

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2025

A word from our Pastor!

Siblings in Christ,

Well, we have finally come near to that time. It is about a month until I leave for one year of active duty. It has been a long journey of work to get to this point and yet there is still so much I have to do in preparation. The last couple of weeks will likely be a flurry of tasks for me because, it's the Navy I'm dealing with; "hurry up and wait" is standard practice. Regardless, my departure is soon and a new chapter for us all waits to be written.

I don't have wise words to share right now. Stress, grief, anxiety, anticipation, excitement, joy, sorrow are all words to describe what I'm feeling, and what I'm sure many of you all are feeling. Missing my family and the many events and activities with them is where my biggest grief and sorrow emanates. But I will miss this place also while I'm gone. I will miss the people. I won't miss the crazy schedule too much; having just one full-time job for a year will be nice. I am also excited about the challenge ahead of me. I have no idea what full-time military chaplaincy will be like. It may be great or it may be miserable. I already know that the grass isn't greener on the other side, it's just a different shade, Marine Corps green. I'm also excited about seeing how you and we grow in this time apart. What ministry for the sake of the gospel will happen while I'm gone? After all, that is our sole purpose as followers of Jesus Christ.

Hopefully, my shepherding has set us up to thrive in that work. I believe what we have done together these years will bear fruit in my absence. I also know that Pastor Lee and Pastor Nick bring their own gifts to this place and I can't wait to see what God is calling this place to do under their amazing

leadership. Listen to them, embrace their differences from me, and enjoy the journey of serving with them. My point is this; Good Shepherd and Our Savior's are not ME. They are US. My role as pastor is just that, a role to play. Just as you all have a role, as the faithful baptized, called to love and serve God and your neighbor, with the many and varied gifts you each bring. This place is OUR ministry together, one depending upon the other equally.

But also, don't worry. You will hear from me throughout the year. You likely, briefly, will see me at least once during the year. I remain your pastor. Stay in touch with me; I want that connection. You can call, text, or email. But just remember, you have two wonderful pastors present here while I cannot be. But my call for the next year is to serve other fellow beloved children of God. I am sent because of YOU and how you have formed me as a pastor. The gifts I bring to MCRD-San Diego were forged here with you. They want me because of what WE do here together. So be good, love one another, and most importantly, love the stranger, the neighbor, the one far away, the one next door. Love as Christ loves us.

Finally, you've heard me say this many times before, but I leave you with this prayer.



O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out

with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God's peace,
Pastor David



“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS”

This year’s 12th annual “God’s Work, Our Hands” community outreach will take place

at Good Shepherd on Sunday, Sept 7th. Worship will begin at 9:30am.

Following worship, we will be packing Lutheran World Relief school and health kits. We will also be preparing items to be donated to the UP Foster Closet. These items will be geared to high school age youth; a group that is often overlooked. The Foster Closet provides assistance to foster families and children in the counties of Menominee, Marinette, and Oconto.

The morning will end with a potluck meal. Please join us in this parish program!



Sending Service for Pastor David - Sunday, Sept 28th

As you all know, Pastor David has been recalled to active duty beginning Oct .1st of this year until Sept. 30th of 2026. He will

be stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot-San Diego (MCRD-SD) as one of the chaplains serving thousands of Marines, instructors, and their families.

Sunday, Sept 28th will be his last worship service with us until his return. **This service will be a joint service, here at Good Shepherd, beginning at 9:30am.** Bishop Katherine Finnegan will be here as well for this special service.

A potluck will be held after worship. Come and share in this time of transition for both Pastor David and his family, wish them well, and offer your continued support!

From Rev. Nick Johannes

I was born on D-Day of 1944 in Manitowoc County, the oldest of five siblings. The shadows of World War II were much a part of my childhood, with a German Prison of War Camp just a few miles from my home. I believe my parents sheltered us from the emotional proximity of war through our strong religious heritage. As a result, I began my high school studies at a Catholic Seminary. Following twelve years of study and completion of both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees, I was ordained a priest in Seymour, WI where my family lived at the time.

During my years as a Priest, I served in six parishes in the Green Bay diocese. In those, I was provided most of the necessities of life without the worries or responsibilities that a marriage and family might bring. However, as time went on, there was one want and need I could not ignore and that was to be married. Even with the adventures of such pursuits of being a chaplain for the DePere Fire Department or serving as a chaplain in the Army National Guard 32nd infantry, there was something missing in my life.

I married Judy in 1995 and shortly thereafter began seminary at Wartburg in Dubuque. In 1998, upon completion of studies and internship at Wartburg, I was Called and Installed as Associate Pastor at Emmanuel (ELCA) Lutheran Church in Seymour, only blocks from the Catholic Church in which I had been ordained 28 years prior. In 2004, I was called to serve as Senior Pastor at both Porterfield Lutheran and Beaver American Lutheran Churches. Since my retirement in 2010, I have provided pulpit supply at the ELCA churches in the Menominee Valley Conference, in Oconto, and two area Presbyterian and UCC churches.

This is now my 55th year of ministry of God’s Word and Sacrament and I am looking forward to serving with Pastor Lee Goodwin in the congregations of Good Shepherd and Our Savior’s. I ask for the Holy Spirit to uplift and support each of us in this time of transition. God for us, we call you Father; God alongside us, we call you Jesus; God within us, we call you Holy Spirit. Amen

From Rev Lee Goodwin

Friends in Christ,

By now you all know that in October, Pastor Nick Johannes and I will begin a year of serving as "Pastors in Residence." This is a term that describes how we see our purpose among you in the next twelve months. Pastor Murphy remains your called pastor. In his absence we will be the pastors residing here. We'll be doing what pastors do. We will preach and preside at holy communion. We will provide pastoral care. And we will tend to our common life as needed.

As many of you know I served as pastor at Our Savior's for eighteen years from 1990 to 2008. Prior to that I served my first call in the Keweenaw Peninsula of Upper Michigan at Bethany Lutheran Church of Keweenaw for four years. I was then called to serve as Pastor/Developer and first pastor of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Park Falls. I also, like Pr. Murphy served as a Reserve Navy Chaplain (1989-1983).

As the fall approaches, I look forward to our life together. Our Savior's and Good Shepherd have able and loving leaders and members. Together we will be about the good work of the church. We will be bearers of the Christ in our words and deeds. We will bear one another's burdens and share each other's joys. We will, as the Spirit leads us, strive to serve our Savior who is the Good Shepherd.

Peace,
Pastor Lee Goodwin +

Coffee Time with Pastor



Pastor David will continue with this shared time together before he leaves. Come join him at A Place for Coffee at 10:00am on the following Fridays: Sept. 12th, 19th, and 26th.

Pastor Nick Johannes and Pastor Lee Goodwin will continue this practice. Please join them on Friday Oct 17th and 31st.

Pastors on Call for October

Oct 1 – 18 Rev. Lee Goodwin 715-938-2443

Oct 19 – 31 Rev. Nick Johannes 715-701-6455

Red Cross Blood Drive Sept 15th from 12-5pm



Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Woodstock and friends

encourage each other and have provided timeless lessons about friendship. They show us how a little care goes a long way. Take a page from the Peanuts gang: Try giving blood for the first time on Sept. 15th! Friendly staff and volunteers will be there to help you along the way. Plus, come to give blood for an exclusive American Red Cross x PEANUTS mystery bag with one of four special T-shirt designs, while supplies last!

If you are interested in providing bars/cookies or sandwiches for this community outreach there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Thank you!

Brat Fry and Rummage Sale Success!

This year's brat fry and rummage sale on the Friday of the Citywide Rummage Sale was again a great success! We made a total profit of just over \$2,000.



This money will be used to support children in need in the Peshtigo school system. We can all remember our children or grandchildren coming home with slips to purchase books at the Book Fair. Students from less fortunate families are often unable to purchase books for themselves. The money we raised will allow those children the opportunity to go home with a selection of books! Reading is fundamental!



“Coats for Kids”

Good Shepherd is assisting The Salvation Army

with their “Coats for Kids” campaign and acting as one of their drop off locations in the Peshtigo area.

We will be accepting new and gently used winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens to help our local children in need. There will be drop off boxes located in the fellowship hall for any donations the last week of Sept through Oct



Progressive Dinner Weds. Oct 8th

The Congregational Care committee is planning a “Progressive Dinner” on

Wednesday, Oct 8th starting at 4:00pm.

The evening will begin with appetizers at (host to be determined). The main meal will be lasagna at the home of Larry and Sherry Polzin. The evening will end with dessert at the home of Rich and Nancy Crevier.

Sign up to enjoy this time together. Also, if possible, there are a few items that will be needed (appetizers, garlic bread, salad, and desserts). We hope to see you there!



12th Annual Chicken Booyah Community Meal

Save the date!! The annual Chicken Booyah Community Meal will be **Sunday, October**

26th. This will be the 12th year of this tradition!

The meal will start following worship at approximately 10:30 am and will run until approximately 12:30 pm unless we run out earlier. Everyone is welcome, so spread the word. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Pre orders and pickup will be available. Free will offering will be accepted for dine in. Take out prices will be posted.

Food preparation will take place on Saturday, October 25th. We will need help chopping

vegetables and prepping for the meal. This will start at **9:00 am**. Watch for a sign-up sheet for these jobs. Many hands make for light and fast work.

There will also be a donation kettle for monetary donations for the food purchases. This is also a great way to use your Thrivent grants for the year. If you need help with one, please contact Kathy Cisar.

All proceeds from this event will be used for continued community support. As a congregation let's make this the best event ever. If there are any questions, please contact Kathy Schenk.

There will be an organizational meeting sometime in September or early October, watch for details. We plan on discussing and planning the details for the event. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Women's Bible Study Groups



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Rebekah Circle's September meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 22nd at 5:30pm with Joyce Philipps as hostess and Teri Kelly as bible study leader.

The October meeting will be on Monday, October 27th, at 5:30pm. Bev Kain will hostess and Teri Kelly will lead the study.

Rebekah Circle is open to all women of the congregation. If you have any questions, you may contact Teri Kelly at 715-938-1009.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will continue to meet every Tuesday at 10:00am at church. Nancy Crevier facilitates this study.

A lively discussion takes place on the articles from the Gather magazine.

This study is open to all women of the congregation, as well as those in the Peshtigo community. If you have any questions, you may contact Nancy Crevier at 715-927-1679.