

The Parish Pulse

Bi-monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

February/March 2020



Eucharisteo

By Pastor Koepsell

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

- 1 Corinthians 1:4

Pastor Koepsell, called to be an under-shepherd of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the church of God on the corner of Westhaven and 9th in Oshkosh, Wisconsin (a place we call Good Shepherd Lutheran Church), to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

I always thank God for you because of His grace given you in Christ Jesus. *(This includes but is certainly not limited to: Those people in Bible study, hungry for God's word; for full pews in church, for the beautiful music/voices and musicians we have been blessed with, for the children, for those who move the snow or cut the lawn, maintain our garden or landscaping, for those who make coffee or set out treats (or bring treats to share), for our "merry mourners" who set up and serve at funerals, for those who move tables/chairs/knock down spider webs, change lightbulbs, fix bell towers, sweep or vacuum, change the oil and sharpen the blades in the mower, etc. ...for those who set up the altar, for those who pass out bulletins, greet people or dispense God's gifts. I always thank God for your words of encouragement, for a place to share tears and joys, for the teachers, for our young adults, for Krista, our office manager, for the impact we make in this community and the world, for the smiles, the honesty, the constructive criticism, for the people who decorate, clean, do the hymn boards, fix computers, maintain technology, take pictures and post...for those who take notes, who pray for this church and the people here. I always thank God for those long standing members who have been through adversity and have been patient; And I thank God for those who are new to the flock here and continue to remain excited for God's work. I always thank God for those who count God's money and manage His gifts; for a beautiful, warm, dry place to gather for worship and fellowship. For those on the "business" side of the church that make sure we are stable. For Pastor Hayman (and Edna) and his help with visits, his wise words and his covering my vacations! I always thank God for our elderly Saints, for their consistency, dedication and fortitude. I give thanks for those who volunteer their time, sometimes battling unfortunate circumstances just to get here so they can help. I give thanks for the individual that takes literature to the prison for the inmates, and the one who takes our donated non-perishables and \$ to the food shelf. I give thanks for the selfless service done by so many of our ladies (and men) who tirelessly prepare items for our craft fair.*

(Continued on page 2)

More Inspiring Reads This Month:

The Big 40	pg 3
New Opportunities	pg 4
5 Minutes	pg 5
Connecting Well	pg 6
Mission Updates	pg 7
Trinity Tours	pg 8
New Members	pg 9
Council Minutes	pg 10
Calendar of Events	pg 19



Eucharisteo (Continued from pg 1)

I give thanks to the wonderful individual who does our baptism banners (even on short notice). I give thanks for those who speak well of their church and especially their Good Shepherd in their workplace, their neighborhoods and within their family. And I always thank God for my wonderful wife and family who sometimes have to make sacrifices so their dad/husband can do the Lord's work. I know I am missing some, and I also give thanks you are not offended by that ...because it's just stuff you do). ...For in Him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge—because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God, who has called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful....

...That, my dear friends, is a paraphrase of the opening lines of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthian congregation found in 1 Corinthians chapter one. Though I added all of that italicized stuff above, I find it amazing how Paul's penned words are still so applicable some 2,000 years later in 2020.

There's a lot going on globally, nationally, locally, and at our church home. And, as God's presence here, we are deeply involved in all of it, whether by thoughts, prayers, deep discussion...or in even more tangible ways through sharing our dollars, our time or our talents...I want you to know how thankful I am to do ministry, missions, tackle tough topics, mourn and rejoice with you.

Enough thanks cannot be said for all you do. Reflecting on the past year, we have done so much. From maintaining our normal wonderful things to trying new things. By God's grace, when we (as the Body of Christ) put our effort into an event it impacts so many. I am always taken aback by God's people at Good Shepherd, how you care so much, take ownership, lead, discuss, plan, come together and just do. Thank you. Your effort and work does not go unnoticed.

2019 was a very good year for us as God's people at Good Shepherd. Though we lost some members who were called to their eternal home, lost some members because of moves or other reasons, the Kingdom at large, lost none.

Here are just a couple things God has done through your church the last year...

God has placed new people in leadership at Good Shepherd and has blessed those who have served

Good Shepherd welcomed 57 new members

God has welcomed 7 individuals to His family through Holy Baptism

One couple was blessed with Holy Matrimony

God called 4 of His children to their eternal home

Through God's people at Good Shepherd, appx. 150 shoeboxes full of stuff were sent out for kids around the world.

Through God's people at Good Shepherd, about \$18,000 was given to local and abroad missions

God led us to go to two services to multiply the space He has blessed us with

Through God's people at Good Shepherd, \$3,629 was gathered and dispensed in mission envelopes as well as countless pounds of non-perishable food for our local food shelf

God celebrated with us our 50th anniversary with a brunch & a corn roast

God safely led our Youth (and their leaders) to the LCMS National Youth Gathering

God was praised as we hosted the Chant Claire choir, Lenten meditation & an Advent Hymn sing

We were privileged to serve God's people again at Oshkosh's Waterfest

We were privileged to participate in the Feed My Starving Children event

God blessed our craft fair with appx. \$10,000 to be used in a variety of ways for mission and ministry

Through God's people at Good Shepherd, we put a huge dent in our mortgage/debt

I always thank God for you... Because that's a lot, but it's not all of it. And I'm thankful for the privilege to do it again this year (and even more) with you again! It's good stuff. God pleasing stuff.

Let's get at it.

In His and your service, Pastor Koepsell

Next big thing: Ash Wednesday, February 26th. Get your ash in church! Come early (5:15 pm) for a big supper before church!

Lenten services at Good Shepherd are at 6:30.



The Big 40

By Keith Casey, Congregational President

First, I want to reach out and thank everyone in our community for working together to make our church a home for all of us. It is inspiring to see so many members contributing to the success of spreading God’s Word to the masses. As it is said in Matthew 28:19-20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Lent is quickly coming upon us (February 26th). Lent starts on [Ash Wednesday](#) and lasts for 40 days (not including Sundays) representing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. This 40-day period for us is a time to reflect, fast, and give penance in preparation for the resurrection of Christ Easter Sunday. During Lent, we will continue to offer supper prior to our Wednesday night service. I look forward to breaking bread with each and every one of you at these phenomenal meals hosted by several of our church organizations.

I want to thank everyone for all of their dedication and commitment to our church. We are a growing energized congregation and I am excited about the direction we are going! Finances, as always, are well and our mortgage debt is under \$400,000! But again, I do ask everyone to prayerfully consider what you can give in the coming year, both financially and of time. The volunteering of your time and treasures can only strengthen us as a community of believers. Please seek out areas where you can lend a helping hand. Your volunteering helps us in many various ways and your gift of time and treasures are very much appreciated.

I would like to thank everyone for all their help in making our church grow and prosper. Again, it truly amazing to see the Holy Spirit works in each and every one of you in your own special way. In closing, as the Apostle Paul said in Colossians 3:17 “And, whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Sunday School

By Judy Mehn, Sunday School Superintendent

The Sunday school students are learning more about the military members and their families at Good Shepherd. The students are so happy to get to know more members of our church family! Pictures will be posted with information about each member.

Thank you to all of the Sunday school teachers and substitute teachers for helping the Good Shepherd Sunday School program run so smoothly. Thanks to the parents for bringing them to Sunday school and teaching them Christian values that give us all hope for a bright future. The Enduring Faith curriculum by Concordia Publishing House is providing the youth with an engaging, thoughtful curriculum. Thanks and praise be to God for guiding us with His living word! Keep praying with your children every day, as it says in Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV), "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."



“Fumbly, bumbly” angels from Children’s Christmas program

Altar Care

By Pat Dreger

The 2020 Altar Care sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the bathrooms. If you are interested in helping out with Altar Care please sign up for the weeks/months that you are interested in doing. If you have never done Altar Care before and are interested in becoming involved and would like to know what it all entails, please contact me, Pat Dreger, 920-420-9665, or talk to me before or after service. It is not a difficult task. You don't have to attend any meetings and you don't have to worry about changing paraments or banners, I take care of all those things. You basically just set up communion before service and clean up after service. Please consider getting involved. If you only take one month out of the year that is a big help. If you just want to sign-up and have not done it before, please include your phone number on the sign-up sheet and I will contact you about showing you how it is all done and I will help you through it until you are confident with doing it yourself. It is nice to have someone to do it with so if you can find a helper to work with you that would be even better. Thank you to everyone who has helped out with Altar Care in the past, your help is truly appreciated.



New Opportunities

By Tom Dunham, Head Elder

For the past 55 years my life evolved around numbers as I was in banking. My forte was not in journalism or writing articles. This will be my first attempt and hopefully not my last.

I was asked to become an Elder in 2019 and now to take over the duties of being the head elder from Gary Bedroske. I want to thank Gary and the other Elders for their service and for helping me with the duties and responsibilities we have, to serve the members of Good Shepherd and most importantly our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It has been a pleasure to become a member of Good Shepherd, meeting new folks and being welcomed as part of your church family. Our past church families have become wonderful life-long friends, being with us and we with them in both good times and not so good times through our common Savior, Jesus Christ. It has been a blessing that the Lord provides for all of us. Please make an effort to get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ and I'm sure you will have the opportunity to have life-long church family friends also. Get to know your assigned Elder or any of the Elders as we are here to serve you and the Lord.

This past Christmas Eve it was decided to have two services. It worked out very well so there was room for all families, friends and visitors along with enough parking. Many thanks to those who decorated the church, the choir at the late service, the musicians for the pre-service music, Pastor for his messages and everyone that helped with the services to glorify the Lord and make it special for those that attended.

Closing Thought: God gives all of us a position to play as well as we can, realizing that our assignment fits into a bigger picture. Do your best, forget the rest and trust that God really is in control.

Voices Uplifted

By Cam Bedroske, Music Director

Music and choirs are a beautiful elements of worship at good Shepherd. If you have previously been in a choir or are simply curious about it, come join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30 for practice. See what you think! We just began working on Lenten music and would love to have your voice with ours. Once we begin Lenten Midweek services, rehearsals are @ 7:15-8:00p.m (Feb. 26-Apr. 8)

Sunday, April 5th (Palm Sunday) at 3:00pm will be our annual Lenten Meditation Concert. This is a fantastic way to begin your Holy Week. Our Adult choir, along with guest soloists and a string quartet present music that accompanies the Passion Readings. The concert lasts about an hour and is a very peaceful, reflective time. It is a wonderful event to invite your friends and neighbors to. Afterwards, we will be holding a reception of hors d'oeuvres and beverages. As the date draws closer, please look for ways to help with the reception.

Joyful Response

Joyful Response is a way to electronically give your church offering. No more forgetting your offering envelope on a busy Sunday morning or worrying about missing offerings when you are sick or on vacation.

If you are interested in setting up a Joyful Response account please talk to Heather Klauer or email her (heatherklauerrn@sbcglobal.net) You can also pick up a form in the atrium with other "Good Shepherd" paperwork in the hanging organizer. On the form you can now designate what ministry programs your funds go to!



Scrip

Thank you to the many members who have helped support the church by buying Scrip. There are many ways Scrip cards can be used in everyday life, buying gas, buying groceries or even sponsoring altar flowers. To sponsor the flowers through Scrip, just buy a \$25 card to Pick N Save. It is easy!

Remember, Scrip can be purchased after worship service every Sunday. If you have any questions, please talk to Linda or Jeff Everson or email at ramsfanl@yahoo.com



5 Minutes

By Matthew and Julie Toll , Youth Leaders

The youth group would like to thank you all again for supporting our very successful pizza fundraiser in December! We are grateful for each of the youth who embraced their pizza making station, the parents who sold extra pizzas on Facebook and at work, the parents and congregation members who stepped in to make pizzas alongside the youth, and the congregation for ordering pizzas and providing their feedback. You are what makes Good Shepherd a great place to gather to be filled with God’s Word and gifts.

We are currently working with members of our group to prepare for the Bible Bowl on March 28. The challenge involves the book of Judges. If you are interested in learning more about this, stop by the Youth Group room on Sundays at 9:15am!

As part of my daily devotions this past week, I read this little article and thought you all could benefit from it. It is from a blog written by Dr. James Dobson about a book he wrote called *Bringing Up Boys*.

“Here's another idea relevant to relationships that I think makes a lot of sense. It's called "the first five minutes" and is based on a book that was published many years ago. Its thesis was that the first five minutes occurring between people sets the tone for everything that is to follow. For example, a public speaker is given very few moments to convince his audience that he really does have something worthwhile to say. If he's boring or stilted in the beginning, his listeners will turn him off like a lightbulb and he'll never know why. And if he hopes to use humor during his speech, he'd better say something funny very quickly or they won't believe he can make them laugh. The opportunity of the moment is lost. Fortunately, whenever we begin a new interaction, we have a chance to reset the mood.

This simple principle relates to family members as well. The first five minutes of the morning also determine how a mother will interact with her children on that day. Snarls or complaints as the kids gather for breakfast will sour their relationship for hours. Greeting children after school with kind words and a tasty snack may be remembered for decades. And at the end of the day when a man arrives home from work, the way he greets his wife, or doesn't greet his wife, will influence their interaction throughout the evening.

(Continued ...)

A single criticism such as, "Not tuna casserole again!" will put their relationship on edge from there to bedtime. Men who complain that their wives are not affectionate at bedtime should think back to the first moments when they came together in the evening. He could have messed up some great possibilities with his first snippy comments.

It all starts with the first five minutes.”



Meet the Vergin Family



Hi! We are the Vergin Family – Kyle & Nikole, Beckett (6) and Hadley (4). Kyle and Nikole met during our sophomore year at UW-River Falls back in 2005. Five short years later, we were married on October 16, 2010 in Oconto, WI. We bought our first home in Oshkosh in 2011. We welcomed our son, Beckett, on September 11, 2013 and our daughter, Hadley, completed our family on June 25, 2015.

Kyle is employed by the Winnebago County Parks Department and Nikole is a Mortgage Lending Specialist at Fortifi Bank-Omro & Winneconne. Kyle and Nikole enjoy traveling. Beckett is in Kindergarten and loves school, playing with cars, being outside and helping Dad with anything. Hadley is in 4K and enjoys playing with her dolls, doing projects, singing and dancing and baking. Rounding out the family is our 8-year-old English Springer Spaniel, Riley.

As a family, we enjoy spending time at the cabin in Goodman, WI, going to the park, riding four-wheelers, and spending time with family and friends.



Connecting Well

By Daniel Weiss, Stewardship Chair

If you haven't noticed, our church has been growing. Thanks be to God that Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is serving the spiritual needs of so many individuals and families. We all know that church memberships ebb and flow over time, so we want to make sure that as new families and individuals join this community we are serving them well. Just as important, we want to provide opportunities for all our members to serve God well.

After discussing the idea with the Church Council, the Stewardship Committee will be bringing out a new time and talents survey for our entire membership. We are calling it "Connecting Well at Good Shepherd." This isn't a strong-arm tactic to get people to sit on boards, but rather an exploration of what each person's individual talents and interests are in order to find opportunities to be more involved.

We want to do this to strengthen our bonds of spiritual community and make sure that as people within this fellowship have needs we are among the first to help meet them. This idea comes from the early Church as described in the New Testament. St. Paul writes about spiritual gifts and the importance of every member of the body. Not only that, he explains that God has a purpose and place for each of us. In Ephesians 2:10, Paul writes, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

I look forward to helping more and more of us at Good Shepherd discern what those good works are and walking into them together. Sometime in the next few weeks, we will release the Connecting Well survey in print and electronic form. I encourage everyone to take a few moments to fill it out.

Number 1 Goal

By Lori Purath & Sharon Leinweber, Board of Fellowship

Most of us begin a new year with hope and a positive attitude. We take advantage of the new year to make resolutions and set goals for ourselves, perhaps goals we did not manage to accomplish during the year that just ended. We would like to propose to you that the most important goal and the one that will have by far the most impact in your life—for your happiness and that of many others—is to get closer to God. Nothing will fill you with more happiness than strengthening and deepening your relationship with Jesus Christ.

May 2020 bring each of us closer to our Good Shepherd.

Treasurer's Report

Compiled by Treasurer
Heather Klauer

November

Bank Deposits:	\$39,899.69
Bank Withdrawals:	\$29,951.21
End of month bank balance:	\$71,846
Mortgage Balance:	\$467,627.80
Joyful Response:	\$5,695.00

December

Bank Deposits:	\$139,179.08
Bank Withdrawals:	\$113,746.99
End of month bank balance:	\$97,278.68
*Mortgage Balance:	\$384,343.80
Joyful Response:	\$6,085.00

* This reflects an \$80,000 payment on principle made on 12/16/19



Brushfires Update

By Daniel Weiss, President of Brushfires

A blessed Epiphany season to you! We've barely started the year and already my calendar is booking up for the year. A few months ago I told you about a pilot workshop we conducted for pastors called The Gospel and Sexuality. We now have two more of these half-day workshops scheduled in March and April. I will again be partnering with Wisconsin Family Council to bring these seminars to pastors in the Milwaukee and Appleton areas.

I will also be traveling to Portland this September for our third Sexual Integrity Leadership Summit. Over the past three years, I have gone from being a planning team member to presiding over the three-member Executive Council steering this event and guiding a growing movement of Christian leaders. This is all God's doing and I pray earnestly that He will always lead and that I will always have the courage to follow where He goes.

Other projects are also moving along. In February, we will be releasing a new report on how pastors are making their churches safe to talk about sexual issues. This report is based on the original research we conducted with Barna Group in 2018.

Finally, we hope to begin field-testing our Sexual Wholeness Church Assessment that will help a congregation discern how to strengthen its ministry and outreach on sensitive sexual and relational topics. We hope this comprehensive survey tool will serve many churches around the country.

I will keep you informed as this projects mature and the events happen. Please know how much of a blessing you are to me, my family, and the work I do with Brushfires. I am especially grateful for the year-end financial gift Brushfires received from the church. It was extremely helpful for our year-end financial obligations. May the Lord bless this congregation in the coming year.

Grow Room Updates

By Abigail Miedaner, Jericho Ministries

Thank you to all of our donors and supporters for a great year of growth! Here are some highlights from 2019: We donated and sold over 5000 heads of lettuce and over 160 lbs of produce from the greenhouse and outdoor gardens (including 13 lbs of mushrooms!) We installed and filled donated beds with compost for winter and installed compost bins with pallets donated by Kitz N' Pfeil Created a setup for growing hydroponic tomatoes! We now have 18 participants in our purchase program and over 180 volunteer hours.

We are continuing partnerships with area churches and organizations and have ongoing house-plant sales at Second Chance.

Exciting new developments include cleaning and painting the grow room, experimenting with spinach in the Grow Machines and Jericho Road Gardens' upcoming Second Annual Plant Sale.



Examples of donated produce

Thank you
your sup-
we look
to another
year of



Ability to grow mushrooms

again for
port and
forward
exciting
growing!



Setup for hydroponic tomatoes



TRINITY SENIORS

Come along and enjoy some great entertainment
wonderful food and plenty of fellowship !

- March 21, 2020 *Guys and Dolls* - Awarded the best musical in 1951. Truly a classic.
- April 25, 2020 *A Mighty Fortress* - A new installment of The Church Basement Ladies.
- June 27, 2020 *What happens in Vegas* - The live Fireside Band featuring Steve Watts.
- August 15, 2020 *Cinderella* - The stage production of Rodgers and Hammerstein which will delight the child in all of us.
- September 19, 2020 *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* - One of the most popular musicals of the last 50 years. Telling the story of Joseph and his brothers.
 - December 5, 2020 Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn*

These shows are at The Fireside Theatre
We have great reserved seats
Reservations are being taken now for all shows.

CONTACT JANET OR TOM DUNHAM (920 233-0263)

Official Acts of the Church

New Members:

Please see page 9

Baptisms:

Ezekiel Charles - December 29, 2019
Katelyn Donat - January 19, 2020
Hannah Malison - January 19, 2020
Carter Malison - January, 19, 2020
Liam Malison - January, 19, 2020

Transfers to Other Churches:

Benjamin and Robyn Boche, Samuel & Jack —Immanuel Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, IN
Gary, Debra, and Lindsay Vowels—Grace Lutheran Church, Omro, WI

Called to Eternal Home:

Donna Daniels July 22, 1930—January 2, 2020



Welcome to Our New Members!



Bill & Louise Gabert



Chris Hibbens
Amanda Schoenrock



Jon & Judy Mielke



Mike & Stacy, Joshua and Grace Martin



David and Jane Eichhorn



Lee & Nancy Kantin

Not Pictured:

Grace Leiden

Dixie Hall

Bobbie Luft

Lori Malcolm



Council Minutes (November 19, 2019)

Transcribed by Donna Tritt

Present: Gary Bedroske, Keith Casey, Jennifer Charles, Mike Kirchoff, Heather Klauer, Pastor Koepsell, Sharon Leinweber, Vivian Mittelstaedt, Lori Purath, Chad Smith, Julie Toll, Matt Toll, Donna Tritt and Dan Weiss

Guests: Frank Jarvenpaa, Joan Warwick, and Krista Weiss

President Casey called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Opened with the daily devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries for November 19, 2019: “Hard Words” from Malachi 3:13-18.

Motion M/S/C to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2019 Council meeting.

Financial Secretary – Deb Bochinski (absent)– No report.

Treasurer’s Report – Heather Klauer:

October 2019 Bank Deposits	\$27,827.81
October 2019 Bank Withdrawals	\$27,963.45
End of October 2019 Bank Account Balance	\$61,898.11
Mortgage Balance	\$470,899.87
Joyful Response for October 2019:	\$5,725.00

Pastor Koepsell’s Report:

- Thank you!
- Starting his 4th Year
- All is good.
- Vibe is stellar.
- New faces every week.
- Good Shepherd is stable
- Natural Church Development (will work on after the new year)
- 12 family units (20+ new members coming in) – December 22th
- 60 new for 2019
- 0 loss of members
- Average Weekly Worship Attendance for October: 255 (225 in 2018); Thursday: 46 (40 in 2018).
- Multiple service option on Sunday has accomplished its purpose
- Scrip sales are up
- Worshipping 270-300 (over half of our members)
- 0 Baptisms, 0 Weddings , 1 Courtesy Funeral (Anne Fogtman’s father)
- Bible Study: Wednesday averaging 15 – 20. If you work second shift or are retired or available, please come join us. It is a great group. Ladies Group: done for a bit. Saturday Men’s Group added 1 new member. Sunday Pastor Hayman is leading bible study on the book of Revelation. (20+ members).

(Continued on page 11)



Council Minutes (Continued)

- Calls/Visits up-to-date. Thank you Pastor Hayman for assisting. Also, Gary and Fred (Elders)
- Seeing Trinity members in hospital
- Working with new members and 21+ confirmation students
- Need educator come March so Pastor can focus on the 8th graders
- Greet/welcome people
- New Hope and Trinity have vacancies
- Think about Associate Pastor/Vicar
- Personally doing good; Family is good.

Board of Elders – Gary Bedroske: Look at sound system (long range planning). Gary will get some estimates. Hymn Festival was successful on November 17th. Cam is looking into Polka Band for next summer.

Advent meals:

December 4th	Confirmation
December 11th	Choir
December 18th	Fellowship

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (6:30 preservice)

Continuous communion, candles at both services, choir only at 2nd service

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.

Board of Stewardship – Dan Weiss: Door offerings and special offerings go through Stewardship (per constitution). Reviewed Time and Talent Surveys (looking at re-doing). Looking at ways to pay down debt. Consent agendas.

Board of Evangelism – Vivian Mittelstaedt: Working with Krista and Linda for cake for new members. Will get new member packets made up. Thrivent \$250 card for Advent dinners.

Board of Education – Jennifer Charles: Christmas program “Fumbly, Bumbly Angels”. Words on a CD and students acting a part out. Students will be singing traditional songs. Students’ offerings going toward gifts for the homebound. Turkey bowling this weekend for Family 345. “Right Now Media”: Subscription cost is \$189/month (based on attendants). Tool to help feed pastor spiritually. Bible study, videos, Youth studies. Goal is to create opportunities and offer tools for members to grow spiritually. (like Netflix). Use as an outreach (evangelism) (share your password) Can track usage. Table until 12/17. Dan to review further; committee to develop a plan on how to incorporate into our church body; reps from boards.

Thanks Heather and Chad for taking the above notes so that I could attend my granddaughter’s music concert.

Pastor read an update from Judy Mehn, Sunday School Superintendent. Money collected from Sunday School students will be used to purchase items for our homebound. Would like to update our projector/sound system.

(Continued on page 12)



Council Minutes (Continued)

Board of Trustee – Mike Kirchoff : Discussed our window situation and we are in need of a different snowblower.

Board of Fellowship – Lori Purath: Have signed up to serve coffee during Fellowship time on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Will be serving the Advent meal on December 18th.

Board of Youth – Julie Toll: 4 – 6 students have been attending. Good topics discussed. Planning a pizza fundraiser. Planning for 2022 Youth gathering. Thank you to the Youth Group for putting together more shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Old Business

Chad Smith stated that Grace Lutheran Church Preschool, Omro is having financial difficulties. Will discuss in December.

New Business

Discussed our 2020 Budget. Will be brought before our congregation at a Special Voters’ meeting in December.

Motion M/S/C to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.

Closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Council Minutes (December 17, 2019)

Present: Gary Bedroske, Keith Casey, Jennifer Charles, Heather Klauer, Pastor Koepsell, Sharon Leinweber, Vivian Mittelstaedt, Lori Purath, Julie Toll, Matt Toll, Donna Tritt and Dan Weiss

Guests: Cam Bedroske, Lynn Bridwell, Pat Dreger, Tom Dunham, and Pat Phillips

President Casey called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. President Casey opened with a prayer from our Lutheran Service Book to open meetings.

Motion M/S/C to accept the minutes of the November 19, 2019 Council meeting.

Financial Secretary – Deb Bochinski (absent)– No report.

Treasurer’s Report – Heather Klauer:

Checking

November 2019 Bank Deposits	\$39,899.69
November 2019 Bank Withdrawals	\$29,951.21
End of November 2019 Bank Account Balance	\$71,846.59
Savings Deposits (Craft fair via square reader)	\$2,019.22
Balance in our savings account	\$2,044.25
Mortgage Balance	\$467,627.80
Joyful Response for November 2019:	\$5,695.00

(Continued on page 13)



Council Minutes (Continued)

Pastor Koepsell's Report:

- Thanks for everything!
- 5th Sunday will be Matins
- Keep up the good work
- New members will be welcomed on Sunday at the 8:00 a.m. service
- Will be meeting with Natural Church Development in January
- Continuously reviewing our membership
- Loss of one member – Margo Hall will be transferring to Bethel Chapel
- Average Weekly Worship Attendance for November: 240 (210 in 2018); Thursday: 40 (26 in 2018). Thanksgiving: 118 (131 in 2018)
- 0 Baptisms, 0 Weddings , 1 Courtesy Funeral
- Bible Study: Wednesday averaging 15 – 20. If you work second shift or are retired or available, please come join us. It is a great group. Ladies Group: still meeting. Saturday Men's Group still meeting. In January Pastor Koepsell will be leading Sunday Bible Study (15 – 20).
- Calls/Visits up-to-date. Thank you Pastor Hayman for assisting.
- Seeing Trinity members in hospital
- Working with new members and 21+ confirmation students
- Still looking for an educator for the 6th and 7th grade confirmation class from February to May. Pastor will focus on our 8th graders to prepare them for confirmation.
- Greet/welcome people
- Personally doing good; Family is good.
- Be positive
- Speak highly of your church

Board of Elders – Gary Bedroske: Cam booked the polka band for June 14th. Park is also booked. Pastor will take over Sunday bible study starting in January. Thanks to Pastor Hayman. Christmas Eve service at 4:30 p.m. Todd Klauer and Fred Kirchenwitz will elder. Continuous communion, Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m. Elders will be Craig Dreger, Craig Mittelstaedt, Tom Dunham, and Gary Bedroske. Pastor Hayman will assist with communion and we will have continuous communion. Christmas service at 9:00 a.m. Rick Dittberner and Gary Bedroske will elder. Gary brought up the recommendation that left-over mission money be distributed to three of our missions – Wycliffe, hydroponic grow machine through Jericho ministries, and Brushfires. Tabled until later in the meeting.

Board of Stewardship – Dan Weiss: No new updates. He is working on revising the time and talent sheet. Hope to have it completed early in the new year.

Board of Evangelism – Vivian Mittelstaedt: Will be working with Fellowship to purchase items needed at the Advent meal tomorrow night. The following groups have agreed to take care of coffee hour: 1st Sunday: Sunday School; 2nd Sunday: Evangelism; 3rd Sunday: Fellowship; and 4th Sunday: Youth.

(Continued on page 14)



Council Minutes (Continued)

Board of Education – Jennifer Charles: Christmas program “Fumbly, Bumbly Angels” will be presented Sunday, December 22nd. Practice will be held this Saturday. Turkey bowling went great. No 345 in December. Hope to be tubing in January.

Board of Trustee – Mike Kirchoff (absent): No report.

Board of Fellowship – Lori Purath: Will be serving soup for supper tomorrow night.

Board of Youth – Matt and Julie Toll: Worked on props for Sunday School. Made a quilt for homebound. 4 – 6 students have been attending. Pizza orders are coming in.

New Business: Pat Phillips representative from our craft group asked how is the craft money spent? Discussion followed. Council recommended they come back in January with ideas on how they would like it spent.

Old Business

Dan Weiss presented a proposal for Church Council to adopt a consent agenda (see attached). Discussion followed. **Motion M/S/C that our Church Council meetings use the consent agenda model for our meetings.**

2020 Church Master Calendar – Keith entered dates of church activities onto our master calendar.

Mission money distribution: M/S/C to distribute remaining balance in our missions budget according to the percentage they receive each month to our three missions.

Cam asked for clarification on the choir scholarships. A private donor will fund the scholarship. The private donor should donate in the designated fund envelope and our treasurer will then write checks for the recipients.

Discussion followed. What is our procedure for donations?

Motion M/S/C to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Pastor closed with prayer followed by The Lord’s Prayer.

Special Voters’ Meeting (December 15, 2019)

Transcribed by Donna Tritt

President Keith Casey called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Koepsell opened with prayer.

Members present: 38

Motion M/S/C to accept the following one (1) individual as a voting member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: Cindy Meier

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Koepsell: Thank you to all of you.

(Continued page 15)



Voter's Meeting Minutes (Continued)

- Things are good
- 15 or so new members will be welcomed next week first service (6-8 family units)
- All visits are up-to-date thanks to Pastor Hayman's assistance
- Margo Hall will be transferring her membership to Bethel Chapel
- 1 Courtesy funeral, 0 Weddings, 0 Baptisms
- Speak well of your church & keep up the good work!

President Casey distributed copies of our Profit and Loss Budget Overview – 2019 compared to 2020. Heather Klauer, Treasurer, and Keith Casey, President, presented the proposal line by line (see attached document).

Changes from 2019 to 2020 are:

- Increase in Pastor's Salary \$2,000
- Pension Plan for Secretary (new) increase of \$1,740
- Altar Flowers increase of \$300
- Church Bulletins increase of \$50
- Music Supplies increase of \$600
- Pastor's Professional Materials decrease of \$100
- Property/Liability Insurance increase of \$2500
- Workers Comp decrease of \$122
- Concordia Health & Disability for Secretary increase of \$450 (new)
- Insurance for Secretary increase of \$11,687 (new)
- Water & Sewer increase of \$1,000
- Janitor's Supplies increase of \$350
- Office Supplies decrease of \$2,000
- Technology other increase of \$5,000 (new copier)
- Advertising and Promotion increase of \$250
- Sunday School decrease of \$1,000
- Vacation Bible School decrease of \$500
- Added line 15740 Family Education increase of \$1,000 (separate from Sunday School). (this didn't exist last year)
- Scrip increase of \$10,000
- Stewardship increase of \$1,500 (zero budget last year)
- Youth decrease of \$10,000 (no convention)
- District contribution now under Missions (\$5,000)

Howard Hoppe stated that we all need to thank the Lord for the many blessings he has given to us and our church.

Motion M/S/C to accept the 2020 Budget as proposed. Passed unanimously.

Motion M/S/C to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Pastor Koepsell closed with prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer.



Wedding Anniversaries for February & March

Bill & Louise Gabert	2/3
Apryl & Kieran Weed	2/6
Matt & Julie Toll	2/15
Mike & Michelle Tyriver	2/19



Alfred & Renate Piotter	3/15
Gene & Donna Gohlke	3/30



*God Bless
Your
Anniversary*

Pray For Those in the Military

God of compassion,
we pray for military personnel,
offered for the sake of others,
and separated from family and loved
ones. Care for them;
meet their needs.

Grant them courage, compassion,
strength, and all they need for the
living of these days. Sustain them
through their every trial. Remind
them of the humanity they share
even with those who are called

"the enemy;"

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we
pray. Amen.

JARED RIVERA
(US ARMY)

CHAD BERRY
(WI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
— MISSOURI)

ALYCIA MUELLER
(ARMY NATIONAL GUARD)

Please let the church office know if you
have family serving in the military. We
will add their names and our members
can be praying for them. We are grate-
ful for those who serve our country.



Upcoming Events



Wednesday, February 26th

Wednesday, February 26th is Ash Wednesday the start of Lent. Starting at 5:30 pm we will have a free Lenten Meal followed by service starting at 6:30. This is the start of Wednesday, not Thursday midweek services. There will be preservice meals every Wednesday of Lent.

Sunday, April 5th

Sunday, April 5th join us in the afternoon for our Lenten Meditation Concert. It is a beautiful combination of music, art and Passion Readings. There will be a reception afterwards.

Easter, April 12th

Join us Sunday, April 12th, Easter morning, at either the 6:30 am sunrise service or at 9:00 am. In between services will be a wonderful time of Fellowship including coffee and sweet treats.

Birthdays for February and March

Debra Cooley	2/1	Nathan Kiffmeyer	3/1
Jeff Phillips	2/1	Nolan Kiffmeyer	3/1
Grace Leiden	2/4	Akira Cooley	3/2
Ashley Rock	2/4	Brett Kramer	3/2
Ruth Galow	2/6	Christine Feutz	3/3
Samantha Kirchner	2/6	Melissa Kirchoff	3/4
Justine Nitzke	2/7	Ella Smith	3/6
Jeff Dunham	2/8	Margo Hall	3/7
Kim Reetz	2/8	Aiden Spaeth	3/8
Lisa Feldner	2/9	Silvie Weiss	3/9
Gary Galow	2/9	Brian Haag	3/10
Ethan Klatt	2/9	Steve Ludwig	3/10
Kirsten Klatt	2/9	Barbara Kolb	3/11
Amanda Schoenrock	2/10	Sophie Bridwell	3/12
Herbert Edwardsen	2/11	Steve Bridwell	3/13
Allen Gebel	2/11	Amy Hoepfner	3/14
Amelia Mielke	2/11	Marie Koch	3/15
Liam Mielke	2/11	George Suwalski	3/15
Lynn Bridwell	2/12	Joel Nitzke	3/16
Mike Phillips	2/12	Deb Radloff	3/17
Aaron McMillan	2/13	Ryan Makurat	3/20
Reagan Bandelow	2/15	Katie Rodig	3/20
Jane Koplitz	2/15	Colton Smith	3/21
Bud Hoepfner	2/17	Nathan Kirchenwitz	3/23
Maddox McMillan	2/17	Thomas Adamski	3/26
Alyssa Casey	2/19	Allie Heideman	3/26
Shirley Radloff	2/21	Cherie Stechly	3/26
Bonnie Borgen	2/24	Mat Bandelow	3/28
Branden Mike	2/24	Jace Koepsell	3/29
Donna Tritt	2/24	Craig Mittelstaedt	3/31
Griffin Wiley	2/24		
Noah Hinrichs	2/25		
Riley Kirchenwitz	2/25		
Lee Kantin	2/26		
Colin Steinbeck	2/29		

Good Shepherd Council And Board Members

OFFICE	NAME	TELEPHONE
PRESIDENT	KEITH CASEY	(785) 226-3147
VICE-PRESIDENT	CHAD SMITH	(262)-442-0061
RECORDING SECRETARY	DONNA TRITT	(920)420-2803
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	DEB BOCHINSKI	(920) 312-0417
TREASURER	JOAN WARWICK	(920) 420-8707
BOARD OF EDUCATION	JENNIFER CHARLES	(414) 517-9322
ELDERS	TOM DUNHAM	(920) 233-0263
EVANGELISM	VIVIAN MITTELSTAEDT	(920) 479-0775
FELLOWSHIP	LORI PURATH	(920) 379-9202
STEWARDSHIP	DANIEL WEISS	(920) 642-3990
TRUSTEE	FRANK JARVANPAA	(920) 369-6247
YOUTH	MATTHEW & JULIE TOLL	(920) 379-9938



Hospitalized?? Or you desire a call?? If you are going into the hospital, please call to let the Church Office know. We do not always receive the information in a timely manner so that the appropriate visitation can be made. Also, hospitals can no longer release information to us about your admittance and room number if you have not signed a waiver. If you want a home visit from Pastor Koepsell, a call or other service, please contact the church office with your request.



Before you donate an item to the church, please check with the Church Council. They can assist in placement or find the best use for your donated item.

Thank you!

Contact Information

Staff

Rev. Gregory A. Koepsell, Pastor
pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org
 Cell (763) 913-8445
Call or text Pastor Anytime

Krista Weiss, Office Manager
krista@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Office Hours

M-TH 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Office (920) 231-0530

Pastor's Hours Tues - Thu
 11:30 - 3:00 PM

Web Site:

goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

E-Mail Address:

church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

Worship Services

Thursday - 6:30 pm
 Sunday-8:00 am & 10:30 am

Coffee Hour & Refreshments

Served every Sunday in Atrium after 8 am worship service.

Bible Study

Adult—Wednesday at 10:30 am
 Adult—Sunday at 9:15 am

Sunday School

Sundays at 9:15 am during the public school year.

Prayer Chain

Kathy Reehl—(920) 688-2312



February 2020

* Indicates Communion Service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7-8 AM Men's Group
2 8:00 AM Worship Service* 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Choir	3	4 6:30 PM Women's Group 7:00 PM Elder's Meeting	5 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:15 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Adult Choir	6 6:30 PM Worship Service with Communion	7	8 7-8 AM Men's Group
9 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service* 6:00 PM Youth Choir	10	11 6:30 PM Women's Group	12 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:15 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Adult Choir	13 6:30 PM Worship Service with Communion	14	15 7-8 AM Men's Group
16 8:00 AM Worship Service* 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Choir	17	18 6:30 PM Women's Group 7:00 PM Council Meeting	19 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:15 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Adult Choir	20 6:30 PM Worship Service with Communion	21	22 7-8 AM Men's Group
23 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service* 6:00 PM Youth Choir	24	25 6:30 PM Women's Group	26 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:30PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:15 PM Adult Choir	27	28	29 7-8 AM Men's Group



March 2020

* Indicates Communion Service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 AM Worship Service* 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Choir	2	3 6:30 PM Women's Group	4 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:30PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service 7:15 PM Adult Choir	5	6	7 7-8 AM Men's Group
8 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service* 6:00 PM Youth Choir	9	10 6:30 PM Women's Group 7:00 PM Elder's Meeting	11 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:30PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service 7:15 PM Adult Choir	12	13	14 7-8 AM Men's Group
15 8:00 AM Worship Service* 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Choir	16	17 6:30 PM Women's Group	18 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:30PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service 7:15 PM Adult Choir	19	20	21 7-8 AM Men's Group
22 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service* 6:00 PM Youth Choir	23	24 6:30 PM Women's Group 7:00 PM Council Meeting	25 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study 5:30PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship Service 7:15 PM Adult Choir	26	27	28 7-8 AM Men's Group
29 8:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Choir	30	31 6:30 PM Women's Group				