

# Shepherd of the Hills

## SHEPHERD'S STAFF NEWSLETTER



God reaches us ...**with the Love that reaches others!**

## Shepherd of the Hills

L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

**N1615 MEADOWVIEW DR, GREENVILLE, WI 54942-9625**  
**(920) 757-5722 ~ [office@shepherdhills.org](mailto:office@shepherdhills.org)**

**Office Hours: Mon.—Fri., 8 am—4 pm**

**Website: [www.shepherdhills.org](http://www.shepherdhills.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GreenvilleShepherdoftheHills](https://www.facebook.com/GreenvilleShepherdoftheHills)**

*If you would like to receive this newsletter and other church news and events via email, email your request to: [office@shepherdhills.org](mailto:office@shepherdhills.org).*

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE (EXCEPTIONS MAY OCCUR)**

Saturdays: 5pm Blended

Sundays: 8am Traditional (Online)

Sundays: 9:30am (Online) & 10:45 am REACH Contemporary

#### **HOLY COMMUNION:**

Served every weekend (Saturday & Sunday)

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

Sunday School: 9:15am—10:30am during the school year

Sunday Adult Bible Classes: 9:30am—10:30am during the school year

5<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education Class: Wednesday evenings, 6pm—8pm during the school year

#### **CHOIR & HANDBELLS:**

SHLC Choir meets weekly Thursday evenings, 7pm—8:30pm during the school year

SHLC Handbell Choir meets weekly Thursday evenings, 5:30pm—6:45pm during the school year

**STAFFED NURSERY CARE AVAILABLE SUNDAYS** (Ages 0-5)

Staffed Nursery Care is available Sundays from 8am–Noon in the Childcare Ministry Room adjacent to the Worship Center. There is no staffed nursery care on Saturday nights during worship, but feel free to use the Childcare Ministry Room.

**ACTIVITY BAGS during worship** (Ages 2-4 & K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)

Parents of 2-yr-olds through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, feel free to have your child use the activity bags on the racks in the atrium. The bags are marked for ages 2-4 and grades K-2. Please return the bags to the racks at the end of worship.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** (3-year-olds–4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

During the school year we have Sunday school for children from 9:15-10:30am. Check-in at the info. desk for more information. Parents may attend the 9:30am worship service during that time, attend a bible class, or bring your children with you into worship during a different service.

**ADULT SMALL GROUPS**

Every adult would benefit from being in an Adult Small Group Bible study. It's a great way to get connected. It's the best way to grow deeper in your faith. It's a great way to be supported and encouraged by others in the family of God. Go to our website, [www.shepherdhills.org](http://www.shepherdhills.org) then click on MINISTRIES / SMALL GROUPS to check out our small group options.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL Confirmation (The Crossing)** (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

During the school year we have *The Crossing*, our Middle School confirmation program every Wednesday from 6-8pm. First we eat dinner, then have a large-group teaching time, next is small-group discussion time, and lastly, we close by playing a large-group game. We cover many important topics of the Christian faith during these four years. Contact [Pastor Chad](#) in the church office for more information.

**HIGH SCHOOL Ministry** (9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Our High School ministry meets every Wednesday from 6-8pm during the school year. We eat dinner together, do some crazy games, have some great discussions on a Biblical topic of the night, and have a ton of fun together. Contact [Jessica Tibben](#) in the church office for more information.

## Staff



*Pastor Steve Kline, Senior Pastor*  
[revkline@shepherdhills.org](mailto:revkline@shepherdhills.org)



*Pastor Chad Starfeldt, Associate Pastor*  
[cstarfeldt@shepherdhills.org](mailto:cstarfeldt@shepherdhills.org)



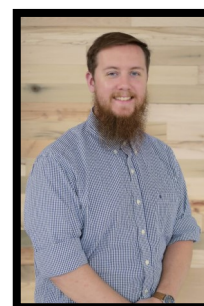
*Jessica Tibben, Director of Family Life Ministry*  
[jtibben@shepherdhills.org](mailto:jtibben@shepherdhills.org)



*Nathan Johnson, Director of Worship and Music*  
[nathan.johnson@shepherdhills.org](mailto:nathan.johnson@shepherdhills.org)



*Tera Larson, Executive Business Director*  
[tera.larson@shepherdhills.org](mailto:tera.larson@shepherdhills.org)



*Hunter Chapin,  
Assistant Director of Worship & Music*  
[hunter.chapin@shepherdhills.org](mailto:hunter.chapin@shepherdhills.org)



*Kim Lorenz, Administrative Assistant*  
[klorenz@shepherdhills.org](mailto:klorenz@shepherdhills.org)



*Lavaun Gorges, Financial Secretary*  
[lavaun@shepherdhills.org](mailto:lavaun@shepherdhills.org)



*Chris Baxter, Facilities*  
[chris.baxter@shepherdhills.org](mailto:chris.baxter@shepherdhills.org)

# January 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 9:30am New Year's Eve Traditional Worship (Streaming) 1:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 4:00pm Guyette Visitation	<b>1</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY-OFFICE CLOSED</b> 6:30pm Schlichting Small Group (B109) 9:00am Guyette Visitation 11:00am Guyette Funeral	<b>2</b> 3k/4k Resumes 8:00am Ann's Stamp Class (A108a) 10:15am Barb's Small Group (A106c) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b)	<b>3</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 12:30pm AA (A108a) 6:00pm High School Youth Group (Youth Room) 6:00pm The Crossing	<b>4</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 5:30pm SHLC Handbells 6:00pm 4-H Club (A108a) 7:00pm SHLC Choir	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 4:30pm Ruby's Set-Up (MMC)	<b>6</b> 8:00am Ruby's Pantry (MMC) 8:30am Diet No More Group (Youth Room) 5:00pm Blended Worship/Communion
<b>7</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship/Communion (Streaming) 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am REACH Worship/Communion (Streaming) 10:45am REACH Worship/Communion 1:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 6:00pm Men's Basketball (MMC) 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study (Youth Room)	<b>8</b> 9:00am Women's Bible Study (Adult Min & Board Room) 10:30am Sewing Angels (A107) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm YMCA Using Gym Space (MMC) 6:30pm Pr. Chad's Small Group (Youth Room) 6:30pm Ungroup (Adult Min)	<b>9</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 6:00pm Admin Board Meeting (Adult Min) 7:00pm Jessica Tibben Small Group (Zoom)	<b>10</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 12:30pm AA (A108a) 6:00pm High School Youth Group (Youth Room) 6:00pm The Crossing	<b>11</b> 10:00am Juli's Small Group Study "Giving God Your Future" (Adult Min) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 5:30pm SHLC Handbells 6:30pm Women's Event-Hot Chocolate Social (Atrium) 7:00pm SHLC Choir	<b>12</b> <b>Middle School/High School Camp Luther</b> 12:00pm Pickleball (MMC)	<b>13</b> <b>Middle School/High School Camp Luther</b> 8:30am Diet No More Group (Youth Room) 5:00pm Blended Worship/Communion
<b>14</b> <b>Middle School/High School Camp Luther</b> <b>8:00am Blood Drive</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship/Communion (Streaming) 9:00am Library Open House (Library) 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am REACH Worship/Communion (Streaming) 10:45am REACH Worship/Communion 1:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 6:00pm Men's Basketball (MMC) 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study (Youth Room)	<b>15</b> 9:00am Women's Bible Study (Adult Min & Board Room) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm YMCA Using Gym Space (MMC) 6:30pm Pr. Chad's Small Group (Youth Room) 6:30pm Schlichting Small Group (B109) 6:30pm Ungroup (Adult Min)	<b>16</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Outreach Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom) 6:00pm Autism Society Board Meeting (A108b) 7:00pm Jessica Tibben Small Group (Zoom)	<b>17</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 12:30pm AA (A108a) 1:00pm Sr. Fellowship Event (Youth Room) 6:00pm High School Youth Group (Youth Room) 6:00pm The Crossing	<b>18</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 5:30pm SHLC Handbells 7:00pm SHLC Choir	<b>19</b> 12:00pm Pickleball (MMC)	<b>20</b> 8:30am Diet No More Group (Youth Room) 5:00pm Blended Worship/Communion
<b>21</b> <b>Fill the Bag Sunday</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship/Communion (Streaming) 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am REACH Worship/Communion (Streaming) 10:45am REACH Worship/Communion / Pahlow Baptism 1:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 6:00pm Men's Basketball (MMC) 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study (Youth Room)	<b>22</b> 9:00am Women's Bible Study (Adult Min & Board Room) 10:30am Sewing Angels (A107) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm YMCA Using Gym Space (MMC) 6:30pm Pr. Chad's Small Group (Youth Room) 6:30pm Ungroup (Adult Min)	<b>23</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Adult Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom) 6:30pm Comfort Dog Ministry Team Meeting (Adult Min) 7:00pm Jessica Tibben Small Group (Zoom)	<b>24</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 12:30pm AA (A108a) 6:00pm High School Youth Group (Youth Room) 6:00pm The Crossing	<b>25</b> 10:00am Juli's Small Group (Adult Min) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 5:30pm SHLC Handbells 7:00pm SHLC Choir	<b>26</b> 12:00pm Pickleball (MMC)	<b>27</b> 8:30am Diet No More Group (Youth Room) 5:00pm Blended Worship/Communion
<b>28</b> <b>Annual Congregation Meeting (Worship Center)</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship/Communion (Streaming) 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am REACH Worship/Communion (Streaming) 1:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 6:00pm Men's Basketball (MMC) 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study (Youth Room)	<b>29</b> 9:00am Women's Bible Study (Adult Min & Board Room) 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm YMCA Using Gym Space (MMC) 6:30pm Pr. Chad's Small Group (Youth Room) 6:30pm Ungroup (Adult Min)	<b>30</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Adult Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom) 7:00pm Jessica Tibben Small Group (Zoom)	<b>31</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 12:30pm AA (A108a) 6:00pm High School Youth Group (Youth Room) 6:00pm The Crossing	<b>1</b> 11:00am Jesus Time/Hillside 4k (A108b) 4:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 5:30pm SHLC Handbells 6:00pm 4-H Club (A108a) 7:00pm SHLC Choir	<b>2</b> 12:00pm Pickleball (MMC) 4:30pm Ruby's Set-Up (MMC)	<b>3</b> 8:00am Ruby's Pantry (MMC) 8:30am Diet No More Group (Youth Room) 4:00pm Green Bay Gamblers Teddy Bear Toss Game 5:00pm Blended Worship/Communion

# Financials

Financial Statement for November 2023		Financial Statement for November 2022	
Operating Budget:		Operating Budget:	
Needed	\$1,003,156	Needed	\$ 905,049
Actual Receipts	\$1,056,489	Actual Receipts	\$ 892,375
Actual Expenses	\$ 939,288	Actual Expenses	\$ 885,251
Income Less Expense	\$ 117,201	Income Less Expense	\$ 7,124
Mortgage Balance	\$2,715,454	Mortgage Balance	\$2,797,584
2023 Receipts	\$1,056,489		
2022 Receipts	<u>\$ 892,375</u>		
	\$ 164,115		
Total Adopted Budget for 2023	\$1,094,352		
Total Adopted Budget for 2022	\$ 987,326		

## SCRIP NEWS!

A huge thank you goes out to all of you who have bought scrip in 2023! You are making a difference in the ministries here at SHLC!

We will be selling scrip cards and placing orders every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Please consider buying your gift cards from the program and donating the rebates to the Comfort Dog ministry, the Fearless Servant Scholarship, the youth program, or the general church fund. It's the easiest way to support these programs!

If you have any questions on scrip, please let me know at 920-475-6069 or via email at [jdk3hunter@gmail.com](mailto:jdk3hunter@gmail.com).



RaiseRight™

To continue your giving contributions to Shepherd of the Hills, there are several options available to you. You may fill out a Simply Giving Authorization Form and return it to the church office to have offerings automatically withdrawn from your account., Or, from your phone, you can go to the homepage of our website, [www.shepherdhills.org](http://www.shepherdhills.org), and click on the [SHLC Online Giving](#) button. From there, click on the appropriate VANCO FAITH GIVEPLUS MOBILE APP—Android or Apple button for instructions to download the Give+ app. Be sure to enter Shepherd of the Hills as your organization name. Or, you can mail (please do not mail cash) or drop off your offering at the church, N1615 Meadowview Drive, Greenville, WI 54942, during office hours.



# THE SPIRIT OF THE THING—Pastor Steve Kline

## Heaven Can Wait

You don't win the race before you've run it. They don't hand you the Oscar before you've made the movie. And you don't get the diploma before the first day of class.

For generations now, Christians have been putting the last before the first. We've become so fixated on the final resting place that we barely glance at the current living place. We have to know the answer to the heaven question, as if that will magically and mystically resolve all the earth questions.\*

Do you have to go to church to get to heaven?

Is my golden retriever Murphy in heaven?

What will we look like in heaven?

Can homosexuals get into heaven?

Are Muslims going to heaven?

One of the bigger ones: What happens to babies who die without being baptized? That too is a heaven question.

Theologian Chad Bird caught my attention in March 2020 with his article, "I Can't Wait to Get Out of Heaven." The subhead says this: **"We act and speak as if dying and going to heaven is what the faith is all about. It is most emphatically not."** Exactly. (He makes some assertions on the eternal geography of the resurrection that I am not in full agreement with, but his main point is spot on.)

Certainly our ultimate resurrection and eternal dwelling with Christ is where true faith is leading us, and it most definitely should matter to us, because it matters to God! But let's not sidestep the life we have now just because we know how the story ends.

We also dare not curtail our sharing and caring just because we think we know where everyone will end up. Satan loves it when we think the battle is over, so we stop fighting, and we stop rescuing those he attacks.

We really don't have a clear, definitive picture from Scripture what our eternal life is going to look like or feel like, nor any specific descriptions of the accommodations or the residents therein. Even the titles of said domicile are frequently cryptic. Jesus tells the (soon-to-be forgiven) thief dying with Him, **"Today you will be with me in paradise"** (Luke 24:43). The thief himself had spoken of "Your Kingdom" to Jesus.

This is after Christ had referred to "My Father's House," with many rooms, including a **"place for you, ... that where I am you may be also"** (John 14:2). Jesus shows John a "new heaven and a new earth" in Revelation 21, because the old ones had passed away. But beware of translating every word picture in Revelation as a physical, temporal reality. Otherwise you'll have Jesus with a sword sticking out of His mouth.

God's Word references heaven repeatedly, but not as the destination on your spiritual GPS. Jesus teaches us to pray, **"Our Father [who art] in heaven..."** (Matthew 6:9). To oversimplify, heaven is where God is, where we are with Jesus and with all those whom He has graced with His presence. Heaven is defined Biblically by Who is there, not where. And we'll get there soon enough – wherever it is.

God's focus for the living is exactly that: living. We were dead in our sins, but then Christ brought us to life, before He brings us to heaven. We are baptized into His death and raised with Him in His resurrection, to live a new life with Him and in Him, without waiting for the coroner to stamp our death certificate.

Even when God speaks of eternal life – the one bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus – that doesn't start the moment we die. It starts the moment we come to life: when He hits us with forgiveness, with His Holy Spirit, with the gift of faith. We won't need faith in heaven (because we will see Him face to face), but we certainly need it on this side of eternity.

This is why Christ makes mission our ministry. He sends us to disciple the world by baptizing them into Him and teaching them to live by His Word. He expects us to proclaim His life-giving Word to everyone with ears, so that He might revive (literally, bring back to life) them right here, right now. Together we draw comfort, strength and encouragement from the presence of God-With-Us Jesus, who promises to be with us always, forever.

When Jesus called His disciples to follow Him, He didn't say where He was taking them. And they didn't ask. Not until three years later, when Thomas stopped for directions. **"I am the Way,"** Jesus says. All roads lead to Christ. That's the place to be.

By grace through faith, Jesus walks us through the valley of the shadow of death. He washes us clean and clothes us with His righteousness. He steps into our pain and empowers us to overcome it. He doesn't wait for us to die. He breathes into us the Spirit of Life, ready to go, to love, to live.

Now.

\*Don't think of it as going to church; think of it as coming to Jesus. And then the answer is yes.

\*Animals in heaven, yes; specific pets: I don't know. It will still be heaven either way, with lots of golden retrievers.

\*Don't worry about looks. You'll love it no matter what.

\*No, homosexuals cannot get into heaven. Neither can liars, adulterers, thieves, gluttons, Catholics, Lutherans or people who yell at the Packers, the coaches and the refs (chief of those sinners, right here). All the labels that define our sin or divide us from each other got canceled at the Cross.

\*No, Muslims (or any other followers of not-Christ) are not going to heaven unless they believe in Jesus Christ, the risen Son of God, in life. Only one Way in, so we keep defending and proclaiming the truth about Jesus, one soul at a time. Focus on this life, rather than the next one.

\*"Let the babies come to me, because My Kingdom belongs to them." Baptism is for the living; Jesus takes care of the dead. So keep baptizing. Jesus takes care of them, too.



# Upcoming Sermon Series

Join Us for Our Upcoming Sermon Series:  
**God Is \_\_\_\_\_**

When you see *God Is \_\_\_\_\_* what comes to mind? How can any of us really know what God's like? Too often, we view Him from our limited perspective, but it doesn't have to be that way. Together, let's discover how to fill that space with truth.



**January 7** Hope When You Are Hurting

**January 14** Living Without Worry

**January 21** When You Feel Like God Can't Love You

**January 28** The Message You Don't Want To Hear

**February 4** Where To Turn When You're Frustrated

**February 11** Hope For A Hopeless Situation

## For Your Information

### Pastor Steve Kline Planning a Sabbatical in 2025

*"Those that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength: they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." (Is. 40:31)*

After nine years of service to our congregation and 31 years of uninterrupted pastoral care in the LCMS, Pastor Steve is finally ready to take some time to renew his strength in a short-term sabbatical. The LCMS and the North Wisconsin District have been strongly encouraging pastors and congregations to utilize this Biblical practice to help promote the overall health of pastors and the ministries in which they serve.

Sabbaticals are intended to help the person avoid burnout, refresh the spirit, engage the mind, gain perspective, knowledge and skills, and to benefit the church with re-energized leadership, clarity of vision and healthy models of Christian life.



**NOTICE: 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are ready to be picked up in the Atrium. If you have not already picked up your offering envelopes, please pick them up when you come to worship, or anytime during normal office hours.

# Bible Studies

**Are you tired of a wimpy faith?** Are you tired of Bible study after Bible study that isn't very academic? Do you want answers to tough questions about the Christian faith? Do you desire to have a deeper faith and stronger confidence to share your faith with others?

## Join me for COLD – CASE CHRISTIANITY.

A devout atheist, J. Warner Wallace couldn't imagine believing in the Christian faith—until he applied the same step-by-step investigative process he utilized in his work as a homicide detective to the case for Christianity. Wallace realized he could no longer deny the truth of Jesus Christ. And his life was never the same.

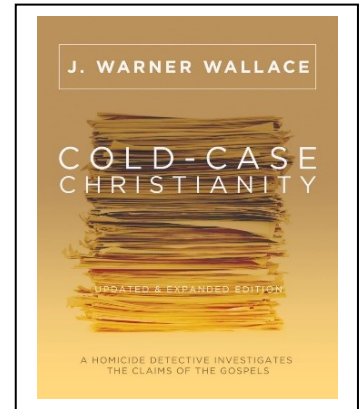
A proven bestseller, *Cold-Case Christianity* shows:

- The role that evidence plays in the Christian definition of faith
- Why the gospel eyewitness accounts demonstrate the historicity of Jesus
- How rules of evidence help make the case for the proof of Christianity

An ideal book and course for anyone who wants to articulate the case for Jesus and the reliability of the Bible, this engaging exploration of Christianity answers the most important questions regarding the validity of the Bible.

In the course *Cold-Case Christianity* the following topics:

Session 1	Jan. 8	1. Objective and Subjective Truth 2. Three Lies About the Truth 3. Definitions of Truth
Session 2:	Jan. 15	4. Evidence for God from the Origin of the Universe 5. Evidence for God from the Fine Tuning of the Universe 6. Evidence for God from the Origin of Life
Session 3:	Jan. 22	7. Evidence for God from Objective Morality 8. The Template for Evaluating the Reliability of the New Testament 9. Were the Gospels Written Early
Session 4:	Jan. 29	10. Can the Gospels Be Corroborated 11. Were the Gospels Changed Over Time 12. Were the Gospel Authors Biased
Session 5:	Feb. 5	13. Did Jesus Really Die on the Cross 14. Did the Disciples Lie About the Resurrection 15. Did the Disciples Hallucinate the Resurrection or Were They Fooled
Session 6:	Feb. 12	16. Were the Disciples Influenced or Is the Resurrection a Late Legend 17. Did the Disciples Accurately Record the Resurrection 18. The Template for Evaluating the Impact of Jesus on Human History
Session 7:	Feb. 19	19. The Fuse Leading Up to the Appearance of Jesus 20. The Fallout Following the Appearance of Jesus 21. Explaining the Impact of Jesus
Session 8:	Feb. 26	22. Establishing a First Responder Model 23. The Evidential History of Christianity
Session 9:	March 4	24. Developing a Sense of Duty 25. Training to Share the Truth
Session 10:	March 11	26. Reading the Case Book and Thinking About Evidence 27. Taking Notes and Analyzing Words
Session 11:	March 18	28. Summarizing Evidence and Adding to the Case 29. Picking and Instructing a Jury
Session 12:	March 25	30. Communicating the Evidence



**Time:**  
**Mondays (Jan. 8 – March 25),**  
**6:30-8:00 pm**  
**Place: Youth Ministry Room**  
**Text: Cold Case Christianity by**  
**J. Warner Wallace**  
**REGISTER BY EMAILING:**  
**[cstarfeldt@shepherdhills.org](mailto:cstarfeldt@shepherdhills.org),**  
**using the QR Code, or**  
**[shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/](https://shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2072087)**  
**[registrations/events/2072087](https://shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2072087)**



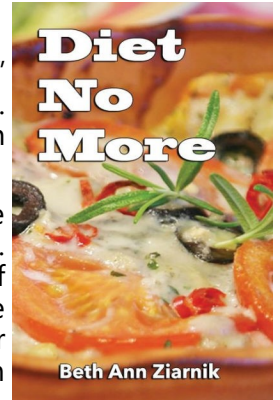
# SHLC Ministries

## DIET NO MORE GROUP

Are you looking for hope and encouragement to manage your weight? The "Diet No More" study teaches participants to eat in a way that honors God and gives them peace of heart. Not a "here's-what-to-eat" program, but rather a change of heart and motivation through scripture with strategies to fight temptation.



Join Ruth Schmeckpeper and others who struggle with dieting to explore a stronger relationship with God while learning to eat healthy. Saturday mornings at **8:30 am, January 6<sup>th</sup>—February 10<sup>th</sup>** at Shepherd of the Hills in the Youth Room. Register by using the QR Code (<https://shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2071960>), or on the app. There is a \$10 fee to purchase your book, payable to Ruth Schmeckpeper.



## SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE

**Who:** everyone  
**What:** donate blood  
**When:** Sunday, January 14 from 8:00-12:00  
**Where:** Shepherd of the Hills  
**Why:** to help save lives  
Please consider donating! Call or text Lori Marsden (920-450-5256) to get signed up.

## SHLC BUS TRIP TEDDY BEAR TOSS

Saturday, Feb. 3rd @ 4pm

\$20/PERSON → BUS RIDE & TICKET!

**SIGN-UP ON THE CHURCH CENTER  
APP OR AT THE KIOSKS!  
SPACE IS LIMITED!**



- Sign up by 1/25 at the Welcome Center, on the Church Center App, or the QR code, or [shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2081151](https://shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2081151)
- \$20/tix payment due 1/31.
- Arrive at SHLC at 4pm for 4:15pm bus loading.
- Teddy Bear (new w/tags) donations are being accepted in the Atrium at SHLC to be thrown on the ice and donated to local pediatric hospitals.





# SHLC Ministries

## FILL THE BAG SUNDAY

We are excited to introduce a new initiative that we believe will make a significant impact in our surrounding communities. Starting in January 2024 and every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month thereafter, we will be hosting "SHLC Fill the Bag Sunday."

WHY "FILL THE BAG SUNDAY?" In our surrounding communities, there is a real need to help families supplement their food needs. Many families face challenges in putting enough food on the table and we want to do our part to alleviate this issue.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Participation in "Fill the Bag Sunday" is simple, yet incredibly meaningful. Here's how you can get involved.

- **PICK UP A BLACK BAG:** These bags have been generously donated by Thrivent. "Fill the Bag" with food items. Every contribution no matter how small, can make a significant difference in someone's life.
- **DROP OFF LOCATION:** In 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the coatroom you will find a shelving unit marked \*Pantry where you can place your filled bag.
- **CONTINUED PARTICIPATION:** The following Sunday, pick up another bag to fill the following month. This ongoing cycle of giving will ensure that we continue to support those in need.

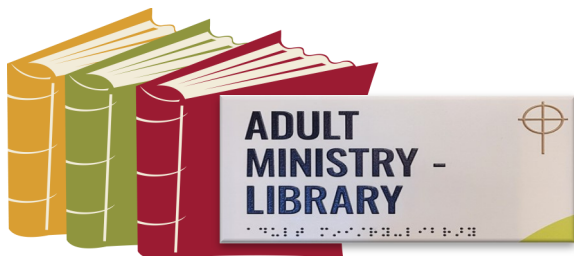


### JANUARY NEEDS:

- |                    |  |                     |                 |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| * Peanut Butter    | * Jelly (no glass containers)                    | * Canned Vegetables | * Canned Fruits |
| * Spaghetti        | * Spaghetti Sauce (canned or plastic containers) | * Mac & Cheese      |                 |
| * Hamburger Helper | * Rice-A-Roni                                    | * Potato Mixes      | * Canned Tuna   |

### 2024 COLLECTION DATES:

- |                |               |               |               |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| * January 21   | * February 18 | * March 17    | * April 21    |
| * May 19       | * June 16     | * July 21     | * August 18   |
| * September 15 | * October 20  | * November 17 | * December 15 |



## LIBRARY EVENT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH  
An Abundance of resources  
at your fingertips  
Questions Answered  
PLEASE JOIN US!!!!!!



# Senior Fellowship Ministry

## ATTENTION ALL SENIOR ADULTS



**JANUARY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP:** Join Dr. David Brunning is the founder of the International Children's Fund. He has done mission trips and the radio station WEMI. Come hear his words of wisdom and enjoy the fellowship on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Youth Room. There will be a free will offering.

There will not be any gatherings for February or March during Lent.

# Women' Ministry

*All Women Welcome to...*

## Hot Chocolate Social

Thursday, January 11  
6:30pm

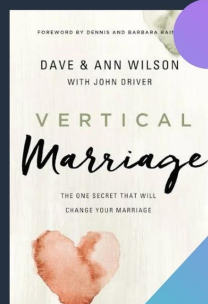
Atrium by fireplace  
\$5 per woman  
RSVP via Church Center



Come relax & unwind with good company & warm drinks.

For anyone who is married, preparing for marriage, or desperate to save a relationship teetering on the brink of divorce, marriage coaches Dave and Ann Wilson offer hope and strategies gleaned from personal experience and Scripture that really work. Vertical Marriage will give you the insight, applications, and inspiration to transform your marriage into everything you hoped it would be. Honest to the core and laugh-out-loud funny, Dave and Ann Wilson share the one secret that brought them from the brink of divorce to a healthy and vibrant relationship.

*Women's  
Book  
Club*



Monday, March 11  
6:30pm in Atrium

VERTICAL MARRIAGE

# 2024 Women Rejoice! Retreat

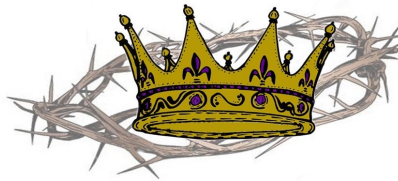
Save the Date

WOMEN REJOICE! RETREAT  
at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake  
February 16-18, 2024

*“We Believe”*  
ESV Ephesians 2:8

Guest Speaker: Schawn Starfeldt

Scholarships are available



Visit us at [www.womenrejoice.org](http://www.womenrejoice.org)  
or follow us on facebook or  
instagram @womenrejoicewi

Ladies, please join us at the Osthoff Resort for the 2024 Women Rejoice! Retreat. The registration form will be available in November. Go to [www.womenrejoice.org](http://www.womenrejoice.org) for more information.

## Reminder from Facilities

### REMINDER

As we head into winter, remember the parking lot and sidewalks can become slippery. The facilities team does their best to shovel/plow/salt the property and stay on top of the weather, however, it can be difficult when we have all day/night snowfalls.

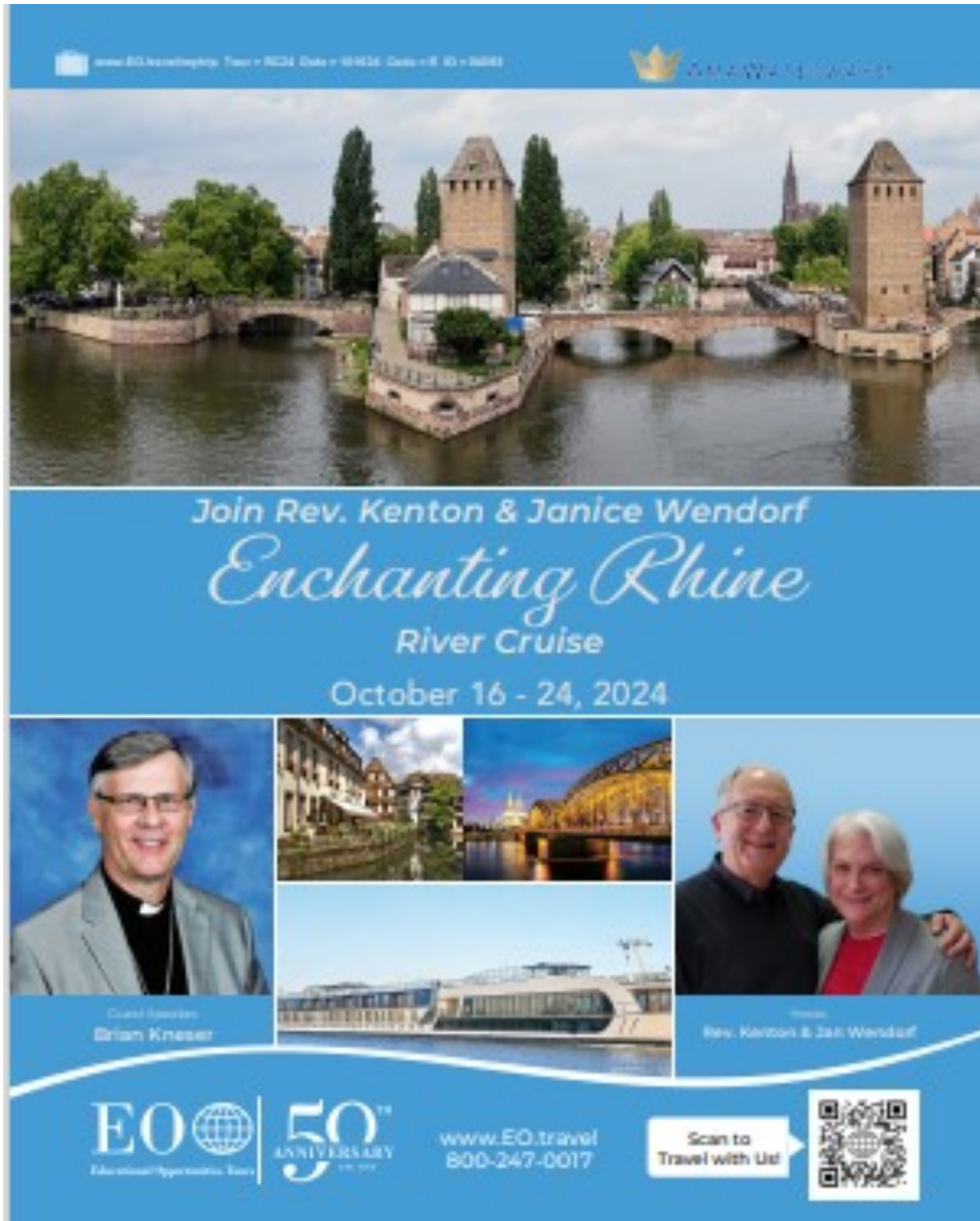
Please use caution during the upcoming winter months.



# You're Invited

## TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

Pastor Kent and Jan Wendorf are hosting a Rhine River Cruise in October, 2024. The trip will be from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam. Members and friends of Shepherd of the Hills are welcome. The trip is being organized through Educational Opportunities Travels. "Jan and I have enjoyed past trips as we traveled with friends. We have learned so much about the wonderful world our God has created."



www.EOtraveling.com | Travel - 800-247-0017 | Date - 10/16/24 | Cost - \$1,200 - \$2,000

Join Rev. Kenton & Janice Wendorf

# Enchanting Rhine

River Cruise

October 16 - 24, 2024


Guest Host: Brian Kneiser

Hosts: Rev. Kenton & Jan Wendorf

EO 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1974-2024

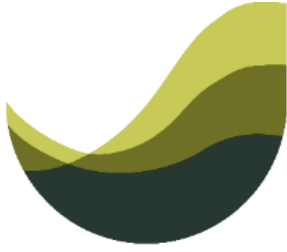
www.EO.travel 800-247-0017

Scan to Travel with Us!





# Fearless Servant Scholarship



Shepherd of the Hills  
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

## Fearless Servant Scholarship

*In Honor of Christ  
In Memory of Mark J. Peters*

***And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,  
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving  
thanks to God the Father through Him.***

Colossians 3:17

**ATTENTION SHLC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.** A Fearless Servant is a high school student who commits to actively giving their time, energy and spirit to serving the needs of our church and community. We pray your servant heart would be on display throughout the high school years, as an ongoing testament to the servant's love for Christ and from Christ.

In May of 2023 the Fearless Servant Scholarship Committee awarded our first ever \$500 scholarship to two deserving high school seniors. This is an annual award.

Application qualifications:

- 1) Member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
- 2) High School Senior
- 3) Completion of service hours accumulated during 4 years of H.S. directly related to SHLC. A tally of service hours beginning Freshman year is recommended.
- 4) Write a short essay describing what it means to you to be a "Fearless Servant of Christ."

Our process to record hours has changed this year. Please use the link or QR code to record your service hours as you complete them.

<https://shepherdhills.churchcenter.com/people/forms/564227>

The link for the application will be available in the spring of 2024.

Direct questions to the scholarship committee, at  
[FearlessServant@shepherdhills.org](mailto:FearlessServant@shepherdhills.org).



## Thank You



### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM

*"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." ~ Matthew 5:16*

### THANK YOU! YOU ANSWERED THE CALL!!

25 children and their parents are grateful for the Christmas gifts.

## Music News



We are so excited to begin the campaign to raise money for our acoustic grand piano! Here are some ways to donate toward our goal:

Contribute via check (you can use your "designated gift" or weekly offering envelopes)

Contribute via SCRIP

Electronic contribution via your banking app

Direct donation via Vanco mobile app

## Children & Youth News

Group

Save The Date

diving into friendship with god

**SCUBA VBS**  
**July 29th - Aug. 1st, 2024!!!**

A vibrant, colorful graphic for SCUBA VBS. The word "SCUBA" is written in large, 3D, sponge-like letters in yellow, blue, orange, and purple. A small cartoon fish is swimming near the letters. The background is a blue underwater scene with bubbles, coral, and a starfish. The text "diving into friendship with god" is written in a white, cursive font across the bottom of the letters. At the top right, "Save The Date" is written in a white, cursive font. At the bottom, "SCUBA VBS" is written in bold, colorful letters, followed by "July 29th - Aug. 1st, 2024!!!".

7TH - 12TH GRADE

**A NIGHT OF**

**HOPE!**

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

March 16th, 2024- 5:00 pm- 8:00pm  
Inflatables. Food. Worship. Speakers. Fun!  
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
N1615 Meadowview Dr., Greenville, WI

A black and white graphic with green and yellow text. At the top, "7TH - 12TH GRADE" is written in white. Below it, "A NIGHT OF" is written in large, green, outlined letters. "HOPE!" is written in large, yellow, outlined letters. Below that, "SAVE THE DATE!!!!" is written in green, outlined letters. At the bottom, the event details are written in white: "March 16th, 2024- 5:00 pm- 8:00pm", "Inflatables. Food. Worship. Speakers. Fun!", "Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church", and "N1615 Meadowview Dr., Greenville, WI". A small green cross icon is next to "HOPE!".



# Children & Youth News



**Calling All 5th - 12th Grade Youth!**

**Jan. 12th - 14th**

Come join in for xc-skiing, tubing, broomball, hot chocolate, and faith building time with others from across Wisconsin at Camp Luther. \$135 per person - accommodations can be made for those needing them.

Please note: even though Middle School & High School are going together, they will be doing a lot of things separately.

Scan QR code, in the church center app, or [shepherdhills.org](https://shepherdhills.org) to sign up by Dec. 6th.

Contact Jessica Tibben with your questions.



**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP 2023/4 - WEDNESDAYS @ 6PM- 8PM**

**Dec.**

6TH - 'ADVENT'URE #2  
13TH - 'ADVENT'URE #3  
20TH - CHRISTMAS PARTY!  
27TH - NO YOUTH GROUP!

**Jan.**

3RD - WDJS & BOOFER  
10TH - WDJS & GAGA BALL  
17TH - SLEDDING AT JENNERJOHN PARK  
24TH - WDJS & HUNGER GAMES  
31ST - MAKE JESUS KNOWN & GAME  
**JAN. 12TH - 14TH - CAMP LUTHER RETREAT!!!**

**Feb.**

7TH - WINTER OLYMPICS  
14TH - EAGLES EGGS/ ASH WEDNESDAY  
21ST - BASKETBALL/ LENTEN SERVICE  
28TH - GAME/LENTEN SERVICE

**TO STAY CONNECTED  
AND FIND MORE INFORMATION:**

**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM :**

**@SOTHLUTHERAN**

**ADD US ON REMIND:**

**TEXT @SHLCY TO THE NUMBER 81010**

**DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED EACH WEEK!  
IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, PLEASE  
LOOK TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, EMAIL, OR  
REMINDE FOR UPDATES.**

# Chaplains Corner

**Psalms 33:20-22 (NIV)** *"We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His Holy Name. May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You."* How many times have we said to ourselves, *"If only God would just give me the desires of my heart, then I would be alright, everything would be OK."* Even if you and I, like the Israelites, got to the edge or border of the Promised Land, it does not mean that our problems will all suddenly disappear. In reality, the direct opposite might be true. This was the serious error in judgement that the children of Israel made as they approached Canaan. They were sure the worst of their struggles was over—that all of that sorrow and pain from being in slavery was left behind in Egypt. However, they arrived in the territory that God had promised their forefather Abraham, and all of a sudden noticed that the people already there, were strong and that their cities were built up and ready for battle. Contrary to their belief that it was all just waiting for them, they discovered that it would take a lot of faith and trust in God to chase out the inhabitants and to conquer their promised land.

Think back to the numbers of times you have asked God to grant you the desires of your heart. Did He give you what you wanted? Or, are you still waiting for the richness of your hopes and dreams? We must realize that to obtain those wonderful desires/dreams/hopes of our hearts, it will take real faith. God has already promised to give us ALL that is necessary to achieve those desires. The hard thing for you and me is patience in waiting for God's timing. He is never early, He is never late, He is ALWAYS right on time. God knows exactly what He is doing and is making us strong day-by-day as we grow in His grace, mercy, forgiveness and love. And soon, you and I will receive what our hearts long for most. May our desires always align with God's desires.

**Acts 4:8-12 (NIV)** *"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: 'Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified but Whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved'".* Many people with whom we have close relationships don't realize that they have a "World view". Each one of us have beliefs, and those beliefs have consequences. Whether an individual lives by these beliefs on purpose, or unwittingly, it is nevertheless, how we live our lives. These beliefs are created from our earliest years of life and can be secular and self-centered, humanistic, New Age, or Christian beliefs that guard our every decision in life.

Whether they know it or not, everyone operates from a basic belief system. We need to get to know ours as soon as possible. As a holder of the "Christian Worldview" we have given up the right to sort of just go through life, drifting along on the opinions of other people. The Bible's revelation of who God is, what He has done to redeem fallen humanity through the ministry of His only Son Jesus Christ, and the eternal nature of His Heavenly Kingdom should affect every position you and I hold on every possible issue of everyday life. For us to live the Christian life, we must first know what we believe so our decisions can be based on God's Word which is the only truth there is. Living God's truth means we don't worry about the outcome of our decisions, work, relationships, projects and dreams because they will develop and come to fruition according to God's will.

**Luke 2:1-15 (NIV)** *"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'"*

As a child growing up in a small Lutheran Church in Wisconsin, I was part of presenting the above Christmas story to the congregation, and standing-room-only guests every single year on Christmas Eve until I was confirmed at age 14. The church would be completely decorated for Christmas, the tall tree trimmed by the members of the congregation. Our Sunday School teachers would assign parts for the older kids to play and then each Saturday during the month of December we'd have practice to make sure every child knew what he or she was supposed to say, do and/or sing at the appropriate time. Over all those years I teasingly say that I played every character in the Christmas Story except for Mary! In reflection, it was a wonderful time of telling and retelling the beautiful story of how Christ came on earth to save us from our sins – and that story never changes. Merry Christmas everyone! And God's richest blessings always.

*Chaplain Marshall Schultz*



# Camp Luther News

## 2024 Summer Camp Registration!

*NEW THIS YEAR!*

Our opening day for summer registration has exploded in popularity in recent years, resulting in an overload of registrations on our opening day. To help manage this load, and to help parents who may be trying to register campers for multiple programs, this year we will be opening registration for a few of our most popular programs in advance of our general registration opening.

### Summer 2024 Registration Opening Dates:

- **January 15-19:** Fill out your Camper's forms
- **January 21(Sunday):** Kindercamp | Quest | IMPACT
- **January 28(Sunday):** Explorer | Pathfinder | Trailblazer | High School Week

**Registration opens at 1pm on the 21st & 28th of January.** These dates are both outside of our normal office hours. It is important to us that opening registration runs smoothly and any issues that arise are taken care of quickly. To do that, we will have our front office staffed 1pm - 5pm for both registration opening dates.

Click here for more information about Summer Camp. <https://campluther.com/summer?>



## Apply Today for Summer Staff / Junior Counselor!

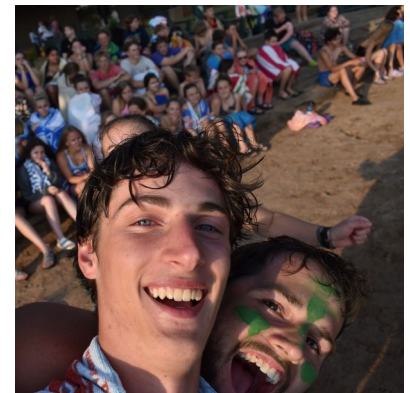
Time serving at Camp Luther is time well spent!

- Discover and cultivate your gifts, talents, and passions.
- Be encouraged in your faith.
- Find belonging and enjoy fellowship with others looking to serve God.
- Find purpose in being a part of something bigger than yourself.

Applications will be open until early February so don't miss your chance to serve God through Camp Luther!

**Are you ready to spend time this summer telling others about Jesus?** Apply today!

<https://campluther.com/why-serve?>



For further information & more Camp Luther news, go to <https://campluther.com>.

# January Birthdays & Anniversaries



1/1 Jonathan Fietzer  
Amber Genovese  
Debbie Gibbons  
Lynn Haase  
Terry Haase  
Bill Jahnke  
Vernon Nelson  
Bruce Turner  
Terri Turner  
Timothy Van Ornum  
Tyler Van Ornum  
Wendy Wahlers  
Dan Witthuhn  
Sandy Witthuhn  
1/2 Bill Koch  
Zach Neitzke  
Ellie Voight  
1/3 Meghan Anderson  
Brielle Breit  
Grant Hinkley  
Abigail Servin  
Allison Wendt  
1/4 Todd Jorstad  
Jeanne Protsman  
Mike Schell  
Cecilia Trower  
1/5 Lisa Beyer  
Bev Colburn  
Linda Hintze  
Brianna Maass  
Ashley Poepke  
Jaxon Springstroh  
1/6 Jason Antoine  
Dan Bushmaker  
Zackery Roovers  
Cordelia Zoellick  
1/7 Xander Bigalke  
Natalie Degal  
Brooke O'Connor  
Lexus Sommers  
1/8 Alexandria Bonikowske  
Ardis Gauerke  
1/9 Cecelia Antoine  
Zachary Degal  
1/10 Connie Hughes  
Emilia Krueger

1/10 Bruce Leitzke  
1/11 Laurie Brockman  
Dawn Dain  
David Grasse  
Thomas Grasse  
Logan Grossman  
Julie Peterson  
April Rosenfeldt  
Brielle Springstroh  
Paul St Aubin  
Bubba Vanden Heuvel  
1/12 Jake Kernen  
Kenley Krug  
Caden Mischler  
1/13 Erin Bigalke  
Kevin Brimmer  
Ryan Garz  
Stewart Hoyer  
Alexander Kramer  
Rodney Lorenz  
Lori McNichols  
Christine Voelz  
Dale Wait  
Terri Werner  
1/14 Charlotte Arndt  
Ruth Barthel  
Jeffrey Hunter  
Kolden Hunter  
Jean Johnson  
Zachary Klein  
Peg Mischler  
Barbara Peters  
Tricia Voelz  
1/15 Grace Doolittle  
Garrett Frankfurth  
Mary Jakl  
Zaydon Kumbier  
Jill Nysse

1/16 Harper Krake  
1/17 Barbara Hartfiel  
Jerry Rosin  
Ashley Sager  
Shannon Schlamm  
1/18 Matthew Anderson  
Donald Kuettel  
Jason Ohlde  
Cindy Schlichting  
Bradley Siewert  
1/19 Dean Culbertson  
Cindy Gitter  
Todd Huettl  
Chase Kelly  
Stephanie Kiley  
1/20 Dan Dennee  
Sharon Kluge  
Tom Krueger  
LisaLattimer  
Lisa Pawlowski  
Vyctoria Smith  
1/21 Sam Broeniman  
Ember Brzozowski  
Samuel Caves  
Ruth Chrudinsky  
Braelynn Ewald  
Gina Hedtke  
Levyn Hudziak  
Emily Price  
George Rock  
John Winkler  
1/22 Sharon Buzanowski  
John Christensen  
David Farah  
Lisa Krueger  
Duane Matz  
Phyllis Paul  
Brittnee Sexton

1/23 Eric VanderWielen  
Ken Wytttenbach  
1/24 Sue Krentz  
Macey Schneider  
1/25 Brenda Baerwald  
Ashley Baken  
Charlie Ogg  
Schyler Shelley  
Bob Tews  
David Wegner  
1/26 Brian Casey  
Elizabeth Hanson  
Nathan Krake  
Mary Plank  
Brianna Prochnow  
Tim Zernzach  
1/27 Erik Baranek  
Ryan Beyer  
Gavin Klein  
Deb Schroeder  
Hank Sommer  
1/28 Dan Behm  
Norah Dornfeld  
Naomi Larkpor  
Ed Schlichting  
Martin Van Duzer  
1/29 Traci Blondeau  
Kay Frome  
Chris Gorges  
Beth Hohn  
Jared Johnson  
Nancy Kuettel  
Scott Merkle  
Julianne Schuh  
1/30 Johan Aulwes  
Marti Hager  
Ashley Hintz  
Wally Martin  
Morgan Springer  
Aleah Talton  
Stuart Voelz  
Kevin Weissahn  
1/31 Debbie Kline  
Ken Tisch



1/2 Bob & Molly Tews 53 years  
1/11 Robert & Bev Popp 50 years  
1/13 Chad & Samantha Hudziak 8 years  
1/16 Amos & Kelsea Vanden Heuvel 6 years  
1/17 Richard & Cindy Novotny 48 years  
1/20 Herbert & Violet Grube 34 years

1/20 Santy & Vahn Vongkhamsaeng 18 years  
1/21 Darren & Jackie Brzozowski 7 years  
Travis & Jennifer Steinacker 12 years  
1/23 Dave & Betsy Doolittle 14 years  
1/25 Jerry & Marilyn Coenen 66 years  
1/28 Anthony & Cathy Schmidt 19 years