



# Shepherd's Staff



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A Lenten series exploring God's presence  
in the place where you are.

The Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

March 2022



**Josh Brecht**  
**Lead Pastor**

## **Holy Opportunities: Ministry and Staff Plans**

It feels like we have been in a state of staff shifts and transitions for a long time, doesn't it? Yet, through all the changes the ministry of Good Shepherd continues to make an impact in people's lives and in the world. In February, Brenda Ogroski announced that she will be retiring, and Emily Harrow announced that she will be leaving, both around the beginning of April.

The timing of two staff positions opening simultaneously, combined with gifts and flexibility of our current staff, affords us a unique opportunity. Now is the time to consider realignment of staff to meet our current and future needs most effectively. After much prayer and evaluation of both our administrative and programmatic staff and needs, we have a plan we are very excited about!

Andrew Leach's role will be changing. Andrew will continue serving in his audio/video role, but also take on most of Brenda's responsibilities. This means he will be stepping away from high school ministry. Andrew is gifted in youth ministry, but his gifts and passions are also very well suited for this new role. While he has loved his time working with high school ministry, he is excited about this shift. This change allows us to do something we have dreamed of doing to align our Children, Youth, and Family staffing in a new way.

We will now have two full-time positions dedicated to Children, Youth, and Family Ministry:

- Director of Children and Family Ministry (birth-5th grade)
- Director of Youth and Family Ministry (6th-12th Grade, and college outreach)

What excites me most about this change is that our total FTE staffing will remain the same, but we can now dedicate more staffing focus to your children and youth ministries. Andrew's new role includes streamlining workflows which enables administrative staff to be even more efficient.

In the coming weeks we will begin the search process for these two reconfigured staff positions. Andrew is committed to working with our high school students through this transition to ensure our ministry to youth continues. This is a lot of change, but I believe the Holy Spirit is at work and has called us to step courageously into the future. I cannot wait to see who God leads to these positions and where Spirit leads us next!

In Christ,  
Pastor Josh

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## A "Wink" from the Welcome Ministry Team

### By Elliott Haugen



This month we are welcoming another group of wonderful people into Good Shepherd's community of faith. Your Welcome Ministry team regularly organizes new member orientations for those seeking to learn more about Good Shepherd, its mission, and its people. The pastors, staff and Welcome Team are always excited about sharing information about this Lutheran church, its work, and our congregation. However, it never fails that we learn even more about us from the attendees.

We are proud of our church and how it provides a framework for our worship and the building of relationships with God and each other. It is great that we continually look for ways to grow and meet new challenges. However, it is also useful to view ourselves through the eyes of others. When asked what drew them to Good Shepherd, our newest members shared that they valued the worship services and sermons, the welcoming and friendliness, our Lutheran traditions, and our educational, service and outreach programs. They found Good Shepherd has a special culture, is a safe place, and has active youth programs and ageless enthusiasm. They were introduced to us by you, other referrals, and the Internet.

Good Shepherd's mission is *"Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love"*. Thank you for being this mission and for so actively and lovingly sharing it with others.

*"We love because God first loved us." 1 John 4:19*

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## Feed the Need STL

### by: Dianne Unverfehrt

This Lenten season, we are once again challenging ourselves to save starving children's lives. We have a goal of feeding a least 140 children for a year! For only \$88, you will provide one child a nutritious Feed My Starving Children MannaPack meal every day for an entire year. Your help is needed more

than ever as the pandemic has greatly increased the number of starving children all over the world.

Our Feed the Need–STL team has been busy with preparations for our upcoming FMSC packing event at Queeny Park on August 18 to 21. We are looking forward to once again being able to pack meals for children with our own hands!

Please donate this Lenten season. Consider giving what you can spare. To donate, go to [Feed The Need STL – Hope Starts With Food](#), on the Connect App, or by check to the church office.



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