



Good Shepherd Evangelical
Lutheran Church
525 63rd St Downers Grove, IL 60516
(630) 852-1519 www.gsdg.org
What's Happening at Good Shepherd

The Festival of Pentecost

May 18/19, 2024

The Day of Pentecost: *Christ Has Not Left Us Alone*

Jesus told his disciples that, though he was going to ascend into heaven, he wasn't going to leave them alone. He was going to send "the Advocate," a title for the Holy Spirit. But Jesus wasn't sending the Spirit just to keep us company. Jesus would have the Advocate give us spiritual power so that we might participate in Christ's saving work. Here is the final resurrection reality. The Spirit gives us the ability to raise the spiritually dead to life.

We see this happen on Pentecost. The festival of Pentecost was held fifty days after the Passover. (Pentecost is Greek for "fifty.") It was a time to thank God for the harvest. But on that day, through the Church at work, the Holy Spirit gathered another harvest, a harvest of souls.

Therefore, Pentecost is the third great festival of the Church, along with Christmas and Easter. It has been commemorated since at least 217 A.D. The Church dresses in red to remind us of the tongues of fire that marked the Spirit's gift and the blood of the martyrs which was the seed of the Church.

With the Festival of Pentecost, the festival half of the Church Year comes to a close. This day culminates the Season of Easter when our risen Lord now empowers his people to be witnesses of the resurrection for the world.

March 31	Without the Resurrection Faith is Futile	Easter Sunday
April 6/7	The Living Lord Gives Proof and Peace	Easter 2
April 13/14	We Have a Meaningful Message to Share	Easter 3
April 20/21	The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding	Easter 4
April 27/28	The Living Lord Produces Active Faith	Easter 5
May 4/5	Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours	Easter 6
May 11/12	Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever	Ascension
May 18/19	Christ Has Not Left Us Alone	Pentecost

Good Shepherd Members

✚ Shepherding Committee would like to make sure **ALL** members who would like to receive our weekly "What's Happening at Good Shepherd" email, inclusive of the weekly service folder, are. If you are not receiving these weekly emails on Fridays, please contact Jen Trow-Reynolds in our office at office@gsdg.org.



Prayer Requests

- Rachelle Terada, daughter of Steve and Paula Danekas, that she recover from the effects of chemotherapy in anticipation of surgery scheduled for May 30.
- Please pray for those who mourn the death of Dan Craig, brother of Paula Danekas.
- Please pray for Kathy Oedzes who's, Brother Scott Pearson, died suddenly and unexpectedly, May 7th. Please keep the Oedzes family in your prayers.
- Please pray for the Merchantz family, Cathy's Father Harry Erickson, passed away Thursday. Thankfully Cathy was able to be by his side. Funeral will be held at Trinity Lutheran in Crete (WELS) from 10-12 with a luncheon to follow on May 17th

Voters Meeting May 20th

"In accordance with the Good Shepherd Bylaws, the congregation President is giving notice that a Voters' Assembly meeting be held on Monday May 20, 2024 at 7PM in the church sanctuary for the transaction of necessary business and an Informal meeting (Open Forum) be held on Sunday May 19, 2024 at 9AM in the church sanctuary for sharing information and soliciting input."

The agenda and prior minutes needing approval are attached for preparation. May the Lord bless our congregation with a plan to grow in the Word and go with the Word.

Bill Merchantz
Good Shepherd President

Renovations at 601 House

The Good Shepherd house at 601 63rd St. has been vacant since Ellen Zank moved last summer. The house is now in need of interior refurbishment. The MCC recently approved a budget to cover the necessary work (see attached file). This email provides the status of the work and outlines some areas where you may wish to help.

Several of the major items are well underway. The main bathroom has been completely stripped and the rebuild is moving along well. This work should be completed by the end of May. The plaster walls have been patched and sanded. About one half of the painting is complete. The kitchen cabinets have been stripped. New doors and drawer fronts have been ordered and should arrive within 10 days. The old frames are being refinished. The new doors and drawer fronts will be finished and installed. This work should also be done by the end of May. When these major items are complete, we will refinish the wood floors in the bedrooms, living room and hallways. The floor refinishing work has been contracted. We will also install a new LVT floor in the kitchen area. A new garage door has also been contracted.

Since much of this work will be self-performed, we have an opportunity to use several Thrivent Action Team grants (\$250 each) to help pay for some items. We have already used two grants, one for paint and one for light fixtures. Anyone who has a Thrivent account can apply for a grant. If you are able to make use of this program, please let me know, and I can provide the information you will need to apply for the grant. This should be done quickly since we will be buying much of the material in May. As we move along with this project, we will have opportunities for volunteer work. This will include miscellaneous painting, wood finishing, installing various purchased items, gutter caulking, cleaning, window washing, installing shelf liners, removing discarded items from the basement, and others. If you are interested in helping, please let me know (sdanekas@comcast.net) and I will try to organize the work. This a worthwhile project that will enhance the value of our property and will provide comfortable housing for Good Shepherd called workers.

Steve Danekas, Property Coordinator
630-270-9482



We thank all who supported the GSLA Flower Fundraiser. We are happy to announce that you helped raise \$1,320 for the school!

We're also happy to announce that orders may be picked up in the church parking lot on May 22, from Noon - 5:30pm. Please bring something to protect your car in case the pots are wet/muddy. If you have questions, please call or text Debbie OMalley 630-309-2526.



Did you know that you can earn our school 25 bonus Box Tops just for referring a friend? When you log into your account and share a referral code with a friend or family member GSLA will get 25 bonus Box Tops after they scan their first receipt!



Education Ministry contact

We would like to let everyone know the people that are currently working on our Education Ministry

Paul Schoenbeck , Clint Daehnke, Tracy Raimer, Mark & Cindy Gunze, Scott Wiersum, Valerie Adegunleye, Bill Jaeger, Rodney Scott, Ivana Stamenkovic, Barb Koch, Kat Blumer, Pastor Bergemann

You can contact anyone on this committee at education@gsdg.org if you have any questions, or would like to volunteer



All children aged PreK-6th grade are welcome to join us to learn about God's word through stories, music and activities. We will meet in the school library, at the end of the school hallway, on Sundays from 9:10-10:20a.

Please use this link to complete the [2023-24 Registration Form for BLAST](#)

Thank you so much for your continued support of our program! We look forward to serving your family this year! If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at BLAST@gsdg.org

Teresa Schindler BLAST Team Leader

- Are you doing some spring cleaning? If you have a Children's Bible that might be looking for a new home, we would be happy to help you find one! We will be collecting used (and new) Children's Bibles to keep at church for families to use during services. There will be a basket in the church entry area for any Children's Bibles that you wish to donate to this effort.

Questions? BLAST@gsdg.org



Please consider greeting others to worship

We Lutherans celebrate Life! Children & grandchildren bring joy to our lives.

You can bring joy to others with a warm welcome to worship here at Good Shepherd. No training required to smile a cheerful greeting. Sign-up sheet in narthex or call Laurie Bowen 630.852.5490.



To All Member Families! Shepherding Committee will be updating our family member pictures and information over the coming months. We are asking that you please take a family picture (in landscape

direction with your favorite handheld device ;) and send this to our e-mail address: shepherding@gsdg.org

Please include family member names. Also, if there have been changes to your contact information (address, phone, e-mails), please include these updates with your picture in the e-mail to us. For any questions, please e-mail shepherding@gsdg.org. God's Blessings! ~ Shepherding Committee

LWMS NEWS

Ladies of Good Shepherd

You are all members of the **Lutheran Women's Missionary Society** as the church pays our membership dues.

Please take a few minutes after church to review the candidates for the **Lutheran Women's Missionary Society** International Board of Directors and vote. You will also vote for a Home and World mission offering project.

Information about the candidates and mission projects as well as ballots are located at the sign up table. Place ballots in the envelope provided.

You probably will not know the candidates but vote based on the information about them.

Thank you for taking the time to fill out a ballot. Ballots are due by May 18th.

United in Serving Jesus - Chris Herrmann, LWMS Reporter



Stamps for the Wounded Veterans

At this time of the year you may be receiving more mail than normal and what better time to share your stamps with the Veterans. Many Wounded veterans find great enjoyment in stamp collecting. Thanks to the many devoted volunteers, this postage stamp program gives these hospital or wheelchair-bound veterans something to do, and something to look forward to. Trading duplicates also connects them with other collectors.

Recycle the stamps from your own mail to "brighten someone's day!" Leave about ½ inch border or 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. We send these stamps to the program in Virginia.



Pregnancy & Life Resources: We promote the Gift of Life!

The board and staff of Pregnancy & Life Resources thanks you for your continued support! It has been another challenging year for all of us here in Illinois. Yet BLESSINGS from our Lord have still been given to us. We continue to help those in need through counseling, clothing and baby products. We see so many thankful women and children who depend upon us. We continue to see donations from different sources than our normal Fundraiser events. Please consider a donation to our center: the only such facility in the State of Illinois. You may drop your donations in the box in our narthex, or send your donations to WELS Lutherans for Life, 359 Cambridge Dr. Grayslake, IL 60030.

Indeed, children are a heritage from the Lord. The fruit of the womb is a reward from him. Psalm 127:3



Bible Class Snack Sign-Up

We are once again looking for volunteers to bring snacks for Sunday Bible Class. This can be store bought or homemade. Please sign up in the narthex if you are willing to assist.

Thanks so much. Group Life



Save your bread tags -GSLA is collecting plastic bread tags. Look for the labeled container by the school office. They will then be given to SCARCE who then donates them to Danielle Cares for Chairs. They use the donation to provide wheelchairs for children.



Shop with SCRIP is a wonderful program we offer with many benefits for the school and church

Contact Jen at office@gsdg.org to get your Agreement Form

<https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=C58395F432896>



Good Shepherd Link Tree

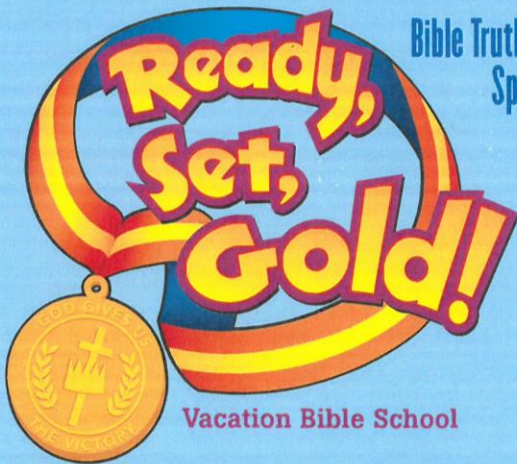
Events please scan and save we will update as events happen now and in the future.



SO IN THE TEAM

—see Jesus' victory!

Bible Truths • Bible Story Skits • Olympic-Style Games
Sport Snacks • Crafts • Songs • Friends



Vacation Bible School

Dates: June 17 - 21, 2024

Times: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Phone: 630-852-5081

For ages: 3 - 10 years

Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Academy

525 63rd Street, Downers Grove, IL 60516



May: Usher Schedule

28 Bob 8:00 am Bill 10:30 am	29	30	1	2	3	4 Erik 5:30
5 Steve 8:00 am Riley 10:30 am	6	7	8	9	10	11 Dale 5:30
12 Casey 8:00 am Rick/Hillary 10:30 am	13	14	15	16	17	18 Paul 5:30 pm
19 Erik 8:00 am John 10:30 am	20	21	22	23	24	25 Adam 5:30 pm
26 Paul 8:00 am Joseph 10:30 am	27	28	29	30	31	1 Bill 5:30
2 Ed 8:00 am Dale 10:30 am	3	4	5	6	7	8 Steve 5:30



May : Altar Care Setup – Cleanup

28	29	30	1	2	3	4-Karen
5-Inge	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18-Anne
19-Susan	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1-Sarah
2-Aggie	3	4	5	6	7	8

May: Greeter Schedule

28 8:00 am 10:30 am	29	30	1	2	3	4 5:30 pm
5 8:00 am 10:30 am	6	7	8	9	10	11 5:30 pm
12 8:00 am 10:30 am	13	14	15	16	17	18 5:30 pm
19 8:00 am 10:30 am	20	21	22	23	24	25 5:30 pm
26 8:00 am 10:30 am	27	28	29	30	31	1 5:30 pm
2 8:00 am 10:30 am	3	4	5	6	7	8 5:30 pm

Serving in Worship

Pastor: - Saturday - Christian Wilick – Resurrection, Aurora
Pastor: Jon Bergemann
Organist: Joan Richmond
Cantor: Sun 8am Casey Kippes
AV Team: Bob Reichert, Joe Garetto, Kristen Reynolds, and Zach Dankert

Contact Information

Pastor Jon Bergemann

Office: 630.852.1519

Email: pastor.bergemann@gsdg.org

Admin Principal Barb Koch

Cell phone: 630.209.2242

School office 630.852.5081

Email: bkoch@gsdg.org

Church Secretary Jen Trow

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

05/04 (5:30) – 35

05/05 (8:00) – 45

05/05 (10:30) – 54

Worship Total – 134

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR GOD'S WORK

	Week Ending	Weekly Offering	YTD Offering	YTD Budget	% of Budget
Week 45	5/05/2024	\$7,603.00	\$477,716.97	\$443,000.00	104.2%



Bible Class

Sunday 9:15 am - 10:15 am Sanctuary and online

Daily/Weekly Devotions – WELS

Subscribe at:

wels.net/serving-you/devotions/daily-devotions/

Marriage Moments

Subscribe at:

<https://welscongregationalervices.net/ministry-resources/wels-marriages/marriagemoments/>