Good News from Good Shepherd Church in Owatonna

Follow Jesus. Share Hope. Live Love.

May 2022
Sunday Worship

8:30 Worship with Hymns

10:00 Worship with Praise

10:00 Sunday School

Last Sunday School: May 22

EASTER

Thank you to everyone who made Holy Week and Easter so special! We hosted over 575 people on Easter Sunday, and served 200 meals.

Monumental VBS July 11-14

At Monumental VBS, kids will explore God's Awesomeness and form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead. Join us for a fun and exciting week filled with Bible adventures, games, music, sciencey-fun and more!

VBS is for kids ages 3 - 5th grade (Spring 2022). We are excited to engage with each child as we experience Jesus' love together throughout the week! Register now at **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**

We had over 100 kids at VBS last summer, and we're expecting even more this year! Volunteers are the heart of our ministry. With many different ways to serve during the week, you are sure to find something that fits your gifts and talents.

There will be volunteer training to help you feel comfortable and be successful in the role you choose.

Sign up to volunteer at **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**

It'll be Monumental!

**If you are a new volunteer to Good Shepherd's Children's Ministries or have an expired study (more than 5 years), you will need to pass a background study in order to serve.*

New Member Seminar

Saturday, May 21

9:00AM-2:00PM

Are you ready to partner with us in ministry? Learn more about church membership at Good Shepherd and ask Pastor Greg all your questions. Lunch will be provided. Child care provided upon request. Register online on our Events page at **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**, or speak to Pastor Greg.

SHEPHERD'S PATH RIDERS 2022

Motorcycle Ministry

May 21 9:00AM
June 18 9:00AM
July 16 9:00AM
August 26-28
Multi-day Trip
September 17 9:00AM
October 1 or 8 10:00AM

Please arrive at Good Shepherd 15 minutes before start time, with your bike fueled and ready to ride. We'll ride for about 2 hours, then stop for lunch, refreshments and fellowship. We always plan to be back to the church by 4:30PM.

Contact Steph for email updates: **bsmereuss1991@gmail.com**

STAY CONNECTED!

Visit our website:
GoodShepherdOwatonna.com

Upcoming Events

May 2: 6:30PM LWML Bible Study

May 7: 8AM Men's Breakfast

May 21: 9AM New Member Class

May 21: 9A Motorcycle Group Ride

May 22: Annual Voter's Meeting

June 5: Senior Blessing Day

Save the Date: VBS July 11-14

ARMOR UP! PRAY MAY CHALLENGE

Let's get our kids ready for the spiritual battle! We are challenging your family to pray on the armor of God each day in the month of May.

Grab your copy of the Armor Up Pray May Challenge at the Kids Grow Table today!

Pick up your copy of the Armor Up Pray May Challenge at the Kids Grow station in the Gathering Area, or we'd love to send one to you!

Church Directory Update

If you would like to submit your own family photo for the new church directory:

- Please email **info@GSOwatonna.com** with your high-quality image and all name details.
- To submit a paper photo, use the drop box across from the church office. It must be on photo paper with all names printed clearly on the back.
- Please note that the directory is designed for vertical photos.

Good Shepherd Financial

Year to Date (Jan-March)	2022
Offering Income	$143,925
Offering Budget	$145,019

Executive Team News

Warren Simons has resigned his position on the Executive Team to pursue other worthwhile causes. He has been a tremendous asset to the team! We will now elect three team members at the May 22 voter's meeting: Ashlan Zurbriggen and Tom Kuntz are running for re-election, plus one open seat.

We are adding a confidence monitor in the back of sanctuary thanks to an anonymous donation.

Planning has begun for a few outdoor worship services this summer.

Documented protection policies (required for insurance purposes) are available in the office.

Karen will be providing a congregation financial report at the May voters' meeting.

Margaret Moore is stepping away from her Lay Ministry liaison role.

We are looking for members with HR or staff benefits experience to serve on the Staff Relations Team. Contact Stacey to learn more.

Discipleship Pastor Search Update

After receiving a list of a dozen pastors, the call committee individually ranked those whom they felt were the best matches for our congregation and found a remarkable unity in their opinions. From this list, four candidates stood out above the others. The committee will conduct virtual interviews with these pastors in early May.

Please pray that God leads the right pastor to Good Shepherd.

Rev. Gatluk Reat: Sudanese Ministry Spotlight

Rev. Gatluk Reat and his family

When was the last time you arrived for church on Sunday and were told that the congregation would be worshiping outside today because the church was too small to accommodate all of the worshipers? This is the dilemma that Lutheran congregations in the Ethiopia/South Sudan region face on a regular basis. As I discovered on my recent trip to the Lare/Gambella region of Ethiopia, there are so many attending worship that the churches are overflowing. There is a real opportunity for fruitful mission work in this part of Africa.

One church is in need of seating for its worship services. Another congregation is in need of a cement floor to replace the dirt floor in its sanctuary. And a third congregation just needs a whole new building because they have outgrown their current church.

As with any situation of growth, the church is also facing some growing pains. While I was there I was able to help the Right Rev. Peter Anibati Abia, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Sudan/Sudan, and a group of seventeen other pastors and church leaders resolve some disagreements that had arisen.

If you would like to learn more about the Lutheran ministry to Sudanese people in Africa or Southern Minnesota, please contact me, Pastor Gatluk Reat, at 651-399-3959 or gatluklul@yahoo.com.

Sudanese singers at Good Shepherd

Preschool Registration for 2022-23 Is Filling Quickly!

Registration for the 2022-23 school year is open. Class information and online registration is available on our website:

GoodShepherdOwatonna.com/Preschool-Home

NEW! Oak Hills Academy and Good Shepherd Preschool are partnering to provide a Christian learning environment that aids families in preparing their children for future learning success. "Oak Hills Classical Classes" offered at Good Shepherd Preschool will prepare students for success in all future environments, whether at home or in private and public schools.

Learn more about Oak Hills Academy at their spring Open House event: **Tuesday, May 10 at 5:00PM** at Bethel Church in Owatonna.

Questions? Contact the Preschool and Children's Ministry Director: **Heather@GSOwatonna.com.**

Spring Youth Update

Easter Breakfast was a great success! Thank you for supporting the youth mission trip to Kentucky this summer. We fed about 200 people!

Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky
July 31 – August 6

Notice the date change! Youth (and friends) currently in grades 8-12 are heading to Kentucky to provide disaster relief from damaging storms. Be ready for hard work, Jesus, and fun memories!

Only a few spots remain! Please sign-up ASAP by contacting Kelly, Youth Director: **Kelly@GSOwatonna.com**

High School Senior Blessing Service will be **Sunday, June 5** at the 10am service. If you have a graduating senior interested in participating please contact Kelly: **Kelly@GSOwatonna.com**

Volunteer and Paid Opportunities in the Nursery

Volunteer: If you are interested in being a nursery volunteer, please fill out the Volunteer Interest Form online or at the Children's Ministry table. Please note that a background check is required of all volunteers that work with children and youth. On occasion, paid childcare provider opportunities are available.

If you feel that you or your teenage son or daughter would be interested in serving God in this way, please complete the interest form.

Youth Wednesdays

Bring A Friend!

Grades 5/6 6:15p-7:15p
Confirmation 7/8 6:45p-7:45p
Grades 7/8 7:45p-8:30p
Grades 9-12 7:30p-8:30p

Youth Group

Sign up for text notifications:

Grades 5-6: text @7eg7d7 to 81010

Grades 7-8: text @gsjrhigh to 81010

Grades 9-12: text@gssrhigh to 81010

During **MAY**
We're giving to
COMMUNITY PATHWAYS OF STEELE COUNTY
Let's bring in
CAKE MIX, FROSTING, & CANDLES FOR BIRTHDAY KITS

Go. Gather Give.

Go Gather Give in May

We're collecting items to make birthday kits for Community Pathways of Steele County. Please bring in cake mix, frosting, and birthday candles. Drop off donations in the Gathering Area or by the lower level doors.

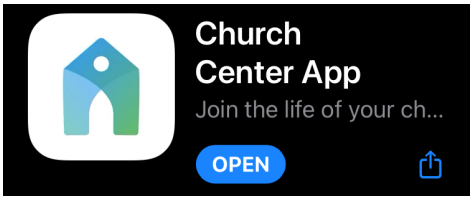
Serve On Sunday

We have many fun and interesting ways for you to Share Hope and Live Love on Sunday mornings. Contact the church office to get involved.

Drop your coins in the bucket in the Gathering Area, or in the bucket by the steps at the front of the Worship Center. Thank you for supporting ministry in our community!

Online Giving Options!

Your Gifts Make Good Shepherd's Ministry Possible.



Make giving easy—donate online through our website, or our new **Church Center App**! You may donate one time, or set up recurring giving.
Or text any dollar amount to **84321** to give. You will receive a text with a link that will walk you through the giving process.

We're adding Church Center to our giving options because it includes many other useful church resources, including the ability to see your entire giving statement. We are NOT removing Vanco as a giving option, so current users do not need to do anything. Please contact the office if you have questions.

A processing fee is deducted from credit card transactions by our merchant provider. Your donation will be reduced by the fee amount. You have the option to cover the processing fees when you donate. Donations from a checking or savings account are received as the full amount. For details on fees, please contact the church office. You may always mail your gift or drop it off in the black box by the church office. Thank you for supporting Good Shepherd's ministry!

Stay Connected to our Community

Visit our website: **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com** to see all the latest events and information. If you would like to receive sermons in the mail or devotional materials from Our Daily Bread, we'd love to send them to you! Send a note to the office with your updated address.

We love to pray for you!

Send prayers to our prayer team:
GoodShepherdPrayer@msn.com

You may also put prayer requests in the Prayer box at the Welcome Center, send us a note in the mail, or send prayer requests online at **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com.**

Ways to Give

Your support makes ministry possible. Thank you.

Online at
goodshepherdowatonna.com

Download the Church Center app to your mobile phone

Text-to-Give: Text any dollar amount to 84321.

Good Shepherd Owatonna
2500 7th Ave NE
Owatonna MN 55060

Watch past messages anytime on our website: **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com.** The latest message is right on the front page. All past messages are also on our YouTube channel.

Support Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church.

When you shop at **smile.amazon.com,** Amazon donates.

smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1484229

amazonsmile

Questions? Need Help?

info@GSOwatonna.com

The Church Office is currently open from 9:00am-3:00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, or by appointment.

Senior Pastor Greg Schlicker
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Preschool & Children's Ministry Director: Heather Gleason
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Youth Director: Kelly Gentz
Youth@GSOwatonna.com

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2021-22 Good Shepherd Executive Team

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