 9: 1-4

Motion M/S/C to accept Board Reports approved as submitted per consent agenda with the exception/addition of:

Easter breakfast: moved to new business

December financials:

Bank Deposits \$139,179.08

Bank Withdrawals \$113,746.99

End of month bank balance \$97,278.68

Mortgage Balance \$384,343.80 (Reflects \$80,000 principal payment on 12/16)



Council Minutes (Continued)

New Business:

Tom presented feedback on previous memorials, church log has not been updated since 2014. Dan and Tom will work together to craft a formal policy regarding a memorial committee

Patti presented the Craft fair committees request to distribute the funds they raised as follows:

- Orphan grain train 10%
- Script cards 10%
- Church Beautification 30%
- Extreme hardship fund 10%
- General fund 20%
- Debt reduction 20%
- Council decided %'s were acceptable but do not need to be voted on.

Easter: Sunrise service at 6:30am, Regular service 9am, donuts and pastries in between services

There are 6 Lenten services. Elders are finding groups to host suppers

Dan would like brainstorm debt reduction. Dan presented stats on balance payments over the past few years. Dan would like to approach congregation regarding past success on debt envelopes as part of stewardship

Old Business

Right Now Media; ask Jennifer for a roll out plan, % utilization targets etc for consideration

Motion M/S/C to support Grace Lutheran in Omro at \$1620.00

Motion M/S/C to keep checking account at a balance of \$50,000.00. Treasurer has approval to pay down debt with excess balance every month.

Motion M/S/C to adjourn at 8:55pm

Pastor closed with prayer followed by the Lords prayer

Board Reports (February 2020)

Evangelism Report: Vivian Mittelstaedt

No official report from Evangelism.

Board of Youth Report Matt & Julie Toll

We have one team of four that is looking to compete at the statewide Bible Bowl coming up in March. Competition is on the book of Judges. We have been studying Judges on Sunday mornings to prepare.

Fellowship Board Lori Purath and Sharon Leinweber.

1. Served funeral for Donna Daniels on Saturday, January 11th.
2. Continue to do Fellowship hour every third Sunday of the month.
3. Fellowship will make sure that the kitchen is supplied with plates, silverware, etc.

Stewardship report Daniel Weiss



Board Reports (Continued)

2. Discussed debt reduction plan with council. Will be making a series of announcements in bulletins and giving a short presentation after worship at each service at key points throughout the year, starting in Lent.
3. Will be working with Tom Dunham to develop a gift/donation policy for Good Shepherd and ensure we are honoring the stipulations of memorials and monies bequeathed to the church.
4. I registered for a stewardship training event hosted by Siebert Lutheran Foundation in Milwaukee. I will be inviting members of the congregation to join me at this event on Thursday, May 14, 2020.

Board of Elders: Tom Dunham

Notes of the Elders meeting 2/4/20

Elders present: Gary Bedroske, Aaron Bruss, Fred Kirchenwitz, Craig Dreger, Tom Dunham, plus Pastor Koepsell. Excused: Craig Mittelstaedt, Todd Klauer and Rick Dittberner

Tom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Tom had the opening prayer and Pastor Koepsell provided the opening devotion from the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Tom passed out an agenda and provided some opening comments.

Music Directors questions/comments: Report was passed out last meeting.

Worship Services:

Gary Bedroske and Tom Dunham will serve for the late service on Sunday 2/9/20 and Craig Dreger will serve for the early service. Substitute elder needed for 2/16/20. (will follow-up)

Services: Ash Wednesday - 2/26/20, Palm Sunday – 4/5/20, Lenten Meditation 4/5/20 3:00 pm, Maundy Thursday – 4/9/20 6:30 pm, Good Friday – 4/10/20 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm, Easter – 6:30 and 9:00 am.

Confirmation – 5/31/20, Polka service at the Park – 6/14/20 @9:00 am, Change to 1 service @ 9:00 am on 5/31/20 and return to two services on 9/13/20 @ 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

Old Business: Additional Elder(s): Will be followed up on.

Elders will host the 4th Lenten meal on 3/18/20. Menu and assignments will be discussed at next meeting.

New Business: Service dog training – a very good discussion was held with input from everyone. Tom will check on our insurance with Richards Insurance. Pending the requested information, it was tentatively decided to allow for one service per month with proper prior notice posted in several different areas.

Other discussion items:

Adjourn: Approximately at 8:20 pm.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Pastor Koepsell and with the Lord's Prayer.

Pastors report:

Pastor thanked Elders for everything, their service, assistance and dedication that does not go unnoticed.

- January 2020 average weekly attendance was 232 vs 205 for 2019.
- January 2020 Thursday average attendance was 35 vs 31 for 2019.
- 5 baptisms (3 adults and 2 children). No weddings but working with multiple couples in pre-marital counseling. Dates will be posted on the master calendar so the Alter Guild can be notified.
- 1 funeral for Donna Daniels.
- Wednesday morning bible studies just finished the Old Testament overview and will be starting New Testament this week. Average has been 14 in attendance. Pastor Mark Hayman completed the Sunday morning bible study on Revelations with an average of 15 attending. Pastor Koepsell will begin "Longer look at the Lessons".
- All shut-in calls are up to date. Pastor Koepsell and Pastor Hayman are making shut-in calls. Pastor Koepsell is also visiting Trinity members in the hospital. Pastor Koepsell will be helping Trinity School with chapel services once a month.
- Confirmation is going well. Matthew Toll will take 6th & 7th starting in Lent so Pastor can focus on 8th graders up to confirmation date. Pastor Koepsell is working on curriculum with Matthew. Had a nice open house with parents in January.



Board Reports (Continued)

Treasurers Report: Joan Warwick

January end of month:

Bank balance: \$ 84,025.65 Mortgage: \$333,477.48 Joyful Response: \$5,845.00

01/27/2020 \$47,278.68 on mortgage principal did not clear before the end of month. (See attached for financials)

Trustees Report: Frank Jarvenpaa

I learned the monthly routine to be done each month from Mike Kirchoff.

The elevator certifications were updated.

Quotes for upgrading or replacing the present sound system were obtained, with Krista's assistance, for future reference. We did have an issue with the system, it turned out that only batteries needed to be replaced.

We purchased a new snow blower for the Church.

Doug Flouro has volunteered to create a maintenance schedule for the lawn mowers and snow blower. He recommends that we sell some of older equipment, with the proceeds going to purchase accessories that would be useful for the newer mower

Board of Education: Jennifer Charles and Judy Mehn

Sunday School Superintendent

Each of Good Shepherd's military members received a valentine from the Sunday School students. The students are creating a poster full of their thumbprints that will recognize the members with the words, "Thumbs up to our military members!" Sunday School memory work challenge in the works. Each grade level has been assigned a specific, age appropriate piece from their memory work folder to work on in the classroom. Parents were also informed on the parent fb page so they can help too. As each class is able to recite the assigned memory work, the classroom teacher or I will record them and post it in the parent fb group. When all classes have shared their memory work, then they will be rewarded with a pizza party. Sunday School students sang "God Loves Me Dearly" in church on February 9th during the 10:30 service.

Potential Topics of discussion:

Developing Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Strategic Plan .

Council Minutes (February 2020)

Transcribed by Donna Tritt

Present: Keith Casey, Tom Dunham, Heather Klauer, Pastor Koepsell, Sharon Leinweber, Lori Purath, Chad Smith, Julie Toll, Donna Tritt, Joan Warwick, and Dan Weiss

Guests: Judy Mehn

President Casey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Opened with the daily devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries for February 18, 2020 from Exodus 24:12-18.

Motion M/S/C to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2020 Council meeting.

Motion M/S/C to accept Board Reports approved as submitted per consent agenda.

Announcements: Chairs will be presenting reports to the congregation at our February 23rd meeting. Discussion followed about the time Voters' meetings are held. Will brainstorm next meeting.

(Continued...)



Council Minutes (Continued)

Discussion: Feed My Starving Children – 28 March 2020. Discussion followed. March 28th is during the Oshkosh Area School District spring break. The host church in Fond du Lac is financially strapped and looking for donations to assist with this project. Discussion followed about how many individuals we could send to assist with the project. Keith will put an announcement in Sunday's bulletin to determine interest. Keith will also get more specifics about the project.

Brainstorm: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Strategic Plan Development (Youth and Stewardship). Discussion followed.

Announcements from Pastor Koepsell: Pastor Bartholomew, Pastor at Grace Lutheran, Omro is retiring. Trinity Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, has placed a call for a pastor. Please keep both churches in your prayers.

Motion M/S/C to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

Pastor closed with prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer.

TRINITY SENIORS

Come along and enjoy some great entertainment
wonderful food and plenty of fellowship !

Hope all of you are staying safe and well. We missed Guys and Dolls, but I did receive pictures and a message from The Ryan Klopick that the food was all donated to the FT. Atkinson Food Pantry. What a Blessing !! They received some really good bakery, side dishes, main entrees, desserts and more. We sure hope by June things will be back to some what "normal" and we look forward to seeing all of you. If interested in the remainder of the year, just let me know and I will keep you posted as I receive information.

(Tentatively)

- June 27, 2020 *What happens in Vegas* - The live Fireside Band featuring Steve Watts.
- August 15, 2020 *Cinderella* - The stage production of Rodgers and Hammerstein which will delight the child in all of us.
- September 19, 2020 *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* - One of the most popular musicals of the last 50 years. Telling the story of Joseph and his brothers.

- December 5, 2020 Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn*

These shows are at The Fireside Theatre
We have great reserved seats
Reservations are being taken now for all shows.

CONTACT JANET OR TOM DUNHAM (920 233-0263)

Pray For Those in the Military

JARED RIVERA
(US ARMY)

CHAD BERRY
(WI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
— MISSOURI)

ALYCIA MUELLER
(ARMY NATIONAL GUARD)

Please let the church office know if you have family serving in the military. We will add their names and our members can be praying for them. We are grateful for those who serve our country.



Wedding Anniversaries

Birthdays for April and May

April

Jeff & Linda Everson	4/8
Jim & Sharron Ziemer	4/11
Jim & Joan Warwick	4/24
John & Brenda Hawig	4/25
Brad & Barb Wiley	4/28
Wesley & Shirley Radloff	4/30

May

Gary & Ruth Galow	5/7
Tim & Samantha Brunner	5/9
Mike & Patricia Phillips	5/9
Mike & Deb Radloff	5/9
Branden & Kristin Mike	5/10
Bud & Sharon Hoepfner	5/13
James & Lori Purath	5/14
Todd & Heather Klauer	5/17
Aaron & Lori Bruss	5/18
Katie & Rob Rodig	5/21
Brian & Lisa Spaeth	5/22
Don & Bonnie Borgen	5/23
Kurt & Emily Brunner	5/23
David & Darci Doan	5/23
Phillip & Kari Steinbeck	5/25
Bill & Marian Fenlon	5/27

April

David Doan	4/1
Samuel Mehn	4/1
Kinsey Koepsell	4/2
Darlene Paulsen	4/5
Gerald Sprague	4/5
Don Borgen	4/6
Aiden Schubert	4/6
Ruth Wagner	4/7
Apryl Weed	4/7
Jane Eichhorn	4/9
Amber Leinweber	4/12
Delores Ziemer	4/12
Gene Gohlke	4/13
David Leinweber	4/14
Kiley Klauer	4/16
Eric Nienass	4/16
Avery Rodig	4/17
Bertrant Behm	4/18
Joshua Dreger	4/18
Shelley Goding-Rivera	4/18
Ken Ruehl	4/18
Patricia Adamski	4/19
Scott Kramer	4/19
Harper Tritt	4/20
Ericka Potratz	4/22
Dexter Schaub	4/22
Theresa Bray	4/23
Natalie Haag	4/23
Dennis Bostwick	4/24
Phillip Steinbeck	4/24
Andrew Klatt	4/25
David Wagner	4/28

May

Louise Gabert	5/1
Jackson McMillan	5/1
Jackie Wagner	5/3
Samantha Brunner	5/6

JoAnn Haskins	5/7
Jenny Kirchenwitz	5/7
Craig Skadahl	5/7
Becky Tuchscherer	5/7
Abby Zink	5/7
Terri Kramer	5/8
Laurita Daugherty	5/9
Chad Goding	5/9
Mike Kuble	5/11
Preston Henke	5/13
Frank Jarvenpaa	5/13
Landon Leinweber	5/13
Ruth Nevers	5/13
Barb Bandelow	5/16
DuWayne Besaw	5/16
Anne Fogtman	5/17
Kristy McMillan	5/17
David Wojciechowski	5/17
Hannah Bruss	5/18
Chad Smith	5/21
Sara Suwalski	5/21
Benjamin Mehn	5/22
Maxwell Mittelstaedt	5/22
Faulkner Charles	5/24
Mike Radloff	5/25
Nolan Tokarski	5/25
Barb Wiley	5/25
Rev. James Daugherty	5/26
Ted Radke	5/26
Steven Tritt	5/26
William Beck	5/28
Susan Danula	5/28
Heather Klauer	5/28
Finn Hinrichs	5/29



Good Shepherd Council And Board Members

OFFICE	NAME	TELEPHONE
PRESIDENT	KEITH CASEY	(785) 226-3147
VICE-PRESIDENT	CHAD SMITH	(262)-442-0061
RECORDING SECRETARY	DONNA TRITT	(920)420-2803
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	DEB BOCHINSKI	(920) 312-0417
TREASURER	DIANE FLOURO	(920) 420-5841
BOARD OF EDUCATION	JENNIFER CHARLES	(414) 517-9322
ELDERS	TOM DUNHAM	(920) 233-0263
EVANGELISM	VIVIAN MITTELSTAEDT	(920) 479-0775
FELLOWSHIP	LORI PURATH	(920) 379-9202
STEWARDSHIP	DANIEL WEISS	(920) 642-3990
TRUSTEE	FRANK JARVANPAA	(920) 369-6247
YOUTH	MATTHEW & JULIE TOLL	(920) 379-9938



Hospitalized?? Or you desire a call?? If you are going into the hospital, please call to let the Church Office know. We do not always receive the information in a timely manner so that the appropriate visitation can be made. Also, hospitals can no longer release information to us about your admittance and room number if you have not signed a waiver. If you want a home visit from Pastor Koepsell, a call or other service, please contact the church office with your request.



Before you donate an item to the church, please check with the Church Council. They can assist in placement or find the best use for your donated item. Thank you!

Contact Information

Staff

Rev. Gregory A. Koepsell, Pastor
pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org
 Cell (763) 913-8445
Call or text Pastor Anytime

Krista Weiss, Office Manager
krista@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Office Hours

M-TH 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Office (920) 231-0530

Pastor's Hours Tues - Thu
 11:30 - 3:00 PM

Web Site:

goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

E-Mail Address:

church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

Worship Services

Thursday - 6:30 pm
 Sunday-8:00 am & 10:30 am

Coffee Hour & Refreshments

Served every Sunday in Atrium after 8 am worship service.

Bible Study

Adult—Wednesday at 10:30 am
 Adult—Sunday at 9:15 am

Sunday School

Sundays at 9:15 am during the public school year.

Prayer Chain

Kathy Reehl—(920) 688-2312



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.
-ISAIAH 35:4