



Good Shepherd Evangelical
Lutheran Church

525 63rd St Downers Grove, IL 60516

(630) 852-1519 www.gsdg.org

Exciting Happenings and Doings of
God's People

January 16 and 17, 2021

Today's focus: *Jesus appears and calls you to faith.* It is in the Word that we hear the call of God that has in it the secret power of God to give what he commands. He commands, *Believe!* and the Word creates faith. He says, *Follow me!* and the Word creates the desire and the ability to follow him. What an amazing thing—that he should consider it glorious to call us! What an amazing thing—that he should attach such power to his Word that we answer the call!

Below please find the link to sign up for worship this weekend...

Worship Signup Link

Weekend Worship Signup

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E45AFA92CABFA7-weekend>

Our Worship Series

Epiphany:	Jesus appears as the Savior of the Nations	<i>January 9/10</i>
<i>Epiphany 1:</i>	<i>Jesus appears and calls you to faith</i>	<i>January 16/17</i>
Epiphany 3:	Jesus appears and calls you to service	<i>January 23/24</i>
Epiphany 4:	Jesus appears and gives you victory	<i>January 30/31</i>
Epiphany 5:	Jesus appears and turns problems into possibilities	<i>February 6/7</i>
Transfiguration:	Jesus appears as the Son of God in glory	<i>February 13/14</i>

Prayer Request for Jordan family

Saroyce Jordan's father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, please keep them in your prayers during this time.

New Recess Equipment

A big thank you to the individual(s) who anonymously gifted the basketball, jump ropes, and recess balls to GSLA! We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness. The GSLA students are excited to utilize this new equipment!



Toy Drive Thank You

Wow! Thank you to everyone who donated to the annual GSLA Toy Drive! The generosity displayed exceeded expectations and will go a long way in helping families at St. Marcus in Milwaukee and Emmaus Lutheran in Chicago.



MEMBER GIVING STATEMENTS

Records of member giving during the 2020 calendar year are kept on line in our church software. Sign up for access to your personal account and the giving records is quick and easy. Instructions are available on the table in the narthex. Online access will substitute for the paper copies of year-end giving statements that the church has produced in the past.

If you are a contributor to our congregation, but not yet a member, please contact the Good Shepherd office and request a giving statement for 2020. Please include a contact email or phone number.

Dean Gerdes President / Treasurer

Personal Member Ministry Love In Action

A big THANK YOU to everyone that donated to the Personal Member Ministry Love In Action opportunity we had before Christmas. Because of your generosity we collected 600 dollars in Jewel gift cards, 250 dollars in Visa gift cards, and 5 new pairs of snow boots! God is good! Our donations went to families in District 58 that contacted the District office saying they were struggling to pay rent/electric, weren't going to be able to buy gifts for their children, and one family had recently become homeless. Needless to say our donations were put to good use!

Thank you for sharing God's Blessings, Hillary Brands

Update on Giving Envelopes

Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

This year we are not automatically providing envelopes to those that have not been using them for a variety of reasons. Each year a large number of boxes of envelopes are not picked up and this has been compounded by the pandemic with many members choosing to attend services online and give through our Vanco online process. When Giving Numbers are typed on the envelopes, we cannot reuse the envelopes that are not picked up for another member's use.

With this new approach in 2021, we can reallocate envelopes not needed by our members. We simply ask that you write the amount given on the envelope (as you have in the past) and add your giving number on the outside of the envelope under the amount given. If you don't recall your giving number, the Good Shepherd office can assist you or you can find your giving number under your profile in our church software. Even without this, we will be able to allocate the

donation to your account as long as it is a check but it helps our current process with the giving number added. While we don't receive a large number of cash donations, if you do give cash, we do need the giving number or at least your name on the envelope. We are providing Building Fund envelopes quarterly this year. Anyone not receiving envelopes or enough envelopes may request additional and we'll be happy to provide them. With these changes, we are simply trying to best utilize the resources at Good Shepherd to better serve the Lord's Kingdom.



BLAST Sunday school

GSDG.org/Get Involved/BLAST Children's Ministry.

I want to start by saying that I pray your family had a beautiful Christmas holiday! My heart was sad on Christmas Eve that we weren't able to do our traditional Family Christmas Service. (I have already started thinking about next year's program, hope the kids are excited!?!)

As we draw this year to a close I wanted to reach out once more to your families to let your children know that I am thinking of them and that our team is making plans for this upcoming year.

1. I am attaching a document to this email that I'm hoping you will share with your children and in turn share with the congregation. We have had a very challenging year and I want the children to have an opportunity to move forward with a positive mindset for the upcoming year. I also want to remind them that God wants us to bring our concerns and thoughts to him, always.
Please print the attachment and ask your child to complete the statement, "In 2021, I will pray for..." They can choose something specific or broad. They can decorate the page if they wish.
Then I ask you to send a photo, if you choose, of your child holding the sign to BLAST@gsdg.org.
Finally encourage your child to put this sign somewhere where they will see it often and remember what they decided to pray for this year. The power of prayer is possible and I want your children to feel powerful in the prayer.
2. We are making plans for when we are able to join in person again to have BLAST on Sundays. We are looking at ways to follow the health and safety guidelines, while also being able to reconnect with all of you in person. Please watch for more information on this and consider how your family can participate in getting your children re-engaged in Sunday School. And we ask for your prayers as we look for solutions.
3. Finally, we will be hosting some virtual Team Training events. Our program cannot succeed without volunteers who are willing to participate in different roles. We need teachers and helpers in the classroom, people to help us communicate with the congregation, people to keep our bulletin board updated, people to purchase and prep crafts and activities for the upcoming week's lesson. All of these roles are vital to keeping our kids engaged and excited about coming to BLAST and learning about Jesus!
Our first virtual **Team Training will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7p**. We will make the link available through the church newsletter and webpage. Please consider how you can support our program and plan on coming to listen in and contribute your thoughts about how we can make BLAST amazing!

Thank you everyone for all of your support over this past year. We look forward to worshipping with you and your children soon!

God's Blessings and Happy New Year!

Teresa Schindler

Online Spiritual Resources

We will continue to provide online, streamed worship services each weekend on our website, www.gsdg.org Other online resources you may enjoy at this time include the Time of Grace ministries website (<https://timeofgrace.org>). This WELS group provides a wealth of devotions and sermons on various topics.

The WELS website provides a directory of all WELS churches that stream worship, as well as devotions, Bible studies, and the latest update from our Synod President, Mark Schroeder (www.wels.net). One congregation providing traditional, midweek streamed worship is Christ Lutheran Church, Big Bend, Wisconsin (www.christbigbend.com)
God's blessings to you as you continue to feed on His Word!

Stamps Needed for the Wounded

Many hospitalized or out-patient veterans find great enjoyment in stamp collecting. Thanks to the Lions' Club and many devoted volunteers, the Stamps for the Wounded postage stamp program gives these hospitalized or wheelchair-bound veterans something to do, something to look forward to, and connects them with other collectors.

During this time of the year, you may be receiving additional cards in the mail, please drop your stamps in the box outside the church office.

They are greatly appreciated by the center and their community. Please enjoy your Advent Season and Merry Christmas.



What is SCRIP?

With SCRIP, families can easily earn rebates while they shop purchasing gift cards through 750+ national retail stores where you already shop.

Earn rebates:

- towards the tuition of any student
- for the church general fund
- for special needs funds

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

Shop and earn rebates with gift cards today at ShopWithScrip.com. SCRIP is now accepting payment by credit card when ordering online (a small transaction fee is collected by SCRIP.)

On-Hand Inventory (\$25 denomination cards)

- We have a limited supply of the cards listed below. We accept cash or check payment made payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. If you are interested in purchasing any of these cards, please contact Carlene Derickson or Clint Daehnke.

- Kohl's
- Target
- Jewel
- Home Depot

[SCRIP-to-GO Order Form](#)

- Use this form if you do not have an online [shopwithscrip](http://shopwithscrip.com) account. Payment is due with your order. A SCRIP Agreement is still required to be on file.

[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.



Bulletins

January: Usher Schedule

27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve D Graefnitz 5:30 pm	1	2 S Danekas 5:30 pm
3 B Reichert 8:00 am J Roland 10:30 am	4	5	6	7	8	9 J Abegg 5:30 pm
10 E Guldberg 8:00 am B Merchantz 10:30 am	11	12	13	14	15	16 A Rush 5:30 pm
17 E Schindler 8:00 am D Graefnitz 10:30 am	18	19	20	21	22	23 A Rush 5:30 pm
24 D Schindler 8:00 am J Abegg 10:30 am	25	26	27	28	29	30 E Guldberg 5:30 pm
31 S Danekas 8:00 am T Oard 10:30 am	1	2	3	4	5	6 D Graefnitz 5:30 pm



**January:
Communion Setup - Cleanup**

Dec - 27	28	29	30	31	Jan - 1	2 Kathy O
3 Fran P	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Sue M
17 Inge W	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Feb - 1	2	3	4	5	6 Aggie R

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship Service w/Communion
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion
MONDAY		No School GSLA
TUESDAY	3:30 pm	Curriculum Meeting
WEDNESDAY	12:00 pm	Band Practice
	3:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
THURSDAY		
FRIDAY		
SATURDAY	5:30 pm	Worship Service
SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Worship Service

Serving in Worship

Pastor:		Jon Bergemann
Organist:		Karen D'Aversa
Live Stream Team		
Sun	8:00 am	Kristen Reynolds & Bob Reichert
	10:30am	Greg Busse

Contact Information

Pastor Jon Bergemann

Principal David Roekle
7th and 8th Grade Teacher

Preschool Director Kathryn Blumer

Preschool Teacher and Director

Personal Member Ministry Kristina Krug-John

Church Secretary

Jennifer Reynolds

office – 630.852.1519
Email – pastor.bergemann@gsdg.org
Cell phone – 507.217.3492
Email – david.roekle@gsdg.org
Cell phone – 262.617.6924
Email – kat.blumer@gsdg.org
MemberMinistry@gsdg.org
Church office – 630.852.1519
School office – 630.852.5081
Cell phone – 630-399-3648
Office Email – office@gsdg.org

Worship Attendance in God's House (01/09 and 01/10)

Saturday (5:30) – 39

Sunday (8:00) – 21

Sunday (10:30) – 34

Weekend Total – 94

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR GOD'S WORK

	Week Ending	Weekly Offering	YTD Offering	YTD Budget	% of Budget
Week 27	01/03/2021	\$2,580.00	\$ 288,594.75	\$327,000.00	100.1%
	Week Ending	Weekly Offering	YTD Offering	YTD Budget	% of Budget
Week 28	01/10/2021	\$4,740.00	\$ 328,762.69	\$334,000.00	99.4%

STEWARDSHIP ENCOURAGEMENT FROM GOD'S WORD

I Timothy 6: 6 – 8 – Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing we will be content with that.