



Shepherd's Staff

November, 2017

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Josh Brecht
Associate Pastor
jbrecht@gslcelca.org

As we move into November we lean into the season of Thanksgiving, where we are invited to dwell deeply in gratitude. Gratitude. It can be a slippery word and an even more elusive feeling. It seems that at every turn we find ourselves bombarded with messages of inadequacy and scarcity. If there is one thing we will never lack, it is this message that fills our ears, flashes before our eyes, and seems to permeate the very air we breathe, "You do not have enough. You are not enough." What is the antidote to this toxin? Gratitude. Today I find myself grateful for the community of Jesus followers I have found at Good Shepherd as I read Acts 2:43-47.

"Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

In the month of October I saw many people come together to make the Pumpkin Patch happen, along with the Fall Festival. What an incredible outreach to the community, inviting people in to support ministry and mission! I literally saw thousands of people come through the doors of GSLC to pack food with Feed My Starving Children. This is in addition to all the ways individuals and small groups serve regularly in area ministries. "Many signs and wonders were being done... they would distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need."

Every month, people meet together for bible studies and in homes to share food and fellowship, prayer and spiritual growth. Two new small groups launched this fall, and likely more very soon. "They broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people."

All of this is happening as we seek to update our facilities to make an even larger impact in our community and in our world. We rejoice to receive new members, and welcome new disciples as a regular part of who we are. I hope and pray we will continue to share this incredible story of God's work here and invite friends and neighbors, classmates and coworkers into this mission that we share!
"And day by day the Lord added to their number."

So today I find myself in awe; filled with gratitude for the ways in which I see God at work, moving in and through Good Shepherd. In this season ahead, (when advertisements, black Friday deals, and weighty demands of work, life, and the world will be vying for our attention) let us remember to take time to prayerfully dwell in gratitude for all God has done for us, all God has given us, and the exciting ministry to which God will continue to call us.

Lord Jesus, thank you for all you have done in our lives. Help us pause each day, breathe in your goodness, and let gratitude wash over us like a flowing stream. Thank you for your love, mercy, and forgiveness, and the mission to which you have invited us: to follow you, grow in faith, share your love with all.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Josh



Jim Anderson
Council President

The Good To Grow campaign continues at a good pace, as we have surpassed \$1,000,000 in pledges. Planning continues for the commitment weekend during services on November 4th/5th. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to assist with volunteering and financial commitment. Having finished the kitchen, we now move on to the planning for all the bathroom updates, with that work beginning in January, 2018. In the meantime, we plan to add a handicap accessibility door to the north entrance installed before January.



The WHIRL program has brought many positive changes to our Church. The WHIRL survey indicated that the congregation wanted improvements in your worship experience. Council commissioned a worship subcommittee to look at our 11:00 am Sunday contemporary service. They have recommended the creation of a Contemporary Worship Service Leader position. Council agreed with that recommendation and we are in the process of sourcing candidates for that position. This addition will likely create a need for additional restructuring in the worship area. There will be more news coming in the next few weeks about these changes. Thanks to the members of this subcommittee.

The strategic planning team has begun its work and we anxiously await some preliminary thoughts on what priorities and goals the team believes are key to the future of Good Shepherd. Forming a strategic vision should provide long-term direction, delineate the organizational activities to be pursued, identify the capabilities we plan to develop, and infuse the church with a sense of purposeful action.

Our Stewardship effort for the 2018 budget is underway. We have all received a letter

and great infographic that explains where our giving supports the important missions of our church, including pastoral care, Sunday Worship services and facilities maintenance. We have developed, for the first time in recent memory, a pro-forma budget. More work will be done with staff to refine this into a final budget for Council consideration. Thanks to our Treasurer Jim Brooks, who helped get this process started in a timely fashion this year, and Christina Kling-Garrett, Stewardship Chairperson. Please help us reach our goal of 200 pledge/commitment cards returned to the office, which will help us understand our income expectations for 2018!

I close with what Ephesians 4:16 says about Church growth: *From Him all [members of] the body are properly joined together by every supporting ligament, as each part contributes to the growth of the body and builds itself up through [mutual] love.*



Music Ministry
Jamie DeGeer
Director of Music Ministry
jdegeer@gslcelca.org

**Bell Concert & Sausage
Supper Nov. 5, 2017 ***

4:00pm *Sanctuary *Gym

Join our All Saint's Day Celebration by attending our Bells & Brats Event. We welcome the

Gateway Ringers as they present a concert for us in the Sanctuary. This Gateway Ringers program will feature Celtic Ayers & Dances and will include songs such as "Luck of the Irish", "Annie Laurie" and "Londonderry Gardens". The concert is free & open to the public. A free will offering will be collected. Afterwards ...head down to the Lower Level Gym and enjoy a wonderful meal of bratwursts and all the yummy sides.

Bells and Brats!

Bring your family and friends and enjoy a wonderful celebration of BELLS & BRATS!

2017 Annual Christmas Cantata Orchestra Rehearsals

(Players 9th Grade and Up / Intermediate Level) Tuesdays at 7:30 pm (Music Room #208) 10/24, 11/7, 11/14 and 11/28 Additional Joint/Dress-Tech Rehearsals-as scheduled.

Saturday, Dec. 9 at 5:30 and Sunday, Dec. 10 at 11:00 - The Christmas Cantata is an annual event at Good Shepherd that provides opportunities for the entire congregation to share the Good News of Jesus' Birth with family, friends, neighbors and the community. From singing in the choir or playing an instrument in the orchestra to inviting someone to attend as your guest, your participation is essential in making this special event a success. Please consider how you would like to be involved in this GSLC Community Celebration! If you have questions, email Jamie De Geer or give her a call 636-391-6685. We will also do a presentation at Meramec Bluffs on Tuesday, December 5th at 7:00pm.

Becky Howard
Director of Children & Family Ministry
bhoward@gslcelca.org

Youth Club - The fall session of our mid-week Youth Club



program is underway for both SOS (6th through 8th grades) and PREP (2nd through 5th grades). Our Wednesday evenings together are a time of faith connection (including Confirmation instruction for 6th, 7th & 8th grades), fun and deepening friendships!



Here's what's coming up in November:

- Nov 1** PREP & SOS
- Nov. 3-4** 7th Grade Faith Retreat at Good Shepherd
- Nov. 8** PREP & SOS - Youth Club Hat Night
- Nov. 15** PREP & SOS / PREP Thanksgiving Family Night (last night for PREP)
- Nov. 19** PREP Worship at 11:00 service
- Nov. 22** NO Youth Club - Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 29** SOS

Nov. 12 through Dec. 10 - Mitten Tree - Our middle school youth are again collecting new mittens, scarves, hats and coats (gently used coats can also be used) to help warm the bodies and hearts of needy children in our area. Donations will be accepted at the Mitten Tree in the Narthex. Thanks.



6th Annual Thanksgiving Family Event - Nov. 15: 5:30 - 7:30 for youth in 2nd - 5th Grades - We

start with a family meal in the gym then head upstairs to preparing for Thanksgiving basket distribution to families in need ... with food and fun with friends mixed in! Youth do not need to be registered for PREP to join us along with their families! To RSVP - email [Becky Howard](mailto:BeckyHoward@stjohns.org).

Fall into Learning - Sunday school 9:30 -10:40 a.m. Ages 2- Adult
There will be No Sunday School on Sunday, November 26 - Thanksgiving break!

Sunday School Classes in Worship

- **Sunday, Nov. 5th**, our Kindergarten - 5th graders will sing during the 11:00 worship service.
- **Sunday, Nov.19**, our 3rd grade families will be receiving their 3rd Grade Books of the Bible engraved bible during the 11:00 worship service. PREP singers will sing!

Dec. 17 - Sunday School Christmas Presentation - at the 9:30 Service

Children ages 2 - 8th grade will have the opportunity to participate in this Christmas celebration service. We will be working on music during class time in November and December, and have one group rehearsal in the gym from 9:30-10:30 on Dec. 10. Grades K-8 should go directly to the gym for this rehearsal. Little Lambs, Preschoolers and Pre K children should go to their classrooms. After our rehearsal we will have a Birthday Party for Jesus Celebration in the gym!

Parenting Group Meets Nov. 12th - Join us for coffee, conversation and fellowship in Room 108 at 9:30.

Sunday, Nov. 12 @10:30 am - Monthly Family Fellowship Day!

Join us after Sunday School for special treats and activities for the kids with coffee and fellowship opportunities for the adults! We will be joined by some very special grandparents to help us with our Thanksgiving activities.



Saturday, Nov. 4 - 5:30 - 8 pm

The Corner Pub and Grill (Website here) - (Dougherty Ferry & Big Bend) 13645 Big Bend Rd. **RSVP please** by Oct. 29th to **Emily Horning** with number of adults and children for at-church childcare. Emily can also answer questions. Looking forward to good food & grown-up conversation!



Fellowship of Lutheran Youth - FLY
Pastor Amy Stewart
Director of Youth Ministry
astewart@gslcelca.org

*Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles.*
Isaiah 40:31



- Nov. 5** 12:15-1:30pm, C+ rehearsal, 6:30-8pm, FLY night
- Nov. 12** 11am, C+ sings and FLY friends greet, read, usher, and serve Communion, 6:30-8pm, FLY night
- Nov. 19** 4:15-6:30pm, C+ rehearsal and dinner; 6:30-8pm, FLY night
- Nov. 22-26** No FLY Activities - Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec. 9 & 10 - FLY Christmas Cookie Sales

This is one of our big fundraisers for FLY activities and the Gathering. All FLY youth are asked to bring 13 dozen home-made cookies (10, each, if you have a FLY sibling), to the gym by 10am on Dec 9th. Then, from 10am-noon, we will package them up to sell after all services that weekend. Start now...you can freeze them until December! In order to



protect our friends with allergies, cookies without nuts must be made with tools and surfaces that have not touched nuts, and must be packaged separately.

Nov 1: Bread Co. Frontenac

Nov 8: Einstein Bagels



Ellisville

Nov 15: Starbucks, Dougherty Ferry

Nov 29: Six North Cafe Ballwin

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES



SIGN UP IN THE
NARTHEX - DONATE
SUPPLIES BY NOV 12

THANK YOU!

to our 2,795 volunteers
& financial supporters!



816,480 Meals Packed!
2,236 Children Fed One
Meal A Day For Entire
Year!

Stewardship Christina Kling-Garrett

In Unity We Grow

What a busy few weeks it's been here at Good Shepherd! Between weekly worship and Sunday School, our Fall Festival, the Pumpkin Patch, Feed My Starving Children, bible studies, music rehearsals, and small group activities, the church is buzzing with people every day. It's amazing to see all the things that happen day-in and day-out and how blessed we are as a congregation!

At the beginning of October, you should have received a stewardship packet in the mail including the 2018 pledge card. So far we have 88 pledges totaling almost \$400,000 for next year; if you haven't returned your card, it's not too late! Your pledges for 2018 are important in setting an accurate budget which provides adequate funding for all our ministries in the coming year.

The Stewardship team is hoping to reach 200 returned pledge cards before the end of the year, and we want the process to be as easy as possible. You can return your card by mail, in the offering plate, or to the office. If you've lost your card, you can simply email your pledge to Jennifer at jmakowski@gslcelca.org.

This month's stewardship challenge is to consider all of the ministries offered by Good Shepherd that impact your family, and then prayerfully consider your 2018 weekly

Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Manchester, Missouri

IN UNITY WE GROW.

- FACILITIES & GROUNDS**
4 acres of land with almost 20,000 square feet of worship space.
- MUSICAL GROUPS**
14 groups available
- EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**
15 Programs are offered
- BIBLE STUDIES, SMALL GROUPS, AND WORSHIP SUPPORT**
We offering over 40 ways to participate
- WORSHIP**
We offer over 220 services a year with a weekly average of 420 in attendance
- OUTREACH, SERVICE & SUPPORT MINISTRIES**
We support 21 various outreach ministries
- FELLOWSHIP, SPECIAL INTEREST, & SOCIAL GROUPS**
10 groups are available for participation
- RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**
We offer 6 different rec activities
- LEADERSHIP & PLANNING**
There are 14 different ways to help lead within the church

This month's stewardship challenge is to consider all of the ministries offered by Good Shepherd that impact your family, and then prayerfully consider your 2018 weekly

giving and (if you haven't already) return your card in the month of November. In the words of Martin Luther, "To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer."

 <p>Good Shepherd LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA <i>Manchester, Missouri</i></p>	FULL NAME _____ My commitment to the General fund: \$ _____ PER: WEEK MONTH YEAR (please circle one) Please return by October 18, 2017 If you would like to enroll in our online giving program, or if you are currently enrolled and would like to update your amount, please fill out the form included. Note: only the amount & signature is needed if you currently enrolled in Vanco Simply Giving.
IN UNITY WE GROW.	

CANCER Now What?

MINISTRY

Caring Tip: Ask People Dealing with Cancer What They Need - by Joel Bretscher

what the person really needs?

When someone we know has cancer or has a loved one with cancer, we want to offer our help and support. But how can we be sure the help we're providing is

The best way is simple but often overlooked: Just ask.

An episode of the TV show *Parenthood* from a few years back offers a good example of why this is important. One of the main characters, Christina, has recently been diagnosed with cancer, and two friends drop by to cheer her up and bring her a roasted chicken.

Christina goes to put the chicken away in the refrigerator-where there are four more roasted chickens, so many there's hardly room for anything else.

Though they meant well, these friends made an assumption about what Christina needed-a chicken dinner-that ended up not being helpful at all. They could have done much more for Christina if they just asked: "What can we do right now? Do you need any meals, or help with transportation, or someone to run errands-or something else? We'd really like to help." Based on Christina's response they could have helped in ways that Christina genuinely needed right then.

A true story in the book *Cancer-Now What?* shows the benefits of asking about and listening to what someone really needs and wants: One man described how he loved milkshakes and how they were also one of the foods he could keep down most easily while on chemotherapy. When a friend asked about ways to help, the man said he would enjoy having a milkshake. After that, his friend brought him a milkshake whenever he visited. Specifically communicating a need led to a simple way of helping that made both men feel better.

When someone you know is dealing with cancer, or any other life difficulty, take the

time to ask what he or she needs, and possibly offer some suggestions of what you could do. That way, you'll know you're helping in a way the person will truly welcome and appreciate.

Another practical way to help: Give the book *Cancer-Now What?* to a person with cancer or his or her family member. Copies are available for you free of charge at the Information Desk in the narthex.

Bible Studies & Adult Education

Sunday Morning Topical Discussion Group - 9:30 AM - Room 205

Please check the bulletin announcements each week for topics! Please join us.

Sunday Morning Bible Study - 9:30 AM - Room 214 - Reading and discussing Matthew. Themes: Jesus is the promised Messiah, his teachings and his resurrection. Join us as we discuss what God is saying to us and how we can put it into practice. All are welcome! Questions? Contact Steve Spoerle at fsspoerle@gmail.com.

The Thursday Lunch Bunch - 12:00 PM Rm. 205 - Presently we are studying Beth Moore's *The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*. If you want to find out more about our study, drop by Rm. 205 on Thursdays at noon. Bring your lunch and join us on this faith building journey. For information please contact Joanna Brooks at 314.640.4946 or joannabrooks2000@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Men's Bible Breakfast - Thursday Mornings 6:15-7:15 at St. Louis Bread Co. Winchester. Starting a new study: *My Neighbor is a Muslim*: Exploring the Muslim Faith. A summary of understanding of Islam and the Muslim Faith. Join us for coffee, fellowship, and inspiring discussion. All are welcome. For info contact Shawn Geurkink at sgeurkink314@gmail.com.

Monday Night Bible Study - Meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7:30pm. All are welcome!

CG Bible Study - Continues a study of the Reformation - Thursdays at 10:00 am in Room 205.

Naomi Circle - Naomi Circle meets the 2nd Thursday of the month. November 9th host is Edith Egertson and the leader is Brenda Jansen. For information contact Brenda Jansen at 636-273-6876 or luvsflowers@charter.net.

God's Love in ACTION

Consider becoming a Stephen Minister!

Stephen Ministry provides high quality, confidential,
Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.
A new training class is starting soon!

CHECK OUT THE NARTHEX DISPLAY!

If you would like to learn more about how to become a Stephen Minister, contact Pastor Wolf at 636-391-6685, rwolf@gslcelca.org. You can also check out the Stephen Ministry website at www.stephenministry.org.

Service Team - Janie Wolfangel

Our "busy" time of year is fast approaching and there will be lots of opportunities to help those less fortunate than us. Some of the things we will be involved with are:



- Habitat for Humanity Joint Project-500th Anniversary of the Reformation: We will work with area Catholic Churches on a house in the South City/Bevo Mill Area on Nov.11, 18, & Dec. 2, 9, & 16. Please check the bulletin and the Narthex for more information.
- Operation Christmas Child - look for the display in the Narthex in early November.
- Christmas Giving Tree will be set up in the Narthex over the Thanksgiving weekend. We are planning to support families from the Circle of Concern and teenagers from First Step Back Home.
- Turkey Basket Drive: Good Shepherd will provide funds for turkeys to both Lutheran Family and Children's Services, and Wings of Love and Care Center (Crisis Aid). We will also provide non-perishable items to Wings of Love and Care Center for Thanksgiving Baskets. Donations need to be returned to Good Shepherd by November 12. Please see the display in the Narthex.

The Food Bin for the Month of November will benefit Gateway 180, an organization that provides long term solutions to families with urgent housing needs. Items they are requesting include: Canned Fruit, Cans of Tuna or Chicken, Cans of Chili, Boxes of Prepared Dinners; (Macaroni & Cheese, Hamburger Helper.)

There is a Monthly Benevolence Fund that the Service Team uses to allocate funds to agencies in need, each month has a theme and the theme for October was Elderly. With that in mind several agencies were researched and the Team elected to allocate funds to VOYCE, and Meals on Wheels.

One of the agencies we supported in October - VOYCE. This agency helps to ensure a quality life for people living on the long-term care continuum. Their goal is to become the principal source of information and advocacy for these individuals and their families. They empower and educate those they serve by illuminating choices, providing a voice, giving compassionate and comforting support, and building relationships with caregivers and the community.

Monday - Nov. 6th at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205 - The Service Team generally meets on the first Tuesday of the month, but due to scheduling issues, we will be meeting on the first Monday of the month for a while. Please join us - we are always looking for new members to join this worthwhile ministry at Good Shepherd.



The Amazing Journey of a Shoebox Gift begins with You! Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy to millions of children around the world through shoe boxes lovingly and prayerfully packed with gifts that will bring delight to a child. Watch for the boxes in the narthex early in November, instructions will be included what/how to pack these for shipping. This year the youth at GSLC will be decorating the outside of the shoe boxes with their special touches! All boxes must be returned to the church by no later than

November 19th, Sunday noon. Any questions: please call Julie Patthoff@314-591-2528(c) or [Suzie Everingham](#).

West County Family moves to Haiti for Missionary work - Join us to hear their story!

Nov.18 @ 6pm- Gym - Please come to hear what the Tucker family has been doing in the village of Gran Vide, Haiti. This family left West County when they felt called by God to help out about 1.5 years ago. They live on an island with very little and yet have accomplished so much. Our Sewing Group here at GSLC made school uniforms for the children. They're excited to be coming back for the month to share their missionary endeavors. Join them for a bite to eat and listen to their amazing stories! They will have a buffet dinner, silent auction and opportunities for you to help them. Check them out on Facebook: Community of Hope Haiti. Questions: Call Julie Patthoff @ 314-591-2528.



First Step Back Home

Dec. 16: 11 am - 2 pm - The First Step Back Home Christmas will be the 9th Annual Christmas Wonderland Party for the homeless in the Wentzville area. We will help them again this year and it's not too early to start shopping for those cleaning supplies. A basket full of cleaning supplies is like winning the lottery for these families so if you can start shopping for any of these supplies, it would be hugely appreciated. The display with the laundry baskets will be in the narthex in late November but here is the list of supplies we need:

Detergent, powdered bleach, dish soap, bathroom cleaner, dryer sheets, toilet paper, window cleaner, paper towels, hand/bath soap, dish towels, sponges, stain remover, \$5.00 in quarters for the Laundromat use.

Any questions please call: Julie Patthoff @314-591-2528.



GSLC Book Club

Autumn is here! Can't you just picture sitting in your favorite chair (inside or outside) enjoying a new book? We'd love to have you join us at one of our monthly meetings - 7 pm in the Fireside Room here at church.

Nov 21: *Into the Water* by Paula Hawkins

Dec 19: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

Questions or would like to be added to the email list? Please contact Emily at 636-326-4209 or emilyhaydenhorning@yahoo.com.

A "Wink" from the Welcome Ministry Team by: Elliott Haugen



Just when we started to appreciate the fall colors and are settling into fall routines, we realize it is already November. Of course, that means the holidays are approaching, beginning with Thanksgiving. Although it is not a religious holiday, it certainly reminds us to say thanks for our many blessings. Of course, the Bible has the best message about how we should approach thankfulness every day...*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24.* On behalf of the Welcome Ministry, we always appreciate you, but also want to say "thanks" to:

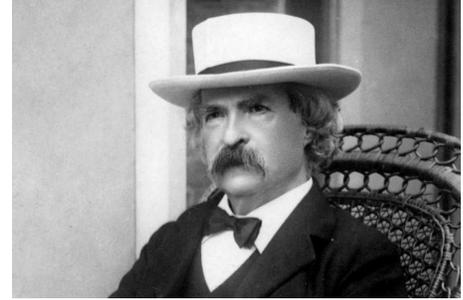
- You, for all you do to invite, welcome, include, and care about each other and those who visit.
- Outer door and Narthex greeters whose smiles and hospitality make arriving at Good Shepherd so special.
- GSLC's pastors and staff who support all of us - especially their help welcoming new members.
- Welcome Ministry Team members (Suzie Everingham, Karen & Jon Fatzinger, Vicki & Elliott Haugen, Verril Johnson, Sandy & Mike King, Carter Pederson, and Linda & John Webb) for all they do to help Good Shepherd's members and visitors feel welcome and valued.

Note: A "wink" is a brief form of communications that implies a hello or friendly greeting. Watch for future Winks with thoughts and information about Good Shepherd's welcoming ministry.

CG's Speaker - Bev Schuetz

Thu. Nov. 16: Join us to hear Bev Schuetz give one of her history talks - Mark Twain: His Wit, His Words, His Life. We will meet in room 205 at 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$7.00 per person (payable that

morning). Sign up on the CG bulletin board. We will go to Hunan-Peking in Manchester, for lunch following her talk. See you there!



CG's Christmas Party

Thurs., Dec. 7 – Sign up soon!

- 3 Course Lunch
- Christian Illusionist Don Townsend
- Carols sing along w/Pr. Josh & Gail
- Attendance Prizes
- Total Cost: \$35.00 incl. tax & gratuity



Building Blocks Preschool
Kathy Rebholz, Director
krebholz@gslcelca.org



**BUILDING BLOCKS
PRESCHOOL**

Our October has been filled with exciting classroom experiences and on-site field trip adventures! West County EMS and Fire Department and Safety House Director visited our school to discuss fire and sidewalk safety. The most important lesson they learned from the visit is to "get out and stay out" if there is ever a fire. The students enjoyed climbing in the big fire truck and ambulance.



Another on-site field trip took place in Good Shepherd's Community Garden where our older preschoolers picked fruits and vegetables and learned differences between fruits and vegetables, taking care of our earth, and sharing the food with hungry people in St. Louis. Thank you to church members, Sandi Bahr and Cindy Proefrock for leading our "field trip"!

In addition, preschoolers toured the Feed My Starving Children "factory" and stickered 300 bags used for the packing event. The children were proud to help feed hungry people in the world. They took it very seriously!



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