



# GOOD NEWS

from Good Shepherd Church in Owatonna

Follow Jesus. Share Hope. Live Love.



## Installation of Pastor Storm

Sunday, January 19 at 8:30am

We will install Pastor Harold Storm as Associate Pastor for Spiritual Care. He will continue to minister to Redeemer's shut-ins and their families. Rev. Dr. Armand J. Boehme, Pastor Emeritus at Trinity Lutheran Church in Northfield, MN and long-time friend of Pastor Storm, will be the guest preacher for the special day. Welcome, Pastor Storm!

## Financial Peace University Tuesdays beginning January 28 at 6:30PM in the Conference Room

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. Join our Financial Peace University class and learn how you can pay off debt, save money, and build wealth.

This class costs \$100 for materials. Scholarships are available, please contact the church office. Childcare is available for free. Register online at **GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**. Questions? Contact Pastor Greg.

## DISCIPLESHIP

Let **Jesus' life** form your life this winter!

We will explore what Jesus did and taught during the last week of his life. Groups are forming now!

**Experience More In A Discipleship Group**

Sign Up at the Welcome Center or Talk to Pastor Dan

## Discipleship Groups

What happened during the "Last Week of Jesus' Life"? While Jesus lived about 33 years, the Gospels spend more time focused on this week than any other part of his life or ministry. That's because his last week is packed full

of the greatest truths of the Gospel! During this winter quarter, our discipleship groups will explore what he did and taught during this week and our prayer is that it helps our people prepare for the Lenten journey which starts in March. Let Jesus' life form your life this winter!

—Pastor Dan

## Women at the Well Women's Ministry Input Meeting Tuesday, February 4 6:30-8:00PM

Ladies! Please join us to discuss and explore opportunities to expand, enhance, and enliven Women's Ministry at Good Shepherd Church. Like the Samaritan Woman who met Jesus at the well in the fourth chapter of John's gospel, we want to better receive and share His Living Water!

If you are interested in helping to shape the future of Women's Ministry and learn how to become involved, this is for you! You will hear some of our initial ideas and participate in small group input discussions. Childcare will be provided.

Please register at the table in the Gathering Area or online through **Church Center or GoodShepherdOwatonna.com**.

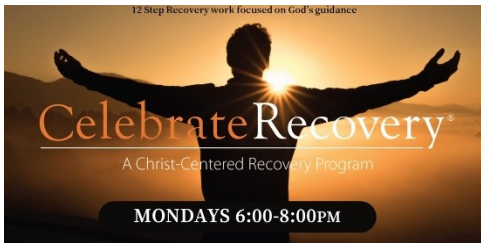


### Women at the Well

Women's Ministry  
Input Meeting

Tuesday, February 4  
6:30-8:00PM

**Men's Bible Study: The Forge**  
Tuesdays beginning February 11  
6:30-8:00pm in the Social Hall  
Sign up at the Welcome Center.  
Questions? Contact Scott Haglund:  
**207-317-1578**



## Celebrate Recovery

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.

**MONDAYS from 6:00-8:00PM**

Questions? Want to Volunteer?  
Contact Pastor Dan:

**Dan@GSOWatonna.com**

### 2024 Financial Summary

**2024 offerings were \$687,994**

Budget was \$697,125

**2024 overall income was \$859,789**

Budget was \$799,093

**2024 expenses were \$939,390**

Budget was \$973,365

**2024 net LOSS of \$79,601.**

The 2024 budget was passed with deficit of \$174,272 due to large building projects such as the roof and playground. We ended 2024 with a deficit of only \$79,601 so the year ended better than budgeted.

### You Are the Church

Good Shepherd's operating costs are entirely self-funded by donations from people like you. The church does not receive any funding from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or our church district.

Give your offering online at

**GoodShepherdOwatonna.com** or with the Church Center app. You may give once, or set up a recurring gift.

Text **84321** to give with your phone. Offering envelopes are not required, but if you would like envelopes, please contact the office.

**Use Church Center to see and print your entire Giving Statement (including paper donations) anytime.** Thank you for supporting God's work at Good Shepherd!



## Merger Update

Merging has been a slow process as we go through the legal, financial, paper records and building determining what can be used at Good Shepherd and/or elsewhere. Tables and chairs have been exchanged, and hymnals, paraments, and other items have been brought to Good Shepherd.

It's amazing, the items found at Redeemer: everything from Bibles in German and Chinese, to a Spanish hymnal and a lot of Bible study materials. So far, besides Good Shepherd, Camp Omega and Trinity in Medford have taken items, we hope to open Redeemer to LCMS churches first and then open it up to other interested parties to move the items.

Along with all the paper goods is the legal transfers and movement of funds to Good Shepherd, this too is a slow process but right now we have transferred over \$15,000.00 to the youth account (this is from the peach sales Redeemer held). Our Endowment funds (your Legacy Fund) will be transferred and allow potential for more giving by the Legacy Committee. Slow and steady we will get the job done and hopefully with God's guidance and help we will be able to use the items at Redeemer to reach out to others in our community and world to spread the love of God.

—Dallas Ketchum

## Decisions about Redeemer

You have probably heard that Good Shepherd has received a bid for the purchase of the Redeemer property from Sound Church here in town. At a recent Executive Team meeting the group unanimously decided to put forward the motion that our voters accept this offer. While at first the amount offered seemed rather low, in looking at similar sales and the cost of prolonging the maintenance of a vacant church, they decided that this offer made good financial sense. However, finances were not the main consideration. Rather, foremost in our thoughts were what we could do with this blessing to advance the work of God here in our town, and to continue the legacy of Gospel outreach in the name of Redeemer. Look for **a voters' meeting in February** which will give everyone a chance to express their opinions, ask their questions, and vote their decisions. After this will come the even more significant task of deciding how to implement the funds we are blessed with from this property for the work of the Kingdom of God. —Pastor Greg

## Legacy Ministry Fund

Our purpose is to provide a way for our members to leave a personal legacy to ensure continued financial support for Good Shepherd's ministries. Here is a summary of significant activities from the past year:

The committee sponsored our first annual planned giving luncheon to connect members with Synod resources to identify the right tools to help execute a giving plan. 38 members attended this luncheon, which indicates a strong interest in the mission of the LMF. Due to some generous gifts, the Fund grew over 50% and now totals over \$106,000!

We are reviewing for disbursements from the fund and will announce the distributions in the first quarter. Some of the distributions will come from funds designated for music ministry, but we will not be inviting designated contributions going forward.

We have added several new members to the committee and are working with representatives from Redeemer to consolidate their fund into Good Shepherd's. We will keep you informed as we work through it. The Committee would like to thank all who participated in our activities, and special thanks to the members who made donations to the fund. We are excited to see the continued growth of this fund and the impact it will have on our ministries.



**GOOD SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL  
TACO SUPPER FUNDRAISER  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 5-7PM**



**GET YOUR TICKETS!** Available Online or at Good Shepherd Church, Owatonna



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

Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Area on two Sundays: February 2 and 9

**IDENTITY SIMPLIFIED**

*For All Parents of Kids and Teens*

JOIN US FOR ANY OR ALL OF 5 SESSIONS TO LEARN HOW TO AFFIRM YOUR CHILD'S IDENTITY IN CHRIST!

- Jan 27-** You Are Made in the Image of God
- Feb 3-** Identity in Today's Culture
- Feb 10-** Gender & Sexual Identity
- Feb 17-** Embracing Our Personal Identity in Christ
- Feb 24-** Everyone is Made in the Image of God



**SOCIAL HALL ~ 6:00-7:30PM ~ CHILDCARE**

Scan the QR code for more information and to register

REGISTER ONLINE through Church Center or GoodShepherdOwatonna.com

**Wednesday Youth Groups and Confirmation Classes**

**Grades 5-6: 6:15-7:15PM  
Confirmation: 6:30-7:15PM  
Grades 7-12: 7:15-8:30PM**

Register with the Church Center app or at [GoodShepherdOwatonna.com](http://GoodShepherdOwatonna.com)

Confirmation is typically for 7th and 8th graders. Questions about Confirmation? Contact Kelly: [Kelly@GSOwatonna.com](mailto: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



**L UWISOMO**

*8th grade Mission Trip to WI  
Buddy with people with developmental disabilities*

**JUNE 22 - 27, 2025**

A service and mission trip for 8th grade youth. Registration deadline is March 1. Details/registration on the ChurchCenter app or [GoodShepherdOwatonna.com](http://GoodShepherdOwatonna.com)

**NOISY OFFERINGS 2025**

This year offerings will go to:

Christ's Care For Children: Kenya

Feed My Starving Children

Continue sponsoring Ayden through this LCMS program

Helping to end hunger \*Includes a service opportunity

**Noisy Offerings for 2025**

We're collecting coins for TWO ministries: *Christ's Care for Children: Kenya* where we sponsor a child and *Feed My Starving Children* which provides nutrient-rich meals to children around the world.

Drop your noisy coins in the container at the front of the worship center or at the offering table in the Gathering Area. Then pick up a donation jar in the Gathering Area to fill at home!



**Good Shepherd Preschool**

*Knowing and Following Jesus*

**2025-2026 Priority Registration Opens on January 20 for current Good Shepherd Preschool & Church families!**



**"NURTURING THE WHOLE CHILD FOR FUTURE LEARNING SUCCESS"**

2025-26 Good Shepherd Preschool Registration opens to the public on **January 27**, but Good Shepherd members and current Preschool families can register a week earlier: **January 20**. Questions about the Preschool? Contact Heather, Preschool Director: [Heather@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Heather@GSOwatonna.com)



**NEW MEMBER SEMINAR**  
 JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY  
**Saturday, February 8**  
**9:00am - 2:00pm**

**New Member Seminar**  
**Saturday, February 8 from 9am-2pm**  
 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 is included, and child care is provided upon request. Contact Pastor Greg to learn more: [Greg@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Greg@GSOwatonna.com).

**EVENT CALENDAR**

- Jan 20: Priority Preschool Registration Opens
- Jan 27: 6PM Identity Simplified
- Jan 28: 6:30PM Financial Peace University  
7:00PM Lay Ministry Team  
7:00PM Legacy Ministry Fund Team
- Jan 31: 10AM-4PM Blood Drive Register at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)
- Feb 1: 8:00AM Men's Breakfast
- Feb 4: 6:00PM Women at the Well
- Feb 8: 9AM-2PM New Member Seminar
- Feb 13: 5-7:00pm Preschool Taco Supper

**Meetings and the Calendar**

It's been exciting to see so much activity at church every night of the week. To make sure we have space for everyone, please let the office know **when your group is meeting** at church and **what rooms you would like to use**. For quick reference, room reservations are posted outside the Social Hall, Conference Room, and Library. Use Church Center to request a room reservation and Kristi will give you a fabulous prize.





The Youth Room is available on a limited basis for larger groups that don't need tables. We have two meeting rooms on the lower level with adult-sized chairs and smart TVs. We've also had small groups meet in the Prayer Room, and they love the cozy feel. Let us know where you'd like to meet!

**Stay Connected to Our Church Community**

Visit [GoodShepherdOwatonna.com](http://GoodShepherdOwatonna.com) to see the latest events and information. The latest sermon message is right on the front page. Past messages are on our YouTube channel. If you'd 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.

**Ways to Give**

Your support makes ministry possible. Thank you.

-  Online at [goodshepherdowatonna.com](http://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



**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
 2nd MONDAY of the Month  
 6:30PM  
 LWML  
 Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Questions? Need Help?

Contact Us: [info@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:info@GSOwatonna.com)

Church Office Hours: 9:00AM-2:00PM Monday-Thursday, or by appointment.

**Senior Pastor: Greg Schlicker**

[Greg@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Greg@GSOwatonna.com)

**Discipleship Pastor: Dan Borkenhagen**

[Dan@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Dan@GSOwatonna.com)

**Associate Pastor for Spiritual Care: Harold Storm**

[mstl48@yahoo.com](mailto:mstl48@yahoo.com)

**Preschool & Children's Ministry Director: Heather Gleason**

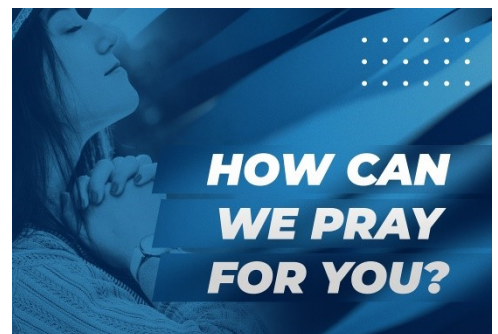
[Heather@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Heather@GSOwatonna.com)

**Youth Director: Kelly Gentz**

[Kelly@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Kelly@GSOwatonna.com)

**Office Coordinator: Kristi Westergaard**

[Kristi@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:Kristi@GSOwatonna.com)



**HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?**

Send prayers to our prayer team: [GoodShepherdPrayer@msn.com](mailto:GoodShepherdPrayer@msn.com)  
 You may also put prayer requests in the Prayer box in the Prayer Room, send us a note in the mail, or submit prayer requests online at [GoodShepherdOwatonna.com](http://GoodShepherdOwatonna.com).

2500 7th Ave. NE Owatonna, MN 55060 [info@GSOwatonna.com](mailto:info@GSOwatonna.com) 507-451-4125

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