



Good Shepherd Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
Exciting Happenings and Doings of  
God's People

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 9<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

*He went... preaching a baptism of Repentance for the forgiveness of sins. – Luke 3:3*

**Pastor Bergemann in North Carolina**

Pastor Bergemann will be flying out this Thursday to conduct a wedding in North Carolina. He will return to the office on Tuesday, December 18th. Also, he will be attending a Circuit meeting of WELS pastors in Elgin, Illinois on Monday and preaching for mid-week Advent worship in Elgin on Wednesday.

**Christmas & New Year's Eve Worship**

All are welcome to join us for Christmas and New Year's Eve worship and praise!

12/24 - 4:30 PM - Children's Christmas Eve Program

6:30 PM - Candlelight Worship (**Please note earlier time.**)

12/25 - 9:00 AM - Christmas Day Worship

12/29 - No Worship

12/31 - 5:30 PM - New Year's Eve Worship

**Christmas for Kids Thank You**

Thank you to all of the helpers who helped with Christmas for Kids this past Saturday, including Lindsey Daehnke, Chris Herrmann, Sue Mecklenburg, Jim & Martha Milbourn, Sarah Rardin, Dave and Hannah Roekle, Doug Semenske, various 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders, and the puppet troupe from our sister church, Trinity Lutheran, Crete, IL. We had 30 kids in attendance who had a great time singing songs, doing projects, playing games, and watching a puppet show all while learning about the birth of our Savior Jesus under the theme Shepherds Worship Baby Jesus.

**Thank You – Stamps for Wounded Veterans**

As we approach the Christmas card giving season, if you are able, we ask you to continue to recycle the stamps from your own mail to "brighten someone's day!" Leave about a 1/2 inch border of envelope around the perforations of the stamp. Do not remove the stamp from the envelope it is glued to. The veterans prefer to do that themselves. It's part of their fun. Please place your cancelled stamps in the marked container by the church and school office.

Please see the our military bulletin board in the hallway where a Thank You letter has been posted for stamps already donated as well as for more information about the program.

Questions? Contact Laurie Bowen.

**PLEASE HELP CONTINUE TO RECYCLE**

Downers Grove offers a weekly recycling pick-up free of charge. Please continue to utilize the designated recycling bin located in the kitchen under the shelf where the coffee urns are stored. Recycle clean items such as glass, plastic, paper, aluminum, and cardboard (see the Do's and Don'ts posted). Items may be commingled.

Thank you for helping be good stewards of God's creation.

Questions? Contact Laurie Bowen

### **FISH Food Pantry**

The Downers Grove FISH food pantry has been serving Downers Grove and surrounding communities for 50 years. Remember those less fortunate by donating items to the pantry. Canned goods, toilet paper, and paper grocery bags are always needed. The paper grocery bags are used to pre-pack much needed items for those in need.

If you are able to participate, please place your donations in the collection box located in the narthex near the information table.

Questions? Contact Laurie Bowen.

### **Advent Suppers and Worship Services**

Advent is a time for us to prepare our hearts to meet our Savior as He appears in the flesh at Christmas. All are welcome to join us for Midweek Advent Services beginning Wednesday evening, December 5th. Good Shepherd will be participating in an Advent rotation with Pastors Schupmann (Resurrection) and Free (Abiding Peace). In addition to our Advent services, we will also be offering simple suppers before each service.

### **Food for the body will be served from 5:30 PM-6:30 PM.**

Wednesday, December 5th hosted by Servae Christi

Wednesday, December 12th hosted by MCC

Wednesday, December 19th hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran School

In order to help plan for the meals, if you are able, please sign-up on the sheets in the narthex. Please consider bringing a dessert to share on any of those Wednesday evenings. Questions? Contact Sue Mecklenburg at 630-691-1567, [suzymeck@gmail.com](mailto:suzymeck@gmail.com). Thank you

### **Food for the soul will be served beginning at 7 PM:**

Wednesday, December 5th - Wonderful Counselor (Pastor Bergemann)

Wednesday, December 12th - Mighty God (Pastor Schupmann)

Wednesday, December 19th - Everlasting Father (Pastor Free)

We invite and encourage you to make the most of these opportunities to worship and praise our Advent King!

### **CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING COLLECTION**

Christmas is a time of giving and just as we have done in the previous years, the school children will not exchange gifts with one another, but instead will share with others who are less fortunate.

### **St. Marcus Lutheran, Milwaukee, WI**

We are asking for donations for Good Shepherd Alumni Brittany Chantamany's 4th grade classroom. St. Marcus is an urban choice school for low income families. The toy you donate may be the only Christmas gift these children will receive.

### **Emmaus Lutheran Church**

This WELS congregation is located in Chicago. Pastor Mike Borgwardt from Crossroads in Chicago is serving as their vacancy pastor. They do not have the financial resources to call a full time pastor. The Emmaus leadership has been very active in reaching out to children with God's Word.

If you are able to participate, the gift should be new and unwrapped. We are collecting toys and hats, mittens, and gloves. You may place your gift in the boxes in the school entryway. Collection boxes will be available until Wednesday, December 19.

Grades 3-4 are sponsoring this gift drive. Please direct any questions to Barb Koch. Thank you for reaching out and showing Christ's love to those in need.

### **SCHOOL OPEN FORUM SCHEDULED**

On Monday, December 17th, the School Committee will host an open forum at 6:30 PM to discuss the School Calendar for the 2019-2020 school year and how it aligns with surrounding school districts. We'd love to hear your feedback as we are in the process of developing it. There will also be a short presentation of

the school's Mission, Vision, and Objectives (a 5 year planning document) that has been created while going through our WELSSA re-accreditation process.

#### **PERSONAL MEMBER MINISTRY UPDATE**

As most of what Personal Member Ministry is doing right now happens behind the scenes, I would like to give you an update on where we are at with this ministry. Over the past few months several members of Good Shepherd were invited to help shape how Personal Member Ministry will look at our church. The following members make up the Core Team of Personal Member Ministry - Greg Busse, Lindsey Daehnke, Paula Danekas, Karen D'Aversa, Carlene Derickson, Jen Reynolds-Hinz, and Joan Richmond along with Pastor Bergemann and myself.

On Saturday November 17th we had our Core Team Orientation/Kick off meeting. Lori Lorig gave an overview of Personal Member Ministry to our team. I will be digging in deeper with the team over the next few months as we develop and shape Personal Member Ministry at Good Shepherd. - Kristina John, Member Ministry Coordinator,  
[memberministry@gsdg.org](mailto:memberministry@gsdg.org)

#### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE PRACTICE**

Please remember to mark your calendars. We will be having practice for the Children's Christmas Eve Service on Sunday, 12/23.

11:30 am - Lunch will be provided in Fellowship Hall.

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Practice in the church.

It is very important that the children attend as this will be our last practice.

Questions? E-mail [blast@gsdg.org](mailto:blast@gsdg.org)

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT SEEKING SPRING HOUSING**

Do you have a spare room or know of someone who might be interested in hosting a student. Corianne Strupp, a member of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran in Slinger, WI, is looking to stay with a church family while completing two unpaid physical therapy internships. She'll be at NovaCare in Palatine beginning January 7th. For the second half of the semester (March-May 3<sup>rd</sup>) she'll be placed at ARC Therapy in Elmhurst.

Interested members may call or text Corianne at: 262-224-7964 to discuss potential housing for a half or full semester.

#### **ORDER POINSETTIA PLANTS**

We will be ordering red poinsettia plants to decorate our altar on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We are hoping to fill both poinsettia trees again and to do so we are in need of **40 to 50** plants.

The plants will have 5-7 blooms and will be in 6" foil-wrapped pots. The cost per plant is **\$8.25**. **The last date to order is December 9th**. Please sign the sheet in the Narthex indicating the number of Poinsettia's you are ordering. Payments should be placed in the locked box on the wall of the Narthex. Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Questions? **Contact Karen Bassler @ 630-789-4373**. Those who are donating poinsettia's may take their plants home following the last service on Christmas Day. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.

#### **INSTALLATION OF MCC & SERVAE CHRISTI OFFICERS/COORDINATORS**

On Sunday, November 25th our newly elected or re-elected officers / coordinators of MCC and Servae Christi were installed. We pray that God would continue to richly bless the service of all of His people at Good Shepherd!

**MCC Officers / Coordinators** - On November 12th, the Voters' Assembly of our congregation elected and/or re-elected the following people to serve.

- Shepherding Coordinator - Paul Schoenbeck
- Property Coordinator - Steve Danekas
- Outreach Coordinator - Greg Busse
- School Committee Member - Scott DeStefano
- School Committee Member - Clint Daehnke
- School Committee Member - Mike Loszach

Continuing to serve:

- Dean Gerdes, President and Treasurer
- Doug Semenske, Spiritual Growth Coordinator
- John Roland, Worship Coordinator
- Dan Schindler, Group Life Coordinator
- Steve Cittadine, Mission Resources Coordinator
- Rick Brands, School Committee Chairman
- Justin Barnas, School Committee Member
- Diane Buchholz, Recording Secretary

We also wish to say thank you to those who have served us in the past:

- Daniel John, outgoing Shepherding Coordinator
- Bill Jaeger, outgoing School Committee Member

**Servae Christi Officers / Coordinators** - On November 14th, the Ladies of Servae Christi elected and/or re-elected the following people to serve:

- President - Paula Danekas (moved to the President position following Servae Christi guidelines)
- Vice President - Meg Boerema

(appointed to serve the remaining term vacated by Paula Danekas)

- Secretary - Sue Mecklenburg
- Mission Resources - Lori Abegg
- Spiritual Growth - Lonnie Weaver
- Worship - Inge Wegner and Michal Meek
- Group Life - Vacant
- (Servae Christi will be looking to appoint someone to fill this position)

Continuing to serve:

- Sarah Rardin, Treasurer
- Renita Kennedy, Shepherding Coordinator
- Laurie Bowen and Karen Bassler, Property Coordinators
- Valerie Adegunleye, School Coordinator
- Diane Buchholz, Outreach Coordinator

We also wish to say thank you to those who have served us in the past:

- Kristina John, outgoing President
- Fran Piepenbrink, outgoing Secretary
- Sue Mecklenburg, outgoing Group Life Coordinator
- Cindy Oard, outgoing Mission Resources Coordinator
- Joan Richmond, outgoing Worship Coordinator

### **SCRIP (SUBSTITUTE CASH REBATE INCENTIVE PROGRAM)**

#### **What is SCRIP?**

With SCRIP, families can easily earn rebates for our church and schools while they shop purchasing gift cards through national retail stores where you already shop.

#### **Why should I consider participating in the SCRIP Program?**

- **earn rebates towards the tuition of any student**
- **church general fund**

- **special needs funds**

**Note: Some choices allow earned rebates to be tax deductible.**

**What stores sell cards through SCRIP?**

Over 750 retailers to choose from such as Walmart, Meijer, Target, Kohls, Amazon, Speedway, AMC Theatres, iTunes, Home Depot, Walgreens, CVS, Panera, Chipotle, Applebee's, Best Buy, Southwest Airlines, and many more.

Visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) to learn more and see "What's New" with SCRIP and view "Specials" (increased rebates for a limited time).

[SCRIP Agreement](#) - in order to participate, a completed SCRIP agreement must be on file. Completed agreements should be placed in the SCRIP mailbox in the church/school office. Then contact the SCRIP Coordinator for our Enrollment Code that is needed when creating your SCRIP account.

**On-Hand Inventory (\$25 denomination cards)** - Contact Carlene Derickson if you are interested in one of these cards.

- Kohl's
- Target
- Jewel
- Home Depot

**Order Schedule:**

Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> delivered by December 14<sup>th</sup>

Questions? E-mail our SCRIP Coordinator, Carlene Derickson, at [scrip@gsdg.org](mailto:scrip@gsdg.org) or 630-852-1519 for more information.

**My 2018 Gift for Other Ministries**

(Please place your gift in the offering plate by December 31 in the Benevolence envelope among your 2018 offering envelopes. Please indicate below how you would like your donation to be distributed).

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ WELS Christian Family Solutions

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ WELS Care and Relief Committee

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ WELS Institutional Ministries

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ WELS Mission to the Children

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Branch Lutheran Schools of Haiti

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Central Africa Medical Mission

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Hmong Outreach in Vietnam

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lighthouse Youth Center

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Pregnancy Counseling Center (Mundelein)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Hope's Front Door (Downers Grove)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Cares Ministries

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Martin Luther College

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Teens 4 Teens

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other organization:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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The number on my 2018 weekly offering envelope \_\_\_\_\_

## THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is a contribution of German and Scandinavian traditions. It developed out of the simple use of an evergreen spray of fir, spruce, balsam, or pine placed near the hearth. The evergreen of the wreath represents the life that is found in Christ. The greens are in contrast to the outdoors, where nature has begun its winter sleep. Midst the drabness of nature the evergreen branch symbolizes the continuation of life. In the home it is placed on a central table. In the church it is usually suspended above the altar or set on a pedestal. The light of the candles reminds us of Christ, the light of the world, so it is not at all strange that the Christian church has given the candle a prominent place in the observance of Advent. It is the living light, the living flame, that gives the candle its meaning, because the gospel light of Christ is itself a living power. This is what makes it more symbolic than artificial lights. Jesus is the light that broke forth on the world on the first Christmas when he was born as Prince of Peace. He is the light that gradually penetrated into all the world. The traditional act of lighting one more candle each week tells of the increasingly brighter light of the Messiah's coming and leads gradually to the blaze of light at the dawning of Christmas.

1st Sunday in Advent Jeremiah 33: 14-16 ( Blue )

The Prophecy Candle honors those who spoke His promises

2nd Sunday in Advent Malachi 3: 1-4 ( Blue )

The Bethlehem Candle symbolizes the preparations made for Him.

3rd Sunday in Advent Zephaniah 3: 14-17 ( Pink )

The Shepherds Candle honors the first to spread the good news.

4th Sunday in Advent Micah 5: 2-5a ( Blue )

The Angels Candle celebrates the joy of Gods grace to mankind.

**USHER/S**

12/08 5:30 pm Dave Morgan  
12/09 8:00 am Paul Schoenbeck & Dean Gerdes  
10:30 am Bob Vicker & John Roland  
12/12 7:00 pm Paul Kippes & Greg Busse  
12/15 5:30 pm Daniel John  
12/16 8:00 am Steve Danekas & Bob Reichert  
10:30 am Randy Weaver & Dale Graefnitz  
12/19 7:00 pm Ed Boron & Bill Merchantz

**GREETERS**

12/09 8:00 am Dean Gerdes  
10:30 am Diane Buchholz  
12/16 8:00 am Dave Rardin  
10:30 am Dave Roekle

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE**

12/16 8:00 am Rick Brands & Todd Paradis  
10:30 am John Roland & Dave Roekle  
12/16 8:00 am Rick Brands & Todd Paradis  
10:30 am John Roland & Dave Roekle

**FOLDING SCHEDULE**

12/09 Roxanne Zikis  
12/16 Mary Moore

**LIVE STREAM TEAM**

Sunday

8:00 am Bob Reichert & Kristen Reynolds  
10:30 am Greg Busse

Wednesday

7:00 pm Bob Reichert & Kristen Reynolds

**ALTAR CARE**

12/16 Karen Bassler & Joan Richmond  
12/25 Lindsey Daehnke  
12/31

**COFFEE SCHEDULE**

12/09 Pam Junkunc & Cindy Grunze  
12/16 Sue Mecklenburg & Doris Holcomb



**CALENDAR**

<b>TODAY</b>	8:00 am	Worship Service
	9:20 am	Adult Bible Class / BLAST Sunday school
	10:30 am	Worship Service
<b>MONDAY 12/10</b>	6:00 pm	WELSSA Team Work Night
<b>TUESDAY 12/11</b>	6:00 pm	Catechism
	7:15 pm	Adult Choir
<b>WEDNESDAY 12/12</b>	8:10 am	Kids Connection
	5:30 pm	Advent Supper
	7:00 pm	Advent Worship (Children's Choir sings)
<b>THURSDAY 12/13</b>		
<b>FRIDAY 12/14</b>		
<b>SATURDAY 12/15</b>	5:30 pm	Worship Pastor Henselin
<b>SUNDAY 12/09</b>	8:00 am	Worship Service Pastor Henselin
	9:20 am	Adult Bible Class / BLAST Sunday school
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	3:00 pm	PreK – K Christmas Program
 <b><u>SAVE THE DATE</u></b>		
December 17	3:00 pm	Girl Pioneers
December 19	7:00 pm	Advent Service – Faculty sings
December 20	7:00 pm	MCC Meeting
December 21	11:30 am	PreK-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Early Dismissal
December 23	11:30 am	Lunch – Children's Christmas Eve Program
	12:00 pm	Children's Christmas Eve Program Practice
December 24 – January 4		Christmas Break
December 24	4:30 pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service
	6:30 pm	Candlelight Worship
December 30		NO Blast Sunday School
December 31	5:30 pm	New Year's Eve Worship
January 7	8:10 am	PreK – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Classes Resume