



Shepherd's Staff

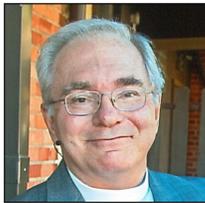
April, 2018

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Rich Wolf
Senior Pastor
rwolf@gslcelca.org

Just mention the word "Easter" and many images come to mind: images of sight and sound, touch and smell, that special fragrance that lilies add to the air, the bold sound of trumpets proclaiming victory, warm sunny days of spring, putting an end to the cold death of winter, people everywhere decked out in Easter finery, multi-colored Easter eggs, and of course, the sound of children laughing.



These images and many more appeal to our senses when we think of "Easter". It comes as no surprise, then, that Easter is a popular day for many people.

But for people of faith it means so much more. Yes, the sounds and engagement of the senses are a part of this day, but not as the central attraction. For the Christian, these images, instead, point to a more defining and profound reality: That on this day, God chose to raise his Son Jesus from the dead. Evil, sin, and death have been silenced. On this day, the redemptive work that was begun on the cross is complete. Real life and real hope and real meaning are no longer beyond our grasp, but a free gift offered to all. That on this day, literally all of creation has been transformed and elevated to a wonderful newness. Death no longer rules, but life. Sadness no longer controls, but hope. Chaos no longer prevails, but all of life is given meaning and significance.

Recently, I read an article that quoted a survey of Americans of various ages, only to find that less than half of U.S. adults link Easter specifically to the resurrection of Jesus. Many were able to describe it as some kind of a religious holiday, but could not express any particulars about its deeper spiritual meaning. In fact, the younger the respondent, the less that was known about the day. For most, it still had a distinctly religious connection for people, but few could say what it was.

What this sobering report tells me is that we have our work cut out for us the other 51 weeks of the year. This is the core of the Christian Gospel. It's a message that cannot simply fade from people's minds. It's a message that needs to be shared!

Pastor Rich



**Jim Anderson,
Council President**

Council continues to move the strategic plan forward under the leadership of Glenn Kraft. There are three areas of focus for the Church; Increase Involvement, Healing Ministries, Mission Trips, Project Horizon (a new membership database), Marketing & Communications, Green Church, local outreach partnership, Wellness and Inclusive Welcome. We held "listening" sessions to help get your feedback. Teams are forming and we encourage your involvement.

Churches with a clear decision making process are vibrant and growing. "Vibrant" churches do four things: design a simple disciple-making process, organize key programs to accomplish this, unite all ministries around the process, and concentrate on those programs. We may need to grapple with decisions that concern dropping programs that seem successful but contribute nothing to our mission. Your Council is working through this process and we ask for your prayers of support.

In a Peanuts cartoon, Lucy demands that Linus change TV channels and then threatens him with her fist if he doesn't.

"What makes you think you can walk right in here and take over?" asks Linus.

"These five fingers," says Lucy. "Individually they are nothing, but when I curl them together like this into a single unit, they form a weapon that is terrible to behold."

"What channel do you want?" asks Linus. Turning away, he looks at his fingers and says, "Why can't you guys get organized like that?"

We seem to be very good at coming together to solve problems here at Good Shepherd! Now we need to do that with our longer term planning.

In closing, I wanted to let you know that in early March we learned from the Synod that our Church was the largest financial contributor to the the Synod for 2017. We are a generous church! We will continue to strive to a higher overall percentage of giving to the Synod.

"Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love"

Jim Anderson



The Endowment Team is Pleased to Announce the Following Grants:

- \$5,000 to Wings of Love
- \$5,000 to Campaign for ELCA
- \$660 to the GSLC Community Garden



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

Be Like Jesus Weekend of Service Event April 13-14th

Over 125 3rd - 8th grade youth, high school junior counselors and adults from area ELCA churches will gather at Good Shepherd for a youth ministry event / lock-in focused on serving others. We are hoping for congregation help in the set-up for the event as well as help in preparation of Saturday meals; parents willing to be overnight chaperones; leaders for our Saturday on-site service projects; as well as, drivers for our Saturday offsite projects.



Whether you can help for an hour or six hours, we would love to have you join us! Please see the narthex display or contact Becky at 636.391.6685 to learn more about how you can be part of this awesome service-focused youth event.

April Parenting Group Meeting - April 8 | 9:30-10:30 | Room 108

Our monthly discussions are focused on topics relevant to parenting in today's world. On April 8th, Join us as Lume Institute CEO, Steve Zwolak, leads a discussion that will include discipline tips and a focus on vroOm brain building moments.

April Family Fellowship Sunday - April 8 | 10:30 | Gym

Join us in the gym for granola and fruit, meet some new

friends or catch up with some old friends while the kids enjoy some Earth Day focused fun!



Don't Miss Our Annual Wash Away Hunger Car Wash -Saturday, April 14 | 10 am - 2 pm



All donations will go toward the 2018 Feed My Starving Children Food Packaging event at Good Shepherd. Please come...Be Like Jesus youth will clean your car and you might help us wash away hunger (free will

donation)!

Youth Club - SOS Confirmation Faith Building

sessions for our 6th and 7th graders will meet for the last time this spring on Wednesday, April 11th. Our 8th graders will return on Wednesday, April 18th and 25th to complete their preparations for their Confirmation faith milestone.

Confirmation Coming Soon! On April 29th, 21 eighth graders will celebrate their Affirmation of Baptism during the 11:00 worship service. Join us as we celebrate with these awesome young people!



Confircamp 2018! For all current 6th & 7th Graders | June 18 - 22, 2018

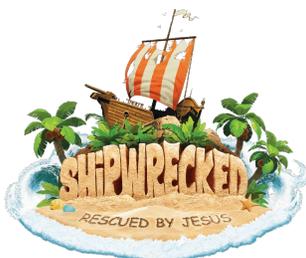


Registrations due May 10!

Save the Date for VBS 2018 | July 30 - August 3 | 9 am - Noon Registration begins in April.

VBS is offered to children age 4 (by August 1) through those entering 5th grade in August. Registration info online and in the narthex by April 1.

We are putting together TEAM VBS! Whether you are in middle school, high school or an adult with a passion for sharing your love of faith-filled fun with our youth, we'd love to have you on our team! Please email [Becky](#) or call her to find out how you can be a part of this year's VBS adventure. The first (of three) VBS planning team meetings will be at 6:30 on Wednesday, April 25th in room 150.



OUR NEIGHBORS, OUR CITY

MONDAY, APRIL 2

6:30-8:00

Book Study

"Between the World and Me"

By Ta-Nehisi Coates

Books are available for \$17.

Contact Pastor Josh Brecht: jbrecht@gslcelca.org



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



FLY Schedule

- Apr 1 No FLY activities - Happy Easter!
- Apr 4 6:15-7:15am, Fresh Start at Six North Café, Ballwin
- Apr 8 11am, FLY and C+ help lead worship; 12-2pm, C+ lunch and rehearsal; 6:30-8pm, FLY Photo Scavenger Hunt (meet in FLY room - drivers needed)
- Apr 11 6:15-7:15am, Fresh Start at Starbucks, Dougherty Ferry
- Apr 15 6:30-8pm, FLY night
- Apr 18 6:15-7:15am, Fresh Start at Einstein Bagels, Ellisville
- Apr 20-21 8th grade lockin (let PA know if you can come to play and help welcome the new FLYers...free bowling!)
- Apr 22 4:15-6:30pm, C+ rehearsal and dinner; 6:30-8pm, FLY night
- Apr 25 6:15-7:15am, Fresh Start at Bread Co, Frontenac
- Apr 29 4:15-6:30pm, C+ rehearsal and dinner; 6:30-8pm, FLY night

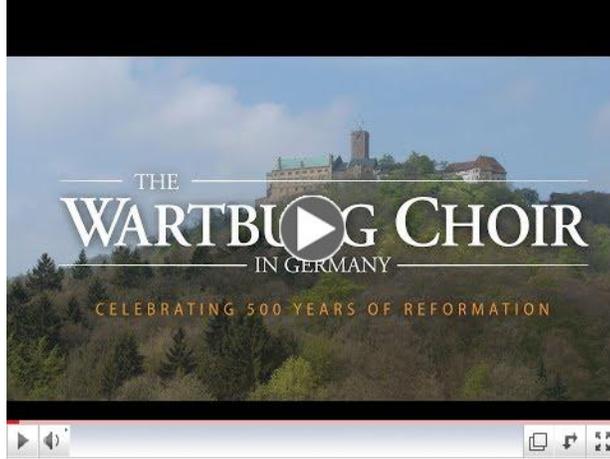
Graduating Seniors: Please let Pastor Amy know where you're headed next (after high school or college graduation)! We will be celebrating high school graduates during the May 6th, 11 am service, and afterward, at the FLY end-of-year picnic in Schroeder Park!



Wartburg Choir Concert - Friday, April 27th at 7:30 pm



Coming to us from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, the internationally acclaimed Wartburg Choir is a mixed a cappella ensemble under the direction of Dr. Lee Nelson. This select group is one of five choirs offered through the music department at Wartburg. Choir members are chosen by audition and represent most academic disciplines on campus. The choir makes annual concert tours throughout the US and travels abroad every three years during the college's one-month May Term performing sacred music from all historical periods and styles. In May, 2017 the Wartburg Choir toured through Germany in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, following the path of Martin Luther and the Reformation. A documentary was filmed during this tour through Germany.



Please join us for this exceptional concert which is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be taken to offset the choir's travel expenses which are estimated at \$2,500 per day. A suggested donation of \$20 per adult and \$5 per student will help us to reach that goal.

We are still in need of host families to provide overnight housing for the choir members after the concert. If you are willing to house 2 or more choir members in your home there are 3 ways to sign-up:

1. Sign-up on the poster in the Narthex.
2. Fill out a housing form online [here](#) and on our [website](#).
3. Contact kkallansrud@sbcglobal.net to sign up. Please indicate how many students you are able to house and what pets you have in your home.

There will also be a sign-up in the Narthex on April 7/8 and April 14/15 for food donations to feed the choir upon their arrival as well as kitchen help to prepare the meal on April 27th. You can also contact Dianne Unverfehrt at dcbu8891@charter.net if you are interested in helping.



Jamie De Geer
Director of Music Ministry
jidegeer@gs1celca.org

Join Us for Summer Music Camp | Celebrate Christmas in June!

- Registration: Begins April 1st
- Auditions: April 22 | Noon - 2pm & April 25 | 5:30 - 7pm | Register by April 18th to audition!**
- Camp Dates: June 4 - 8, 2018
- Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Daily
- Presentations: June 9th at 5:30 pm and June 10th at 11:00 am
- Chorus Only Registration is due by May 20th based on space availability!



Thank You! from FLY

FLY would like to thank everyone who helped to make Trivia Night such a wonderful success! Thanks to you, we raised \$8000 for regular FLY events and our trip to Houston, TX this summer for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Congratulations to the winning table!



Dear Good Shepherd Family,

I write this to you from a time of transition. The last month has been a series of events that I never thought that I would be going through. Back in January I started experiencing pain in my back and having a history of back surgery I was concerned. What I prayed would be a pulled muscle turned out to be much more serious. It has caused me to leave Madagascar early and return to the United States to have surgery. All of this happened very quickly and I am still in a bit of shock that I am home. Never did I think I would be leaving Madagascar early and without even being able to say goodbye to the friends I had made during my time there.



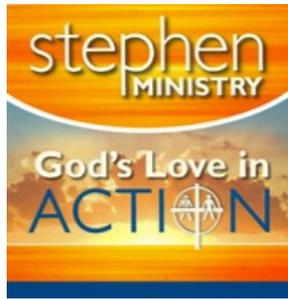
I am still so excited to share with everyone about my time in Madagascar and plan on doing that as soon as I can. I have enough stories and pictures to talk for days.

Don't worry, I will not keep you for days. During this transition time I hope to continue to grow and change just as I did while in Madagascar. No one ever said that life changing experiences would only be while I was abroad.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support while I make this transition and heal from surgery. I can't wait to share my love for Madagascar with all of you!

Amy Kallansrud

Stephen Ministry - Caring Ministry in Action



Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one caring ministry to people experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, and many other life difficulties. If you know someone, or if you would like to be paired with a Stephen Minister, contact Pastor Wolf at 636-391-6685, rwolf@gslcelca.org. To learn more about this ministry, visit our website goodshepherdlutheran.com

Stewardship

by: Christina Kling-Garrett, Chair

"I am a good shepherd. And servant. And steward."

Last Sunday, a slide in the pre-worship announcements caught my eye. It wasn't for a new event or program, but rather it was calling attention to a consistent need we have within the church. The slide pictures a flock of sheep, with the focus on the lead sheep. The top of the slide says "We Need You!" and around the picture it says, "I am the GOOD SHEPHERD." On this particular Sunday, the need was for more readers and communion ministers, but I encourage all of us to see the larger message here: How can each of us be a good shepherd, a good servant, and a good steward of the church? Right now you may be saying, "Yeah, that's great Christina, but what is the difference between the three and how does this fall into Stewardship?" Well, let me challenge you with something.

At the end of April, we will celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Gospel lesson from John, we will hear how Jesus proclaims that He is "The Good Shepherd." At GSLC, we take our name from this passage and consistently do a wonderful job as shepherds caring for those in, and around, our community. The rejuvenation of our Stephen Ministers program and instillation of six new ministers celebrates something we have been working towards for several years. As servants, we seek to do good works for others that are not in our own interests. In this category we find FMSC, the Lenten reverse offerings, the food pantry, and many of the other opportunities presented to us in the Narthex each week. As stewards, we are entrusted with returning to God the assets He bestowed upon us, which includes time, talent, and treasure. In the giving statements for the first quarter, I talked about treasure. Here, my challenge to you is for time and talent. Are there ministry opportunities that you are interested in, but need more information on?

Do you have availabilities where you can give an hour of your time helping programs at the church? Could you be a reader or communion minister?



Being a good shepherd, servant, or steward takes time and commitment. Being a good shepherd, servant, AND steward is a challenge. I think we're up for it.

Together in Christ,
Christina Kling-Garrett, Stewardship Chair

Bible Studies & Adult Education

Monday Night Bible Study - This Pastor led Bible Study meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month at 7:30pm in Room 108.

Men's Bible Breakfast - Winchester Bread Co. - 6:15-7:15 am

Strengthening Your Grip: How to Live Confidently in an Aimless World by Charles Swindoll. We'll discuss living a Christian life - thought provoking, inspirational, encouraging. God is speaking to us. For all who need encouragement for themselves and to be an encouragement to others. Join us for coffee, fellowship, and inspiring discussion. For more info contact [Shawn Geurkink](#).

Sunday Morning Adult Topical Discussion - 9:30am-10:30am - Rm. 205

Please join us on April 8th as Carin Gado Recks leads us in a discussion of The Lutheran Apocrypha.

Sunday Morning Bible Study - 9:30am-10:30am in Room.214

We'll resume April 8 to study Ephesians. The messages in the early Christian church that salvation is by God's grace through faith, and the Good News is for all people. ALL ARE WELCOME! Questions? Contact [Steve Spoerle](#).

The Thursday Lunch Bunch - 12:00pm - Fireside Room

Resumes April 5th to finish the study on The Faith Book Club. Contact [Joanna Brooks](#) or at 314.640.4946. All are welcome!

Naomi Circle - Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:30am.

The April 12th study will be hosted by Verill Johnson and led by Annette Molitor. For information contact [Brenda Jansen](#) or at 636.273.6876.

All Anew Women's Bible Study - Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room. For more information contact Vicki Haugen-571.235.3935, Kim Sherwood-636.236.8601 or Marilyn Jones-636.394.3904. CG's Bible Study-2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 10:00am in Room 205. Join us as we study the book of Acts.

Afternoon Gamin' Gals - 1st Monday of each month at 1:00pm in Room 108. Join us for cards, snacks and fellowship.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Just as Jesus touched and cared and healed those who were ill during his earthly ministry, we can be part of Jesus' healing ministry today, because our risen Lord lives in us and works through us.

CANCER **Now What?** --- **MINISTRY** ---

A simple act any of us can do is to share the book Cancer-Now What? with a person dealing with cancer. Our risen Lord is working powerfully through this book in many lives-giving hope, courage, and strength to face this disease with knowledge and with faith.

Take a free copy of Cancer-Now What? from the Information desk in the narthex. Also take a Giver's Guide with helpful ideas for giving the book to someone with cancer or his or her family member. Do so with a prayer of thanks in your heart for the gift of healing and new life in Jesus, crucified and risen for us!

Service Team - Janie Wolfangel

The Service Team has been helping several local agencies during Lent with the Reverse Offering. We thank you all for your generous giving, the agencies served were very appreciative.



Our next endeavor will be the "Baby Shower" in May, please watch the bulletin for details.

The Food Bin for the month of April will benefit The Maplewood/Richmond Heights School District Weekend on Wheels Program. They are requesting: Cereal, Oatmeal, Macaroni and Cheese Dinner Mixes and Instant Side Dishes (Rice and/or Noodle)

Monthly Benevolence Fund: The Team did not meet in February, which allocated funds were to be directed to Random Acts of Kindness. March allocations were to be directed to Special Needs. We researched and discussed several agencies and decided we would support:

- ELCA Fund for Leaders
- International Institute
- USO Missouri

- St. Louis Arc (Capable Kids and Family Division)
- C.H.A.M.P. Assistance Dogs
- Lafayette Industries
- The Independence Center
- The SPOT
- Lydia Monicah, a Tawa Student.

Who are the agencies we support: The SPOT - This organization (Supporting Positive Opportunities with Teens) offers youth between the ages of 13-24 access to FREE medical and social services in a safe, youth-friendly and comfortable environment. The SPOT works with young people to establish goals and work towards reaching them. These goals may range from getting back in school, to addressing a mental illness or seeking care for HIV. They are located in the Central West End and easily accessible to youth from all over the region. The SPOT draws heavily from St. Louis, Jennings, Normandy and University City School Districts.

The Service Team meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be - Tuesday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. Please join us - we are always looking for new members to join this worthwhile ministry at Good Shepherd.



Save the Date - Earth Day's Recycling Extravaganza!

We all have items laying around our home that could make a family's house a home.

Gather all those items and bring them down

to Earth Day's big Recycling Extravaganza! Drop off your *quality* items with Home Sweet Home, but you can also bring so much more down to the other 20 vendors who will be recycling all kinds of materials.

Sunday, April 8, 2018

10 AM - 2 PM

St. Louis Community College at Forest Park

"Types of Items Collected To Be reused: Donated furniture and household items to help children, survivors of domestic abuse, veterans, people who are homeless, and ex-offenders looking for a new start: Bed frames, Mattresses, Pillows, Dressers, New bedding, Nightstand, Lamps, Kitchen tables, Kitchen chairs, Pots and pans, Couch Chairs, Coffee tables, Lamps, Area rugs, Working televisions and TV stands-The items we receive need to be in good condition in order for us to be able to give them to our clients. No rips, stains or tears."

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! He is risen! He is risen indeed! It is great to shout that Easter message and to affirm our belief in Jesus, the Resurrection, and message of love, hope and caring. Those



early Christians did not live in the "Show Me" state, but some had to see it to believe it. Nevertheless, the truths, words, and hope of that time were indeed manifested then and during the past 2,018 years.

Good Shepherd's mission, ministries and messages are sustained by our faith in Jesus Christ and are shared and shown by our everyday actions. In March I wrote about a simple way to welcome each other and our guests. The letters of the word "HELLO" remind us to say Hello, Engage, Listen, Listen some more, and Offer assistance. To see these words in action, one need only look at the Narthex, any space in this church, or places where our service and outreach missions are being fulfilled. We are witnesses because we believe in and share the peace, love and joy of our risen Lord.

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.



Kathy Rebholz
Director, Building Blocks Preschool
krebholz@gs1celca.org

New Gross Motor Room: New January 2018, Building Blocks Preschool opened this separate space designed with our youngest students in mind!



We have a new climber, a ball pit, a trampoline and tunnels. This new gross motor room provides our youngest students an alternate indoor area for them to develop their large muscles, social and emotional skills, and problem-solving skills. Our Preschool One and Two classes have thoroughly enjoyed this new room as we continue to add new

equipment for them.

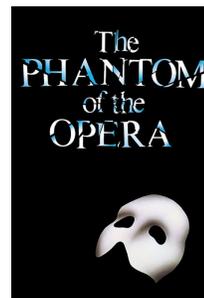
If you are interested or know someone looking for an excellent preschool, please contact Kathy Rebholz at krebholz@gs1celca.org to schedule a tour. As our enrollment increases space could be limited.



Chronologically Gifted (CG's)

Sign up to see the Phantom of the Opera at the fabulous Fox Theater on Thursday, May 10th.

Sign-up deadline is April 1. We will enjoy a lunch buffet (11:00 a.m.) before the performance (1:00 p.m.) The cost is \$94 per person. We will meet at church to carpool (time TBD). Please put your payment in the envelope provided in the church office. Any questions? Call the Meyers at 636-300-9940.



Lunch & A Movie - Tuesday, April 3

The April activity will be lunch and a movie. We will meet at 11:00 am at Mimi's Café, 17240 Chesterfield Airport Rd in Chesterfield, MO for lunch. You can order from the menu and must spend at least \$10 per person. We will go to Marcus Theatre in Chesterfield to see the movie "I Can Only Imagine" following lunch. The time will be announced after its release at the theatre. Tickets on Tuesdays are \$5 per person and you can receive a free bag of popcorn. Lunch can be paid for at Mimi's and Movie tickets are payable in the envelope provided in the office. Sign up on the CG bulletin board and let me know which seat in the theatre you prefer. Contact Annette Molitor at 573.289.5140 for additional information.

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