



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

# The Shepherd's Scroll

P r e a c h i n g , T e a c h i n g , a n d R e a c h i n g i n J e s u s ' N a m e

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:



### Arrivals

It's a trope of many movies: the driver standing with a hand-lettered sign, waiting at the arrival gate for the passenger to exit the airplane. Or, if it's a more personal scene, the family gathered with balloons and signs to greet the incoming person with hugs and celebration. Honestly, though, most of the times I've traveled, the only thing that has greeted me is a sea of people, all trying to make it to their connection or find their way to the baggage carousel or ground transportation.

I wonder, as we await the arrival of Jesus this advent, how we will greet him. Will we stand there stoically with a little sign: "Jesus". As if greeting the coming of our Lord is just another day's work. Will Jesus arrive and find no one waiting at all? No one watching or hoping or yearning to greet his advent among us.

Or, will Jesus arrive to greet folks who are waiting to greet him? Gathered, prepared already for celebration? Eager to see him again?

And even as I ask these questions, I'm also struck by two truths. One, no one knows when Jesus will return. We can be prepared to an extent, but that preparation isn't likely standing in a spot waiting for him. That preparation will be the work we do to bring about God's kingdom here on earth – the care we take for the poor, the justice we strive to bring to the oppressed, the healing we participate in for the hurting.

And two, Jesus is already here. Even as we await his arrival, even as we anticipate his return in glory, we also know that he is with us always, even to the end of the age, as he tells the disciples in the last verses of Matthew.

This advent, as we await the celebration of Jesus' birth, as we look for his coming again into our world, even as we work to anticipate his coming, may we also look around us and see signs of Jesus' presence here and now: in the breaking of the bread, in the Word spoken and heard, in the faces of the gathered community of saints, in the form of a stranger coming off of a busy airplane, and in all of the many least likely places our Lord might show up. Including a dusty manger.

Advent blessings,  
Pastor Lynette

### **ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTER OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

St. Andrew's is needing to hire an office administrator.

This is a part-time position for an individual who is detail oriented and committed to supporting a healthy ministry focused on the students at the University of Illinois.

This position focuses on the day-to-day operations of the ministry of St. Andrew's, welcoming all who enter the space, and managing the use of the building. The Office Administrator will work closely with the Pastor to ensure the ministry is functioning behind the scenes. This position is on-site, generally 9:00am-1:00pm daily, to establish regular office hours for St. Andrew's. **(A full job description is posted on our bulletin board at Good Shepherd.)**

Please send the following to [Pastor@lutherancampuscenter.org](mailto:Pastor@lutherancampuscenter.org)

**-A resume, professional references, and a cover letter that addresses the following questions:**

**Why are you interested in this position?**

**How are you qualified for this position?**

## WORSHIP NEWS



**Sunday, December 7 – Second Sunday of Advent; Bell Choir highlighted in worship**

**Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent and Sanctuary Anniversary**

**Sunday, December 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent with Congregational Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday, December 28 – First Sunday of Christmas**

### **ADVENT WREATH LIGHTERS WANTED!**

Would you (alone or with your family) like to light the advent wreath in worship this year?

We need people to light the candles on the wreath **December 24 at 4:00PM**, and **December 24 at 8:00PM**. We could also use someone on **December 28<sup>th</sup>**, too!

If you are willing, please email the office or talk to Pastor Lynette.



### **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Wednesday December 24**

**4PM & 8PM**



**Join our handbell ringers!**

**Questions?**

**Contact**

**Leon Harrell**

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?  
ALL VOICES WELCOME!**

**GSLC Choir**

**SING**  
9am Sunday  
Worship  
GSLC Sanctuary  
8:30am call time

**REHEARSE**  
7-8pm  
Wednesdays  
GSLC Choir Room

**GOOD SHEPHERD  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

God gave you a voice,  
use it for His glory!

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2101 S. Prospect, Champaign, IL - 217/352-1732 - [www.gslc-cu.org](http://www.gslc-cu.org)





## ADULT FORUM

**December 7:  
The Book of  
Hebrews, Part 1**

Pastor Cinda Brucker will lead a discussion on a compelling New Testament manuscript by an unknown author. The book emphasizes that faith in God and Christ is essential for navigating life's trials. This epistle contains several persuasive articles of faith, but who might have written it, for what audience, and what for?

## December 14: The Book of Hebrews, Part 2

Pastor Cinda Brucker completes her presentation featuring the main themes of this engaging section of the New Testament. Major themes are the superiority of Jesus, and perseverance of faith in Christ. **Last session of Adult Forum until January.**

## SMALL GROUPS @ GSLC



## DWELLING TOGETHER

**2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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.



## 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!**



## CANCER PRAYER & SUPPORT GROUP

**We will not meet this month due to the holidays. Our next group meeting will be January 22 @ 6PM.**

## FELLOWSHIP EVENTS


### Christmas Hops and Hymns

**Sunday, December 28 4 PM**

**at 25 O'Clock Brewing**

**208 W Griggs St, Urbana, IL 61801**

**BYOB non alcoholic drinks.**



NOTE:

This is a **NEW** location for us. We will **NOT** be at Riggs this time.



GOOD SHEPHERD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *Lord, Teach us to Pray* SATURDAY PRAYER EXPERIENCES

**SCHEDULE:**

Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – Lectio Divina "Sacred Reading"

Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> – Praying with our Senses

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – Breath Prayers or the Lord's Prayer

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – Happy Easter! No session.

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Centering Prayer

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – Journaling Prayer

**WHEN?**  
9-10 AM

**WHERE?**  
Good Shepherd  
Choir Room or  
Small Group  
Room

Attend any or all sessions. No registration necessary.



### LORD. TEACH US TO PRAY SECOND SATURDAY SERIES

The dictionary defines prayer as an address to God in word or thought. Who taught you to pray? For most of us, we learned to pray as children, perhaps kneeling beside our bed at night. Or we learned sitting on the lap of one of our parents. We probably learned the simple prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep . . ." As we got older we most likely learned the Lord's Prayer through hearing it at home and at church.


Now, besides praying with our friends and neighbors on Sunday morning and at other worship times, we have developed other times and places for praying. We pray

## Table Talk Pub Theology Group

Next gathering:  
**Sunday, January 18**  
**6 PM**

**Triptych Brewing, Savoy**

conversation about faith and life, current events,  
and more.  
no preparation necessary.  
all are welcome.



in thanksgiving for a beautiful day or the birth of a new baby. We pray in contrition, asking God's forgiveness and help in overcoming our shortcomings. We pray in praise of a loving and provident God. Perhaps, though, there is a longing for a deeper prayer life.

Beginning in January, on the second Saturday of each month, presentations on various prayer forms will be available. The sessions will be free and no registration is required. You can come to any or all of the presentations.

The sessions will be approximately an hour long and will introduce you to new ways to approach prayer.

The January 10<sup>th</sup> session will be on the topic of Lectio Divina "Holy Reading". Future presentations will cover sensory prayer, praying the Lord's Prayer more deeply, centering prayer, and journaling prayer. Watch the bulletin and Shout Out for details each month.

May you find the spiritual practices  
that offer you a doorway into  
the heart of God.

Jan L. Richardson

Good Shepherd's  
Sunday

# BOOK GROUP

- Meet ups quarterly
- Discover new books
- Stretch your mind and heart

**Next Book: The False White Gospel by Jim Wallis**

**Discussion Time/Place :**  
January 25, 6 PM  
SunSinger Restaurant,  
Champaign

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
Rejecting Christian Nationalism,  
Reclaiming True Faith,  
and Refounding Democracy

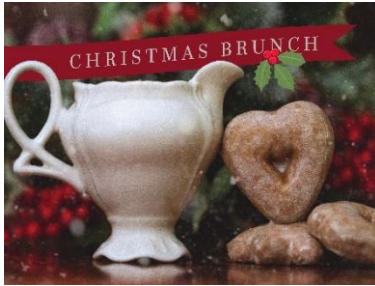
FOREWORD BY ABBOT ALAN  
**THE FALSE WHITE GOSPEL**  
New York Times bestselling author of God's Politics  
**Jim Wallis**  
"WALLIS ONCE AGAIN DEMONSTRATES WHY HE IS AMERICA'S PROPHET AND MORAL PHILOSOPHER." —OTIS MOSS III, SENIOR PASTOR, TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**GSLC'S BOOK GROUP**  
**Sunday, January 25, 6PM**  
**SunSinger Restaurant**



**On behalf of the Stewardship  
Committee, we would like to thank  
everyone who submitted their pledge  
cards for their 2026 intention of giving. We  
deeply appreciate your commitment of  
generosity to Good Shepherd.**





### **WELCA CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

**Saturday, December 6, 10AM**

**St. Andrew's Lutheran Campus Center**  
**909 S. Wright Street**

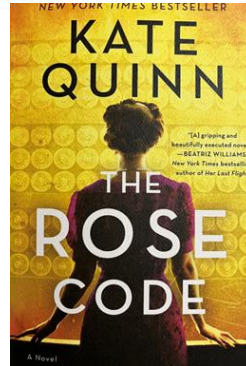
We will once again have a delicious buffet provided by Piato Café. The program will include a tour of the new facilities, music, and a brief WELCA meeting.

If you were unable to get your tickets at church or have any questions, please contact Laurie Johnson or Gail Block.

Please arrive at Good Shepherd by 9:40am to meet with other ladies who are attending. Once there, carpool with 4 or 5 ladies per car. There will be parking available behind the University YMCA on Wright Street and also on Chalmers Street.

### **Directions to St. Andrews**

From Prospect, go East (right) on Kirby Avenue to 1st Street, turn left. Take 1st to Armory and turn right. At Wright St. turn left. The University Y will be third building on your left (3rd driveway) where you can park. You also can turn left on the next street after the Y which is Chalmers. You can park at any of the metered spots there which still accept quarters. St. Andrews is at the corner of S. Wright St. and Chalmers where the main entrance to the church is located.



### **WELCA BOOK CLUB**

**Thursday**  
**December 11, 9:30AM**  
**GSLC Choir Room**

***The Rose Code***  
**By Kate Quinn**

This is a historical fiction novel about three women, a socialite named Osla, an east-end Londoner named Mab, and a quiet genius named Beth, who became friends while working as code-breakers at Bletchley Park during World War II. The story follows their intense bond forged by the war, which is shattered by a betrayal that leads to their friendship ending, and one of them being committed to an asylum. The story uses a dual timeline to reveal the secrets of their past and their current mission to identify a traitor in their midst.

Questions, contact Jan Nuss.

January book: *A Marriage At Sea*  
 by Sophia Elmhurst



We use studies from *Gather Magazine*.  
**This month we're meeting to pack cookies for our members 80+ with bible study following.**



### **SIGN-UP FOR WELCA 80 AND OVER CHRISTMAS COOKIE BAKING**

WELCA has a tradition of providing a Christmas tin filled with Homemade cookies to our senior (80 and over) members during December.

We would like to request 2 or 3 dozen cookies from members that enjoy baking to contribute to this tradition. **There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or you can sign-up using this online link:**

<https://gslc.breezechms.com/form/035d3b>

Please note: Cookies must be BAKED and please no cream cheese or other ingredients that can spoil if left out for several hours. Please leave your cookies in the nurse's office at the church by the 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.

### **COOKIE PACKING & DELIVERY**

**December 16, 9:30AM**

**GSLC Fellowship Hall**

Be sure to join us for our women's bible study immediately following cookie packing!

Questions: Contact Beth Followell.



## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

### **LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS FOSTER CARE CHRISTMAS 2025 WEBSITE**

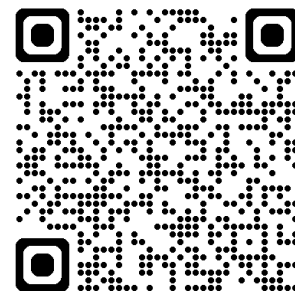
Once again, it's time for the LSSI Giving Tree for local foster kids. More info is in the Narthex at church, but you can click on the link below, which takes you to the website, and order toys or pledge donations for clothing. They're doing things a little different this year and all toys and online donations will go directly to LSSI (so no shopping or drop-off/pick-up required).

**You are also welcome to purchase local retail or restaurant gift cards and drop those off to the church office before December 5.**

**Website Link:**

<https://giftlist.lssi.org/campaigns/campaign-and-danville-christmas-giving/products>

**Or scan this QR Code**



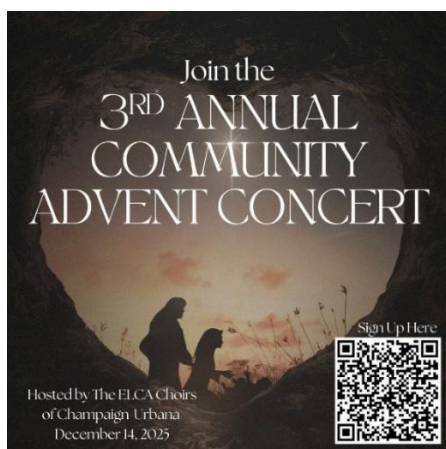




**LIVE NATIVITY**  
**Sunday, December 7, 3-5PM**

**Volunteers still needed!**

**Nativity characters plus carol singers, people at the snacks table, parking lot workers, etc. See the sign-up sheets on the Narthex table.**



**COMMUNITY ADVENT CONCERT**

**Sunday, December 14 3PM**  
**@ Grace Lutheran Church**



## **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Prayer Shawls bring comfort and care to those in our congregation and beyond in need of their touch. Whether someone is ill, grieving, welcoming a new baby, shut-in, or just in need of a reminder of our care as a congregation, a Prayer Shawl is a tangible sign of our love.

At present we are very low on these tokens of our concern and love. If you knit, crochet, weave, or otherwise work with fabric and would like to create a shawl for our supply, please feel free to do so. The Knit, Pray, Crochet group no longer meets at Good Shepherd so you may work at your own pace in your own home.

For information about the ministry and a library of patterns, visit:

[www.livinglutheran.org/2013/03/prayer-shawl-ministry-blends-prayers-talents/](http://www.livinglutheran.org/2013/03/prayer-shawl-ministry-blends-prayers-talents/)

For more information, please contact Nancy Olson at: [nancybolson@gmail.com](mailto:nancybolson@gmail.com)

## YOUTH NEWS



### GOD SQUAD YOUTH GROUP

**Saturday,  
December 20  
6-8PM**

**7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders**

Pre-Christmas fun! Dress for the weather because we might do some outdoors things. Also - please sign up to participate in the Live Nativity and the Pop-up Christmas Pageant!



### YOUTH CLUB

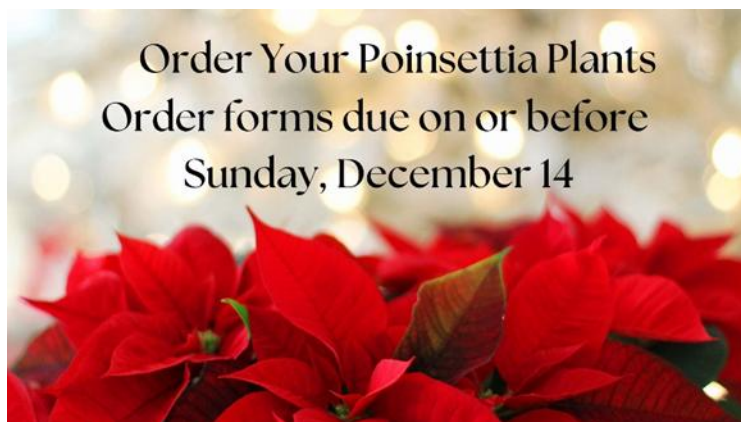
**No Youth Club in December - but please sign up to participate in the Live Nativity and/or the Pop-up Christmas Pageant!**

### CONGREGATIONAL SKI-TRIP

If you are interested in participating in a congregational ski trip in January, please contact Susan Hinrichs at [shinrich@ieee.org](mailto:shinrich@ieee.org). We're trying to determine the level of interest as we plan.

### BROOMBALL OR ICE-SKATING

We are currently making plans for ice-skating and/or broomball in early January. Watch the weekly Shout Out for details!



**Order Your Poinsettia Plants  
Order forms due on or before  
Sunday, December 14**

**ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH**

### SOCIAL STATEMENT ADOPTED BY THE ELCA

*"Faith and Civic Life: Seeing the Well-being of All"* is the Social Statement adopted by the ELCA on August 1, 2025. It can be found here: <https://resources.elca.org/faith-and-society/faith-and-civic-life-seeking-the-well-being-of-all/>

The document can be a source of understanding and guidance. GSLC will be conducting a short educational program on this Social Statement covering some topics such as:

- What is the purpose of the document? Does it have any meaning and weight?
- How does it guide or enhance GSLC ministries and education?
- How does it call us to advocacy at the personal, congregational, community, synodal, and church-wide levels?
- What is the ELCA process for developing and updating Social Statements?

For more information contact Al Mytty at [amytty1950@gmail.com](mailto:amytty1950@gmail.com).



## HOW TO SEE YOUR PROVIDER SOONER

Having a hard time getting an appointment? IT'S NOT YOU – it's our health care system. Delays in scheduling medical visits are longer than they used to be. Consider these suggestions to better navigate the system and GET TREATED ASAP.

A big root of the problem: we don't have enough physicians in the U.S., 1/3 of those are 60 and over, and they are retiring in unprecedented numbers. We are expected to be short of as many as 124,000 physicians by the years 2034 says a recent study of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

### 8 WAYS TO BE SEEN MORE QUICKLY:

1. Start with your Primary Provider: They may have tricks up their sleeve to get you an appointment or find the best treatment for you.
2. Make a friendly call to the Doctors office: Front staff are the "guarders" of schedules. Asking if a nurse can call you sometimes helps. If there is still no answer try going directly to the department. Yes, you may have to stand in line.
3. Be honest about your concerns: There is a big difference in trying to get in for an annual physical vs a scary lump. Be vulnerable, let the receptionist know what's going on and the amount of stress it is causing you. Be calm yet honest.
4. Consider a new physician or their staff: Look at other physicians who

may have availability and their quality if available. Also, many times a new physician can give an introductory visit.

5. Inquire if your Providers have a wait list: Share that you would be happy to come in if there is a cancellation Could they be put you on the list, or would they prefer you call back regularly?
6. Play the Odds: This may work, not sure. Make a visit with 2 doctors and see which one comes up first and take it. Example would be a dermatology appt and your primary too for an undiagnosed rash. Remember urgent and convenient care facilities are a nice way to get a quick opinion. Some have call ahead appointments.
7. Consider a telehealth appointment. This might be available in rural areas with few doctors. They can phone you or can chat over a video. This of course will not work for all health problems.
8. Monitor your "own system", for example a blood pressure sheet, or gastric problems sheet (listing time of day and food eaten). You can be your own Patient Advocate. Impressive when you can take these documented sheets to your next Provider visit, they know you are serious.

Sandy Reifsteck RN, MS Ed, Faith Community Nurse (Parish Nurse) GSLC



# Someone You Should Know!



Mary

## LIVE LOVE Volunteer Spotlight



GOOD SHEPHERD  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

*Mary Szyzka*

*How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?*

*One year*

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

*Being aware of needs of others and following or acting on these needs when they are known. God speaks to us, we just need to stop and listen.*

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

*Food pantry needs It started many years ago in Oak Park, IL at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We supported a community food pantry through donation and volunteering.*

*I also feel closer to God when doing Chancel Care. I have been a part of Altar Care for 60 years in my congregations.*

*You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you? What should people know about the community service work/work that you do?*

*Yes it surprises me. In Champaign I am a part of the Seniors Group and fill shopping bags of food 2x/month. I have participated in the school Pen Pal Program. I volunteered last Spring as an aide to the AARP Tax Aide program for Seniors. I have handed out water for the runners in the Marathon in Champaign.*

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

*Friends and family.*

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

*It is a privilege to help families who are in need. I have never been hungry. I do remember my mother saving one egg each week so when we came close to pay day she could make her one egg cake as a treat. When I talk with the recipients of our food pantry, I feel privileged to have this opportunity to help on a one to one basis.*

*I enjoy meeting with the Cancer Support Group monthly.*

*Why are you a part of this congregation?*

*GSLC reflects my values. The congregation was so welcoming when I came. I am not from Champaign and GSLC has helped me feel a part of the community.*

*What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?*

*Walking in and being greeted at the door on my first Sunday by Sandy.*

*When I was to participate in Chancel Care for the first time, I approached Carol when she was cleaning after the service. She welcomed me and invited me to set up the altar the next week. I have always been grateful for her friendship.*

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

*Betsy is a Parish Nurse volunteer as well as a choir member.*

*She always comes to women's meetings and encourages others to attend as well.*

*Nancy O. does many worship duties as well as lead the Cancer Support Group.*

*Tori is always doing something for the church.*



# Someone You Should Know!



Rebecca

## LIVE LOVE Volunteer Spotlight



GOOD SHEPHERD  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Rebecca Nef-Heffernan

*How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?*

I became a member fall 1992 after moving to Champaign in June 1992.

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

being kind and helping others.

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

I love being outside and working in my yard/gardens or helping others with theirs. Flowers/plants add such beauty and add benefit to our world. Both my grandfather and father had gardens and flowers, I feel that my passion for this does from them.

*You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you? What should people know about the community service work/work that you do?*

I feel that being a member of a church should also include serving your community. I have been involved with the food pantry for 3-4 years. There is such a need for the food pantry in our community, and I am happy to help with it.

I am also part of Piecemakers Quilting group. This is the 2nd year for this group. In a few weeks, we will be boxing up over 40 quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief and will keep 10-12 locally to share in the community. It makes me feel good knowing that these quilts are being given to people who need them.

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

I am so grateful for my family - children, grandchildren, husband, siblings and my mom.

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

I enjoy helping others, whether it is volunteer or paid work. I have all the food that I need, but it is a reminder to me when making food deliveries, how there are people who have so little and are so grateful what we bring to them.

*Why are you a part of this congregation?*

I was raised in an ELCA Lutheran Church in South Dakota, and I still identify with the liturgy/service of the ELCA. I have made good relationships thru Good Shepherd, and feel that the church has a strong outreach in the CU community.

*What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?*

My favorite memories is watching my 2 children go through Sunday School and then being confirmed at GSLC.

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

Laurie Johnson - she is the treasurer for WELCA and involved with choir and playing flute during worship.



# Someone You Should Know!



## LIVE LOVE Volunteer Spotlight



**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

**Carol Steinman**

*How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?*

I became a member in 2013.

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

Following Jesus means service and compassion to all living things. I hope what I do at Good Shepherd and outside of the church is of meaning and benefit to others--whether it is holding the door for another, giving a driver grace for an error that they made or helping out where I can at Good Shepherd in the church pantry or Church Council. It's not that I am always mindful of these, but it is a goal to strive for. We are called as Christians to be empathetic and sympathetic and those are realized when we are of service to others.

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

When I joined Good Shepherd, I was very active with the Master Naturalist program of the U of I Extension. My first services at GSLC I was so happy that there was such emphasis on God's earthly creation. When volunteering out in the field and whether it is helping to control invasives or cultivating native plants, I see His creation everywhere--the soil, the plants, worms, the sky. We are to be good stewards of the land and to the people on His land.

*You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you? What should people know about the community service work/work that you do?*

Yes, I am surprised--I'm not one who likes too much attention. But I am also pleased since it gives me an opportunity to talk about the food pantry and what a wonderful service this is to our community. Periodically, I pack food from the pantry for a family who has been referred to us by Empty Tomb. When I contact the family member (usually a mom or grandmother), I get to hear a little bit about their family. Mom may tell me about the kiddos going to start school or what they like to eat (pizza-always). So, when I pack for that family, I think about what those kiddos might like and what mom might need to provide good, nutritious meals. It saddens me to know there are folks in our community who need help feeding their family because their Link card isn't sufficient to cover a month's food; but I am glad and feel blessed to be part of community who practice their faith in service to others through their donations of food and money. Periodically, I also shop for the pantry--mainly fresh produce, eggs, milk, etc. It is a great feeling to know that I am helping a family have good, nutritious food in their pantry and refrigeration.



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

If I can name only one thing, it is my husband, Topper. He is a great husband, father, and grandfather who has been by my partner for 50 years and as we say, "through thick and thin."

He always has time to greet, speak and listen to others. He also has a sense of humor and gets mine. He is unforgettable and I am proud to be his partner all these years. And my family is right up there but that's more than one-2 grown, married children and 4 grandchildren.

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

That I am making a contribution, however, small it may be.

*Why are you a part of this congregation?*

It is a loving and generous congregation that strives to fulfil their Christian missions.

*What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?*

Dorothy, a longtime member who has since passed, taught me how to prepare the altar for communion. I felt so blessed to be able to contribute to a very important part of God's service--the Meal.

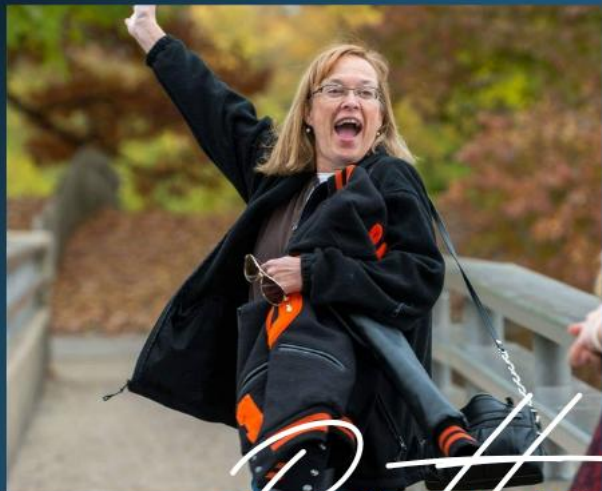
*Who do you think we should know more about here at Good Shepherd? Who would you recommend that we interview/talk to?*

John Vavrin, who serves on the Property Committee, he sits behind us in church and we didn't know of his service to the church until recently.





# Someone You Should Know!



*Patty*

## LIVE LOVE Volunteer Spotlight



**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

*Tori Corkery -*

*How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?*

I joined the church in 1979, so I've been a member for 46 years!!

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

Following Jesus means helping others regardless of who they are and without judgement.

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

I'm passionate about music and doing work that serves others. My passion came from my mother who spent her entire life volunteering through church and with the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. She loved classical music which was played on the radio in our home every single day. And both my parents sang in the church choir.

*You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you? What should people know about the community service work/work that you do?*

I am honored to have been recommended. I'm glad to be able to contribute to the church through my musical talents: I sing in the choir, ring in the bells choir, serve as a cantor, and lead in hymn singing at special services. In addition to my musical contributions, my volunteer work at Good Shepherd makes for a rather long list. I am currently a member of the Outreach Committee from which I serve as the coordinator for our Storybook Project and I help with the nativity walk, selling pumpkins, and I'm assisting Katrina to organize this year's Fall Festival. I also serve as a Food Pantry Packer, and for worship services I do chancel care and serve as a reader and a communion server.

Over my past 46 years, I have been a member of the Property Committee, served as chair of the Fellowship Committee, served on Council as chair of the Stewardship Committee, served with the church sign changing group, served on the search committee for choir directors, and for our current Music Director (Leon), helped with the church gardens and with fresh plants for Christmas and Easter, coordinated our Apple Pie festival (during the many years when we made over 100 pies for sale), coordinated funeral meals, cooked at many church events, and helped in the church office. Probably more things people remember that I have forgotten, and I'm happy to help when asked!!



*Why are you a part of this congregation?*

This congregation is full of amazing people and I can feel the energy when I walk into church whether it's for worship, an event, or do to volunteer work. And because Good Shepherd has provided me with an outlet for serving others.

*What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?*

There are so many! My wedding was held at Good Shepherd in 1983. Our daughter Mary was baptized at Good Shepherd in 1996 and that is a certainly a favorite. Mary's confirmation service was very special to us as well. I've certainly enjoyed all the church picnics and meals where there is more time to get to know people.

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

Jodi Davis. Jodi is a delight to work with; she brings joy and energy to all projects. She is one of our Storybook Volunteers and is part of the quilt making group. I'm pretty sure she helps change the church sign and I'm sure there are many more things Jodi does at church. And she is always willing to jump in and help when asked.

Becky Fisher. Becky is always there and ready to help. I think she is an unsung hero. She goes about things quietly and I think folks probably don't realize all she does for our church. She has never turned me down when I've asked for her help.





# Someone You Should Know!



*Patty*

## LIVE LOVE Volunteer Spotlight



GOOD SHEPHERD  
Lutheran Church (ELCA)

**Patty Hart**

*How long have you been a part of Good Shepherd?*

24 years

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

I think a journey or quest that is not always easy but is continuous and takes a real commitment and conscious effort to trust, learn, and help serve others.

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

Currently, genealogy and its fun discoveries- but what I'm most passionate about is being available to help family, friends, and community in different situations, and grateful that I'm able to do so.

I didn't realize it at the time, but the importance of being available started by watching my parents with older relatives. As a young child I remember thinking why do these old people keep showing up on Sunday's. Different couples would come on different Sundays when all my sister and I wanted was afternoon family time with our parents. My dad only had Sunday's off, and the mornings were spent at Sunday school and church- so afternoons went fast. But there'd they be these relatives, and more often than not it would be right before Sunday dinner which meant 12 noon or 12:30 at the latest. But as I got older, I saw what my parents already knew: How much those Sundays meant to my Great Aunts and Uncles who never had children of their own.

*You were recommended by a member of GSLC. Does that surprise you? What should people know about the community service work/work that you do?*

Yes. That it's easy to get involved whether you sign up or when something randomly happens when you are in the right place at the right time like helping a group of parents clean up a park where their children play of debris and garbage. Volunteering through our church food pantry, taking someone shopping or to an appointment is always appreciated when someone is in a difficult situation.

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

My husband, John.

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

Getting that quiet unexpected hug of genuine thanks from a child or receiving big smiles and warm handshakes of welcome like I did from a family that needed groceries. They were new to the states and struggling, and did not speak much English, but they had this inner happiness and peacefulness about them, and such gratitude for the basic items that I take for granted but was another week of survival for them. It was truly a gift to experience and something that I think of often.



*Why are you a part of this congregation?*

It's the closest Lutheran church to my house. Ha! just kidding but can be convenient when running late. When we moved to Champaign and started looking for a church, GSLC was going through a transition period. The pastor of many years had just retired and there was interim pastor's filling in. We kept coming back to visit GSLC because of Interim Pastor Harum's warmth and welcome towards us, but also the welcoming spirit of dedicated members that made our girls want to be a part of GSLC.

*What is a favorite memory you have here at GSLC?*

There are many, but this one involves a little boy named Harrison who was in my younger daughters' preschool age or kindergarten class. It was the children's Christmas program, and time for the smaller group of children to sing. Harrison gave it his all. His yelling singing voice reverberated throughout the sanctuary and his little face was as red as can be from effort. You couldn't help but laugh. He was committed and sang every one of the songs he needed to sing. The look on my younger daughter's face when Harrison first belted out that first word still makes me laugh to this day. Such a fun memory.

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

Terri George



## **Do you know how GSLC'S, Donna Clark Food Pantry Program works?**

**Would you like to help in some way but not exactly sure how to do that or how to fit it into your schedule? Please see below how a food delivery is handled weekly and the options that could best suit your schedule.**

### **GSLC DONNA CLARK FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM**

empty tomb, inc., located in Champaign receives referrals from various social service agencies in town. They refer to GSLC and other participating churches, local community individuals or families who have a short-term emergency need for food that cannot be met by an agency.

When GSLC receives a food request from empty tomb, the parish administrative assistant (Traci) will contact the volunteers scheduled. A name, address, contact phone number, the number of people in the family, the circumstances of the need, and any allergies are given to the volunteers. This program provides a week's worth of groceries covering three meals per day to the person or family in need of help.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR WEEKLY FOOD DELIVERIES**

**1. Be a packer that bags groceries directly from GSLC's pantry, refrigerator, and freezer for a scheduled delivery volunteer that requests groceries be ready for pickup and delivery.** The delivery volunteer will let the packer know the day and approximate time they can deliver the food. Once the scheduled packer has that information, they will contact the person in need of food, identify themselves as a member or friend of GSLC and explain that they are calling in response to a food request from empty tomb.

Once the initial contact has been made, decide on an agreed time to talk when the packer can be at the church. The packer will then let the person know what food and staple items are available on the pantry shelves, and in the refrigerator, and freezer. This has proven helpful for the individuals/families because they get a choice of items they need or want, and it keeps other items on the shelves for another to use. There is no waste. Once groceries are packed, contact the delivery volunteer to let them know the food is ready for delivery.

**2. Be a food delivery volunteer willing to deliver food to an individual or family in need at their place of residence.** You can bring a friend or spouse to help with the delivery or be partnered with another volunteer at GSLC. The scheduled delivery volunteer will contact the person at the number provided by empty tomb to schedule the delivery day and time and verify you have the correct address. When you arrive at your destination, call the number to let them know you have arrived. Once the groceries are unloaded ask if they would like to pray with you or say a prayer. If not – simply say, "Goodbye and God bless you."

**Contact Traci to let her know the delivery was done. Let her know if there were any issues or concerns.**



**3. Partner with another food pantry volunteer because you want to know how to help an individual or family with their food request from start to finish.** You or your volunteer will contact the person at the number provided by empty tomb and combine and follow the instructions for packers and delivery volunteers above.

**4. If you are a Thrivent member, you can apply for a Thrivent card that can help towards purchasing food for food deliveries and stock pantry shelves.**

**5. Be a volunteer to help shop in bulk with other volunteers when food and non-perishables are running low.** The extra help transporting items from the store to the church is always appreciated.

**6. Donate food listed weekly in the shout out or the bulletin insert and place donated items in the baskets in the narthex or by the back double doors closest to the church office.**

**7. Donate monetarily online or to the church office and write food pantry in the memo if using a check.**

The opportunity to help our neighbors, to share our bounty, is a worthy effort.

Food deliveries offer the opportunity to pray together, a friendly smile, or greeting which may be just as important as the food delivered.

**THANK YOU, FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS. YOUR YEARS OF DEDICATION AND SERVICE FOR DELIVERING FOOD TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED OF HELP HAS BEEN AND STILL IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.**



Laurie Johnson



Jodi Davis &amp; Vickie Wilson

Rick & Cindy  
Marrs

Jenelle Keene



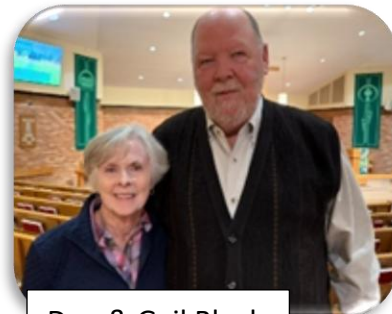
Rebecca Nef-Heffernan



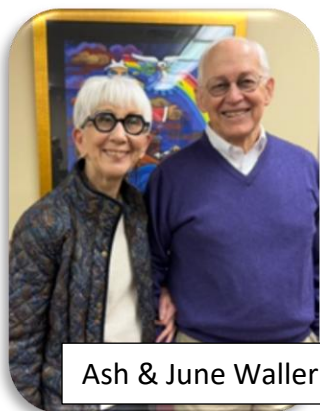
Lisa Young



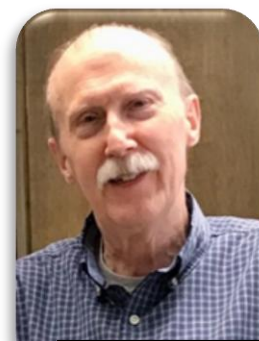
Agatha Barnes



Don &amp; Gail Block



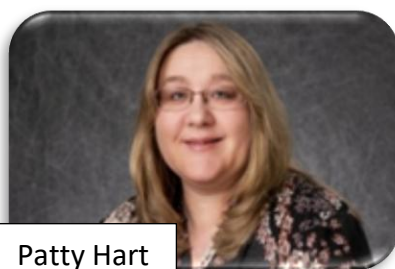
Ash &amp; June Waller

Gloria Arizaga – Church  
friend, neighbor & friend of  
Katrina WidholmRobby & Shelly  
Cekander

Dean Olson



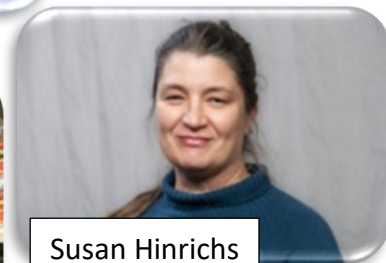
Ron &amp; Ruth Meyer



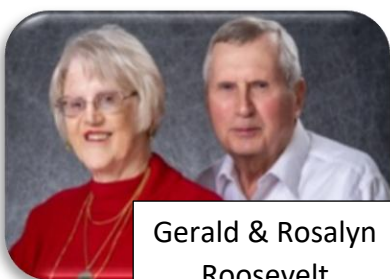
Patty Hart



Deb Swanson



Susan Hinrichs

Nancy McCowen  
& Carol ManleyBob Clark &  
Doris SnyderGerald & Rosalyn  
Roosevelt

**DECEMBER SERVING SCHEDULE**

	12/7/2025	12/14/2025	12/21/2025	Christmas Eve 4PM	Christmas Eve 8PM	12/28/2025
Acolyte	Jake Brucker	Logan Young	Declan O'Connell	Logan Young	Donovan Dewing	Jake Brucker
Communion Assistants	Mary Szyszka	Agatha Barnes	Tim O'Connell	Carol Manley	Agatha Barnes	Jenelle Keene
	Becky Fisher	Lois McConomy	Carol Steinman	Becky Fisher	Cinda Brucker	Becky Fisher
	Joe Chamley	Cinda Brucker	Nancy Olson	Gail Block	Joe Chamley	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Reader	Bob Coverdill	Steve McConomy	Rebecca Nef-Heffernan	N/A	Ash Waller	Joe Chamley
Chancel Care	Agatha Barnes	Agatha Barnes	Carol Steinman	Gail Block	Alex Dewing & Sue Plisch	Jenelle Keene
Usher	Eric Brucker	Patty Hart	Ash Waller	Don Block	Dean Olson	Nicole Paul
Nursery	Agatha Barnes	Jenelle Keene	Lisa Young	N/A	N/A	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Livestream	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann	Darrell Hoemann
Food Delivery	Dean Olson & Bob Clark	Don & Gail Block	Patty Hart	N/A	N/A	Bob Clark
Food Packing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Flower Delivery	Agatha Barnes	Jenelle Keene	Laurie Johnson	N/A	N/A	Patty Hart
Coffee/Donuts	Don Block, Kim McFarland	Lisa Young & Nancy Olson	Kim McFarland & Becky Fisher	N/A	N/A	Patty Hart & Kim McFarland

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer on Sunday mornings, please contact Traci in the church office at [staff@gsllc-cu.org](mailto:staff@gsllc-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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:staff@qslc-cu.org).  
Paper copies are also available at the church.***