

PARISH PULSE

“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus Himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

*From the book of Acts;
Chapter 20.*



A Letter From The Pastor

BY PASTOR KOEPEL

It's certainly been an interesting time over the last few months for all of us. Overall, I am so very thankful that I still do not know anyone who has contracted the horrible virus, though the repercussions from this lock down are still unknown. Through it all, your church remains stable because, as you know, the Church is not about the building...it's about Jesus and His people.

To those of you who were/are able to continually support your church with time, talent, treasure, and most importantly, prayer through this time of difficulty... thank you. I think we're seeing the light at the end of the tunnel and it's bright!

In reference to the verse above (and there are many verses like it in scripture), I wanted to share a letter with you that I/we received along with a very generous monetary gift, (given by one of our members), to our church during this pandemic. Please take the time to read it....

Blessings to all,

I feel this check deserves some back story on its origin so I'm going to tell you a bit about my parents. I am the second oldest child in a family of six children and blessed with devote Christian parents. My father worked in the paper mill (Kimberly Clark) as well as holding down several part-time jobs to make ends meet. My mother was a stay at home mother.

We didn't have a lot of earthly possessions growing up, but certainly had enough - food, clothing and a house full of love and laughter.

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On Saturday evenings there would be six rows of coins on the corner of my parent's bedroom dresser, allowance for the week lined up by age, one row for each child. Although the cash amounts of each row varied, the coins were always broken up such that 10% of the total amount was one coin and the remaining 90% various coin. Although I don't remember ever being reminded, we all knew the 10% was going into the church collection plate the next day and the 90% would go into our piggy banks.

My father worked swing shifts at the paper mill, 6 hour shifts with "doubles" at least once a week. His nightly routine, before laying down for a nap before his midnight shift or before going to bed, was to wind up his Big Ben alarm clock and sit down at the dining room table with his Bible and Portals of Prayer. This was the same table where my mother had sat us children down several hours before for our Little Visits with God.

My mother was an active member of the Ladies Aid, my father on the Board of Church Properties and an usher. My mother was always there with her freshly baked pie or casserole to support church events or serve at funerals, up to the time of her own funeral at the age of 89.

My father volunteered his time and materials (I found out later he donated all of the paint used at church and school – the congregation at large never knew that) to keep church and school maintained and freshly painted – retiring from that labor of love at the age of 85. My admiration goes to my mother keeping six children sitting quietly during church services while my father was ushering. He retired from his ushering captain position last year at the age of 90.

During one of our recent conversations my father told me about a talk he had with my mother early in their marriage when he expressed his thought that they could not afford to tithe to church. He told me my mother gently reminded him they could afford to tithe – God would provide all they needed.

Although my parents never owned a cottage, boat or snowmobile and we never had a Y membership or dance/sports lessons – we had each other.



As we grew and started our own families, we always came together Christmas Eve at our home church (I realized last year I have never attended Christmas Eve service anywhere but the church I grew up in!) We often filled three pews – such wonderful memories.

God richly blessed my parents in every way – long lives, good health and godly wealth. The Kimberly Clark stock my father took instead of raises in during the 60's has proven to be an excellent investment. His part time job of driving school bus until he was 85 and his lifetime KC pension allowed him to not draw from investments. My mother passed away four years ago and my father has decided it's time to down size, selling the house and starting to disperse his savings. The coins are on the bedroom dresser again - this is God's portion.

Pretty awesome, right?

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Knowing all that we have already received from our good and gracious God certainly makes it easier to give.

None of us knows how the rest of 2020 and beyond are going to play out with all of the different ramifications of this time of uncertainty, but I do know that ultimately we are blessed to be looked after by the Good Shepherd, who has the whole world in His hands.

Knowing that, let's continue to give to "those who are weak" and come together, as soon as we feel safe, to praise the One who is the giver of all...even during these summer months as we are coming out of a lockdown!

Look forward to seeing you!



The Gift of Music

by Cam Bedroske

Church music can take many forms. It can be a large choir or a soloist. The walls can vibrate with the power of the organ or soft piano music can fill the sanctuary. Hopefully you can appreciate church music in all the various ways we are blessed to present hear it at Good Shepherd.

The musicians at Good Shepherd were honored to lead hymns for Easter and Good Shepherd Sunday. The musical celebration, A Peace of Ascension, was a blessing too. I hope you listened to it and enjoyed it.

Music is best heard live and in our fantastic acoustical church building. I know there can be challenges when listening and enjoying digitally at home. I have found that an additional speaker attached to my computer makes a huge difference. If you are having troubles hearing the hymns or Pastor, try adding external speakers to your computer.

As we move forward responsibly re-opening for worship, please feel free to connect me if you have some ideas about making music. Instrumentalists, singers, or a combination of, are a few possibilities. We can do a Sunday or Thursday musical offering during the summer.

Adult choir, if we want to make small groups in the summer and sing, that is great too. We can meet for either Thursday or Sunday worship. (If and when that is scheduled) Just keep open and joyful to the possibilities!

Grace Abounds.

Treading Boldly

by Daniel Weiss

Since the last newsletter, many things have changed in all all of lives and professional worlds. Quarantine has not impacted Brushfires as much as other ministries, but we still suffered some loss because of the virus. Our national Sexual Integrity Leadership Summit was cancelled after the Oregon governor announced that all large events would need to be postponed until after September. We are disappointed, but already regrouping for next year's Summit to be held in San Antonio in April 2021.

Another project I have been working on is a book for parents. On June 1, my coauthor and I submitted our manuscript, *Treading Boldly: Guiding Your Family Through a Pornographic World*, to Salem Publishing. We don't know when it might be published, but likely sometime in 2021.

I would like to thank the people of Good Shepherd for their support for many years, which is allowing us to do great things for the Kingdom of God. Your prayers, words of encouragement, and financial support are incredibly helpful and deeply meaningful. Thank you.



Are You Connected?

by Daniel Weiss

We've updated our old "time and talents" survey and need your help. We are hoping to get ALL our members to fill out the "Connecting Well at Good Shepherd" survey online or via paper form/. Filling this out does NOT commit you to anything, but it does help us know you better and find ways to more creatively and intentionally involve more church members in the ministry of Good Shepherd.

While you are waiting for the morning coffee to brew or the grill to preheat, please take a moment to go online and fill out the survey. It only takes about 3 minutes and you can complete the form at: connectingwell.questionpro.com

If you don't have computer access, please notify the office and they will get a hard copy to you.



Summer Doldrums

Are you tired of being stuck in your house? Have you missed being at church? If so, there are many things that can be done at church, without being near other people.

We are always looking for people willing to help keep Good Shepherd up and running. There are several tasks that always need tending to. If you have some extra time on your hands, feel free to stop by and tend to the flowers (or more importantly the weeds) in the circle driveway. That area is a first impression for many people. Let's try to make it the right one!

As we all know, the grass doesn't stop growing during a pandemic. We have a sign up sheet for lawn care in the atrium. If you have any questions on how to use the mower, please take to Doug Flouro and he can help you out.

Now that we are returning to worship at Good Shepherd, inside maintenance is a need. Please consider helping vacuum, water the plants, take out any trash that might be accumulating. Cleaning is minimal in summer but very helpful. There is a sign up sheet in the atrium and Krista Weiss will be very happy to answer any questions.

Thank you for making Good Shepherd *your* church home and taking care of it.

Congratulations 2020 Confirmands

Willie Lewis, Carson Steinbeck, (back row)
Chloe Tritt, Silvie Weiss, Alex Beck (front row)

Unfolding Stories

BY KEITH CASEY

Greetings and the Lord be with you!

I hope this finds you happy and healthy. Each of us has experienced a lot of change and upheaval in the past two months, but as I sit in the bright sunshine of this new day, I am reminded that we serve a God whose power and plan are bigger than COVID-19 or any other crisis. My prayer is that you will be encouraged through His Word by the power of the Holy Spirit and find solace in our Savior Jesus, today and every day.

During the Memorial Day holiday weekend, we honored the men and women who died in military service to our country.

Back to Church

Hallelujah! Beginning June 7th we will once again have the option of gathering together to worship.

Please join us at church if you feel comfortable doing so.

Services will be Sundays at 8 am and 10:30 am, Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. Communion will be offered at all services using disposable individual cups and in a continuous Communion format. This will allow people to stay 6 feet apart from each other.

Hopefully we also remembered Ascension Day, when our resurrected Savior Jesus returned to heaven, where He has is preparing a place us.

Ponder for a moment the significance of these two commemorations! We are blessed to be citizens of the United States, and we are eternally blessed to be children of God. While we absolutely face terrific challenges this side of heaven, may each of us keep our eyes on Christ and encourage others to turn toward Him as well.

As we go about our business—and His business—each day, we see His hand and His story unfolding through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will still sing our praises to the Lord however we will most likely not sing all the verses in a hymn. If you would like to wear a mask while singing or at any point during the service, we encourage you to do so.

Every other pew will be "roped off" for each service to help ensure appropriate spacing. Between the services on Sunday, sanitizing will take place and the "roped off" pews will be switched in time for the second service.

Sermons will continue to posted online.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:19-20

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

Financial Updates

WRITTEN BY DIANE FLOURO

I am your new treasurer, Diane Flouro (pronounced floor-o). For those that do not know me, I have been a member of Good Shepherd for a while. I was a member back in 1995 and then left for a bit and came back about 5 years ago. I am an accountant by trade and hold a CPA license. I know you have gotten some email blasts in the last couple of months regarding on-line giving. I wanted to just say “Thank You” to all of you for bearing with me over these last couple of months to establish some on-line giving options other than Joyful Response. I would also like to thank all of you for helping Good Shepherd get through this tough time. Remarkably, we have been holding steady with income and expenses, which is a good thing. I attribute this fact to all of you! I wanted to take a moment and explain the on-line giving options available to all of you. Each are noted with an explanation:

1) Joyful Response: This is an automated giving. You simply provide a form indicating the bank account information and the amount you would like to be deducted from your account on a regular basis. That could mean monthly, weekly, bi-weekly, every three weeks—pretty much whatever you want.

If you want to CHANGE anything once the initial paperwork is provided to me, just email me and I will change it within a week. The system does not need much time to make the change (only a couple of days before it is affected).

2) GivePlus+: This is a new online giving platform that you will find on our website. Go to “worship”, then “offerings” and you will see the GivePlus+ form. This is a one-time contribution amount for any time you want it withdrawn. You can set up a recurring amount in this platform too if you would like.

3) PayPal: We still have a PayPal account; however, we pay a 3% fee every time someone donates, so I am trying to steer people away from this method of giving. So, if you give \$100, we only receive \$96.80. Again, this is still available if you wish to give in this way. If any of you have ANY questions whatsoever, feel free to reach out to me on my cell phone (920) 420-5841 or email at flourod@yahoo.com.

March 2020 Financials

<i>Bank Deposits</i>	\$39,011.47
<i>Bank Withdrawals</i>	33,966.04
<i>End of Month Bank Balance</i>	\$37,838.36
<i>Mortgage Balance</i>	\$325,917.55
<i>Joyful Response</i>	6,230.00

April 2020 Financials

<i>Bank Deposits</i>	\$35,555.28
<i>Bank Withdrawals</i>	21,169.64
<i>End of Month Bank Balance</i>	\$52,224.00
<i>Mortgage Balance</i>	\$322,116.90
<i>Joyful Response</i>	7,010.00

Birthdays

Becky Siegrist	6/1	Debbie Bochinski	7/1
Natalie Tyrriver	6/1	Fred Kirchenwitz	7/1
Jeff Everson	6/3	Gail Handrich	7/2
Linda Everson	6/3	Tim Brunner	7/5
Nikole Vergin	6/4	Paige Lewis	7/5
Josie Weiss	6/4	Heather Alvarenga	7/7
Marian Fenlon	6/7	Adele Burke-Kaney	7/7
Mark Stinski	6/7	Daniel Clarkson	7/7
Kyle Vergin	6/7	Lisa Haag	7/8
Lily Berry	6/8	Bianca Smith	7/9
Rev. Mark Hayman	6/9	Dorothy Roehlig	7/10
Michael Martin	6/9	Ashley Tuchscherer	7/10
Bobbie Luft	6/10	Rowan Weed	7/10
Joe Stephenson	6/10	Edna Hayman	7/11
Matt Toll	6/10	Carlea Liermann	7/11
Alexander Beck	6/12	Wesley Radloff	7/12
Marge Bolding	6/12	Noah Ludwig	7/13
Aaron Bruss	6/12	Dan Weiss	7/13
Greyson Mike	6/13	Donald Gudmanson	7/14
Kaydence Mike	6/13	Leslie Mason	7/14
Amanda Purath	6/13	Georgia Zuhlke	7/14
Wade Foley	6/15	Matthew Lute	7/15
Bridget Cullen	6/16	Jan Ratchman	7/16
Judy Gishkowsky	6/18	Cormac Weiss	7/16
Christopher Hibben	6/19	Sam Koepsell	7/17
Kim Koepsell	6/20	Emily Danula	7/18
Jan Peterson-Bunke	6/20	Shawn Mueller	7/18
Bill Gabert	6/22	Tom Nevers	7/18
Armand Lewis II	6/22	Matthew Bray	7/19
Chloe Tritt	6/22	Jerry Ratchman	7/21
Craig Dreger	6/23	Katie Tyrriver	7/21
Thomas Smith	6/23	Garrett Cullen	7/22
Hadley Vergin	6/25	Donna Daniels	7/22
Charles Berry	6/26	John Hawig	7/22
Judy Blackmore	6/29	Rick Koplitz	7/22
Henry Smith	6/30	Jan Peterson	7/23
		Delaney Smith	7/23
		Janet Weier	7/23
		Steve Handrich	7/24
		Joyce Hoppe	7/24
		Nathan Haag	7/25
		Eric Olsen	7/25
		Jim Warwick	7/25
		Madaline Weiss	7/25
		Jerry Cooley	7/26
		Tom Radke	7/26
		Kevin Jooss	7/27
		Quincy Klauer	7/29
		Ryan Klatt	7/31
		Sarah Koch	7/31



*"Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves. A cord of
three strands is not quickly broken."*

Ecclesiastes 4:12

Anniversaries

Ken & Michelle Szweda	6/2
Dan & Krista Weiss	6/2
Dennis & Carol Bostwick	6/3
Jerry & Debra Cooley	6/4
Chad & Susan Smith	6/5
Daniel & Marsha Clarkson	6/7
Donald & Betty Jane Gudmanson	6/10
Gary & Camala Bedroske	6/13
Jon & Judy Mielke	6/16
James & Judy Gishkowsky	6/17
Craig & Vivian Mittelstaedt	6/20
David & Carissa Ullrich	6/21
Bill & Ruth Wagner	6/23
Rick & Jane Koplitz	6/26
Richard & Donna Tritt	6/26
Steve & Lynn Bridwell	6/27
Rick & Dana Rasmussen	6/28
Eric & Jackie Kiffmeyer	6/29
Shawn & Alycia Mueller	6/29
Bryan & Marie Koch	7/6
Gerald & Shirley Sprague	7/8
Armand & Angela Lewis II	7/13
David & Sharon Leinweber	7/14
Keith & Sandra Casey	7/18
Carl & Cherie Stechly	7/18
Terri & Thomas Kramer	7/20
Ryan & Heather Beck	7/22
Steve & Gail Handrich	7/22
Greg & Kim Koepsell	7/22
James & Doris Wojahn Jr.	7/23
Ronald & Kathy Groskreutz	7/24
Steven & Amber Tritt	7/24
William & Jo Zorr	7/31

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	DIANE FLOURO	(920) 420-5841
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
 Temporarily Suspended

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