



## God's Time

Greetings in the name of Christ!

As I sit down to write this, I am looking out of my window at the spectrum of fall colors and I am reminded how quickly time passes. It feels like it was only yesterday that we were getting ready to begin a new school & program year and by the time you read this it will be November and all of us will be preparing to jump into the holiday season. This quick passage of time has been helped by the retail industry; Christmas displays started going up a couple weeks ago and in most stores you can see the Halloween merchandise right next to the new Christmas stuff. The world, it seems, is determined to propel us from one experience to another as quickly as possible, never taking time to enjoy or to think about it.

I notice the passage of time especially as a parent; it feels like yesterday I was carrying J around in a baby carrier and now each day it seems as if he grows by leaps and bounds and I find myself wishing I had taken more time to enjoy those moments. Haven't we all experienced that feeling? The realization that we forgot to notice the small things in life. The leaves on a favorite tree changing and falling, a child growing, the new attitude of a co-worker or the growing sadness of a friend. The rush and busy-ness of everyday keeps us from appreciating the small moments, from being fully present and fully aware of how God is working in and around us today.

As you read this article, I encourage you to stop. Look at the changing trees and feel the cool wind, listen to your breath, and allow yourself to be led into the Kairos: the time, space and presence of God. With each breath allow yourself to relax and sink into God's time. Who knows, perhaps in allowing ourselves to sink into God's time we may be much better at living and experiencing our own time.

God of all time,  
Slow us. Stop us. Draw us into Kairos.  
Open us to the wonder that is you.  
That, rooted in your presence, we may grow your love into our time.  
In the name of the One who draws us to you.  
Amen.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Jess

## FROM THE MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

### A Mission and Outreach Survey



Mission and Outreach would like your input in planning 2024 Noisy Offering recipients and GWOH community service opportunities. We choose organizations that are local, are 501(c)3, align with ELCA Social Statements, and try to provide a diverse cross section of interests and needs in the community.

During the month of November there will be a Mission and Outreach survey available in the commons regarding the noisy offering recipients and GWOH service projects that we have focused on in the past few years. We would like each of you to complete a survey, anonymously, and let us know

which recipients have touched you the most and would like us to repeat. And which organizations you would like to help by participating in a service project. We are also open to new ideas so there is room at the end of the survey for you to add other organizations and provide some information about them. Please place the completed surveys in the basket labeled for them.

If you are not able to be in the building during the month of November and would like to help us by completing a survey please contact Deb in the office and she will mail one to you so you can complete it and return it.

If Mission and Outreach is of interest to you we would love to have you join our team. Contact any current member: Branden Bacon, Julie Wolff, Carolyn Willaman, Vicki Russell

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Sunday, November 5, 2023

2:00 AM

# LWR QUILTS AND SCHOOL KITS

## Thank You!

Thank you to our volunteers who transported all the quilts and school kits to West Michigan Lutheran High School for the ingathering. We had 17 boxes total.



Karrie & Bill Foster



Bill & Suzanne House

## BOOK GROUP NEWS

November Selection:

*The Four Winds*  
by Kristin Hannah

Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance.

In this uncertain and dangerous time, Elsa Martinelli—like so many of her neighbors—must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life. *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American Dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

(from [kristinhannah.com](http://kristinhannah.com))



Book Group

Next Book Group meeting:  
Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 4:30 pm.

No December Meeting

# MEN'S BREAKFAST

## News from the Men's Breakfast

In the last two months, the men of GSLC have enjoyed a breakfast of fruit, cheese, scrambled eggs and sausage along with special treats of french toast in Sept. and muffins in Oct.

They have also been very busy outside and inside the church. Several weeding projects have been completed. The messages on the church sign have been updated. The men also worked on the picnic table, pulled up the bird houses in hopes of possibly repairing them, weed blocked and mulched around the sign, smoothed out the tire tracks in the lawn and removed the damaged bench. Inside, lightbulbs were replaced and the hinges repaired on the Sanctuary doors.

*Thank you!*



l-r Brendan & Jacob Bacon, Brian Underhill, Steve Johnson, and Sam Rogers.



l-r Sam Rogers, Dennis Willaman, Mike Russell, Brian Underhill, Jacob & Brenden Bacon.



At work.  
Sam Rogers  
above,



Dennis Willaman &  
Jacob Bacon, right.



Jacob & Branden Bacon, our chefs at work.

## PET BLESSINGS

### Blessing of the Animals

Pastor Jess performed the Blessing of the Pets on October 4<sup>th</sup>. This year, after starting the pet blessings at Good Shepherd in the early afternoon, she went to BestPals Animal Rescue Center to bless the cats and dogs at the shelter. Pastor blessed several cats in their shelter space, and we were able to bring the dogs outside for theirs. She came back to Good Shepherd later that day for the last pet blessings. Those of us who brought their pets to church and the shelter staff appreciated the opportunity to have our pet blessing again this year. It is a special reminder that all living creatures belong to our Lord and deserve all the love and care we can give them.



PJ at BestPals



PJ and Floyd & Kris Norvell

## THANK YOU!

### Thank you...

...to everyone who submitted an Estimate of Giving card. The ELCA strongly encourages and expects each congregation to create a budget for the congregation's fiscal year. To create that budget a congregation needs to have some idea of what to expect from contributions. Your Estimate of Giving is a great help.

If you haven't returned an EOG card yet, you may still do so. EOG cards are available on the shelf in the Commons or you may use the form below. The cards can be returned to the church office when completed.

## ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*

### 2024 ESTIMATE OF GIVING

In response to God's generosity in Christ Jesus, I/we intend to offer these gifts in support of the ongoing Ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle frequency of giving:

Weekly, Bi-Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Annually, Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

***If you contribute online using Breeze you must make the necessary changes on the Breeze website yourself.***

***\*\*\*\*\*You may use the above form if you need one.\*\*\*\*\****

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS

### ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS

Please fill out an Estimate of Giving card to be placed on the altar on Oct. 22nd or it can be returned to the office. This has a two-fold purpose. It provides the church council some information to create a required 2024 budget but it also gives you an opportunity to pray and reflect on your relationship with God and encourages you to deepen that relationship.

The card has a line for an amount and then asks how often you plan to contribute that amount. Please circle one of these or designate another frequency. Please sign your name(s) and return the EOG card to the office.

Over half of our contributions are received online through the BREEZE system which the church has been using for some time now. If you want to contribute online this way we will be happy to help you set that up. If you are already giving online using the Breeze system, you will have to make any changes to the account you have established on the BREEZE system because you are the only one who can. If you need any help please see Vicki Russell. She knows what to do.

Your Stewardship Committee:

Dennis Willaman

Ellie Buggeln

Elliott Eisaman

Brian Underhill

Pastor Jess

## *Breeze Church Management System*

Breeze is the management system we use at Good Shepherd to keep track of members' information, giving records, and our calendar of events. People information (address, phone number, email address etc) is available for anyone at Good Shepherd to access. If you do not, but would like to, have that access see Elliott Eisaman or Vicki Russell.

Our online giving is also available via Breeze. If you would like assistance starting online giving or making a change to your online giving see Elliott Eisaman or Vicki Russell.

What are some advantages of online giving?

- No need to remember to bring the check on Sunday.
- Plan your giving to fit your schedule.
- Contribute any day of the week.
- Keep your giving consistently.
- Give to any or all funds of your choosing.
- Set up recurring giving so you do not miss a week.

Two reminders:

- If you changed your giving amount on your EOG form and have recurring giving set up in Breeze you must also change it in Breeze. No one can change the amount sent from your account except you.
- If you give to more than one fund you can do that in one transaction, rather than multiple transactions, save time and save a transaction fee.

Our Breeze access is [gslchollandmi.breezechms.com](http://gslchollandmi.breezechms.com). You must have access permission and set up a password in order to utilize this system. For any questions regarding Breeze see Elliott or Vicki.



## NOISY OFFERING

### November/December Noisy Offering: **Samaritas and Grand Ravine Senior Living**



We are excited to partner with Samaritas for their Christmas Wish gift collection and a Grand Ravine Christmas celebration for our November and December noisy offerings!

#### **Christmas Wish**

Christmas Wish serves children in Samaritas programs who miss out on other statewide gift-giving opportunities due to age, date of entry into care, or type of care. To give these children the opportunity for a “Merry Christmas”, we will be getting wish lists from 4-5 children who otherwise wouldn't receive gifts. The wish list will include some information about the youth, their likes, and a list of items they would wish for. We will have these wish lists within the first two weeks of November.

This wish list serves as a guideline as you shop for gifts for the youth. Samaritas suggests \$100 - \$150 per child total. Feel free to team up with other families to sponsor a youth. Our goal will be to finish buying gifts by Sunday, November 26th to allow time to get the gifts to the families. Retail gift cards (e.g. Target, Meijer, Amazon) and noisy offering donations will also go toward Christmas Wish.

#### **Grand Ravine Christmas Celebration**

For the second year, we are spreading Christmas cheer with the Grand Ravine senior living community in Allegan. We are holding a Christmas Brunch on Saturday December 9 at 11:00am to 1:30pm. We will serve items like quiche and fruit. We will have a game featuring Christmas songs and then a group sing-a-long! A sign up sheet will be available in the commons in the weeks leading up to the event.

We look forward to celebrating the coming of our savior with you through these outreach activities!

#### **Mission and Outreach Committee**

Carolyn, Vicki, Julie, Branden, and Pastor Jessica





# PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

## ***The Measure of Our Love***

Computers connected via internet = Families  
 as of October 22  
 Total Sunday Attendance: 170  
 Families: 10  
 Average Sunday Attendance: 42



## SUNDAY SERVANTS — NOVEMBER

### Sunday Servants Needed for October

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](mailto:gslc.office@icloud.com)

Date	Worship Leader/ Communion Assistant	Reader(s)	Usher	Communion Set- Up/Clean-Up	Counters
<b>Nov. 5 All Saints Sunday</b>	WL- CA-	Tammy Walters		Vicki Russell	1. 2.
<b>Nov. 12 24th Sunday of Pentecost</b>	WL - CA-	Tom Ludwig		Terry Grossman	1. 2.
<b>Nov. 19 25th Sunday of Pentecost</b>	WL - CA-	Carolyn Willaman		Terry Grossman	1. 2.
<b>Nov. 26 Christ the King Sunday</b>	WL - CA -	Tom Ludwig		Deb Ludwig	1. 2.

# FELLOWSHIP — NOVEMBER

## Fellowship Sign-up.



Treats and Set Up & Clean Up	
November 5, 2023	
November 12, 2023	Norvells
November 19, 2023	
November 26, 2023	

## CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

### October 1 - November 25, 2023 Cleaning Schedule.

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](mailto:gslc.office@icloud.com)  
616.772.4075



Dates	Name(s)
Weeks of October 1 - 7 October 8 - 14	Parrotts Parrotts
Weeks of October 15 - 21 October 22 - 28	Ludwigs Ludwigs
Weeks of Oct. 29 - Nov. 4 November 5 - 11	Fosters Fosters
Weeks of November 12 - 18 November 19 - 25	

# NOVEMBER

## Birthdays

Steve Grossman 8



## Anniversaries

Deb & Tom Ludwig 24

## SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday Services 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 Zoom

Choir Rehearsals, Mondays at 6:30 pm, September - May, begins Sept. 13, 2023

Quilter's Meet, Tuesdays, 10:30 am on site. No Quilting in December.

Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:30 am, September - May

Book Group, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 4:30 pm. September - May

## 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](mailto:pj.gslc@gmail.com)

To view Pastor's weekly in-office hours, look on the Breeze calendar on our website at [goodshepherdhollandmi.com](http://goodshepherdhollandmi.com)

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Church Council Members:

Jessica Bacon,	(920) 889-8706, <a href="mailto:jessica.lois.bacon@gmail.com">jessica.lois.bacon@gmail.com</a>
Larry Heckel	(616) 399-8238 (H), (616) 403-1476 (C), <a href="mailto:laurenceheckel@icloud.com">laurenceheckel@icloud.com</a>
Steve Johnson	(616) 212-6833, <a href="mailto:sgjcfp@gamil.com">sgjcfp@gamil.com</a>
Brian Underhill (Pres)	(616) 292-7194, <a href="mailto:underhillbrian@yahoo.com">underhillbrian@yahoo.com</a>
Julie Wolff (VP)	(616) 566-6251, <a href="mailto:wolffwife@gmail.com">wolffwife@gmail.com</a>
Pastor Jess (Sec)	(616) 403-4660, <a href="mailto:pj.gslc@gmail.com">pj.gslc@gmail.com</a>

## IN OUR OCTOBER PRAYERS

### *In Our October Prayers...*

- **Our Sympathies:** to Tammy Walters, her family and mother, Ellen, on the death of Tammy's stepfather, Willis Bers, on October 3, 2023; and to Deb DeYoung and her mother, Christine, on the death of her father, Tom, on August 5, 2023.
- **Healing/Peace:** Lucas Barton, diagnosed with Dushanes Muscular Dystrophy (son of friends of Julie Wolff), Zach Bergland (Beckers' nephew), Villis Bers (Tammy's stepfather) has entered Hospice Care. Greg Bolton, (friend of Julie Wolff), Tom & Elizabeth Brookover, (friends of the Wentz') Tom has a rare form of ocular cancer, Dylan Brophy, age 26, (nephew of Kris Norvell's friend), stage 4 melanoma, Kory Casey, (mother of Kris Norvell's friend), stage 4 breast cancer, Bret D'Agostino, Mark DeGraaf, stage 4 cancer, Kody De Haan, Diane (close friend of Kris Norvell) at Mayo clinic for treatment for inoperable cancer, Jessie George (Deb P-G's daughter), Kensei Greene is in Helen DeVos Children's Hospital (Ellen L's gr-grandson), Carol Grossman, (Steve's mom), cancer has returned on top of Parkinsons, Rose Heckel, Johanna (friend of Pastor Jess) diagnosed with lung cancer, Karen Heidenreiter (Branden's mother) heart issues, Cathy Kelly, Tiffany Letourneau, being treated for breast cancer, Kory Mace (friend of Kris Norvell), Iris Mears, (PJ's godmother), Molly (friend of Deb P-G) diagnosed with uterine cancer, Diane Oberlin (former attendee) has cancer, Lori Ponstein diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer, Roland Rivera, Casey Rostos (friend of Norvells), Kathy Shoup, (friend of Larry Heckel) recovering from hip surgery, Katherine Slee (friend of Beckers), Stella, 6 yrs old, (Sally Ponstein's friends grdaughter) needs a kidney transplant. Russ & Rita Taylor (Julie Wolff's parents), Justin Walker (Pastor's husband), Jon Wiening.
- **Healthy Pregnancy:** , Sarah Hitchcock, (Naomi Wahl's daughter), Madison Visser (Norvells grdaughter-in-law).
- **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), Andrew Wagner (Patricia Bradford's grandson), Zachery Wiesner (Gigi Howard's son-in-law).
- **Prayer Partners:** Grace Lutheran Church, Rev. Kenneth Scheck, II, Hastings; St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Rev. Leslie Nye, Herron; Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. Kara Shaw, Hillsdale; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rev. Jessica Rivera-Walker, Holland; Peace Lutheran Church, Rev. Clay Bates, Holland.