



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

The Shepherd's Scroll

Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching in Jesus' Name

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

EASTER GREENINGS

Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain.... ELW 379

Now The Green Blade Rises is one of my favorite Easter hymns. This hymn celebrates the resurrection of Jesus with the image of a seed, "like the grain that sleeps unseen" "in the dark earth", sprouting again, and bringing with it the fulfillment of the promise of new life.



Every Easter we celebrate the new life that Jesus gives us freely and lovingly through his own death and resurrection. We celebrate it with Alleluias and with renewed commitment to our faith. We celebrate it with Christians around the world, and in many ways, we celebrate it with the earth itself.

The new life Jesus brings and the new life we, here in the northern hemisphere, see growing around us in fields and hedges and farms and flower gardens, are very different. But in the sprouting, in the greening, of the world around us, in the promise of spring bursting forth, we see a reflection of the new life, the greening, of our lives in Christ.



One of the ways we are called to follow Christ is in our stewardship of creation. The very earth that reminds us daily right now of Jesus' resurrection is also in need of our care. Wednesday, April 22, 2026, is known in our World-wide Lutheran circles as El Día de la Creación (Day of the Creation). The secular world marks the same day as Earth Day. Different names, but entirely the same purpose: to encourage everyone to care for, to treasure, to preserve and protect, the earth and its creatures. On this day, we are invited to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

At Good Shepherd, we used to have an active Green Team who taught and brought us ways to do just that – to be careful stewards. They helped us, among other things, to move to reusable bulletins, LED lighting, washable cups and plates, and emailed newsletters. These were all good steps. Still, I wonder if it is time for that Green Team to reassemble. To help us all find new ways – as a church, and as individuals - to care for God’s creation right here and right now.

This Easter, I pray that we will all experience and celebrate the new life Jesus brings in us as disciples, as followers of God. And I also pray that a different kind of Easter greening may happen through us – as we, renewed by the promises of Jesus, care for God’s world in new and impactful ways.

Blessings in our Risen Savior,
Pastor Lynette Chapman

PS: If you agree with me and would like to be part of that renewed Green Team, please talk to me or to Sam Fisher. Two projects that are possible starting places are establishing a Pollinator Pocket here at Good Shepherd and composting. We have funds for both.



WORSHIP NEWS

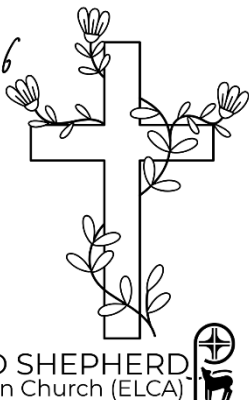
Holy Week 2026

Palm Sunday Mar. 29 9 AM

Maundy Thursday Apr. 2 7 PM

Good Friday Apr. 3 7 PM

GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church (ELCA)



Sunday, April 5 – Easter!

Easter 2026

Celebrate the Resurrection!

Easter Sunday Worship
April 5 - 9 AM

Egg Hunt
follows worship at approx. 10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church (ELCA)



Sunday, April 12 – Madagascar Sunday
This will be a joyful time of worship filled with fun and learning as we celebrate our connections with Malagasy Lutherans.

Sunday, April 19 – Communion at the Rail
We're trying to offer communion at the rail on the third Sunday of every month during 2026.

Sunday, April 26 – Good Shepherd Sunday!
A day to celebrate Jesus, our Good Shepherd, as well as our congregation's impact in living out our mission.



ADULT FORUM

Sunday mornings at 10:15AM

GSLC Choir Room

April 5 – Easter Sunday – No Adult Forum

April 12 – Low Impact Physical Activity.
Bryce, athletic trainer from Carle Community Health, will describe the value of low-impact activities and lead us in some exercises we can do ourselves. Stretch bands provided!

April 19 – A Visit from the Imam.

Joining us from the local Mosque in Urbana, Imam Ousmane Sawadogo will discuss the religion of Islam, of which he is the local leader, and share with us some insights on the faith and practice of Muslim people today.

April 26 – Dr. William Gingold.

A local resident, Bill tells the compelling story of his family and the Holocaust, which he survived as a child, largely kept alive by his mother, Lea. Join us for this special presentation in commemoration of Mother's Day coming in May.

SYNOD/ELCA NEWS



GO. TOGETHER! SYNOD RELATION TRIP

We will join in mission and fellowship to do God's work in Champaign-Urbana on Saturday, April 18.

GO. TOGETHER! SYNOD RELATION-TRIP

As you know, Good Shepherd is hosting this event. If you can help with the kitchen for coffee/donuts in the morning on Saturday, April 18th, or if you can help with water and cookies in the afternoon, please talk to Pastor Lynette or Katrina Widholm.

GET ACTION ALERTS FROM ELCA ADVOCACY, including information about ongoing threats to Christians in Palestine. Sign up using this link: <https://act.elca.org/page/93847/action/1?chain> or visit ELCA.org for information about advocacy efforts around the world. This is a good way for folks in our community to stay informed about issues we can impact in various ways. If you'd like more information about this ministry of the ELCA, you can talk to Al Mytty.

ELECTED!

Congrats to Susan Baretto – new member of the Global Missions Committee for the Synod, representing East Central Conference.

Congrats to Al Mytty, who joins not only the ELCA Sumud group as the lay representative for C/SIS, but also our synod's Social Ministry, Justice, and Advocacy Team, representing the East Central Conference.



MADAGASCAR DAY

Sunday, April 12th is Madagascar Day. We'll celebrate in worship that morning with trivia, a couple short videos, a special litany and prayers as we learn about (and from!) our companion synods in Madagascar. Join us!

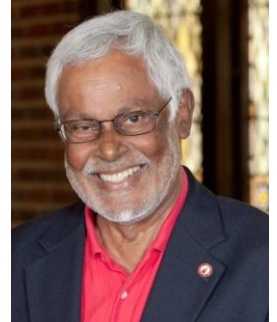
Madagascar Day

April 12 is designated as "Madagascar Day" in our synod to celebrate and learn about our companion synods in Madagascar and our Malagasy siblings in Christ.

ADVANCED ADULT FAITH FORMATION through our Synod!

Introduction to Fundamentals of Christian Theology to Serve God’s Mission in the 21st Century
The spring adult faith formation class on systematic theology, “Introduction to Fundamentals of Christian Theology to Serve God’s Mission in the 21st Century,” will be held on six consecutive Saturdays starting April 11 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The first session of this course will be held in person at **Peace Lutheran Church, 2800 West Jefferson Street, Springfield**. The remaining sessions will be online via Zoom. You can register for this course on the Synod website – www.csis-elca.org. This course is open to anyone who wants to learn.

Presented by the Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud, the primary focus of this course in systematic theology will be an introduction to fundamentals of the Christ faith: theological non-negotiables, grounded in Scripture, Creeds, and the Confessions. Given that in the words of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, we confess, “We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church ...,” the approach will be Lutheran and ecumenical, and it will give intimations to participants that faithful witness to Jesus Christ means being aware of and learning about the diversity of the world in Scripture and in our own immediate and the wider communities. Participants will be asked to reflect on the church’s confession that God is eternally Triune, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



About the presenter: The Rev. Dr. Winston D. Persaud is retired professor of systematic theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. He is a graduate of the University of St. Andrews, Scotland (Ph. D., 1980), Wartburg Theological Seminary (Master of Divinity, 1977), and the University of Guyana (B.A., 1974). He is a native of Guyana, where he served his home congregation, Redeemer Lutheran Church, prior to joining the Wartburg faculty in February 1984. His teaching and research are focused on defining and confessing the gospel of Jesus Christ in a world of religious and non-religious alternatives. He seeks to speak of God’s justifying grace in and through Jesus Christ in a way that makes the technical language of Scripture and the Confessions connect with the questions people are asking.

GOOD NEWS!

Good Shepherd has been chosen to receive a \$500 grant from ELCA Hunger to help with our food ministries. Thanks to Bob Clark for doing the application leg work.

PHYSICAL GIFTS RECEIVED RECENTLY

Icon of Oscar Romero de El Salvador – Given by Nancy Olsen

Chime tree – Purchased with Memorial Funds

Seasonal worship folders for the altar – Purchased with Memorial Funds

Many thanks to all of our donors.

SMALL GROUPS @ GSLC



DWELLING TOGETHER

2nd-5th Sundays
10:15AM

Sit down for a chat, a conversation about a Bible passage, mutual support & prayer in the Small Group

Room near the Library. Led by Sue Plisch.



CANCER PRAYER & SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, April 23
6PM
Small Group Gathering Room



GSLC PIECE MAKERS

Tuesdays
Noon-3PM

GSLC Quilt Room

No experience necessary. Most of our time is spent sorting, cutting, and ironing fabric. Jobs for every skill level! All are welcome! Contact Lois McConomy or Jodi Davis for more info.



Join the men for coffee time!
All men are welcome!

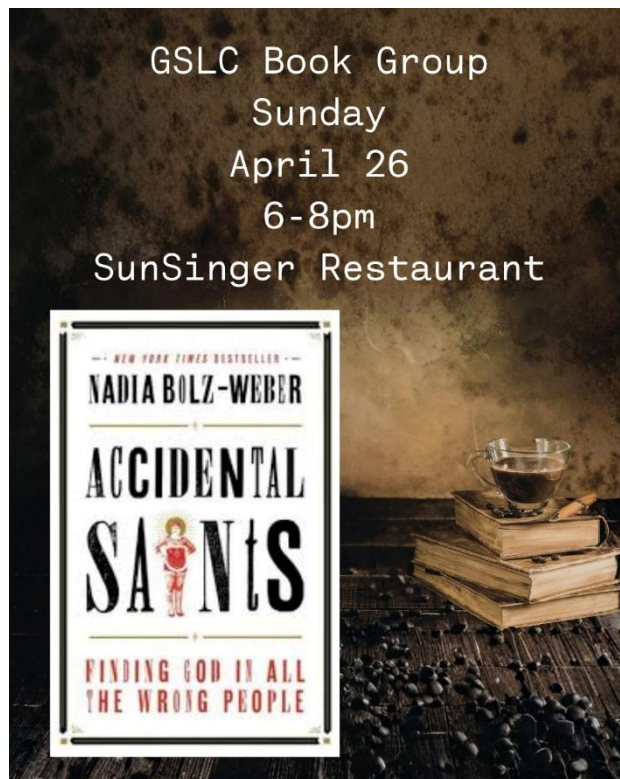
FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Hops and Hymns



Sunday, April 19 | Riggs, Urbana | 5-7 PM

Champaign-Urbana Lutherans (ELCA)





All women are encouraged to consider Jesus' words "I AM the good shepherd," by picking up a free copy of "GATHER" magazine from hallway near the nursery.

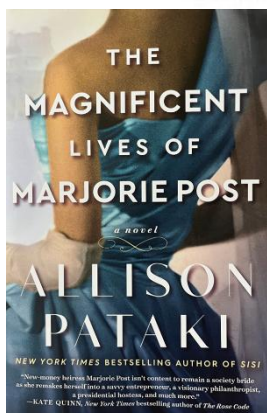
You can review study starting on page 24 before discussing "God's name, God's promise" together.



WELCA BOOK CLUB

**Thursday
April 9, 9:30AM
GSLC Choir Room**

The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post
By Allison Pataki



A historical fiction novel about the life of Marjorie Merriweather Post, from her humble beginnings in Battle Creek to becoming one of America's wealthiest women by age thirty. She was inspired by a few simple rules: Always think for yourself, never take success for granted and work hard. She was a savvy businesswoman, and a prominent socialite.

Contact Jan Nuss with questions.

LWR PERSONAL CARE SUPPLIES

We will once again in May have a brunch and meet to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. **We have a large box in the narthex for your donations; all items should be new.**

Here is what we need for each kit:

- *1 bath towel, dark color, not a bath sheet
- *toenail clippers
- *toothbrush, soft bristles
- *sturdy comb
- *2 bars of soap, 4 ounces each, individually wrapped (not boxed)

To save on postage expenses we remove all packaging and stickers before we wrap each kit together. If you prefer to donate cash to purchase these items, please donate to WELCA for LWR or Personal Care Kits. Thank you for your donations. For questions contact Gail Block.



GOOD SHEPHERD WOMEN'S SPRING BRUNCH

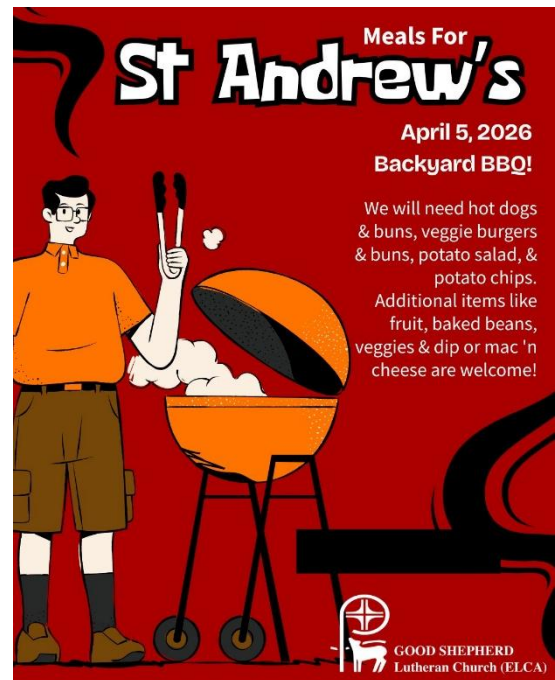
On **May 16**, the women of Good Shepherd will gather in our Fellowship Hall for the annual Spring Brunch from **9:30-11:00AM**. After enjoying time for food and conversation, we will assemble the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits.

We're hoping to pack 100 kits. Continue bringing in dark bath towels, toothbrushes, toenail clippers, combs and bars of soap to the large box in the narthex until the brunch.

Contact Gail Block if you are able to help set up all the toiletries at 11AM Friday, May 15

We also we need volunteers to bring egg casseroles, fruit, pastries, and juice.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTER MEALS

St. Andrew's is in their new building and we are no longer limited to crockpot meals! Good Shepherd will continue to provide meals for 10-15 people on the **first Sunday of the month, and we are committed to April 5 and May 3**. If you are interested in providing food contact Agatha. She can pick up items at Good Shepherd or stop by your house, if that is more convenient!

*April Menu – Backyard BBQ!

-Hot dogs, veggie burgers, buns, potato salad, potato chips, fruit, baked beans, veggies & dip, mac n' cheese, etc.

*May Menu - Breakfast for dinner!

-Ingredients to make waffles/pancakes, syrup, eggs, butter, bacon/sausage, fruit, milk, juice, etc.

Contact Agatha Barnes with any questions.



CHRISTIE CLINIC | ILLINOIS
Race Weekend


If you signed up don't forget to come hand out water to runners, kitty corner to the church at the corner of Prospect & Ayrshire.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH

 **GOOD SHEPHERD**
Lutheran Church (ELCA)



GAME NIGHT
Family Board Game Night
Friday, April 10th
5-8 pm at GSLC




YOUTH NEWS



See you at the
EASTER EGG HUNT
Easter Sunday
10:30 AM

Thanks to everyone who provided candy and eggs!

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR APRIL AND MAY

Sunday's Cool! Join us each Sunday as we encounter the Bible in creative ways! If you'd like to get involved in teaching or helping in a classroom, please talk to Katrina Widholm. If you already are a teacher and can fill in any of the gaps listed below, please do so on the bulletin board near the library.

Date	Holy Moly (Pre-K - 3rd)	Connect! (3rd-6th)	Jr/Sr. High (7th-12th)
12-Apr	Open	Pr Lynette	Vance
19-Apr	Open	Pr Lynette	David
26-Apr	Open	Pr Lynette	David
3-May	Open	Open	Pr Lynette
10-May	Open	Open	Pr Lynette
17-May	Messy Church / See-you-next-year party!		

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES – April

Sign up with your parent for the Go.
Together! Synod Relation-trip event on
April 18th.

and/or

Sign up with your parent or by yourself
(Pr. Lynette will be present and shepherd
the youth) for the Marathon water station
on April 25th.

There will NOT be God Squad Youth Group
in April, due to the other events.

We WILL plan something for May.

Pastor Lynette will be in touch about dates
and activities.

**LEADERSHIP LAB 2026**

For teens AND adults!

JUNE 22nd-27th

2026

Augustana College
Rock Island, IL

What IS Lab?

At lab, PARTICIPANTS experiment and practice leadership for church and community while encountering an intense, transformational Faith experience.

What is the cost? \$420 per person (cost increases on 4/15), but Good Shepherd has funds to help with this cost.

Discounts Available (1 per registration):

-1 FREE Adult Registration with the purchase of 5 student registrations

-10% discount for anyone who attended Leadership Lab 2025 (\$378/person)

-25% discount for participants from churches participating in Leadership Lab for the first time or have not attended in more than 5 years. (\$315/person)

What is included in the cost?

- Rooming in a college dorm room
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner for the week
- T-Shirt

Learn more or register at

<https://leadershiplab.net/>

If you're interested in being part of a Good Shepherd group, talk to Pastor Lynette.

Messy Church!

Messy Church is a hands-on, interactive time for worship and exploration as a family, as individuals, and as a community of disciples. All are welcome!

Sunday, May 17

10:15-11:15 AM

All Ages Welcome!



Theme:
Pentecost!

THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILD (OR GRANDCHILD) DURING EASTER WORSHIP

- * Get there early enough to get a seat where your child can see and hear easily.
- * Borrow a worship bag (located behind the back pew near the entrance) and use it with your child. Grab a children's bulletin and crayons from the shelves by the worship bags.
- * Point out and even visit the banners, flowers and other Easter decorations. (They can be hard to see across a big room.) Savor the colors and sparkle. Identify the symbols. Remember that Easter lilies are shaped like trumpets announcing Jesus is alive. (Such visits are especially good for early arrivers after you have secured your seats.)
- * Enjoy the trumpets, drums and other special musical instruments.
- * Remember your baptism – and help your child remember theirs – in the baptismal font.
- * Stand short children on their pew when the congregation stands so they can see more easily and can sing and speak in the middle of the sound rather than under it.
- * Help children sing every "Alleluia!" in the Easter hymns even if they can't read the other words. Together count the alleluias in one song or in the whole service. To do the latter make a hash or write an A in the margin of your bulletin each time you hear, sing or say the word.

- * Encourage kids to look for all of the Easter Eggs on the screens during the service. See how many they can find!
- * Nudge your child just before the Gospel is read saying, "Listen to this. It is the big story for this day."
- * As the sermon begins, encourage your child to explore the Easter story with the sticker book you were given.
- * Help your child pass the peace to everyone around you.
- * Make all your comments about the crowd positive. Be happy to see how many people think the Easter story is important. Point out that they care enough to dress in their best and come to hear it and sing about it with everyone else.
- * (After the service) take a picture of your family in the sanctuary or outside with the church building in the background to remind yourselves that you were here. Take a picture at one of the butterflies – and remember that you are given wings!
- * Remember, you are creating memories. Some of them will be warm and wonderful. Others will lead to family eye-rolling stories told for years to come. All of them shape lives.

Adapted from an article written by Leslie Swaim-Fox

GATHER C-U

Gather C-U is a community for young adults (20s and 30s) from ELCA congregations in the Champaign-Urbana area. Group Me for more information

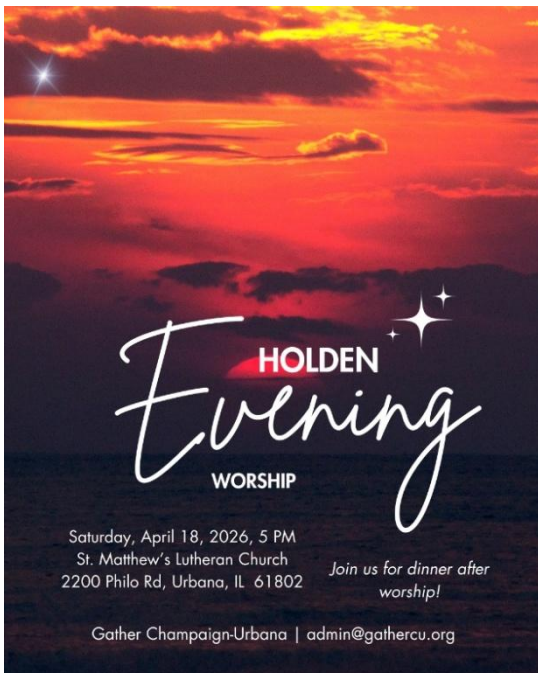


Saturday, April 4th - Arboretum Walk & Hangout

Join us for a relaxed afternoon at the University of Illinois Arboretum on Saturday, April 4 at 3:00 PM. We'll walk the trails, enjoy the outdoors, and spend time together. If the weather is nice, we'll bring a frisbee, football, and blankets so we can hang out on the grass. The cherry blossoms may be starting to bloom, but we'll enjoy the space either way. Parking is available in Lot F-31 (St. Mary's Road and Lincoln Avenue) and Lot F-32 (on Lincoln Avenue across from the Vet Med complex). Parking should be free on Saturdays. The closest bus stop is Lincoln at Japan House. If you need a ride, let us know! If the weather is too cold or rainy, we will share a backup plan ahead of time.



Saturday, April 18th - Holden at St. Matthew's



Join us on Saturday, April 18 at 5:00 PM for Holden Evening Prayer at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Urbana. This is a peaceful, music-filled service that is part of a worldwide celebration of Holden Evening Prayer. No musical experience is needed, everyone is welcome to listen or sing along. After the service, we will go out to dinner together (most likely Casa Del Mar). Parking is available at the church, and the closest bus stop is McHenry & Philo (SW Corner). We can also help arrange rides if needed. Hope to see you there!



Zechariah Fisher said he received the care package box sent to his college and said there were so many cool things in the package!

Thank you to everyone who donated goodies for these care packages sent to all of our college students!



**Spring is here!
Time to join our mowing team!**

Psalm 72:6 says, “May [God] be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.”

**Property Committee is calling for volunteers to add to the mowing team. We are looking for a few more volunteers to fill out our schedule and fill a few open spots. No experience necessary – minimal training needed!
See Traci, Joe Chamley, Jeff Young or Bob Clark.**

Someone You
Should Know!



Nancy

LIVE
LOVE
Volunteer
Spotlight



GOOD SHEPHERD
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Nancy McCowen

How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?

I joined Good Shepherd in 1964 along with my parents Bill and Sybil Hartz. My husband, Tom, and I were married at Good Shepherd, our children were baptized and confirmed at Good Shepherd.

Finish the sentence: Discipleship is..... Or Following Jesus means.....

Discipleship means to me to be a lifelong follower of Jesus Christ and endeavor to personally serve God especially as a part of a living community with other followers. Personally, it has been a growing process through service and attending Bible Study, church service, and prayer.

What are you passionate about? How did you discover that passion?

Through the years my passion has taken on different goals. At Good Shepherd it has changed as life has changed. In the beginning my passion focused on bringing youth into the fold through teaching Sunday School, being a youth leader, and Sunday School Superintendent. Later my passion turned to serving as a part of the leadership and I began service as a Council member several times, The passion turned to the various aspects of growth of Good Shepherd and its mission. I have always been passionate about making "things" better.

You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you?

Yes.

What should people know about the community service workwork that you do?

Although I have served in many capacities at GSLC, in these later years I have felt it is time for me to leave leadership to new and younger members. Thus, my involvement has lessened, and my attention has focused more on my personal relationship with God. GSLC is in such good hands with Pastor and the involvement of younger and even newer members.

What is one thing you're deeply grateful for right now?

I am deeply grateful for my health. Beating cancer three times and undergoing successful treatment and surgery. God has truly blessed me, especially with good friends at GSLC.

What about your work (volunteer or paid) is the most fulfilling to you?

Results of improving processes and physical facilities while I served on the property committee. Earlier volunteering as one of the youth leaders.

Why are you a part of this congregation?

GSLC is my faith community, and I have benefited from the joys of friendships developed throughout the years. It has become my family who has showered me with a loving atmosphere of care and compassion.

What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?

There are so many but probably memories of being involved with the youth and seeing them grow into adult Christians and continuing their relationships with Christ. Personally, the baptism of my children and their children and watching how they grow in faith.

Who do you think we should know more about here at Good Shepherd? Who would you recommend that we interview/talk to?

There are several, but Kim McFarland comes to mind. She goes about quietly volunteering. Dan Corkery has done so much with outreach.

APRIL SERVING SCHEDULE

	04/02/2026 Maundy Thursday 7PM	04/03/2026 Good Friday 7PM	04/05/2026 Easter	4/12/2026	4/19/2026	4/26/2026
Acolyte	Logan Young	Declan O'Connell	Jake Brucker	Levi Todd	Logan Young	Donovan Dewing
Communion Assistants	Carol Steinman	N/A	Agatha Barnes Becky Fisher Ash Waller	John Todd Tori Corkery Mary Szyszka	Cinda Brucker Becky Fisher Dean Olson Nancy Olson	Rebecca Nef-Heffernan Joe Chamley Mary Szyszka
	Bob Coverdill	Bob Coverdill Dean Olson Nancy Olson	Dan Corkery	Lois McConomy	June Waller	Becky Cook
	Beth Followell	N/A	Beth Followell	Beth Followell	Mary Szyszka	Mary Szyszka
Nursery	Susan Barreto	Lisa Young	Samantha Fisher	Lisa Young	Marla Todd & Carol Manley	Jenelle Keene
Usher	Dean Olson	Tim O'Connell	Eric Brucker	Joe Chamley	Ash Waller	Patty Hart
Flower Delivery	Dean Olson	Tim O'Connell	Eric Brucker	Joe Chamley	Ash Waller	Patty Hart
LiveStream	N/A	N/A	Agatha Barnes	Lois McConomy	Deb Swanson	Patty Hart
Coffee/Donuts	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann
	N/A	N/A	Kim McFarland & Sally Widholm	Becky Fisher & Laurie Johnson	Sally Widholm & Samantha Fisher	Don Block & Samantha Fisher
Food Delivery	N/A	N/A	Gerald & Rosalyn Roosevelt	Nancy McCowen & Carol Manley	Jodi Davis & Vickie Wilson	Don & Gail Block
Food Packing	N/A	N/A	Lisa Young	N/A	N/A	N/A

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer on Sunday mornings, please contact Traci in the church office at staff@gslc-cu.org to be added to our volunteer list.



Pastor	Lynette Chapman
Parish Admin. Asst.	Traci Shepherd
Treasurer	Bob Clark
Keyboardist	Leon Harrell
Custodian	Dennis Lage
Bookkeeper	Dana VanDeveer Jones
Program Assistant	Katrina Widholm
Parish Nurses	Sandy Reifsteck
	Elizabeth Kakoma
	Celeste Coverdill

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:00AM-3:00PM

Friday 8:00AM-Noon

Deadline for Scroll is the 15th of every month.

Bulletin / Announcement / Shout Out Deadline is Wednesday at noon each week.

If you would like to receive a printed copy of the Scroll, please contact Traci at staff@qslc-cu.org.

Paper copies are also available at the church.