

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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# NALS

North American Lutheran Seminary

## A Message From the President The Rev. Dr. Eric M. Riesen

Recently I heard a theologian address the question of the value of seminary education. Why should anyone spend years of his or her life pursuing a degree which has little cash value or cultural clout? We live, as the philosopher Charles Taylor argues persuasively, in “a secular age” which is defined by “exclusive humanism.” This means that the religious dimension of human life is increasingly sidelined, or even excluded. This is an age which focuses on the practical problems of the here and now and has little time to ponder the mysteries of the *supposed* hereafter.

How do we respond to such a critique of theological education? The theologian gave a simple and profound response. We pursue theological education because the scriptural gospel of Jesus Christ is true. Theological education provides the necessary time and space to think deeply about the truth of the biblical gospel and what it means for each of us personally and the whole world.

Everything we confess is dependent upon the veracity of the gospel. It would be difficult to exaggerate how high the stakes really are. St. Paul bluntly wrote, “If Christ has not been raised your faith is futile and you are still in your sins...[and] we are of all people most to be pitied” (1 Cor 15:17-19 ESV). If Christ has not been raised from the dead, then theological education has been delivered a fatal blow.

However, Jesus Christ was *in reality* crucified, died, buried and raised from the dead. This is of “first importance.” He is Lord of the living and the dead. Through the Holy Spirit he continues to be present in the word and the breaking of the bread (Luke 24). The scriptural gospel is true — and powerful. It has the power to break our bondage to darkness, despair and other *great and shameful sins*. The gospel is “the power (*dynamis*) of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Rom 1:16). It is the power that draws us out of unbelief, sin and death into a life which glorifies God.

Good and faithful theological education grounds people in the verities of Christian faith. This is the goal of theological education and pastoral formation in the NALS. We equip pastors and lay leaders to proclaim the scriptural gospel with love, wisdom, knowledge, courage and grace. Nothing is more important. In order to make this happen, we need your prayers and financial support. We also need you to lift up candidates who are discerning a call to ministry.

It is an honor and joy to take part in the formation of those who will have the great privilege and responsibility of proclaiming the scriptural gospel of Jesus Christ. We invite you to join us in this endeavor.

## **AROUND THE PARISH**



**OFFICE HOURS:** The Parish office is open from **9 AM - 3 PM, Monday through Thursday**. The office is **closed on Friday**. Although the entrance to the Church is now locked, you are always welcome to call the office at 231-723-7161 during office hours or email us at [gslc49660@gmail.com](mailto:gslc49660@gmail.com) for assistance or for entry into the building.

### **NOTICE TO ALL COMMITTEES, GROUPS, CONGREGATION MEMBERS:**

The Church building is now open to small groups of ten or less congregation members. Please sanitize your hands when you come in. Masks are required as is social distancing. There is also a sign-in sheet at the entrance where you should sign in and state the room(s) you are using. All congregation members are asked to sanitize the areas they have touched. Also, Good Shepherd now has its own Zoom account if you would like to set up a virtual meeting.

**RECORDED SERVICE:** Will continue to be available each week.

**COMMUNION:** Communion will continue be distributed by Eucharistic Ministers between **11 AM and 12 noon on Saturdays**.

**OFFERINGS:** Electronic giving is available on the Good Shepherd website, <https://www.gslcman.org/>. Click on the "Support God's Work at Good Shepherd" box and follow the instructions. You are also welcome to mail your offerings to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, PO Box 157, Manistee, MI 49660.

**INTERIM PASTOR:** Please give a warm welcome to Pastor Jeffray Greene who will officiate his first full service at Good Shepherd on **Sunday, February 14 at 10:30 AM**.

**ALTAR GUILD:** Meets on **Tuesday, February 16 at 1 PM.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Services are at **12:10 PM and 7 PM on Wednesday, February 17.** Midweek services will continue every **Wednesday at 12:10 PM** throughout the season of Lent.

**COUNCIL MEETING:** **Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 PM.**

**LENTEN SOUP LUNCH:** Soup lunches will be available after midweek services for dine in or take out beginning Wednesday, February 24. Dining will take place in the Unity room. Masks and social distancing are expected. Or, you can get your soup to go. Soup lunches will be available on Wednesday s until Holy Week.

**RESCHEDULED ANNUAL MEETING:** **Sunday, March 7 after 10:30 AM**



**February 17, 2020**

**Services**

**at**

**12:10 PM & 7 PM**



The Good Shepherd Quilters gifted Pastor Jody Bambas with a quilt in her favorite colors in appreciation of her dedicated service to the congregation. As Pastor Jody wraps the quilt around her, may it represent the many hugs the congregation couldn't envelope her with as we properly kept our social distance over the past year.

**THANK YOU, PASTOR JODY!**

## THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

### Rest in Peace

*"We have once again been reminded that  
we have not here an abiding city."*

#### **Lois Rosenow**

Passed away on January 13, 2021. A celebration of life will be held in the summer of 2021. Memorial contributions may be directed to Green Acres in Manistee.

#### **Robert Tobey**

Passed away on January 17, 2021. A celebration of Life for Bob is pending for a later date. Contributions will be accepted for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Manistee Shoreline Showcase.

*"May God grant peace to their memory, comfort to their families, and  
grace to us all as we seek to live our lives to God's glory."*

## PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

**Manistee County Medical Care** 1505 Parkdale Avenue  
Leona Amerell

**Green Acres Retirement Community** 1835 12th Street  
Audrey Ann Amburgey, Al Kukla

**The Solberg Family Home** 2028 Kemmer Road  
Martha Brown

#### **Prayers for those in the military**

Alana Bergstrom, James Dutkavich, Thomas Dutkavich III, Spencer Linke  
and all those who are serving or have served.



## Prayers for Parish members, family, & friends

Allan & Louise  
Austin  
Olive Baker  
Jack Bauman  
Kelly Bjorkquist  
Bob  
Keith Brown  
Jackie Burmeister  
Aiden Chambers  
Cora Brinkley Cook  
Dave  
Diana Dutkavich  
Tom Dutkavich  
Tom Dutkavich, Jr.  
Marc Edmondson  
AJ Epperson  
Jane Fortier  
Jim Friesner, Sr.  
Pat Garber  
Terry Guthridge  
Marion Hilliard  
Lea Illig  
Eric Johnson  
Rick Kaminski  
Carol Krull  
Betty Lytle  
Jon Madsen  
Debra McCann-Thomas  
Pat McGinnis  
Anthony Metiva  
Phyllis Miller  
Pat Murdock

Nicole  
Norm Olson  
Terry & Rose Pierson  
Jane Reeves  
Vickey Sawhill  
Benjamin Schultz  
Dale & Laura Shoemaker  
Karen Skiera  
Randy Skiera  
Bill Smith  
Dale Sparks  
Laura Stefanski  
Mark Steigenga  
Melissa Taylor  
Robert (RT) Williams  
The family of Shirley Blakeslee  
The family of Pr. Jim Friesner  
The family of Joan Jensen  
The family of Ed Knaffle  
The family of Tammy Metiva  
The family of Donna O'Rorke  
The family of Lois Rosenow  
The family of Irma Thompson  
The family of Bob Tobey



## PARISH ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

February 7                      Mary Gossett, Linda Young

February 14                     Mary Gossett, Linida Young

## LENTEN DINE IN OR TAKE OUT SOUP LUNCHES

You can enjoy soup every Wednesday after Midweek Service beginning February 24 through March 24. Please sign up at the podium to bring your favorite soup or dessert to share with others.

Dining will take place in the Unity Room where masks & social distancing are expected.



*Memorials were given in January to  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
in the name of*

**Tammy Metiva**

**Bob Tobey**

**Pastor Jim Friesner**

# PARISH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## February Birthdays

1	Benjamin Raines		
1	Ann Parker		
2	Grace Krentz		
6	Clarence Schultz		
7	John Hoch	13	Sheila Wittmer
7	Debbie Solis	15	Barb Wehrmeister
8	Stephanie Linke	15	Karen Skiera
8	Marilyn Zawacki	23	Chris Amor
9	Chloe Brown	23	Spencer Linke
9	Damien McEntaffer	25	Bruce Hansen
10	Micheal Amor	27	Lee Erdmann
10	Donald Meister	28	Audrey Ann Amburgey
10	Dale Sparks		
11	John Yakimow		
12	Alice Axce		
13	Ava Rae Bladzik		



## February Anniversaries

13	Don & Jean Cameron
20	Don & Kay Meister
22	Dale & Mary Sparks



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
**Minutes of Special Zoom Council Meeting**  
**Monday, December 7, 2020**  
*Approved 12/22/20*

**Our Mission:** To be followers of Jesus Christ  
by sharing God's grace and forgiveness  
through our loving witness and service for all.

**Our Vision:** To be a congregation where God's grace  
and forgiveness are experienced,  
where all gather in love to serve the Lord,  
and where all witness to their faith in Jesus Christ.

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Jackie Harms

Virtually Present: Jackie Harms, Walt Seidelman, Beth Schlinkert, Debbie Hansen, Carl Loftis, Paul Bosschem, Missy Amor, Dennis Mikula, Sharon Hayden, Linda Young, Pastor James Friesner

Virtually Present Guests: Mark Steigenga, Kasey Briske, Reverend Jody Bambas

Certification of a quorum

Spiritual Reflection/Prayer by Pastor Jim Friesner

Motion by Jackie Harms to approve the agenda. Second by Sharon Hayden.

Approval of Proposed Minutes: None

Old Business:

Jackie Harms asked for a motion to either resume in-person services or continue the suspension of in-person services at Good Shepherd. Linda Young motioned to continue the suspension of services. There was a second by Dennis Mikula. Each Council member was offered an opportunity to comment on the motion. Comments were then taken from the public. A vote on the motion then ensued with a count of ten against and one for the motion. Motion failed. Suspension of in-person services will not continue. In-person services will resume on Saturday, December 12, 2020.



New Business:

Motion by Pastor Jim Friesner schedule one service on Christmas Eve at 8 PM. Council members were offered the opportunity to comment on the motion as was the public. The vote was unanimous to conduct one service on Christmas Eve at 8 PM.

Committee/Ministry Reports: None

Public Comment: Mark Steigenga asked if there will be in-person services on the weekend after Christmas. It was agreed that in-person services will take place on that weekend. The question as to who will make the decision to remain open or close after a notification by the health department of a possible exposure at the Church was raised. It was determined that the president of the Council will be notified and the Executive Board will make that decision.

Action Items from this meeting

Susan to email congregation and inform them of the resumption of in-person services on Saturday, December 12.

Susan to inform Clarence Schultz, who will be sanitizing the Church after in-person services.

Walt Seidelman motioned to adjourn at 8:05. Second by Beth Schlinkert. Our Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Jim Freisner.

**Minutes of Zoom Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 22, 2020**  
*Approved 1/26/21*

Meeting called to order by Jackie Harms at 6:43 PM.

Present: Beth Schlinkert, Jackie Harms, Micheal Amor, Linda Young, Davalyn Hansen, Ruth Skiera, Paul Bosschem, Walt Seidelman, Dennis Mikula, Carl Loftis, Pastor Jody Bambas

Absent: Sharon Hayden

Spiritual Reflection/Prayer by Pastor Jody Bambas.

Motion by Carl Loftis to approve the agenda with the addition of "NALC" as item "b" in New Business. Seconded by Dennis Mikula.

Motion by Carl Loftis to approve the proposed minutes of the November 24, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Paul Bosschem.

Motion by Missy Amor to approval the proposed minutes of December 7, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Deb Hansen.

A motion by Walt Seidelman to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded by Beth Schlinkert.

Carl Loftis motioned to approve the payment of the bills.

Seconded by Missy Amor.

Motion by Missy Amor to pay \$1600 to the Michigan Mission District.

Seconded by Denny Mikula.

Walt Seidelman motioned to pay the fourth quarter benevolences.

Seconded by Denny Mikula.

Old Business:

Photos of Beth Schlinkert and Carl Loftis for the display case will be taken next week.

Mailbox: The new mailbox was installed. Address change will begin in January.

End-of-the-year reports & information for the Annual Report due on Monday, January 4, 2021.

The Annual Meeting scheduled for January 31, 2021, the last Sunday in January, was discussed.

Phone calls by the Council to the congregation.

New Business:

The topic of a contribution to Pastor Friesner's funeral was discussed. Ruth Skiera will inquire with the insurance company. Carl Loftis motioned to pay \$2000 toward the cost of the funeral. Seconded by Missy Amor. After a vote, the motion failed.

Jackie Harms updated the Council of her communication with the NALC.

Motion by Carl Loftis to combine Saturday and Sunday services. Paul Bosschem seconded. One service will take place on Sundays at 10:30 AM.

Motion by Paul Bosschem to pay Pastor Friesner's retirement for the entire month of December. Second by Denny Mikula.

A gift for Pastor Jody will be presented at the Christmas Eve service.

Motion by Denny Mikula to submit the budget to the congregation.

Seconded by Carol Loftis. Budget will be submitted to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on January 31, 2021.

Correspondence/Communication: None

Committee/Ministry Reports:

- Property Committee: The boiler certificates from the State of Michigan have been received.
- Finance Committee December meeting minutes included in packet. Motion by Carl Loftis to approve a \$300 payment to Sara Schubert for assistance with end of the year tasks. Second by Walt Seidelman.

Public Comment: None

Other action items from this meeting:

Missy Amor will contact attorney John Yakimow regarding the administration of the HELP Fund in the absence of a pastor.

Eucharistic ministers to be enlisted to help with communion distribution on Saturday mornings.

The possible use of cameras, computers, and Zoom at the Annual Meeting to be investigated.

Missy Amor will take notes at the Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned with a prayer at 8:55 PM.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR GOOD SHEPHERD READERS. I'm hoping it will be better than last year.

Last January I started a reading contest for our Good Shepherd Readers. Only one person responded with having read over 21 books. Congratulations go to Mary Gossett for being our Reader of the Year. Among the books Mary read are: Where The Crawdads Sing, The Tattooist of Auschwitz, The Summer House, The Killings At Kingfisher Hill and The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek. Quite a variety as you can see. Mary will receive a gift certificate for \$25.00 at the Happy Hour Bookstore on River Street. Thank you, Mary, for participating.

Let me know if anyone is interested in another yearlong reading contest. Enjoy 2021. Hopefully things will open up after the COVID vaccine has reached more people.



Good Shepherd Bookworm

Library Committee: Sharon and Kirk Hayden, Nancy Masters, Elaine McWatt and Dolores Widgren

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church



## Real God, Real Presence, Real People

### Our Mission:

*To be followers of Jesus Christ by sharing God's grace and forgiveness through our loving witness and service to all.*

### Our Vision:

*To be a congregation where God's grace and forgiveness are experienced, where all gather in love to serve the Lord, and where all witness to their faith in Jesus Christ.*

### Traditional Eucharist

*Sundays at 9:30 am*

### Contemporary Eucharist

*Saturdays at 5:30 pm*