



From Emptiness to Fullness

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.

-Luke 24: 1-5, NRSV

Grace to you and peace in the name of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As I write this, the (hopefully) last snow of winter is fading and we can see the beginnings of spring breaking through; similarly, we are in the last week of the season of Lent, and we are coming out of the wilderness into the bright light of the resurrection.

The above quote from the gospel of Luke captures this feeling of emerging from a place of emptiness into fullness, the feeling of life pushing up through death. When the women come to the tomb they are in a place of desolation; the desolation of grief and fear, they are numb, empty, in a wilderness where they can see nothing but death. And yet, when they arrive, they are greeted by angels bearing a message of life! It is a message that breaks through their grief and numbness, a message that jogs their memory of what Jesus had told them, death did not have the last word!

Each of us comes to the tomb bearing our own griefs and sorrows, each of us in our own way empty; may we encounter a message of life, a reminder of what our Savior has promised us—that we are not alone, and that despair and death do not have the last word. This Easter, may we experience the life that conquers death, and may we, like Mary, bear that message out into the world. Alleluia!

Yours in Christ

Pastor Jess

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE VIA ZOOM

Palm Sunday Service, April 2, 2023 is via Zoom

Palm Sunday Services, 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87525508195?pwd=MmtjVENGaUg3ODFuaXhhUHR1TVR3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 875 2550 8195

Passcode: 022399

COVID CANCELLATIONS

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Due to Covid, all Events and Activities are cancelled from Friday, March 31, 2023 through Thursday, April 6, 2023, including the Clean-up Day, Choir Rehearsal on Sunday, Quilting Group and Drive-Through Communion on Maundy Thursday.

We will gather together again on Good Friday, April 7, 2023 for worship at 7:00 pm

LENTEN SCHEDULES



Palm Sunday Service

Sunday, April 2, 2023, 10:00 am
Via Zoom
see above for link

Drive Through Communion

Pastor Jess will offer Drive-Through Communion,
Thursday, April 6, 2023
11:00 am — 1:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 6, 2023,
at Peace Lutheran Church in their sanctuary.

5:30 pm: Fellowship Meal and Worship
6:45 pm: Holy Communion
7:00 pm: Stripping of the Altar



LENTEN SCHEDULES CONTINUED



Good Friday Service

Friday, April 7, 2023, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Service

Sunday, April 9, 2023, 10:00 am



WALK FOR WARMTH



L - R: Marcel, Tessa (in stroller), Tiffany & Tenley Letourneau, and Rebecca, Cooper and Tim Adams

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that participated in the Walk For Warmth, held March 4, 2023. The weather cooperated this year with no snow on the ground and decent temperatures.



Two Action Agency Volunteers

WALK FOR WARMTH



L - R: Dylana Eisaman, Vicki & Michael Russell, Jacob Bacon, Pastor Jess, Carolyn Willaman, Terry & Steve Grossman, Jessica & Branden Bacon, Edwin & Elliott Eisaman and Dennis Willaman.



Dennis & Carolyn Willaman and Jacob & Branden Bacon



The Letourneau Family: Marcel, Tessa, Tiffany and Tenley.

SPRING CLEAN-UP



Spring Clean Up!



CANCELLED

Spring Clean-Up
Saturday, April 1, 2023
9:00 am — Noon

Bring gloves and yard tools and lets spruce up our property for the summer. A wheelbarrow or two would be helpful.

Questions? Ask Elliott Eisaman.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

God's Work Our Hands = A Summer of Service

Your Mission and Outreach Team wants everyone at Good Shepherd to have an opportunity to help serve our community. We realize that having one day of service may not fit your busy lives so this year we are planning a Summer of Service. Every month from June through September we will participate with a different non-profit organization. Not only will we have 4 dates but we will have 4 different organizations to serve. Watch for information as we plan these 4 opportunities. We hope you can participate in 1, 2, 3 or even all 4 as we show how Good Shepherd's Hands do God's Work in our community.



BREEZE — ONLINE GIVING TIPS

Online Giving Tips

*To change your giving amount use **Manage Recurring Giving** under Online Giving. You must make changes to your giving yourself, that cannot be done for you. Be sure to **SAVE** any changes you make.

*To avoid multiple transaction fees you can give to more than one account in a single transaction. Use the **Give to Another Fund** link to give to as many funds as you want in one single transaction.

*If you choose to **Add** (fee is indicated here) **to cover the Processing Fee** the amount specified will be added to your contribution. If you do not choose to add the fee then it must be paid by Good Shepherd.

CHOIR NEWS



Choir Practice

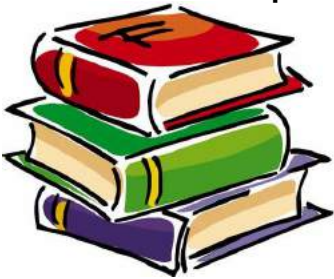
Monday	April 24:	Choir Practice - 6:30 pm
Monday	May 1:	Choir Practice - 6:30 pm
Sunday	May 8:	Choir Practice - 11:15 am
Monday	May 15:	Final Choir Practice - 6:30 pm

BOOK GROUP

April Selection:

I, Eliza Hamilton
by Susan Holloway Scott

Book Group



“Love is not easy with a man chosen by Fate for greatness . . .”

This month’s selection is *I, Eliza Hamilton* by Susan Holloway Scott. Book Group will be meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

In this beautifully written novel of historical fiction, bestselling author Susan Holloway Scott tells the story of Alexander Hamilton’s wife, Eliza— a fascinating, strong-willed heroine in her own right and a key figure in one of the most gripping periods in American history.

As the daughter of a respected general, Elizabeth Schuyler is accustomed to socializing with dignitaries and soldiers. But no visitor to her parents’ home has affected her so strongly as Alexander Hamilton, a charismatic, ambitious aide to George Washington. They marry quickly, and despite the tumult of the American Revolution, Eliza is confident in her brilliant husband and in her role as his helpmate. But it is in the aftermath of war, as Hamilton becomes one of the country’s most important figures, that she truly comes into her own.

The books are available in the Commons. Please sign your name next to the book number. We will meet at 4:30 pm, Wed., April 19, 2023.

Following the surveys and a discussion at our March meeting, it was decided to continue meeting on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm. During lent the meeting will move to the third Tuesday at 4:30pm. If you have questions, see Ellie or Vicki.

NOISY OFFERING



RESILIENCE
ADVOCATES FOR ENDING VIOLENCE™

Annual May Baskets Campaign

Poverty can often create additional barriers to leaving an abusive relationship. While many survivors are able to receive public assistance, such as WIC or SNAP, these programs do not allow the purchase of any taxable items. Each May, Resilience provides laundry baskets filled with taxable everyday necessities such as, personal care & cleaning products, to all survivors utilizing our services.

Our March and April Noisy Offering will go toward cleaning and personal care products for the 2023 Resilience May Baskets Campaign.

History of Resilience:

"In 2019, Center for Women in Transition was rebranded to become Resilience: Advocates for Ending Violence. It was our goal to create a brand that better represents the diverse population in which we live and serve. Since 1977, we've seen the need for help in Ottawa and Allegan counties. And we've grown accordingly; expanded our reach, evolved our services, and created new partnerships and programs to stop intergenerational violence once and for all. Resilience proudly serves all survivors – regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, immigration status, or any other ethos."

Good Shepherd will partner with Resilience by collecting needed personal care & cleaning products to support some of the most vulnerable members of our community during March and April. Here is a list of needed items:

Cleaning Products:

Bathroom cleaner, dish soap, dishwasher detergent, dusting spray, fabric softener, glass cleaner, laundry soap, all-purpose cleaner, paper towels, sponges, stain remover, toilet cleaner, toilet paper, trash bags

Personal Care:

Baby lotion, baby shampoo, baby wipes, body wash, bug spray, combs, cotton balls, dental floss, face lotion, face wash, first aid kits, hair care products, hand lotion, lip care, nail care, razors & shave cream, shampoo, conditioner, sunscreen, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste

These items will be collected and donated in laundry baskets. (We also welcome donations of laundry baskets!). We appreciate your generosity and support!

Mission and Outreach Committee



THROWING SOMETHING “AWAY”

A recent article in the Holland Sentinel reminded me a lot about what we have talked about in our Stewardship Committee meetings. A statement in the article read “There is no such thing as throwing something away because there’s no such place as ‘away’”. The places we call ‘away’ end up being landfills, or the side of a highway, or a countryside, or a lake or ocean. Many of the discarded items will take centuries to decompose. Is this what we want to leave for our future generations, for our grand children and great-grand children? Is this how we are good stewards of God creation?

Recycling is not easy and is not necessarily inexpensive. But if society doesn’t start doing a better job of recycling, this world will be consumed with trash. Our ground water will be contaminated and our oceans and lakes will not support aquatic life anymore. Is that what we as “Christians” should be doing as stewards of Gods creation?

The Good Shepherd Stewardship committee sees this as a big problem and one that requires good “Christians” to find a way to be good stewards of this earth with which God has blessed us. There are at least 7 projects the congregation is currently doing to recycle:

1. You are encouraged to recycle at home if your trash collector has a recycling program.
2. The church has provided a space on the grounds for a PaperGator bin to recycle papers and pressboard boxes.
3. The church is using LED lights in the sanctuary.
4. The quilting group uses leftover material to create quilts for Lutheran World Relief.
5. A container is available in the kitchen to receive clean plastic containers and metal cans that someone in the congregation will recycle at their home recycling program
6. A container is available in the entryway to receive clean pop cans that can be recycled at the grocery stores for \$0.10 a can. The money will be used for Student Activities at church.
7. Clean used egg cartons are taken to the Community Action House to be used in their “Food Club” store program.

There are many other ways we, as a congregation, can help. The lighting in the commons and other rooms can be converted to LED lighting. More people can participate in the recycling processes we have available.

If you have other ideas we would love to hear them. Please contact anyone on the Stewardship Committee.

Your Stewardship Committee:

Elliott Eisaman, Ellie Buggeln, Brian Underhill, & Dennis Willaman



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE, CONTINUED

“A Clear Message from Science”

The New York Times had an article on March 20, 2023 titled “A Clear message from Science”. The following are some excerpts from that article.

“There is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable future for all (very high confidence).”

This is the most striking sentence in a 37-page summary, issued today (March 20, 2023), of the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change....The report has been compiled by hundreds of scholars and approved by the representatives of 195 countries.

It lays out the present impacts and imminent risks of climate change and it offers a number of options to both adapt to an inevitably hotter planet and prevent Earth from getting unmanageably hotter still. It calls for a swift, sharp reduction in fossil fuel use if the world is to stay within a relatively safe planetary boundary. That is, to limit the global average temperature to within 1.5 degrees Celsius, or 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit, above preindustrial levels....It plainly warns that the world is on track to exceed that threshold, at least temporarily, in the first half of the 2030s....The actions taken during this decade will “largely determine” what happens for centuries to come.

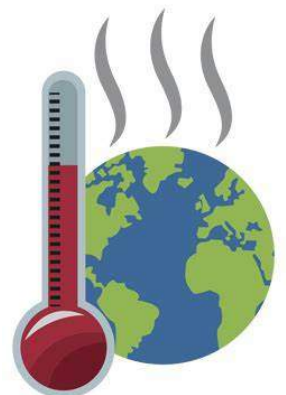
The average global temperature is 1.1 degrees Celsius higher than it was at the start of the industrial age. It’s risen faster since 1970 than during any 50 year period.

The report lays out many known remedies and shows what would make the biggest difference to keep warming as low as possible, and also adapt to the climate hazards that are now inevitable. Expand solar and wind power. Improve energy efficiency. Make cities more friendly for walkers and cyclists. Reduce nitrogen pollution from agriculture. Eat better. Reduce food waste.

It struck me that many of these changes don’t mean giving up good things. It could mean having more good things, like exercise, cleaner air and better public health....It does mean giving up one big thing that is the main driver of warming: fossil fuels. The emissions produced by existing oil and gas installations, coal-fired power plants, gas and diesel guzzling trucks, and factories that burn fossil fuels would blow past the critical warming threshold.

The article is more extensive and says that we need to slow down the warming of the planet. That if we can keep the warming at 2.7 Degrees Fahrenheit by the early 2030s and hold the temperature from getting hotter by 2050 we may be able to continue to sustain life here on earth. If not the earth will only get hotter and life as we know it will become unsustainable. Solar panels and LED lighting seems to be the least we, as a congregation, can do. If you have questions please contact Dennis Willaman.

Your Stewardship Committee



HOLY WEEK & SUNDAY SERVANTS - APRIL

Holy Week & Sunday Servants Needed for April

Please help us fill the spaces. Volunteer to be a Sunday Servant

Use the form in the Commons or contact Deb in the office.

616.772.4075 or gslc.office@icloud.com

Date	Worship Leader/ Communion Assistant	Reader(s)	Usher	Communion Set- Up/Clean-Up	Counters
April 2 Palm Sunday Cancelled	WL - CA-	1. Carolyn W. 2. 3. 4.	Floyd Norvell	Deb Ludwig	1. Elliott Eisaman 2.
April 7 Good Friday	NA	1. Vicki Russell 2. Mike Russell		NA	NA
April 9 Easter Sunday	WL - CA-	Branden Bacon		Deb Ludwig	1. 2.
April 16 2nd Sunday of Easter	WL - CA -				1. 2.
April 26 3rd Sunday of Easter	WL - CA -				1. 2.
April 30 4th Sunday of Easter	WL - CA -				1. 2.



CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

The new cleaning schedule for March 5 - April 29 is below.
Please take a turn and sign up to clean.

Sign-up: 2-week period preferred, however, 1-week period is acceptable. Cleaning includes cleaning all areas of the church building: sanctuary, sacristy, entrance, hallway, bathrooms, kitchen, conference room, nursery and Commons.

To sign-up:

Use the Cleaning Schedule form in the Commons
or Contact Deb in the office:
gslc.office@icloud.com
616.772.4075



Dates	Name(s)
Weeks of March 5 - 11 March 12 - 18	Dennis Willaman & Gary Bowman Dennis Willaman & Gary Bowman
Weeks of March 19 - 25 March 26 - April 1	Sharon Wendt Dennis Willaman & Gary Bowman
Weeks of April 2 - 8 April 9 - 15	
Weeks of April 16 - 22 April 23 - 29	



PAPER & PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND CLEANING SUPPLIES

Paper & Plastic Supplies Needed



Only 3 more items needed:

One package of toilet paper with at least 15 rolls.

Two boxes/packages of **60 Gallon** garbage bags. Must be at least **60 gallon bags** since anything smaller doesn't fit our largest garbage cans.

Thank you to everyone who have donated supplies already.
They are greatly appreciated!

FELLOWSHIP — FEBRUARY 2023

Fellowship Sign-up.



Treats and Set Up & Clean Up	
April 2, 2023	
April 9, 2023	Jessica Bacon
April 16, 2023	
April 23, 2023	
April 30, 2023	

OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

The Measure of our Love

Computers connected via internet = Families

Total Sunday Attendance: 196

Families: 10

Average Sunday Attendance: 49



April

Birthdays

Neveah McCaughan 2
Don Burmeister 2
Tom Ludwig 5
Ellie Buggeln 9
Sharon Wendt 11
Bill House 16
Eve Andrus 17
Duane Schuldt 18
Joan Lamb 30
Shaina Underhill 30



Anniversaries

Brian & Jessica Underhill 28

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday Services and some Activities are also on-line.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87525508195?pwd=MmtjVENGaUg3ODFuaXhhUHR1TVR3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 875 2550 8195

Passcode: 022399

Sunday Services, 10:00 -11:00 am, also available via YouTube
Choir Rehearsals, Mondays at 6:30 pm, September - May
Quilter's Meet, Tuesdays, 10:30 am on site. No Quilting in December.
Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:15 am, September - May
Book Group, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 4:30 pm.

PASTOR JESS' SCHEDULE



Pastor Jessica is available Monday - Friday
via phone, text, email and Facebook messenger.

Phone: (616) 403-4660

Email: pj.gslc@gmail.com

To view Pastor's weekly in-office hours, look on the Breeze
calendar on our website at goodshepherdhollandmi.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Church Council Members:

Jessica Bacon,	(920) 889-8706, jessica.lois.bacon@gmail.com
Larry Heckel	(616) 399-8238 (H), (616) 403-1476 (C), laurenceheckel@icloud.com
Steve Johnson	(616) 212-6833, sgjcfp@gamil.com
Brian Underhill	(616) 292-7194, underhillbrian@yahoo.com
Julie Wolff,	(616) 566-6251, wolffwife@gmail.com

IN OUR MARCH PRAYERS

In Our Prayers...

- ***Our Prayers and Sympathy:*** to the family and friends of Pastor Earl Merz who passed away Wed. March 1; for Michelle Kenat, BestPals Director & Kris Norvell's friend. Her brother passed away in Chicago, Feb. 27.
- ***Healing/Peace:*** the Aikens/Preston family, house fire, Lucas Barton, diagnosed with Dushanes Muscular Dystrophy (son of friends of Julie Wolff), Zach Bergland (Beckers' nephew), Tom & Elizabeth Brookover, (friends of the Wentz') Tom has a rare form of ocular cancer, Ellie Buggeln fell and has a broken pelvis, Selena Casillas, 8 yrs old-diagnosed with cancer (friend of Ellen Lichtman), Dale Cramer, Bret D'Agostino, Kody De Haan, Diane (close friend of Kris Norvell) at Mayo clinic for treatment for inoperable cancer, Carol Essig (Bret D'Agostino's aunt), Jessie George (Deb P-G's daughter), Larry Heckel, Gigi Howard, shoulder surgery; Cathy Kelly, Jack Klynstra had heart attack in December, Tiffany Letourneau, diagnosed with breast cancer, Iris Mears, (PJ's godmother), Tom Ludwig, burst appendix, Trudy & Dale Medendorp, (close friends of Vicki R.), Dale diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, Molly (friend of Deb P-G) diagnosed with uterine cancer, Diane Oberlin (former attendee), has cancer, Rita Ponstein, (Sally's sister-in-law), Dorothy Postema, (Deb P-G's mom) heart surgery, Howard Reister diagnosed with cancer (Sally & Ellen's brother), Roland Rivera, Casey Rostos (friend of Norvells), Katherine Slee (friend of Beckers), Russ & Rita Taylor (Julie Wolff's parents), Taylor, (Sally P.s granddaughter) who witnessed the MSU shootings, Shelby Visser (Norvells granddaughter) suffered a miscarriage, Som Vixayphone, Justin Walker (Pastor's husband), Jon Wiening.
- ***Prayers for Our World:*** We pray for the Community of MSU and for the Lutheran Campus Ministry at MSU, for the victims and families of mass shootings and for those affected by the train derailments in the US.
- ***Healthy Pregnancy:*** Ali Le Pere (Ludwig's niece), Shelby (Norvell's granddaughter).
- ***Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Homebound:*** Christopher St. John (Son of Bonita Zielke), Bonita Zielke,
- ***Serving Our Country:*** John Bounthapanya (Som's nephew), Ryan Felgenhauer, William Felgenhauer, and Evan Felgenhauer (great-nephews of Kerry Johnson), Cortney and Konstantin Ivanov (Gigi Howard's daughter and son-in-law), Koa Rosally (Terry Grossman's grandson), Andrew Wagner (Patricia Bradfield's grandson), Zachery Wiesner (Gigi Howard's son-in-law).
- ***Prayer Partners:*** St. John's Lutheran Church, Rev. Kenneth Babcock, Baroda; Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. Chrysy Bright, Barton City; St. Peter Lutheran Church, Rev. Edward Ruble, Battle Creek; Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. Kjersten Sullivan, Battle Creek.



He is not here;
he has Risen!

Luke 24:6