



GOOD NEWS

from Good Shepherd Church in Owatonna

Follow Jesus. Share Hope. Live Love.

What to Give Up for Lent?

Lutherans aren't big on giving up things for Lent. It's probably a reaction to medieval church practices that focused on good works as our pathway to get right with God, instead of through Christ alone. Just look at the dessert table at a Wednesday Lent meals, and you'll see that giving up pleasures like sweets or chocolates is not high on the Lutheran agenda.

Being saved by grace alone has its benefits! And yet, there are things God would like us to give up in order to show that He comes first. For example, this year Ash

Wednesday is on Valentine's Day. Even though the Youth Team are serving a delicious meal at 5:30PM, for some, coming to church on that day may well be a sacrifice for God!

This season on Ash Wednesday we will be introducing two sermon series that will take us through Lent. Our Sunday series will be **"What Does God Want Me to Give Up for Lent?"** put together by Pastor Dan. I doubt chocolate will even be mentioned. Instead, we will focus on our hurts, habits, hang-ups, and other junk we carry with us that God would love to see gone from our lives. On the following Wednesdays of Lent we'll focus on what God wants us to put on instead: **"Put On the Full Armor of God."** Each week we will look at a piece of the armor that God provides us for life in Ephesians chapter six. **What to give up, and then what to put on, that's our theme for Lent this year.** Wednesday evening services will alternate between hymns on the organ and low-key contemporary music, as fits the season. —Pastor Greg



Lent Wednesdays: Put On the Full Armor of God

February 21—The Belt of Truth

5:30PM Meal provided by...your group? Contact the church office
6:30PM Worship Service

February 28—The Breastplate of Righteousness

5:30PM Meal provided by the Quilters Group
6:30PM Hymn Service

March 6—The Shoes of Peace

5:30PM Meal provided by...your group? Contact the church office
6:30PM Worship Service

March 13—The Helmet of Salvation

5:30PM Meal provided by Good Shepherd Preschool
6:30PM Hymn Service

March 20—The Shield of Faith

5:30PM Meal provided by...your group? Contact the church office
6:30PM Worship Service



Celebrate Recovery

We are excited to announce the launch of the Celebrate Recovery® Program here at Good Shepherd!

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered 12-step recovery program for anyone struggling with hurts, hang-ups, and habits of any kind.

It's a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling your life.

FIRST MEETING:

MONDAY, APRIL 1 6:00-8:00PM

Questions? Want to Volunteer?

Contact Pastor Dan:

Dan@GSOWatonna.com

Dr. Rich Carter - My Life Matters?!
Freedom in Christ for Service with the Neighbor

MAN UP

March 15-16

- Men from LCMS MN South District invited to 24-hr retreat
- Fellowship and recreation at Camp Omega

BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE FOR MANHOOD



Gift of Love Update

We're so pleased with the fantastic outcome of the Gift of Love event this year! 13 families

participated this year, including 36 children.

So many toys were given by the congregation that no Local Service funds needed to be used, and 2 full boxes of leftover toys were given to Toys for Tots, blessing even more families.

More people volunteered than ever before, giving folks more time for relaxing and for visiting with guests. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts or gave their time and talents to make Christmas special for so many local families!

Chevel

Everyone loves learning fancy new words, right? How about this one: **Chevel**. It means "breath" or "vapor". The idea can mean that something is temporary and meaningless, but as we're studying in Ecclesiastes in our winter discipleship groups, we're discovering that God has designed us to live in the moment and find each of these fleeting moments or "breaths" to be purposeful.

What does God have in store for you this moment? I mean this moment. Ok, it just passed. How about this moment? Now...now...now....

You probably get the idea. We spend so much of life looking at the past, or wondering about the future. Maybe that's part of what God wants you to do in this moment, if done correctly, but it can also become an obsession that robs us of this very moment and living in it to the fullest.

There are seasons, but we can only live in the present season. Maybe you've taken advantage of a discipleship group in the past but couldn't this season. Or maybe you haven't tried one yet. That's ok! Yes, I'm telling you that even though they've been amazing and you clearly missed out, don't feel guilty! Maybe a little tongue in cheek there, but I do mean it. That was the past, a previous season.

You have now to consider. And maybe to plan a little for the future (unless God changes everything around on you). This spring we'll have more discipleship groups. Consider if that's the season you could set aside some time and bring more fulfillment to your life, by spending time with God's Word and his people applying it together.

Or maybe you want to take advantage of another discipleship opportunity. Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-based 12-Step program we're launching here in April. It's focused on recovery from addiction, but also other hurts, habits, and hang-ups that you might feel stuck in. Or maybe you'd like to help. This could be a great season for that. Talk to me more, I've had great conversations with members about this.

No matter what's been going on in your life, it's time to live in **Chevel**, in this moment. It will pass quickly, but there's always another moment. Every breath and every day is God's grace. I pray that some of these discipleship opportunities would help you live fully in the moment according to God's design. —Pastor Dan

Kitchen Refresh

It's like a whole new kitchen: a new floor, new cabinet and drawer pulls, a clean and bright coat of paint, and new, energy-efficient lighting in the Kitchen and Social Hall. Take a look!



First Communion Class

Wednesday, February 28 at 6:30PM

A youth and parent/guardian attend together. This is open to youth in grades 5-12. Register through **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**, the Church Center app, or email Kelly: **Kelly@GSOwatonna.com** by Feb. 21.

Parenting Through the Phases

One Monday/month, 6:00-7:30pm

Once a month sessions for parents of children ages 0-18. You'll discover what's changing about your child, the things you need most, and conversations to have with your kid. Walk through this season of life together with a community of parents here at Good Shepherd.

February 5: Talk About What Matters

March 4: Connect Your Kid to a Bigger Story

Register through Church Center or our website. Questions? Contact: Heather: **Heather@GSOwatonna.com** or Kelly: **Kelly@GSOwatonna.com**



Wind River Reservation, Wyoming

High School Mission Trip

July 20 - 27, 2024

\$400 - All details & registration online

28 of 30 spots filled!



8th grade Mission Trip

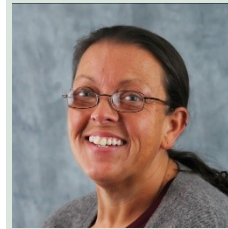
Camp LuWiSoMo - WI

June 23 - 28, 2024

\$250 - All details & registration online



Adults interested in going on either mission trip, please fill out an interest form



Staff Spotlight Michelle Enzenauer

Thank you, Michelle, for serving faithfully as a Preschool

Aide and Teacher for the past 9.5 years. Her love for the kids, families and fellow staff is evident every day! We appreciate you!

NOISY OFFERINGS 2024

This year offerings will go to:

Christ's Care
For Children:
Kenya



Heifer
International

Continue sponsoring
Ayden through this
LCMS program

Helping to end
hunger and poverty



Now Registering for 2024-2025 Classes!



NURTURING THE WHOLE CHILD FOR
FUTURE LEARNING SUCCESS

YOUTH GROUP

wednesday nights
starting Sept. 13th

5-6th Grades
6:15-7:15pm

Confirmation
6:30-7:15pm

7-12th Grades
7:15-8:30pm



Register!

Confirmation Class is typically for 7th and 8th graders. Questions about Confirmation? Contact Kelly: **Kelly@GSOwatonna.com**


Stay in touch: Sign up for Youth text notifications:

Grades 5-6: text @7eg7d7 to 81010

Grades 7-8: text @gsjrhigh to 81010

Grades 9-12: text@gssrhigh to 81010

**GOOD SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL
TACO SUPPER & OPEN HOUSE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 5-7PM**



**GET
YOUR
TICKETS!**

Available Online, in the
Church Office, and between
services on 1/28, 2/4



**\$10 IN ADVANCE/\$12 AT THE DOOR
5 AND UNDER FREE
TAKE OUT AVAILABLE**

EVENT CALENDAR

- Feb 2: 10a-4p Blood Drive
- Feb 3: 8a Mens Breakfast
- Feb 5: 6P Parenting Through the Phases: Talk About What Matters
- Feb 8: 5P-7P Preschool Taco Supper and Open House
- Feb 11: New Member Sunday
- Feb 12: 6:30p LWML Bible Study
- Feb 13: 7p Exec Team
- Feb 14: Ash Wednesday
5:30PM Meal 6:30PM Service
- Feb 21: Lent Wednesday
5:30PM Meal 6:30PM Service
- Feb 27: 7p Local Service Team
7p Lay Ministry Team
- Feb 28: Lent Wednesday
5:30PM Meal 6:30PM Service
- March 2: 8a Mens Breakfast
- March 4: 6P Parenting Through the Phases: Connect Your Kid to a Bigger Story
- March 6: Lent Wednesday
5:30PM Meal 6:30PM Service
- March 11: 6:30p LWML Bible Study
- March 12: 9a World Missions Team
7p Exec Team
- March 6: Lent Wednesday
5:30PM Meal 6:30PM Service

Winter is a Great Time to Make A Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Good Shepherd makes and donates prayer shawls to people going through a crisis, loss, or a special celebration as a tangible sign of God's peace, comfort, and presence. If you know someone who would like a shawl, you may take one from the basket in the Prayer Room. Patterns and yarn are also available if you would like to make a shawl. Questions? Contact Barb Spindler: spinub4852@gmail.com

Quilt the Winter Away

The Quilters Group loves to receive quilt fabric donations. They are especially in need of cotton or flannel fabrics with children's or baby patterns. You may drop off donations on the round table in the corner of the Social Hall. The Quilters meet every Wednesday from 12:30-3:00pm in the Social Hall. If you love to quilt or want to learn, please stop in! Questions? Contact Janice: **507-390-5249**

Legacy Fund

You can remember Good Shepherd Church in your gift planning. For more information, pick up a Legacy Fund brochure at the Welcome Center, or contact Warren Simons: whsimons2010@hotmail.com

Stay Connected to Our Church Community

Visit GoodShepherdOwatonna.com to see all the latest events and information. The latest sermon message is right on the front page. All past messages are also on our YouTube channel. If you would like to receive sermons in the mail or devotions from Our Daily Bread, we'd love to send them to you! Send a note to the office with your updated address.

Questions? Need Help? Contact Us: info@GSOwatonna.com

Winter office hours: 9:00am-2:00pm Monday-Thursday, or by appointment.

Senior Pastor: Greg Schlicker

Greg@GSOwatonna.com

Discipleship Pastor: Dan Borkenhagen

Dan@GSOwatonna.com

Preschool & Children's Ministry Director: Heather Gleason

Heather@GSOwatonna.com

Youth Director: Kelly Gentz

Kelly@GSOwatonna.com

Office Coordinator: Kristi Westergaard

Kristi@GSOwatonna.com

Save the Dates: Holy Week

Palm Sunday—March 24

Regular Schedule: 8:30AM & 10:00AM

Maundy Thursday—March 28

6:30PM Worship Service with the Lord's Supper

Good Friday—March 29

6:30PM Worship Service

Easter Sunday is March 31

6:30AM Sunrise Service

8:30AM Worship Service

10:30AM Worship Service

All Easter services will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Enjoy a full Easter Breakfast between each service.

2500 7th Ave. NE Owatonna, MN 55060 info@GSOwatonna.com 507-451-4125

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