Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Voice

NOVEMBER 2026



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Dear Good Shepherd Friends,



Our Good Shepherd Stewardship Committee asks us to look around and observe:

- the rich soil we are planted in, the nutrients from God and legacy feeding us
- the seeds of God's teaching taking root in this place and in our lives
- the remarkable growth of faith happening in our community in this season.

I see signs of life and growth everywhere I turn, through God's goodness and your investment in this shared work of the gospel. I see it in your generous financial gifts, yes, but also through an incredible outpouring of time and talent, passion and personality, compassion and commitment, all empowered by the Spirit. I see:

- A faithful council and committees meeting to keep us on track with our mission.
- 16 new shepherds building community and facilitating service in their flocks.
- Altar guild members ensuring that bread is baked, communion prepared, paraments changed, clothes washed, supplies ordered, flowers arranged.
- Landscaping and grounds crew lovingly tending plant beds, garden, prairie, trees.
- Facilities and Grounds folks keeping us in good repair but going above to renovate the annex and prepare a new classroom for our youngest learners.
- Prayer ministers, visitors and nursing home assistants attending dear ones..
- Five teachers nurturing our young people every Wednesday.
- Three facilitators planning adult LIFT learning that expands our sense of vocation.
- 60-80 folks showing up every Wednesday night for food, fellowship, and learning.
- Pastors and lay-folk stepping up to help with preaching and teaching.
- An incredible array of talented musicians delighting and inspiring us in worship.
- College students, newcomers, and long-time members welcomed and treasured.
- Prayer shawls being created, and WELCA studying scripture and assembling layettes, school and sanitary kits, and leading the heroic krumkake fundraiser.
- Men's club taking root, a lively text study each week, and adult ed well-attended.
- Children collecting offerings to missions near and far that matter to us.
- Faithful worshippers on Sunday along with between 65 and 300 online worshippers.
- 12 scholarships given to Good Shepherd college students.
- 11 engaged confirmation kids from 3 school districts keeping me on my toes!

I see God's hand in all of it and it is all glorious! And still unfolding. THANK YOU for being faithful stewards of this holy ground and this holy time, and for tending and watering the seeds of faith in yourself and one another. Thanks be to God who planted us here together in this season.

In gratitude for your faithful stewardship,

Pastor Kristen

“Seeds, Soil, and Stewardship”

Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
Matthew 13:1-9



Our Good Shepherd Stewardship Committee has chosen “**Seeds, Soil, and Stewardship**” as the theme for our fall 2026 Stewardship campaign to support the ongoing work of the church in 2027.

Through this campaign we have invited all at Good Shepherd to think of us as **sowers** and as **seeds**—casting out seeds to find rich soil, as those seeds take root, and grow. We are also the **soil**, helping nurture ourselves and others in faith and growth. And we at Good Shepherd are **stewards**, striving to care for our church, our community, and our world.

We invite you to be part of this campaign by submitting your Statement of Intent to pledge to the church by **November 22nd, Stewardship Sunday**. On Stewardship Sunday, we will present our pledges during the worship service to show our commitment to our church, to its missions, and to each other.

There are many ways to pledge. You may mail your Statement of Intent to the church office, you may drop it off at the church office or drop it in the offering plate during worship, or you may complete an online intent on the Good Shepherd website by clicking **here** or scanning the code. Additional Statement of Intent forms are also available in the Gathering Space.

Let’s continue to build a church that answers God’s call with boldness, relevance, and love.

Thank you for being faithful stewards of Good Shepherd.

In Christ,

The Good Shepherd Stewardship Committee

Church Engagement Coordinator Position Posted

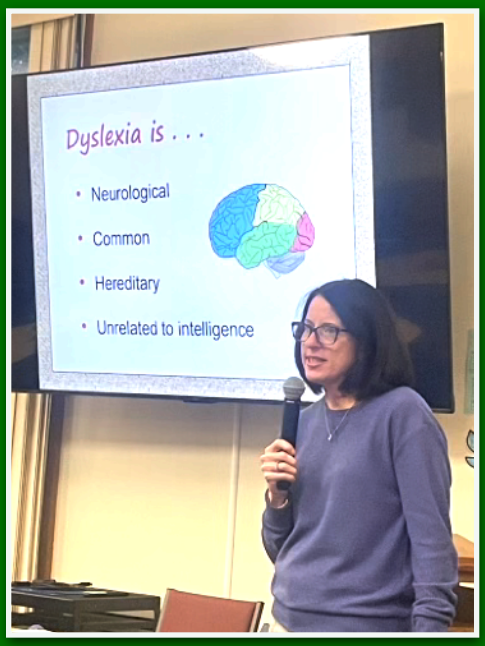
We have now posted the job of Church Engagement Coordinator! Click **here** or scan the code to view the job ad. Please share this with anyone you think might be interested in applying!

Any questions can be directed to the church office by calling **(563) 382-3963** or emailing **office@goodshepherddecorah.org**

October LIFT!













DECORAH PRIDE









REFORMATION SUNDAY – POLKA!







Children's Offering for November:
The Decorah Community Food Pantry

From Good Shepherd member Matt Tapscott:

Decorah Community Food Pantry

The story of the Decorah Community Food Pantry is told from the neighbors we serve:

- The Decorah school child who reports "a good weekend at home" because "everyone had enough to eat."
- The retired senior who, with a small pension and social security, calls our pantry in tears saying, "I'm just not making it!"
- The mom of 3 teens who says, "I'm working 2 and a half jobs, I shouldn't need a food pantry."

Food insecurity in a food distribution system that throws away 30% of the food our country produces before it ever sees a grocery shelf? **Food insecurity cannot be resolved without also addressing our nation's food waste problem.**

Decorah Community Food Pantry distributes over 340 thousand pounds of food per year to food insecure families in NE Iowa, 52% of the families we serve are from Winneshiek County, 42% from Allamakee and Howard County, the remainder from outlying counties in NE Iowa. The average family takes 43 pounds of food per visit from our pantry and are able to "shop" in our pantry every other week. About half of our clients come routinely, many come only as needed to "fill the gap." Our pantry participates in the federal "Food Rescue" program in which we "rescue" local retail food. In 2025 we rescued 237,000 pounds of food from six local retail partners.

Decorah Community Food Pantry is Blessed by a community committed to ensuring our neighbors (pantry clients) do not go hungry. We are Blessed by over 150 volunteers who create the "Welcoming and Respectful" organization that we are. We are Blessed with good relationships with our local faith partners – like Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.



September Council minutes

You can view the September council minutes here or by scanning the QR code.

The October minutes will be approved at the next council meeting and will be available in the December newsletter.

Adult LIFT (Learning in Faith Together) Sessions for November, 2026
HAVE FUN; DO STUFF; BUILD COMMUNITY; LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

In November the evening falls quickly, and especially after daylight savings time arrives, the night can stretch out long . These early evenings can feel melancholy, but they can also invite us in to share warmth and good company with each other. Join us for Adult Lift sessions in November that recognize and celebrate this season.

November 4: Simple Steps to Enrich and Enhance Your Prayer Life
With Martin Klammer
One thing we know for sure: We are all standing in the need of prayer! Join Martin Klammer in a guided writing experience to generate prayers for this moment and beyond. We'll share stories from our own prayer lives and learn from the prayer traditions of other cultures. Whether you are an expert veteran prayer person – or if, like Lise, you think you're actually not that good at it – this evening will give you new resources and new ideas.

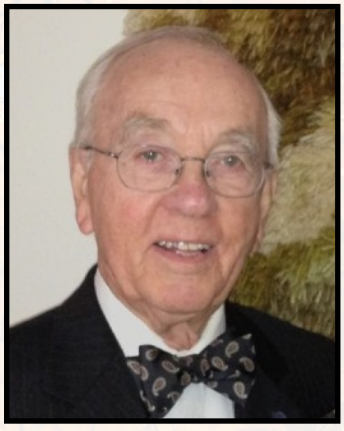
November 11: Celebrating Samhain
with Lise Kildegaard and Rachael Button
In the Celtic calendar, Samhain is a festival at the midpoint between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice. It marks the end of the harvest season and the entry into the dark months of the year. How can we welcome winter, with its quiet gifts of coziness, rest, and candlelight? Join Lise and our guest Rachael as we explore the blessings of Samhain.

November 18: Three Sisters Sharing Meal – see next page for article

NO LIFT ON NOVEMBER 25

Adult LIFT programming at Good Shepherd is organized by Martin Klammer, Lise Kildegaard, and Norman Friedrich, in consultation with Pastor Kristen Larsen-Schmidt. It is open to all. Participants don't need to prepare anything, and there won't be any follow up quizzes. Unless you count one of Martin's Good Shepherd Jeopardy extravaganzas!

November 18 will be our last regular LIFT event of the calendar year. We do not have LIFT meals during December except for a sandwich and cookie meal after the kids' Christmas Program on December 16. **LIFT resumes on January 6** with an Epiphany Event. Please watch for a new meal schedule for flocks and committees sometime next month!



Harland Nelson's visitation will be Tuesday, November 23 at 10 AM at Good Shepherd, with memorial service at 11 AM and luncheon following.

The service will be livestreamed here
and you can access Harland's obituary here.

⬅ Stream link

Obituary link ➡

Gratitude and Thanksgiving for Creation and Indigenous Foods: The Three Sisters Take Center Stage



Autumn—harvest time, migrating birds, animals fattening for winter, Earth slowly falling asleep, leaving brilliant fall colors in her wake. The vestiges of our gardens offer us corn, beans, squash and other foods that nourish us through the long months ahead. It is a time for us to express our gratitude for Creator's gifts and reflect on what nature teaches us about reciprocity, cooperation, balance, and harmony to enrich our lives and bring us peace.

Good Shepherd's garden this year included a small Three Sisters Garden. The inspiration for its planting came from the book *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, read and discussed by over 30 Good Shepherd members in three book groups earlier this year. *Braiding Sweetgrass* is also the inspiration for the **L.I.F.T. program and Three Sisters Shared Meal on Wednesday, November 18, beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

We will celebrate the gifts of the Three Sisters (corn, beans, and squash) and offer thanks to our Creator. A Three Sisters Shared Meal, featuring braised bison and foods made with corn, beans, and/or squash, will begin with a Spirit Plate ceremony that includes samples of the foods we'll share and a prayer of thanks. Following the meal, the program for adults and youth will feature a story of the Three Sisters by an Anishinaabe storyteller, along with author Robin Wall Kimmerer sharing information about the Three Sisters and what they can teach us. A video of Indigenous elders talking about the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address, followed by participants reading aloud this beautiful Address, concludes the program.

A Three Sisters Soup, made from Meskwaki squash grown in the Good Shepherd garden, will be provided, as well as braised bison. **Congregation members are invited to contribute side dishes and desserts to fill out the meal, *using Three Sisters ingredients*.** You could bring a summer squash casserole, three bean salad, pumpkin pie or bread, squash casserole, corn relish, baked beans, corn bread, black bean enchiladas,

scalloped corn—there are many other possibilities! (We'll have peanut butter and bread for those who need more familiar options.)

You might also try preparing an Indigenous Three Sisters recipe. Click on Three Sisters Recipes for some easy-to-prepare Native chef-created recipes. (Copies are also available on the table in the Gathering Space.) You will also find some sources for Indigenous ingredients. Preparing a Native recipe is a way to reflect on the cultures of the peoples who lived on this land before European settlement. You can also check out other Native recipes in Sean Sherman's cookbooks, at the NATIFS (North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems) website, or indigikitchen.com.

Another way to get involved is to help make Three Sisters Soup! We'll gather in the church kitchen at 1:00 p.m. on November 18 to make soup in community, as was–and still is–common among many Native communities. We'll open with prayer, then enjoy Native flute music while we make soup.

Why is all this important to us at Good Shepherd? As a community of faith and followers of Jesus, learning about the Native peoples who lived on this land and Native people who live among us today helps us be part of the Truth and Healing work that our national church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has undertaken. This work involves telling the truth about what happened here over many decades, how religion was used as a weapon against Native people, and harm done to past and current peoples. Gathering for a Three Sisters Shared Meal and program invites us into conversation about how we can respond as a congregation, living out our faith, to participate in Truth and Healing for ourselves and our Native siblings.

As we take another step together in this work, we offer this prayer: *Creator, thank you for the plants that sustain us, the sun that warms us, the waters that replenish life on earth, the people you give us as teachers and family and community. Be with the Good Shepherd congregation as we work toward Truth and Healing. Bless the Three Sisters Shared Meal with a spirit of kindness, curiosity, sharing, and gratitude. Open our hearts and minds to hear You speak of your love for all of Creation. Amen.*

Give yourself the gift of silence.

On **November 14th, from 8:30-11 am**, there will be a Silent Saturday at Decorah United Church of Christ. This time is open to all. There will be opportunities to walk a labyrinth, listen to God's voice through *lectio divina,* participate in centering prayer, use art materials for prayer and reflection, and pray or read or write in silence. Watch for details. If you have questions, you're welcome to see James Barth, Sara Hopkins, or Jane Jakoubek, the Good Shepherd contingent on the planning team.

Prayer for the month

Offered by Jane Jakoubek

We give thanks for the many blessings of home, community and country. Help us remember those whose land was taken and who lost their cultures, spiritual traditions, languages, children, and very lives. Thank you for the many blessings of home, community and country. Help us advocate for those who do not have homes, those who are excluded from community, and those who are in search of a country that welcomes them.

We give thanks for the blessings of food that sustains our bodies, spirits and community. Help us remember those whose labor produces food by working in underpaid, coercive and unsafe conditions. Thank you for food that sustains us. Help us find ways to recognize and advocate for those whose labor sustains us and who search for a better life.

We give thanks for the blessings of family. Help us remember those who are excluded from their families, those whose families are divided or estranged or abusive or separated, and those who live without family. Thank you for the blessings of family. Help us find ways to reach out to those in need of family, so they, too, can find the welcome, safety, security and comfort they need.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REMEMBERS JUTTA ANDERSON – January 17th

On Sunday, January 17th, during the Fellowship Hour, the Good Shepherd Scholarship Committee will host a celebration to remember Jutta Anderson. The committee has invited her two sons and their families to take part in the event. Lars lives in Iowa City and Niels lives in Colorado.

The committee is still in the planning stage, but here is what we know so far: Jutta was a strong and faithful member of Good Shepherd, loyal and supportive of its youth, particularly the college age students. For years she made generous annual gifts to the Mission Endowment Fund for the purpose of providing scholarships to Good Shepherd students attending ELCA colleges or universities. (The MEF is the church's funding source for the scholarship ministry). In December of 2025 Jutta bestowed $100,000 to the MEF for that purpose. In August of 2026, upon her passing, she requested that memorials in her name be directed to the Good Shepherd Scholarship Ministry. The total of those memorials was $3755.

We also know that Jutta was a strong personality. Having grown up in Nazi Germamy during World War II and immigrating to America, she knew who she was, what she believed and what she wanted. She was also sometimes directive and stubborn. As a result, everyone who knew Jutta has "Jutta stories". The committee is requesting that the stories be brought to the celebration. Jutta had not been able to be active in the life of the congregation for several years. Many newer members did not know her; we want those attending the celebration to leave feeling that they do know her now.

WELCA Newsletter

Good Shepherd will be hosting Bingo at The Highlands on Tuesday, November 10 at 2:45 pm. Volunteers are needed to help with the bingo. Sign up sheets will be available in the Gathering space. Men's Coffee Ministry, would you be interested in helping?



A big thank you to everyone who contributed to our LWR kits this fall. We completed **49 baby care kits** on Tuesday October 27 and **43 school kits** on September 22. Our dear member **Carrie Solberg** helped us with the school kits. She would take the pens and pencils home and put them in groups of 5 for the kits. She also took the packaging off the scissors and pencil sharpeners so that they were ready to be put in the kits. She truly enjoyed helping with this ministry. She will be missed. The kits will be collected on Saturday Nov 7 at Olson Trucking and will then be delivered to the warehouse in St Paul along with donations from other churches in Northeast Iowa. Olson's has been donating this service for many years. Thanks so much—we couldn't do it without you!

Gather Bible Study
We will meet on November 17 at 7 pm for our Gather bible study in the fellowship hall.

Session 3: Proclaiming resurrection in hope Scripture: John 20:1–18

Mary Magdalene's journey transitions from that of a grieving friend to the first preacher of the good news, after she shows up at the empty tomb and encounters the risen Jesus. Her story declares that women are entrusted to carry resurrection hope into a hurting world. This session encourages participants to recognize their own call to bear witness and to proclaim hope in Christ. (from Gather magazine)

November 4: Burr Oak Lutheran Meatball Supper
November 7: LWR pickup, Olson Trucking
November 10: Bingo at the Highlands, 2:45 pm
November 17: Gather Bible study, Fellowship hall, 7 pm
Kris Peterson-Bible study/refreshments
All are welcome!
December 5: Burr Oak Lutheran Annual Advent Brunch

3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report
1/1/26–9/30/26

Income through September was $301,524.89 and expenses were $329,061.28. That means at the end of September we were running a deficit of $27,428.38. That sounds daunting, to be sure, but there are reasons not to be too worried.

1. Recall that when we proposed the budget for this year, we included $25,000 from the surplus in 2025 because it seemed unlikely that our projected income would match our projected expenses. Therefore, if that deficit remains at the end of the year we will transfer funds from last year's $40,000 surplus and end the year with a zero balance. That's good news. Keep in mind, though, that the Council regarded that use of surplus funds as a one-time occurrence—a band-aid one might say—that we cannot continue to rely on.

2.There is a second reason I am not concerned about this 3rd Quarter deficit. Our statements of intent predicted $410,00 in regular giving. If everyone gave at a steady rate we would expect regular giving income at the end of September to be $307,500. In fact, our regular giving through September has been $293,170.13. That might lead one to think that people are not keeping up with their intended giving, but as I have explained in the past, some members now give only once or twice each year. Looking at the giving this year there are a number of persons who have not yet given but presumably will make a single offering between now and December 31. When those gifts appear, the deficit will go down.

3. Turning to the expense side, we technically remain under budget. We planned on expenses totaling $451,808, which would translate into spending of $338,000 through September. To date, we have spent $329,000. Assuming there are no surprise expenses and keeping in mind that we budgeted for a full year of a Church Engagement Coordinator but no longer are paying that salary, I think our expenses will be less than we anticipated (it would be great if they are low enough that we do not need to dip into our surplus).

4. Two points regarding next year's budget. First, it seems obvious to me we will need to increase our giving significantly. In addition to covering increased expenses we cannot continue relying on surpluses so we will need to make up for that $25,000 transfer. Plus, we no longer can count on the generous giving of long-time members who died this year. Second, I think it important that committees are realistic when they propose their budget requests and that committees base their spending throughout the year on what they have been allocated.

5. In sum, I am confident we will end 2026 in good shape, but moving forward will require careful thinking about the budget and depend on the continued generosity of the members of the congregation.

Good Shepherd Treasurer John Moeller

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Members of the Good Shepherd Prayer Shawl Ministry recently donated 12 prayer shawls to Helping Services for Youth and Families, headquartered in Decorah. Good Shepherd member Carson Eggland is the Executive Director.

The ministry meets monthly during the months of September through May and welcomes all interested knitters and crocheters to join. For more information, contact Jeri Laursen, ministry chair. Supplies for the prayer shawls are supported through Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, the Judy Mikkelson Memorial Fund, and individual donations.

Good Shepherd Garden
2026 Final Report

It was a good summer for the reconstituted Good Shepherd garden. There was a new section devoted to indigenous foods, the altar never lacked for colorful flowers, and the produce—thanks to improved soil, better mulching, and lots of rainfall—was the best it has been in many years. Thanks also to Norma Refsal's weeding and watering, the garden was more aesthetically pleasing than it has been since Ed Hover was in charge. Ed surely would have been delighted with the garden this summer.



Once again we owe a huge thanks to Good Shepherd member Katie Prochaska whose River Root Farm donated seedlings for almost everything we grew. Not only does that provide a wider variety than if we were planting from packets of seeds, it makes the actual planting incredibly easy. Thanks, too, to the Friedrich family who provided beautiful asparagus early in the summer and duck and chicken eggs throughout.

Recall that the garden serves two purposes: (1) it provides fresh produce for members of the congregation and (2) it supports the Food Pantry. Thanks to generous giving by those who took produce and eggs, this year we will be sending the Decorah Food Pantry $858 , which is a record (that is in addition to the $1500 we budgeted for the Food Pantry).

Good Shepherd's Little Library





Good Shepherd now has a Little Library out front! Here you can find bulletins, newsletters, and other church resources when the church is closed.

Thank you to Erik Barnaal for building it and to Erik Berg for installing it!



SUSTAINABLE IOWA LAND TRUST

SILT

PROTECTING WORKING FARMS TO GROW LOCAL FOOD.

We raised over $500 for the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust with our children's offering in October. Thank you for your benevolent generosity!

A huge THANK YOU to the Green Flock and their Shepherds, Kerry and Kirk Johnson and Edith Searles for providing worship leadership and hospitality volunteers for the month of October.

We now welcome the Blue Flock and their Shepherds, Melanie and Tim Folkerts as they move into their month of worship and fellowship service. Welcome and thank you!

Coming up at Good Shepherd in December



- There will be a youth-led Advent Worship service on Wednesday, December 2 at 6:15 PM.
- Caroling with adults and kids with Brooke Joyce and Liz Rog on Wednesday, December 9!
- The kids' Christmas program will be Wednesday, December 16th at 5:30 with a light sandwich and cookie supper following.
- There will be a "Blue Christmas" worship on the evening of Sunday, December 20 facilitated by Sara Hopkins. Stay tuned for details!
- Christmas Eve worship will be at 4 PM and 6:30 PM.
- Pastor Kristen will be on vacation the week after Christmas. The office will be closed December 25th through 29th as well as on January 1.
- Pastor Dave Lenth will lead worship on December 27.
- No LIFT on December 30—LIFT resumes on January 6 with a celebration of Epiphany.

Expanded office hours for Administrative Assistant Tristan Occhipinti



Good Shepherd community,

With the departure of Gabby in August of this year and looking ahead as we move into the hiring process for our new Church Engagement Coordinator, it has been a good time to take stock of who will be doing what in the office. We have decided the Office and Building Manager role, newly renamed Administrative Assistant, will be responsible for a few more things, particularly with regards to communications. One big thing that this means is MORE OFFICE HOURS!

The Good Shepherd office will now be open **9 AM–2 PM on Monday through Thursday and 9 AM–12 PM on Fridays**. **If you need to have an item published in our monthly newsletter, weekly news, or church bulletin, please contact me.**

I look forward to continuing to support Pastor Kristen and the other church staff as well as the whole Good Shepherd community.

Tristan C. Occhipinti



Our youth meet the Jazz Band at our Jazz Worship on October 4th

Music Schedule for the rest of the year

Sunday, 11/1	Guest choir (Collegiate)
Sunday, 11/8	Choir sings offertory ("My Spirit Longs for Thee")
Sunday, 11/15	Band plays prelude/offertory/postlude
Sunday, 11/22	Choir sings offertory ("Come We That Love the Lord")
Sunday, 11/29	Advent 1: Handbells play offertory (TBA)
Sunday, 12/6	Advent 2: Choir sings offertory ("Advent Prayer")
Sunday, 12/13	Advent 3: Band plays prelude/offertory/postlude
Wed., 12/16	Christmas Pageant—band plays with kids
Sunday, 12/20	Advent 4: Handbells play for offertory (TBA)
Thur., 12/24	Christmas Eve: Choir and Band will offer music during service
Fri., 12/25	Possible carol sing at Aase Haugen in afternoon
Sunday, 12/27	Solo or small ensemble opportunity!



Choir rehearses weekly (beginning 9/2), Wednesdays 7-7:45 pm;
on Sundays when choir sings, warm-up at 8:45 am
Band rehearses weekly (beginning 9/2), Wednesdays 7:45-8:30 pm;
on Sundays when band plays, warm-up at 8:45 am
Handbells rehearse at 8:45 am on the morning we play

All members/friends/guests of Good Shepherd are welcome to join any of these groups. For more information, please contact our music director, Brooke Joyce: 563-419-9995, or wbjoyce3@gmail.com.

Scripture for the month

Sunday, November 1	***All Saints Sunday***
Revelation 7:9-17	*The multitudes of heaven worship the Lamb*
Psalm 34:1-10, 22	*Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord; for those who fear the Lord lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)*
1 John 3:1-3	*We are God's Children*
Matthew 5:1-12	*Blessed are the poor in spirit*

Sunday, November 8	***24th Sunday after Pentecost***
Amos 5:18-24	*Let justice roll down like waters*
Psalm 70	*You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)*
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	*The promise of resurrection*
Matthew 25:1-13	*The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids*

Sunday, November 15	***25th Sunday after Pentecost***
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	*The day of the Lord*
Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12	*So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)*
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	*Be alert for the day of the Lord*
Matthew 25:14-30	*The story of the slaves entrusted with talents*

Sunday, November 22	***Christ the King Sunday***
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	*God will shepherd Israel*
Psalm 95:1-7a	*We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)*
Ephesians 1:15-23	*The reign of Christ*
Matthew 25:31-46	*The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats*

Sunday, November 29	***First Sunday of Advent***
Isaiah 64:1-9	*Prayer that God would come with power and compassion*
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be blessed. (Ps. 80:7)*
1 Corinthians 1:3-9	*Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end*
Mark 13:24-37	*The sudden coming of the Son of Man*





November 2026

Pastor Kristen is out of the office on Fridays.
She wil also be out of the office on Thurs. Nov. 5 for Synod training.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** 9:30 AM – Worship 11:30 AM – Facilities & Grounds Committee	2 9 AM-3 PM – Prayer in Sanctuary 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 6:30 PM – AL/ANON	3 **ELECTION DAY** All Day – Prayer in Sanctuary 9:30 AM – Bible Study 10:45 AM – Staff Meeting 12 PM – Election Day Communion @ CFL	4 3:30 PM – Men's Coffee @ Lefse Lodge 5:30 PM – supper 6:00 PM – LIFT: Enriching Your Prayer Life	5 Pastor Kristen out of office 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 5:00 PM – Decorah Community Meal @ Decorah Lutheran 6:00 PM – Kinderhaus Little Ones Parent Night	6	7 1:00 PM – Gathering celebrating the life of Joel Ruiz Fellowship Hall
8 *Pentecost 24* 9:30 AM – Worship *Brian Caton will give the message*	9 12:15 PM – Staff Meeting 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 4:00 PM – Ad Hoc Finance 5:00 PM – Worship & Music Committee 6:30 PM – AL/ANON	10 9:30 AM – Bible Study 1:00 PM – Garden Club 4:30 PM – Stewardship Committee 5:30 PM – Education Committee	11 Veterans Day 10 AM; 2:30 PM – Nursing Home Communion 3:30 PM – Men's Coffee @ Lefse Lodge 5:30 PM – LIFT: Celebrating Samhain	12 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 5:00 PM – Kinderhaus Fall Conferences	13 1:00 PM – Kinderhaus Fall Conferences	14 9:00 AM – Silent Saturday, Decorah UCC
15 *Pentecost 25* 9:30 AM – Worship	16 12:15 PM – Staff Meeting 1:00 PM – Monday Club Charity Auction 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 4:00 PM – Outreach & Hosp. 6:30 PM – AL/ANON	17 9:30 AM – Bible Study 6:15 PM – Sons of Norway 6:30 PM – Council Meeting	18 1:00 PM – Prayer Shawl 3:30 PM – Men's Coffee @ Lefse Lodge 5:30 PM – LIFT: Three Sisters Sharing Meal	19 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** 12:30 PM – Scholarship Committee 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 5:00 PM – Oneota Co-Op Potluck	20 **OFFICE CLOSED**	21
22 *Christ the King* **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY** 9:30 AM – Worship	23 12:15 PM – Staff Meeting 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 6:30 PM – AL/ANON	24 10:00 AM – Harland Nelson Visitation 11:00 AM – Harland Nelson Memorial 7:00 PM – WELCA Circle Mtg.	25 3:30 PM – Men's Coffee @ Lefse Lodge NO LIFT	26 Thanksgiving Day **OFFICE CLOSED**	27 **OFFICE CLOSED**	28
29 *Advent 1* 9:30 AM – Worship	30 12:15 PM – Staff Meeting 3:15 PM – Violin Lessons 6:30 PM – AL/ANON					



The Shepherd's Voice

The Shepherd's Voice is the monthly publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Decorah, Iowa.



Our Mission

We are a congregation empowered by the Good Shepherd to:

- **Nurture and support** Christ's flock through Christ centered worship.
- **Welcome all**, offering trust and respect while sharing God's unconditional love.
- **Reach out** to the broader community through service and responsible stewardship of all God's creation.



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