

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
7800 W. McCarthy Rd., Palos Heights, IL 60463
www.good-shepherd-church.com

November 2021



Thank You . . .

Those two words carry a weight that cannot be understated. The lack of those words have led to relationships being severed. The presence of those words has built partnerships that changed the world. Yet, as we hustle and bustle through life, the power of those words too often gets ignored.

November, a month wherein we celebrate a national day of Thanksgiving, invites us to remember those words. To pay attention when they are spoken to

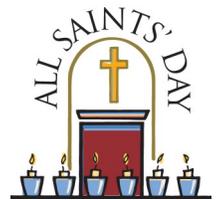
us and be more generous in speaking them to others. And we must never forget how our collective thankfulness for God unites us together now and always.

Join us this month as we foster both thankfulness and faithfulness and check out page 2 to see a list of just some of the reasons Good Shepherd has to be a community of thankfulness.



All Saint's Sunday – November 7

We give thanks for the faithful who, before entering their eternal home, gave themselves that we may know God. We stand on their shoulders and carry forth their legacy to those who come after us.



Christ the King – November 21

The church year concludes as we celebrate our true king, Jesus. We give thanks for such a generous, faithful and gracious king...one we all need.

Special Thanksgiving Services

We pause to give thanks for all that we enjoy. These gifts from God have been graciously given and we recognize them not only in worship but also through collecting non-perishable foods at both services that will go to the Palos Food Pantry to help others know God's generosity.

Thanksgiving Eve service – November 24 at 7:30 pm

Thanksgiving Day service – November 25 at 10:00 am



First Sunday of Advent – November 28

A season of expectant waiting heightens our thankfulness for the arrival of Emmanuel, God with us.

GRATEFUL . . . THANKFUL . . . BLESSED . . .

The challenges and joys of the last year have been met with the generosity of many. At this time of the year, when the world pauses to reflect on its blessings, we give thanks for the following which have helped us share God's message of hope and love. We give thanks for . . .

- ♥ the landscaping crew and their leader, Hank Lang, for reflecting the beauty of God's creation through the beauty of our grounds.
- ♥ Warren Meneou for his diligent and skillful work repairing the church sign and the candle holder.
- ♥ those who take it upon themselves to check in on members of our congregation and the community, communicating the care and love shown by Christ.
- ♥ the Confirmation students and their families for being committed to their baptismal identity and knowing the foundations of God's community.
- ♥ Michelle Brett and her crew of *Cooking with Care* for helping fill not only bellies, but also lives with the message of God's love.
- ♥ our Chancel Guild who give their time in service to our worship.
- ♥ Bill Mueller for giving his time and expertise to repair our processional cross.
- ♥ any who supported our clothing drive last month, especially our Missions Committee and the volunteers who helped load and deliver the items.
- ♥ Kathy Kupka for ensuring the saints of Good Shepherd are remembered by inscribing their name on our funeral banners.
- ♥ the Sunday School volunteers who help our young people know Jesus.
- ♥ Marilyn Aspan and her faithfulness in volunteering in the church office.
- ♥ the numerous volunteers who helped with this year's Rally Day, especially Lauren Kirkner, that the Godly gifts of fellowship and friendship may be strengthened.
- ♥ all who were part of the Big Build, especially Linda Hubbard, for helping build a home that will warm a family with the love of God.
- ♥ Debbie Provencher and Sherry Tellefsen for creating the baptismal banners and paraments that bring color and joy to our sanctuary.
- ♥ everyone who is part of our weekly bible studies and groups. Your presence helps us all grow in our walk of faith.
- ♥ the COVID team for their diligence in caring for our community during these last challenging months.
- ♥ the OFF Club for providing an environment of friendship and faith for our over 55 community.
- ♥ those who have just begun worshiping at Good Shepherd. We see you and thank God that you have chosen to pursue God alongside the Good Shepherd family.
- ♥ Cheryl Davidovitch and all who support the veterans in Manteno by donating items with care and love.
- ♥ the volunteers who come in to help prepare our monthly newsletter for mailing, helping others know how God is at work through Good Shepherd.
- ♥ Carol Miller for ensuring the candles in worship are always filled with oil to light our gathering.
- ♥ everyone who participated in or volunteered for our Trunk-Or-Treat to help sweeten the lives of our communities with the sweet treats of candy and fun. It was successful because of you and we appreciate your time and efforts!!
- ♥ the leaders of the church including the staff, council and deacons. In these challenging times, your faith and spirit has made a difference.
- ♥ all who have volunteered as an usher, lector, acolyte, musician, steward or served in any way to make our worship services possible.
- ♥ **EVERYONE** for their ongoing generosity and flexibility as we strive to be a community that is both faithful and responsible to the call God has given us to love God and love one another.



The People of Good Shepherd – October 2021 Report

Additional College Student

Kayla Wetzig, *Valparaiso University*, Valparaiso, IN

Baptisms

Nicholas Charles Manusos, III — October 16, 2021



Weddings

Natalie Marie Miller and Humberto Ortiz — October 2, 2021



New Parents

Kelsey and Alan Seaborg, twins: a daughter, Emma June and a son, Jacob Robert, grandchildren to Tim and Sue Hennessy



New Grandparents

Deborah Keuper, a granddaughter, Colette Adamson Keuper

Newly Confirmed

Javion Christopher Ausec, Kayla Ann Birmingham, Evelyn Renee Dalton, Jessica Rose Ekhart, Mari Catherine Jarmoszka, Quintin Louis Pempek, Laney Grace Pengiel, Madisyn Pudowski, Camryn Alexa Revoir, Victoria Ruth Schlange and Camden Kole Wilson.



Known to have been ill or Hospitalized:

Sue Alberts, Sue Albrecht, Nicole Baldwin, Myrna Brejcha, Myrna Bronson, Shirley Hulse, Matt Husar, Bill Junge, Karl Krout, Earl Lamparter, Connie Lamparter, Connor Mish, Cheryl Morg, CJ Mueller, Frank Mueller, Priscilla Overgaard, Hank Paulsen, Richard Wolfe and Carol Wynn



Known to have Experienced Bereavement

Joan Meyers and family upon the death of her nephew, Glenn Brown
The Montecki and Vitt families upon the death of their cousin, Kay Aklenar
The Lew family upon the death of Michael
Rich Wolfe upon the death of his wife, Char
Carol Miller upon the death of her friend, Barbara Oswald



Funerals/Memorials

† Joyce Elizabeth Nanesta — October 22, 2021 - An educator, lover of classical music, world traveler and woman of faith, Joyce was generous in her love of God and her love of her church at Good Shepherd. Our love and prayers go with her three children, other family and numerous friends.



INTRO TO GOOD SHEPHERD: New Membership Class

Wednesday, November 3 at 7:00 pm

Have you been coming to Good Shepherd but not sure about what we're all about? Are you curious about what it means to be a "member" of Good Shepherd? Do you have questions about why we do or don't do some things? If so, this is the time for you. Come get to know what Good Shepherd is all about and bring your thoughts and questions.



New Good Shepherd Website to launch THIS MONTH! Behind the scenes, *we have been working on updating our website* to make it more user friendly and reflecting this great community. Keep checking back this month to see the new website and all that it has to offer.

GRATEFUL for . . . MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



Cooking with Care is busy again and is supporting MorningStar Mission in Joliet. The next cooking date is Tue., Nov. 9 at 9:30 am. New members are welcome. Contact Michele Brett or the church office with any questions.

Palos Food Pantry appreciates our help. Specific needs for November include: cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, gravy mix, cake mix, frosting and Jell-O. Any donations other than those specifically requested are always appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry! All of the food collected at our special Thanksgiving services will be given to the Palos Food Pantry.

Manteno Veterans are in need of toiletry items, individually wrapped snacks and cans of pop, specifically diet. Please place your donations in the blue bins in the narthex. The vets are very thankful for any donations!



Have leftover or too much Halloween candy? The Sunday school students and the whole Good Shepherd congregation are invited to share their Halloween candy.

The candy has gone to various organizations, our service men and women overseas, the Manteno vets, and has been used for the gingerbread house decorating in December. We will collect the candy on Sunday November 7. A basket in the Narthex will be available.



FOSTER GIFTS

A heart-warming tradition continues...Christmas gifts for the L.S.S.I Foster Children

The Christmas wish lists for the Foster Children will be available on Nov. 14 and Nov. 21.

We will have the opportunity to help 175 children in Foster care.

Look for the tables in the Narthex on these Sundays. Children's names will also be available during the week of November 14, you may stop by to pick a wish list up. The Foster children range in age from 1 month to 18 years and a few slightly older due to mental/physical challenges. There are guidelines and ideas to help you in purchasing a gift. Gifts need to be back at church by Sunday, December 5. Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is always very appreciative of the generosity of the Good Shepherd Family.

THANKFUL . . .

An enthusiastic THANK YOU to the Good Shepherd family for the many contributions of warm clothing and blankets gathered at the Fall Clothing Drive held on Saturday, October 16. The response was so large that it took two pick-up trucks and three cars filled to the brim to deliver the clothing to MorningStar Mission in Joliet. Many men, women and children will stay warm throughout the winter thanks to your help. Bodies, minds and souls are warmed through your kindness.



BLESSED . . .

. . . to know God. One way we give thanks to God for all we have is by growing to know God. Good Shepherd has a number of ways to help you in that endeavor and also help you meet and build friendship with some really neat people. All are welcome to join at anytime.

"Just A Quick Word" Mondays at 4:00 pm on Facebook and the YouTube Channel. Pastor Bell shares a thought on faithful living. Check it out each week for a new idea to ponder.



Faith Discussion: Monday at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. A small group that supports one another and discusses what they take from a video lesson.

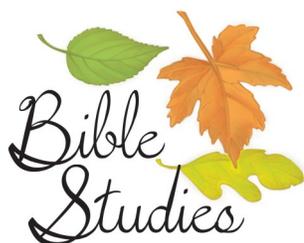
(More opportunities follow on page 5.)

BLESSED . . .

to know God in more ways

Faith, Prayer and Joy (formerly Prayer Group):
Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Galilean Room. The

name has changed to reflect more what we do; listen faithfully, pray together, share joy. We are working through Lisa Terkeurst's series, *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way*, letting it inspire our conversation and friendships.



Bible Study: Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Galilean Room. The book of 1

Samuel is filled with all types of amazing insights into God and faithfulness. It's also incredibly entertaining, and we make it more so as we share and laugh together.

Book Discussion: Tuesday at 4:00 pm in the Galilean Room. The short chapters of the book *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr help us discuss the intersection of life and faith.



All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...
2 Timothy 3:16, NRSV

Discovering the Bible:

Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Galilean Room. What does the bible really say? We ask this question as we dive into the book of Isaiah, sharing thoughts and looking at interpretations to help us come to know and reflect God's living Word.

A Half Hour with God: Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. Once a week, Pastor Buresh or Pastor Bell get on Facebook to offer a time of letting go of the helter skelter and focusing on God's wisdom and presence. Gather live or check out the video anytime afterwards.

Prayer Walk: Thursday at 9:00 pm. Pastor Bell will continue to do his prayer walk Thursday evenings at 9 pm. There has been interest from several folks about a group prayer walk and we would love to start that. However, Pastor Bell would like to hold off on that effort till we are past this current COVID peak. That way we do not



begin something new and then immediately have to mothball it. We have plans in the works even for winter time. So keep your eyes peeled in upcoming newsletters for more info. P.S. *Don't worry the group walk won't be at 9 pm!*

GRATEFUL for . . . **Various Church Groups**

The **OFF Club** meeting this month is on **Wednesday, November 17**. Our lunch will be a Thanksgiving turkey dinner with dessert. Due to the current COVID guidelines, everyone must wear a mask except while they are eating or drinking. A bottle of water is included with your lunch. You are also free to bring your own drink if you so choose. The cost of lunch remains at \$6.00. After lunch the movie **BABE, the Pig** will be shown for your enjoyment. If you have not seen this movie, you are in for a treat. **MOST IMPORTANT . . . YOU MUST CALL AND RSVP by the Sunday before each meeting.** To **RSVP** or if you have any questions, please contact **Bonnie Sweeney** or the church office.



ATTENTION OFF CLUB MEMBERS!

Wednesday, December 8
11:45 am

Silver Lake Country Club
Cost: \$25/person
RSVP by Nov. 17
to Beverly Miller or
the church office

(You must provide your own transportation.)

A new group has just started at Good Shepherd. The gatherings will be on the first Wednesday of each month from 1:00 to about 3:00 pm. If you like to play fun, fast and easy card and dice games and are looking for others who enjoy the same, we would love to have you join us. The first two hours of fun and laughs was on Wednesday, Oct. 6. **Our next fun afternoon will be on Wednesday, Nov. 3** when we will be playing the game Yahtzee. If you are interested in joining us, please **RSVP by Monday, Nov. 1** because we need to know how many to set up for. Contact Suellen Spooner or the church office. Come and check us out. The more the merrier.

YAHTZEE



GRATEFUL for . . . more various Church Groups



Our **next bowling date is November 13.** It will be our "Turkey Shoot" which means the bowler on each team with the highest pins over average wins a prize that night. Also, if you will not be at bowling on a particular Saturday, please let Donna, or Erik Nelson know. We are in need of subs so if you wish to bowl just for fun on a Saturday evening, please let Donna or Erik know that as well.

CARILLON BELL CHOIR IS BACK!

We are looking for new (and old) members to join us in ringing again. Anyone is welcome to join. Now is the perfect time to join as we begin to prepare for the holiday season. Rehearsals are once a week (currently on Wednesday at 7:30 pm) with performances in services once a month. We work hard at playing good music, and we also have a good time at various social events, enjoying fellowship with one another. If you are interested in joining the Carillon choir, or have any questions, please contact Michelle Podewell or call the church office. *Thank you!*



Handbell Choir

THANKFUL . . . for our YOUTH

November brings a lot of activities for Good Shepherd Youth:

Prayer & Ice Cream — Sun., Nov. 7 at 6:00 pm



We had a great time with our gathering last month! We hope you'll join us in November on the 7th at 6:00 pm. We will start upstairs in the youth room with games, conversation and prayer then head out to the Oberweis on Harlem for some ice cream. It's a great way to meet more of the youth here at Good Shepherd and grow spiritually. This is open to Confirmants, High School and anyone else who would really like to try it out. Oh, and

why go for ice cream you ask? Because part of growing spiritually is growing friendships and getting to know each other. And well . . . Pastor Bell likes his ice cream.

Escape Rooms & Bowling — Sun., Nov. 14



We are doing a joint event with Jr. High & High School on Sunday Nov. 14 after church. We will leave the church approx. 12:30 pm and head to Orland Bowl where we do both Escapology and Bowling. Or you can meet us there by 1pm. First they'll serve us a pizza lunch and then we will break up in groups of 6-8 people to try our hands at their escape rooms. If you've never done these rooms before, it's a great time of puzzle solving and detective work as a group. Once everyone is done with the rooms and pizza, we'll bowl a couple games. **Please RSVP** and bring \$20. The church will cover the rest of the cost for food and games. If you have shoes and a ball, feel free to bring those too. We can bring up to 42 people from 6th -12th grade, so **sign up soon!**

Thanksgiving Laser Tag Reunion Sun., Nov. 21 at 1:30 pm

Calling all our College/Trade School/Post High School young adults! We are doing a "reunion" on Sunday, November 21 from 3-5pm at Chaser Laser Tag in Naperville. This is an awesome two-story laser tag course with state of the art guns and game play.

It'll give us a chance to hang out, play some laser tag and grab some food after. This is open to any of our post high school young adults. Please bring \$15 to defray costs, but don't let lack of cash stop you from coming.



Chasers requires a bandanna, ball cap or headband for game sensors, so bring your own unless you want to use theirs. We ask you RSVP by calling the church office or Pastor Bell by Nov.15 so we can finalize numbers. **Come and join us right before Thanksgiving and catch up with your friends from Good Shepherd Lutheran. We miss you!**

THANKFUL . . .

for our YOUTH

Even more activities for Good Shepherd Youth:

Indoor Go-Karts — Sun., Dec. 12 – 1:30 pm



We will be racing go karts in December! Not out in the cold but, nice and cozy, at the indoor track in

Mokena. This is a brand new adventure for our youth group and is open to all our youth 6th-12th grade with friends and parents welcome too. This should be a really fun time and we hope we can have a good group. We will ask for \$25 for the event to help defray the cost, but please don't let money stop you from coming! We want all our kids to enjoy some fun together at the racetrack! The track requires reservations at least 10 days out so **please let Pastor Bell know by Dec. 1 if you want to come!**

High School Remind Group

Pastor Bell has set up a remind group for the high school youth. If you would like to be added, it's another way to stay up to date on what's going on with the youth here at Good Shepherd. Just email or text PB with your cell number or your family's numbers and he will get your added. Thanks!



P.S. There are also groups for 6th and 7th grade confirmation if your student needs to be part of those!

Good Shepherd Youth Gift Card Sale!



Not only do gift cards make great gifts for family members, friends, teachers and other important people in our lives, but they can help fund Good Shepherd's trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering next summer! The

High School Youth are selling gift cards to help fund that once in a lifetime event. These gift cards include some of your favorite retailers like Jewel, Starbucks, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Target,

Kohl's, Chili's and many others. You will pay the retail value for the gift card and the High School students will receive a percentage of the that sale. It's a great way to get some Christmas shopping done and support the church. **An order form is attached in the newsletter.** *If you want to order a card that is not on the list, please go to: <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/> and click on "shop" for a complete list of retailers, call the church office or check out the Youth bulletin board. Please turn in all orders by Sunday, November 28. There will be an envelope on Pastor Bell's door you can drop them in. Gift cards should be available for pickup on Sunday, December 5.*

BLESSED . . .

by our

Children and Family Ministry

In-Person Sunday school



continues to see more and more of our young friends as we gather together safely to hear Bible stories and have some fun together. Please remember that everyone checks in at the Welcome Table by the staircase (nearest to the church office). Once checked in, you will receive a name tag.

A new **Virtual Sunday School** lesson will be available on November 7 and can be viewed all month long on our YouTube channel.

Attention all Early Childhood Moms . . .

a freezer meal making event is scheduled for Friday, November 5. Those that participate, sign up for either one or both of the meals that are planned for.

There is a fee for the meals and that is determined after the shopping is complete. The fee is payable that night. You will need to RSVP for this event. Please email Lori, call the church office or sign up on the Frolic bulletin board by November 3 to let us know you are attending.



BLESSED . . . by our Children and Family Ministry



The time honored tradition of Gingerbread House Decorating is around the corner!!!

This year, families can choose to gather together safely in the Family Life Center on December 3 from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM or stop by to pick up your reserved house and decorate it at home and then send in a picture of your completed house. *We only have 32 houses available for reservation, so don't delay reserve today!* Due to the popularity of this event you will need to call the church office or email Mrs. Lori in order to reserve a house kit for your family and be sure to let us know if you are attending at church or picking up (Dec. 3 or after) to decorate at home. A free will offering is collected on the night of the gathering or at pick up. Please note if you are attending on December 3 at church, plan to bring a cookie sheet or some type of base to put your house on for easier transport home.



"How do They Celebrate Christmas"

is an at-home Advent Activity Kit for our families with children to begin enjoying together on November 28, the first day of Advent. The kit consists of a devotional booklet with short daily readings about advent traditions from around the world, prayers and an advent countdown chain to put together. Each link that is added from that day's reading helps us learn about Christmas customs and traditions celebrated by families all over the world as we prepare for Jesus' birthday. The Advent Activity Kit will be available on November 14. Families can pick one up at the Sunday school Welcome Table on Sunday mornings or you may call the church office and reserve one to pick up during the week.

"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."
WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS, BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE."
JOHN 8:12



GRATEFUL . . . THANKFUL . . . BLESSED . . .

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS



Don't forget to turn your clocks back and enjoy an extra hour of sleep on Saturday evening, November 6. Get a good night's rest and **come to church refreshed and renewed** for *All Saints' Sunday!*



Want to get more involved at Good Shepherd and meet some great people? We have many different leadership groups at Good Shepherd. Some require a lot of time and others just a little. As we start

preparing for the changing of the year, if you are interested in learning of how you may be able to get involved, please talk to Pr. Buresh.

Sign Up for Flowers! A 2022 flower chart is posted on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office. Donors may use this opportunity to celebrate anniversaries, weddings, birthdays or to remember a loved one. The flower cost is \$40 and checks can be made payable to the Good Shepherd Chancel Guild.



The 2021-2022 Church Directory will be on its way next week! It is being mailed to you directly from Cathedral Directories. Please look for it to arrive soon. **If you could check your record to make sure it is correct, that would be very helpful.** Please contact the church office with any changes ASAP. Thank you!

