

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

11836 Hwy 42, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

shepherdofthebay.org

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Voices in Praise, Hands in Service Fall Giving Call

Both personally and on behalf of the congregation council, thank you for your enthusiastic and generous support of Voices in Praise, Hands in Service Fall Giving Call. We have surpassed all our goals! We have statements of intention that provide nearly \$2100 in new income for 2020. And we ended up with 154 Statements of Intention, which means that the \$10,000 challenge gift has also come. What this means, practically speaking, is that you have funded the vision that the leaders of the congregation cast back in the late summer. The vision includes our full-time director of youth and family ministry, the relaunch of a wellness ministry that will include a parish nurse, an increase of our benevolence to the larger church which will contribute to the training of future pastors, the closing of the deficit budget that was passed in 2019, and finally, the beginning of an annual contribution from the budget to a capital maintenance fund.

As we close this year's fall giving campaign, I want to thank the council for their support, and especially to the Stewardship Committee for their hours of work and dedication in helping to make this all happen. Thank you, Les Keeper, Grace Rossman, and Scott Schultz. What a privilege and joy it was to work with you.

With great affection, and wishing you the peace Christ,
Pr. Jim Honig

25 Days of Giving

This Advent please consider giving a gift to support the ministries of SOTB that mean the most to you and your family. Together, we can do more than we ever could alone. See page 13 for more information.

**SHEPHERD OF THE BAY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
FRIDAY, DEC 20 - MONDAY, DEC. 30TH.**

The world is filled with the sound of creation's song. Just listen to the wind howling on a stormy winter night. Or hear the deep, bass rumble of the thunder. The staccato pitter-patter of rain falling in a puddle. The roar of the waves crashing on the beach. Or think about our fellow creatures and their songs. The shrill chirping of a cardinal on that early spring morning. The gentle moaning of a whale, the barking of a dog, or the roar of a lion.

We humans are part of this marvelous creation, and we, too, have a yearning to sing. Telling someone they can't sing is like telling a dog they can't bark. We all sing!

When we join our voices in song, our hearts and minds, even the muscles of our bodies are joined, united in a profound, though mysterious way. Every Sunday, I am touched by the sound of our congregation singing together. We are a singing congregation!

Here's why it's important that we sing together. Liturgical theologian and practitioner, Gabe Huck, has written about our culture that we are "surrounded by music, but robbed of song." We get on the elevator and hear music, our shopping is accompanied with music, we pipe music into our ears for the soundtrack of our lives, but is anyone singing anymore? Tragically, the more we fill space with music, the less we desire to sing. Music has become filler, background noise. Background noise never demands, or even invites, our participation.

When we sing and when we sing together, the Word gets imprinted on our hearts so that we make the Word visible and audible in the world. It becomes a way for us to carry the Word with us outside of the church and into the world. Perhaps it's a refrain from the song, or a line from the hymn of praise or a favorite phrase from one of the hymns; the Word goes with us, in our hearts and minds when we sing. Popular contemporary hymn-writer and composer Marty Haugen has written, "What we sing, over time, we come to remember. What we remember, over time, we come to believe. What we believe, over time, we come to live."

Over the past several weeks, we've celebrated some big, weighty church festivals. We've sung big, weighty hymns to help us celebrate, and we've engaged in full, elaborate liturgy and ritual to heighten our celebration.

Now the church year is changing. We begin again with Advent, a time of getting ready for the coming of the promised Savior. Even as we enter a season that is quieter, more reflective, simpler, one which invites us to the interior of our spiritual lives, the world around us is ramping up. Bam! Shopping frenzy, Christmas to-do lists, parties, events, and a never-ending stream of December obligations.

So, how do we get ready in the midst of this frenzy?

Sunday morning is a good time and a good place to make space to get ready. But if our worship is going to provide space for rest, shalom, peace, then it has to be different than what is going on around us.

So, the Advent season at Shepherd of the Bay is going to have a different character. Not only has the church year changed, but the world around us is changing and faith calls us to a different way. Our worship will provide us the time and the space to prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming.

The liturgy itself will be simpler more sparse. You will notice more and longer periods of silence. The beloved hymns of Advent are typically quieter, more reflective; in their own way, they create space for us so that when we sing together, when we join our voices and our hearts, will lodge the Word deeply in our hearts.

Engage in this time of reflection and preparation. And open your hearts, once again, to the coming of God's Word, God's Love, in the flesh of a little baby.



East Central Synod of Wisconsin

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Jesus says in Matthew 7, “In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.” These and similar words have come to be known as The Golden Rule.

Presiding Bishop Eaton has signed onto Golden Rule 2020 and invited other bishops and synods to do as well. This is an effort to encourage civil discourse among the people we serve in our congregations and communities. There are deep divisions among us but these simply commands can help us all to show respect to others, to listen patiently and to avoid using inflammatory or derogatory names.

I invite you to consider using the following resource to exhort and encourage people to a more excellent way of discourse in divisive times.

In Christ's peace,

Bp Jerry Mansholt

Bishop of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin



Applying the Golden Rule in Political Discourse

Even when there is a genuine desire to do so, it is sometimes very difficult to know how to practice the Golden Rule. This can be especially true in dealing with those who have different political views or who see the world from a very different perspective. Jesus' command that we should “treat others as we would like to be treated” clearly also applies to the world of politics and yet we rarely hear discussion of how to apply that principle in the midst of intense political debate. However, if enough people applied the Golden Rule to political discourse it could help change the way we talk to each other and perhaps even help break the stalemate that keeps us from addressing some of our most pressing national problems.

For those Christians who are interesting in applying this central ethical principle to political discourse, the best place to begin is this question: How would I like others to behave towards me when I'm in a political discussion where there is disagreement? Different people would offer a range of answers, but some common responses to this question would probably be things like: show respect, listen, tell the truth, acknowledge areas of agreement, don't distort my position, don't question my motives or patriotism, etc. If those are the ways we want to be treated then it makes it possible to begin to make a list of actions we can take to apply the Golden Rule in interactions with others. Below are two lists that may be helpful in trying to answer the question of how to apply the Golden Rule to political discussions.

To Apply the Golden Rule in Political Discussions:

I Will ...

- Always show respect for the other person
- Listen patiently—especially when there is disagreement
- Use precise and truthful language that communicates my views without exaggerating
- Try to understand the experience out of which the other person arrived at his/her views
- Look for areas of mutual agreement
- Pray for the other person and our political leaders

I Won't ...

- Use inflammatory words, or derogatory names
- Make broad generalizations about individuals or groups
- Assault the character of others or falsely impugn their motives
- Question another person's faith or patriotism
- Demonize or describe as enemies, those who hold political beliefs different from my own

Guidelines like these “dos” and “don'ts” provide a way to think about what it really means to apply the Golden Rule when dealing with those of other political views. While each person must determine the specific actions they will take to “treat others as we want to be treated,” there is no denying the fact that, even in the contentious world of politics, we are commanded to do exactly that.

Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka

920-854-2988 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com



ADVENT WORKSHOP and SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE!!

Church Family!! On Sunday, December 1st following Worship service, you are invited to our Advent Workshop/Sunday School Open House!!

Split your time between the Fellowship Hall, creating a take-home Advent wreath, and enjoy some Christmas treats! Upstairs, come tour our Sunday School rooms and tour our Christmas Creche/Nativity collection, stories by the Christmas tree, and make an ornament to take home!

EVERYONE is invited!!

FRIENDS IN FAITH

MENTORS AND YOUTH!! MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH FROM 5:30-7:30 P.M.!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN INVITATION FOR DINNER AND CELEBRATION TO FOLLOW!! OUR FRIENDS IN FAITH ARE LONG OVERDUE FOR A TIME TO BE TOGETHER! IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN IN TOUCH WITH YOUR MENTEE FOR A WHILE, BE SURE TO TAKE SOME TIME. LET ME KNOW HOW I CAN HELP!! OH! AND IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE AN INVITATION IN THE MAIL, PLEASE GIVE ME A SHOUT!!

High School Youth Group

December 4th Dinner and Vespers, youth check in upstairs after! December 18th, Youth serves Vesper Dinner tonight! Winter outing 12/29 Ice-Skating/Sledding for anyone in town after church today!

Sunday School

December 8th - We celebrate the Christmas story in Sunday School

December 22nd - Sunday School

December 29th - No Sunday School, Enjoy your time with your family!

Wonderful Wednesdays

December 4th and December 18th - Christmas around the World!

Little Lambs

On December 18th at 10:00am, we will have our "Happy Birthday Jesus Party"! Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, bring your favorite toddler!

"Arise and Shine"

This year, our children's Christmas program will be incorporated within the worship service on Sunday, December 15th at 9:30 a.m.

Arise and Shine and discover all the ways we can spot the light of Jesus during the Advent Season and beyond! The children and especially the wisemen, are something you don't want to miss, and we need YOUR voices to sing with our kiddos! Come join our celebration!! If you are able to lend a hand, we need help with props, back stage care for our little actors, staging, and rehearsals. Please let Lynda know if you are able to help!

Rehearsal Schedule

Everybody needs to be at the final dress rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 14th from 10-noon!

If you have a speaking part, keep practicing at home with your families!

All Speaking parts: Sunday, Dec. 1st and 8th after Sunday School, Wednesday, December 4th and 11th after school. 12/11 is not a Wonderful Wednesday night. (Be sure to have a note for your teacher if you are riding the Gibraltar bus to SOTB after school). Final dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 14th from 10-noon.

Readers: We will meet to practice at the pulpit, getting comfortable with the microphone on December 4th after Confirmation, and at the final dress rehearsal on December 14th from 10-noon.

Nativity performers: Will practice on Sunday, December 1st and 8th after Sunday School at 11:35 and on Saturday, December 14th from 10:00-noon.

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!**Something new is in the air for Advent!**

The Sanctuary Choir of Shepherd of the Bay has commissioned a renowned composer to write a new choral anthem for our worship service on December 1, 2019. Here are some of the “particulars”:

WHO Composer Gregory Berg, a revered faculty member of Carthage College and Minister of Music at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Racine, has responded to a commission requested by the Sanctuary Choir of Shepherd of the Bay to compose an anthem to sing at the beginning of the church year.

WHAT *Precious in My Sight* is the title of this commissioned choral piece. The text to the anthem is the composer’s response to our suggested verses from Isaiah 43:1-2. The words Gregory Berg set to music are these:

*See, I have redeemed you, I have called you by name.
You are mine. You are precious in my sight,
And I love you.*

*When you pass through the waters, I will be there,
Enfolding you in my tender care.
And when you walk through the fire,
You will be untouched by the flame.
For whatever assails you
My love remains the same.*

*See, I have redeemed you, I have called you by name.
You are mine. You are precious in my sight,
And I love you.*

WHERE In the sanctuary of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, Ellison Bay, Wisconsin.

WHEN Sunday morning, December 1 at 9:30 a.m., the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new church year.

WHY Here’s why! **The Sanctuary Choir has commissioned this new work to honor the faithful service of Gladys Austgen, Director of Music (1992-2018).**

Gladys was a tireless Choir Director, Minister of Music and builder of the music program at Shepherd of the Bay for 26 years. We all currently benefit from her work among us. The Sanctuary Choir wanted to acknowledge her significant accomplishments in the music ministry of this church in a tangible, musical way.

SO WE COMMISSIONED THIS CHORAL ANTHEM IN HER HONOR AND WILL SING IT FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME ON DECEMBER 1, 2019 AT 9:30 A.M.! GLADYS AND HER FAMILY PLAN TO BE IN ATTENDANCE AND WILL HEAR IT SUNG ALONG WITH ALL OF YOU!

It is the Sanctuary Choir’s distinct honor to sing this beautiful anthem at the beginning of the church year. What an event that will be for all of us, as we begin the season of Advent and await the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. We hope you will join us!

Judith Jackson, Principal Pianist and Sanctuary Choir Director

Community Meals

Now that the season is over in Door County, it is time to relax and slow down a bit. But sometimes, it can get too slow. The following are places you can get a nutritious meal and enjoy conversation with new friends.

LIBERTY GROVE SENIOR CITIZENS

A delicious and nutritious lunch is provided by
**The Senior Resource Center At the
Liberty Grove Town Hall**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon
Every week, except on Holidays.

Come and have lunch with us, enjoy conversation, meet
new friends and socialize!

Call 920-746-2523

24 hours before the first time you come
for lunch to reserve your spot.

Open Door Luncheons at the Moravian Churches

Ephraim Moravian Church will be offering a free, hot Monthly lunch, at noon on the third Wednesday of each month through April of 2020. The lunches will feature hot soups, sandwiches or salads, desserts and beverages.

There is no charge for the meal. Bring a friend for hot food and fellowship this winter!

Sister Bay Moravian Church offers a free lunch on the first Wednesday of each month, at noon, year-round.

Loaves & Fishes

Loaves and Fishes is an ecumenical ministry project at St. Rosalia's Stella Maris parish in Sister Bay. A free meal is served from 5-6pm on the **FOURTH TUESDAY** of each month.



Food Pantry Collection for December Personal Care items

Toiletries; men's & women's. Individually wrapped bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant, lotion, etc.

We always welcome food donations of every kind no matter what the theme is for the month. We also take cash donations for Piggly Wiggly Cards to buy fresh fruit, meat, milk, etc.

The pantry is located in the north entrance to the church. Everyone is encouraged to tell their friends and neighbors about the pantry. It is open to all and the doors are open everyday from 6am to 9pm. No questions asked. Please take what you need.

Pray for families who struggle to make ends meet.



World Marketplace

Clearance Sale! The World Marketplace is scaling back its inventory! 50% off original price of all items in the fellowship hall (excludes coffee, tea and chocolate). Need a Christmas gift? How about a nativity scene. Great value on handmade jewelry and games. All items are fair trade from around the world.



Guatemala Update

Short Term Mission Trip in March 2020

Please see the 25 Days of Giving on page 13 for more specific information on donating these

Shepherd of the Bay has reserved March 25-April 1, 2020 for a Short Term Mission Trip to Chichicastenago, Guatemala through the ministry Pray America.

We will be building houses for widows, repairing houses, installing efficient cooking stoves and water filters. We will also be sharing the love of God by playing with the kids, talking with the widows and visiting our sponsor families.

If you would like more information about the trip, call John & Nora Zacek 920-854-4890. You can also get more information at the prayamerica.org website.

Projects done by teams (typically total project costs = \$10,000):

- Building of 12 X 18 or 12 X 16 foot widow homes (\$1700/home)
- Restoration Package (cost \$1150/home): Paint/restore home + Bathroom + Audio-Bible + Water Filter
- Restoration and repair of widow homes previously built (\$600/home)
- Efficient Wood Burning Stove Package (\$300 each)
- Bathroom (\$500 each)
- Water Filters (\$125 each)
- Audio Bibles in Quiche' Language (\$25/each)
- Shoe Distribution (\$10/each): Every child must have a pair of shoes to attend school.
- Feeding Program (\$15/each for a month): Children & widows are fed physically & spiritually twice/week. (\$180 of each team members room/board feeds a child for a year)
- Family Visitation (\$100 per family): Spend an afternoon with sponsor families building relationships and sharing our faith.
- Foot Washing (\$175 per family): Revisit the widows of the week's projects, wash feet, and give 10 pairs of shoes to the family.

Please pray about how you can participate in this mission activity....

Think about it..... Pray about it..... Join us

James 1:27 (NIV) "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Resiliency: from the Latin meaning "to spring back to the original shape".

Each of us has experienced sadness and difficulty in our lives and relationships. None can escape adversity, yet we can learn to accept help and kindness from others. We can develop tools and resilience to cope and reclaim our happiness. To truly recover we must experience our past honestly. Then we can absorb, share, learn, and express our ability to be flexible and authentic.

1. When weighted down by a heavy snowfall, the branches of a fir tree bend, shrug off the heaviest burden, and spring back without breaking.
2. Those who are blessed have received external circumstances and privilege. Those who are happy develop it from within.
3. What do I see when I look in the mirror? What brings a smile to my face?
4. How am I going to choose to greet the day? What am I looking forward to?
5. Where is the most peaceful and least stressful space in the world that I know? If I can't physically go there today, I'll take ten minutes to sit quietly and create that space in my mind.
6. What are several things I really like about me? I want to publicly tell at least three other people a compliment today.
7. Resilience is emotional maturity.

To learn more, please call Pastor Jim Honig at 920-854-2988 or Stan Whiteman at 920-839-5481.



Most of us know that The Clearing Folk School was started in 1935 by landscape architect Jens Jensen on the location of his former summer home in Ellison Bay. But this jewel of Door County would probably not exist today if not for his long time secretary Mertha Fulkerson. When Jens started his school, he knew he needed a secretary and asked Mertha if she would be willing to move to Ellison Bay. She had worked for Jens in his landscape business in Illinois but was very reluctant to move to this remote place. Jens asked her if she would do it for *just one year* and Mertha agreed. Jens's vision became her vision and when Jens died in 1951 it was Mertha that kept this vision alive. On December 03, WELCA will have its election of officers. We have several board positions open. If you would be willing to say *YES* for just one year I believe you will be blessed in many ways. Please prayerfully consider joining us.

On December 10 at Noon we will be having our annual Christmas Luncheon "Waves of the Spirit". Capt. John Nolte will perform sea shanties and Christmas carols. Bill Fairchild and crew will again be serving a delicious lunch. The cost is \$15. Please bring an item or two for our food pantry. Invite your friends, I know it will be a fun time. SIGN-UP on the WELCA bulletin board or in Fellowship Hall on Sundays after worship.

The Book Club is not meeting in December. It will resume in January. Call Gretchen Farwell (920)854-6203 for more information.

PRAYER SQUARES are **FREE** and available in the Narthex. Take one for yourself and for friends to remind you to pray when you touch it in your purse or pocket.

PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request that you would like added to the prayer chain, email the church office at sotboffice@yahoo.com. When email is not possible, call **Cheri Boock (920)854-5493**.

Don't forget to use the **CHANGE BUCKET**- you can make a change in someone's life by putting a donation in the CHANGE BUCKET on Sunday during the Fellowship Hour. Your donation goes to purchase gift cards for the Piggly Wiggly that are given to help those in need to purchase needs not covered by SNAP cards.

The WELCA Board will meet on December 3rd @ 10:00am in the parlor.

If you would like to know more about what WELCA does, you are welcome to join us.

DEC. EVENTS

Dec. 3 - **Board Meeting**
- 10:00am Parlor

Dec. 3 - **Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Lunch**
- Noon Fellowship Hall

Dec. 5, 12, 19 **Quilting Group**
- 9:15 - 2:00 - Fellowship Hall

Dec. 10 - **Christmas Luncheon**
- Noon - Fellowship Hall

MEAL MINISTRY

contact for
December is

Vernamae Juel
(920) 854-7220.



If you know of a family or individual who could use our attention for providing a meal when in need or would like your name added to the list of women willing to prepare and deliver meals, please call: PAT SKOGSBAKKEN at 854-1133.



Left: Carol Hackbardt led the WELCA retreat in November at Bjorklunden.

Right: The quilters sent 14 quilts to the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, AZ for use at their new migrant outreach center. The KBI's vision is humane, just, workable migration between the U.S. and Mexico and to promote policies that affirm the dignity of the human person and a spirit of bi-national solidarity.



Building and Grounds Committee

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Eloise Lindem, Karl Omernick, Joel Thomas, Scott Theis or me. If none of us are around, drop a note in the message holder on the custodian's closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms). Thank you for using the message holder and helping to identify things that need to be done.

Projects

Roof and Siding – Roofing will start in December. Siding work began on the east end of the building around the Choir Room, 1 week earlier than expected on Oct 28th. Delivery of equipment and site preparation on Day 1. Day 2 and 3 were spent removing the old siding. That was the easy part. The east end as many of you know was done with the sanctuary expansion, so it is only 15 years old. Not many surprises were found but, as expected we found bare cement block under the old steel siding.



Spray foam insulation was put into any voids found around the windows, door, electrical boxes and water faucets. Then the long and tedious process of fitting the rigid R5 insulation was started. Because there was no rigid insulation installed with the original construction the vertical steel “hat” channel furring strips they were apparently installed by sight rather than by a specific dimension. As a result, none of the spaces are the same width or the same width from top to bottom in an 8ft length (the length of the rigid foam). Each piece is different, so it is taking a long time.



After the rigid foam was installed it was covered with Tyvek house wrap with all the seams taped. This will keep the wind from finding its way inside through any small holes. Next the windows and doors were trimmed with a flat piece of stock 3-1/2in wide. The trim will give the building a more “finished” appearance and provide



an easy way to remove and replace any windows if necessary, in the future without having to disturb the siding.

After 3 weeks of work and 184-man hours of work the east end is nearly complete. Only a small amount of siding on the north and south walls could not be installed because the prefabricated inside corner pieces had not yet been received. The new fascia boards had not yet been installed either. The next phase of work will be to strip the old siding off the parapet wall where it meets the roof and the dormers.

Note: Checkout the church website “[What's New](#)” page for weekly progress photos.



Building Maintenance

•**HVAC** – The **Nursery** has been cool, the last couple of weeks. The furnace that supplies the Narthex and Kitchen also supplies the Nursery. Unfortunately, being on the end of that run it does not get as warm as it should. A number of years ago an electric grid heater was installed in the duct leading to the Nursery and controlled with a dedicated thermostat in the Nursery which resolved the issue. For some unknown reason this system is not working now. **East Sanctuary Furnace** – was found leaking water from the condensate reservoir. Ordinarily this would not be a problem, except this furnace is mounted up high in the room with items stored beneath it. Eagle Mechanical is working on both issues.

•**Kitchen Large Coffee Maker** – Overflowed for the 2nd time in as many weeks spilling coffee on the floor. Door County Coffee owns this equipment and has been called to investigate.

•**Pastor's Office** – Someone recently donated some slightly used office furniture to the church. It has been stacked in the Conference Room awaiting installation in the Pastor's Office.

•**Youth Ministry Sign** – a new acrylic sign has been installed on the wall at the bottom of the stairs in the Narthex. It will be used for Youth Ministry Programming, Special Events, announcements, etc.

Please contact me or any of the other members, if you would like to serve on the Committee.
Thomas Tuttle - Chair Buildings and Grounds

Shepherd of the Bay Council Meeting November 18, 2019

Scott Eckdahl called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Present: Pastor Honig, Alicia Kropuenske, Cheryl Becht, Les Keepper, George Cobb, John Skogsbakken, Edee Madsen and Scott Eckdahl. Absent: Scott Henry, Lori Pothast & Ron Hupe.

Scott Eckdahl opened our meeting with a devotion on thankful giving.

Cheryl Becht made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, second by George Cobb. Motion carried.

We spent a few minutes talking about a Thanksgiving tradition that has been meaningful to us in our lives.

Pastor Honig assigned two articles for us to read from the Alban Institute regarding practical wisdom for leading congregations.

The minutes from the October 21st meeting were reviewed and approved by George Cobb, second by Pastor Honig. Motion carried to accept minutes as presented.

Ron Hupe was absent, but sent out the Treasurer's report prior to the meeting for us to review. The regular offering is \$2640 higher than the budget for the month and \$6056 higher than budget YTD. Expenses were up slightly over the budget for the month. Our net loss of -\$37,952 is \$21,408 less than the budgeted loss of -\$59,000. A motion was made by John Skogsbakken to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, second by George Cobb. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

1. Pastor's Report: The active part of the Fall Stewardship campaign has been completed with 154 statements of intention. A big thank you to those involved in the Fall Stewardship Campaign. Numbers are looking good for Faith Formation and the Vesper Circle Service. First Communion instruction came to a completion with a final session with the three students and their families. There are several families looking to join the Church so we will look at having a new member reception soon.

2. Property & Grounds= Meeting will be Thursday November 21st.

3. Worship & Music=no report

4. Education & Youth=Report given by Lynda Pietruszka: As of the first week in September, the following programs have relaunched: Little Lambs, Wonderful Wednesdays, Confirmation, High school Youth Group, Friends in Faith & Sunday School. December 1st there will be a Sunday School Open House/Advent workshop for the entire congregation. Lynda's ongoing project is to create a solid data spreadsheet to ID all the children and youth and the various programming they fall under here at Shepherd of the Bay. She is also working on developing a "family" ministry. She thanks everyone for the support and prayers as her work begins at SOTB.

5. Fellowship= no report

New Business:

1. Council nominating committee will consist of Alicia Kropuenske, John Skogsbakken & Scott Henry as their terms end on January 31, 2020.

2. Proposed specifics to a deed of gift applicable to an endowment fund= setting up a reserve for major repairs and replacements. We spent some time discussing setting up a reserve fund for major repairs for the Church. After much discussion, it was proposed by Pastor Honig to table the discussion until December so we had some time to process and prayerfully look at options. Second by George Cobb. Motion carried to table discussion until December.

Old Business:

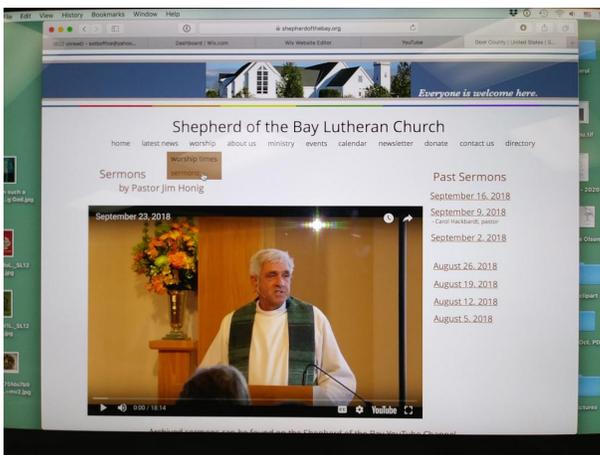
1. Parish Nurse: Work will ensue to organize a committee to work on the Parish Nurse structure for Shepherd of the Bay.

2. Partnership with St. Paul's in Milwaukee: Pastor will choose a few dates this spring where we could send a few members down to their Church to worship with them.

We adjourned the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be Monday, December 16th at 5:00pm.

Sincerely,

Alicia Kropuenske, Council Secretary



Out of town and missed a sermon? Watch it on shepherdofthebay.org. Click on Worship and then Sermons.

Church Directory Update!

Its not too late to update your listing in the directory with new phone numbers and photos.

Follow the directions below to put the directory on your smart phone, tablet or computer.

Contact the office (854-2988) for more info or for help.

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Follow the directions on screen to complete the login process.



 A promotional graphic for Amazon Smile. It features two hanging Christmas ornaments on the left: one with blue and white stripes and another with a snowflake pattern. To the right, the text reads: '#1 holiday hack: When you buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates. **amazon smile**' with the Amazon smile logo.

Support SOTB while you shop

If you are shopping online at Amazon please consider using Amazon smile and they will donate .5% of your eligible purchase to SOTB. All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com and select Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church as your charity. Then each time you want to shop at Amazon, start at smile.amazon.com.

VESPERS CIRCLE DINNER & SERVICE

Join us each Wednesday, for our midweek Vespers Circle dinner and service. We begin at 5:30 with supper and fellowship. At 6:15, we move to the sanctuary for an informal worship service that includes song, prayer, scripture, preaching, and communion. We finish by 7:00.

If your busy weekend makes in hard to come to church on Sunday, join us; if you need a midweek spiritual pick-me-up, join us. See you in church!

Lay People and Worship at Shepherd of the Bay

We have a strong tradition of lay people assisting during the worship service. The most visible are ushers, communion assistants and lectors. Please contact one of the individuals below if you wish to be added to their list. Parents of youth: we would love to offer this opportunity to your children too! Seasonal members: let us know your availability and we'll fit you in!

Ushers: Cheryl Becht, 920-363-0092, clbecht1248@gmail.com

Lectors: Scott Henry, 920-659-3297, scott@henry.org

Communion Assistants: Ken Bergner, 920-839-2036, ckbergner@aol.com



Theology on Tap

The December Theology on Tap will take on a festive Christmas spirit (pun intended!!) Join us for a Beer and Carols evening on Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. We'll meet at Mink River Basin and sing our favorite Christmas carols accompanied by a beverage or two, and enjoy some good old-fashioned gemütlichkeit. Martin Luther would definitely approve.

Poinsettia Order Form

It is time to order poinsettia plants for Christmas decoration. They will be on the altar from Sunday, Dec. 22nd to Sunday, Jan. 5th.

You may take your plant beginning Sunday, January 5th after the service.

Place your order soon! The deadline to order is **Wed, Dec. 11th** and the number of plants is limited. No orders will be accepted after that date and no orders will be taken by phone.

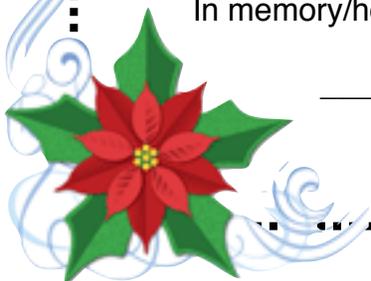
The price this year will be **\$18.00** each. Please send or bring your order **with CHECK** attached to church.

Please print –

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In memory/honor of:



25 Days of Giving Gift Guide

This Advent please consider giving a gift to support the ministries of SOTB that mean the most to you and your family. Together, we can do more than we ever could alone.

Each day we would like to accumulate that number of gifts; ex.) on day 12 we would like to send 12 elementary kids to weekend camp at \$100 each. You can give the entire amount or contribute towards the total.

1. Widow Home (\$1700)

Give 1 widow in Guatemala a 12x18 ft home of her own.

2. Home Restorations (\$600 each)

Repair 2 widow homes in Guatemala

3. Footwashing: (\$175)

Visit a family in Guatemala and share the gospel message of Jesus serving his disciples by washing their feet. We will wash their feet and bring new shoes and socks for up to 10 family members.

4. Bathroom projects (\$500 each)

Install outdoor latrine for 4 families in Guatemala.

5. Quilts for 5 High School Seniors (\$20 each)

(Made by the Wonderful Wednesday Kids)

6. Efficient Cooking Stoves (\$300 each)

Help 6 Guatemala families save money and improve their health

7. Water Filters (\$125 each)

Provide clean drinking water for 7 families in Guatemala.

8. \$40 per extra suitcase filled with supplies to take to the people of Guatemala.

9. Donations for Secret Santa program for providing heat to needy Northern Door Families.

10. Audio Bibles (\$25 each) *for families in Guatemala to hear the Word of God.*

11. Donations for the Bridges Program *(provide a fun evening for the foreign exchange workers.)*

12. Elementary Kids camp at Imago Dei for a weekend (\$100 each)

13. Shoes for 13 kids in Guatemala to go to School. (\$10 each)

14. High School Youth Adventure Trip to Michigan. (\$400)

15. \$15 feeds a child twice a week for 1 month at a Feeding Program in Guatemala

16. Kids to Confirmation Camp (\$425 each) *(A week long camp in June to help our confirmands grow in their faith)*

17. 1 roll of Quilt Batting makes 17 quilts (\$75) for Lutheran World Relief

18. \$1.40 each to send School Kits thru Lutheran World Relief

19. 8 donations of money to the Food Pantry to buy items in short supply.

20. 20 pairs of mittens, gloves, scarves and winter hats. *Donate to JUST Door County's Warmth for Winter program. These items will be placed in food pantries around Door County.*

21. Help the Sunday school Kids purchase goats thru World Vision to help those in need. \$50. Per goat.

Christmas Families

#22 -25 to be given to Northern Door families in need.

22. Walmart Gift Cards

23. Target Gift Cards

24. Piggly Wiggly Gift Cards

25. Gas Gift Cards

Lessons for December



December 1 : First Sunday in Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5
 Second Lesson: Romans 13:11-14
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Introduction to the readings: The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

December 8 : Second Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10
 Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Introduction to the readings: At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

December 15 : Arise and Shine!

The Children & Youth participate in the Worship service with Christmas readings & skits.

December 22 : Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16
 Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Introduction to the readings: Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

December 29 : First Sunday of Christmas

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16
 Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7
 Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Introduction to the readings: Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

December Coffee Hour Group

Co-chair:

Lee & Jill Lhost 421-0285
 Mary Kay Vartanian 854-9150

Anita Franke 854-2455
 Michelle Hefty 854-9423
 Erv & Carolyn Hitzeman 854-5052
 J.J. & Kris Johnson 854-5490
 Shannon Jungwirth 854-2095
 Kendall Koehler 839-5000
 Dennis & Dawnelle Piatek 854-5777
 Mark & Jennifer Sitte 854-1807
 Joel & Holly Thomas 421-0347
 Dennis & Lisa Voight 839-5121
 Steve & Cathy Walgren 854-7899



Altar Guild :

December - Bob & Sharon Pluff

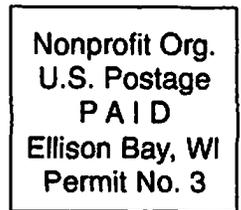
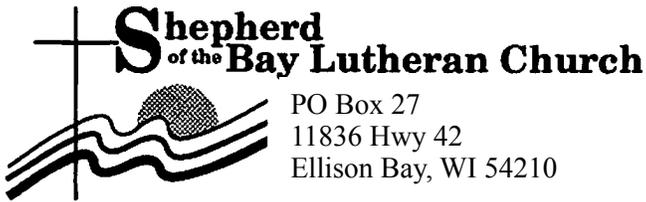
Ushers :

Dec. 1 OPEN
 Dec. 8 OPEN
 Dec. 15 Children
 Dec. 22 Les & Julia Keeper
 Dec. 24 4:00 Bob & Sharon Pluff
 Dec. 24 8:00 Bob & Sharon Pluff
 Dec. 25 OPEN
 Dec. 29 OPEN

Readers :

Dec. 1 Ron Stroman
 Dec. 8 Nancy Barnowsky
 Dec. 15 Christmas Service
 Dec. 22 George Cobb
 Dec. 24 4:00 OPEN
 Dec. 24 8:00 OPEN
 Dec. 25 OPEN
 Dec. 29 OPEN





ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christmas Service Times

Sun. Dec. 15

9:30am Worship w/Children's Christmas Program
The Children & Youth participate in the Worship service with Christmas readings & skits.

Sun. Dec. 22

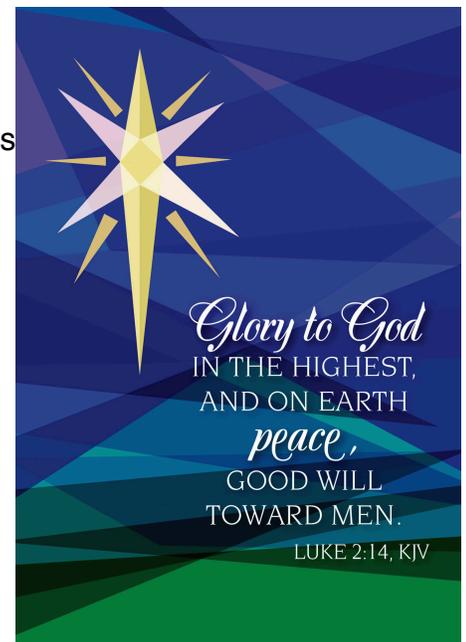
9:30am Traditional Sunday Service

Tues. Dec. 24

3:45pm Musical Prelude
4:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service
7:30pm Musical Prelude
8:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wed. Dec. 25

10:00am Traditional Christmas Day Service



The Parish Door monthly newsletter can be found in full color on our website, shepherdofthebay.org/newsletters. If you would like to be added to the monthly email list, contact the church office at 920-854-2988 or sotboffice@yahoo.com.