

May 2023

Quarterly Publication of Good Shepherd



Rev.
Mary Suomala Folkerds
Lead Pastor

FAREWELL TO LONG-TIME STAFF MEMBER

In 2015, Karen Skarpness spoke at a Thanksgiving Eve service and shared this Bible verse from Colossians: "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Karen lives this Bible verse—always staying rooted in Christ, being strengthened in faith throughout her life, and showing thankfulness in good times and hard times.

Karen has worked at Good Shepherd for 25 years, first as the secretary and receptionist for 22 years and then as the Data Systems and Finance Manager for the last three years. In the last three years, she helped the transition into online giving, built a new church database, and guided the refinance process for the congregation's mortgage.

She will conclude her time at Good Shepherd this summer, and we as a staff and congregation are grateful for her years of dedication to the mission of Good Shepherd. Her position has been eliminated due to a post-COVID staff audit led by me and the Executive Team of the Council. The conclusion was that the financial operations of Good Shepherd have not changed sufficiently to keep a full-time staff member in this role.

Going forward, Good Shepherd will utilize a local company that does church accounting. Good Shepherd will then hire a part-time Finance Administrator to interact with the staff, the accounting firm, and the congregation.

Many of you know and love Karen. We invite you to show your appreciation through a "shower of cards." We will be gathering these cards at Good Shepherd throughout June and will pass them on to Karen to show our appreciation.

God's Peace,

Rev. Mary Suomala Folkerds, Lead Pastor



Karen Skarpness



Rev. Taylor Wilson
Pastor of
Worship & Mission



Rev. Meggie Bjertness
Pastor of
Adult Faith Formation



Deacon Julie Wilson
Director of
Kids Ministry



Karen in the original Good Shepherd Office

This was not Karen's choice, but she has been graciously working to ensure a smooth transition for this next chapter of ministry at Good Shepherd.

Staffing changes are always hard, especially with a tight-knit church staff. We know that God will be with Karen in her next chapter, and we pray for God's guidance as we welcome a new staff member to steward the congregation's financial operations.

Summer with Good Shepherd

More events & programs at gsMoorhead.org




gskIDS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
 JUNE 5-8 & JUNE 12-15
 MONDAY-THURSDAY
 9:00 AM - NOON

\$40* (includes t-shirt & cd) *scholarships available
 Age 3 (potty trained)-completed Grade 4 ('22-'23 year)
Middle & High School Youth: We'd love your help as a small group crew leader!
gsMoorhead.ChurchCenter.com/registrations




Connect with Us!




FACEBOOK




INSTAGRAM



SPOTIFY



NEXT STEPS



GIVING



FAMILY BOB ROSS PAINTING NIGHT
 Tuesday, June 20 // 6:30-7:30 pm
 \$5/painter (\$15 family max)
 Supplies Included // Gym
 Sign up to attend using QR code!



June 15, July 20 & August 17

Ruby's Pantry & Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

COMMUNITY FOOD EVENT

\$25 = 2 boxes of food

3rd Thursday of Every Month
 Good Shepherd South Parking Lot
 For ANYONE, no exceptions!

Volunteer and reserve your food share at RubysPantry.org



gskIDS

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

DAY AT CAMP (K-GRADE 2)
*GS PROVIDES TRANSPORTATION

THURS JULY 13

Bible study, games, swimming, crafts, and music! Lunch and snack provided.
 **When you register, click on option. "2023 July 13 LC of the Good Shepherd"
 \$35 (*+\$20 to GS for bus transportation)

LUTHER CREST BIBLE CAMP
LUTHERCREST.ORG

REGISTER HERE!



Good Shepherd

Family Fun Night

Tuesday, July 11 // 6:30 pm
 Gathering Space

Bingo + Ice Cream Sundaes
 Bring an ice cream topping to share!



REDHAWKS

NIGHT AT THE REDHAWKS BASEBALL GAME

TUESDAY AUGUST 8	FIRST PITCH 7:02 PM	TICKET \$ 12/PERSON	NEWMAN OUTDOOR FIELD
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REGISTER gsMoorhead.org | Church Office | 218.233.4980



SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

FAMILY CAMP (WEEKEND)
 FRI-SUN JULY 28-30

Enjoy our accommodations, play games, worship, and meet new friends while we do the cooking/dishes!
 All the fun of Family Camp packed into one great weekend!
 Adults \$100 // Kids 2 and older \$60
 Family max: \$450

GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOLARSHIP:
 \$25/FAMILY (WEEKEND FAMILY REGISTRATION)
 **GOOD SHEPHERD WILL SEND MONIES DIRECTLY TO CAMP (DEDUCT THAT AMOUNT FROM YOUR PAYMENT)

REGISTER HERE!



Baptism Class

Sundays // June 11 // July 9 // August 13

9:30 am // Resource Lounge

Children of God are baptized at any age at Good Shepherd.

If you are interested in baptism, email Linda@ktgs.org.

SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

Good Shepherd
FOR FARGO MOORHEAD

June Sermon Series: "Shine Jesus' Light."

Father's Day Floats

Sunday, June 18
9:30 am
Gathering Space

This spring, Good Shepherd had 50+ students in 4th Grade attend sacrament instruction and receive their First Holy Communion!

who Told you THAT?

Seeking truth in a world of deception

Good Shepherd
FOR FARGO MOORHEAD
Sermon Series

July Sermon Series based on the book by Laurie Etta Neill
Rev. Laurie will kick-off our sermon series by preaching on Wednesday, July 5, & Sunday, July 9. Meet and greet following the service on Wednesday and between services on Sunday. Scan the QR code to get your copy of the book!

CONGRATULATIONS 2023 GRADUATES

Jack Arnold
Mari Benedict
Zaine Braaten
Abe Carlson
Aiden Carlson
Olivia Dahlberg
Lexi Ellefson

Gavin Feil
Jonathan Hansen
Kira Hegg
Maggie Howe
Joseph Kortan
Colby Krier
Easton Lammers

Christian Larson
Stacia LaVallie
Kameron Liebl
Elizabeth Line
Anna Nelson
Ava Nelson
Keira Paulsen

Grace Perry
Emma Peterson
Braden Radeck
Ellie Retzer
Gabriell Schuetz
Gabriel Schumacher
Cooper Sorby

Marcus Stavenger
Jack Tompkins
Alexa Tweeter
Jayce Walker
Jack Watzke



gsPRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer Ministry is a group of Good Shepherd members praying for our congregation. If there is anything we can pray for on your behalf or if you would like to join the Prayer Ministry Team, email Stephanie@ktgs.org or call 218.233.4980. All prayers are confidential to the ministry.

Join Good Shepherd at the next
NEW MEMBER CONNECTION CLASS!

Wednesday, July 12, 6:00-6:45 pm (Chapel)

- Dinner provided **OR**

Sunday, July 16, 9:30-10:15 am (Chapel)

- Muffins, coffee, and juice provided

RSVP by emailing Linda@ktgs.org

gsGives



gs Capital Campaign: On Mission

\$800,000 goal for debt reduction & Sanctuary improvements

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (2 Corinthians 9:11)



Your gifts make a difference here at Good Shepherd. Here are ways YOU can give to our mission today!

\$20.07, FOUNDATION GIFT (approx. value=1 coffee date)

Jump start your giving with a gift honoring the year we moved to our current location.

\$75.00, GROWTH GIFT (approx. value=1 dinner out)

Covers the registration cost of two Church School students and one confirmation student for an entire year.

\$250.00, IMPACT GIFT (approx. value=extracurricular activity)

Keeps members connected by covering one month of expenses for online worship.

\$500.00, GAME-CHANGER GIFT (approx. value=car payment)

You could help us reach our dream of funding an entire Habitat for Humanity build or cover an entire monthly mortgage payment, as we welcome and serve our community in our beautiful facility!



We are asking you to take the first step to becoming a regular giver today!

When you think about making your car, mortgage, daycare, or retirement payments, consider adding Good Shepherd to your list of priorities. We need YOU to continue God's work! Visit gsMoorhead.ChurchCenter.com/giving to create a recurring donation to our General Fund.

MINISTRY GOALS (A.K.A OUR BUDGET)

	APR 2023	APR 2022	YTD 2023	YTD 2022
Rev.	\$ 108,629	\$ 97,418	\$ 388,274	\$ 371,271
Exp.	\$ 105,257	\$ 91,899	\$ 411,736	\$ 356,407
Net	\$ 3,372	\$ 5,519	(\$ 23,462)	\$ 14,864

In January 2023, we also made a \$200,000 Mortgage Principal payment with Capital Campaign funds.

ON MISSION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Debt Reduction/Sanctuary Improvements

Goal (by December 2023)	\$ 800,000
Received (as of April 30, 2023)	\$ 543,375
Need	\$ 256,625

gsTRUST FUND ENDOWMENT

Love endures. So can your giving.

Weekly giving keeps this place humming. But what if we had a fund that would allow us to do extraordinary things, support our mission in new ways, or keep us technologically savvy. We do have that fund! It's our Trust Fund and planned gifts—often made in wills or estate plans—allow our church to thrive in incredible ways. For more information, contact our Regional Gift Planner, Rev. Keith Pearson, at Keith.Pearson@elca.org or 612.718.4197.

MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM TO LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Fill out this entire envelope and make checks payable to "Good Shepherd"
 Mail to or deliver to Good Shepherd, 4000 28th St SE, Moorhead, MN 56501.

AMOUNT GIVEN \$ _____ PHONE # (____) _____ DATE _____

GIVEN BY _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

What is your relationship to the person(s) noted? _____

FUND: GENERAL (Allows fulfillment of Good Shepherd's Mission as voted on by the Congregation)
 Children's Education Helping Hands Music (choir & worship) Organ
 Pastors Discretionary Radio Trust (Endowment) Youth Other _____

Radio Broadcast Sponsorships & Memorials/Honorariums

Honor your loved ones through a memorial or honorarium gift. Look for the purple envelopes in the Gathering Space or Church Office. The memorial/honorarium list is sent quarterly with contribution reports. For \$250, you can cover the cost of a radio broadcast in honor or memory of your loved one. Email GoodShep@ktgs.org for more information.

New BeFriends Commissioned in April

BeFriends is a listening ministry of care at Good Shepherd. Members are trained to assist homebound members of our congregation—they listen, visit, send encouragement, and offer social interaction. BeFriends faithfully walk alongside their BeFrien-dees during this phase of life. *Want to be a BeFriend? Know of someone in need of a BeFriend? Email GoodShep@ktgs.org or call the Church Office!*



BeFriends commissioned in April (left to right): Linda Fiedler, Ann Anderson, Kathy Radeck, JoAnn Pedersen, & Brent Seewald-Marquardt (not pictured).



FULL-TIME & PART-TIME STAFF

- Pastor Mary Suomala Folkerds**, *Lead Pastor*
- Pastor Taylor Wilson**, *Pastor of Worship & Mission*
- Pastor Meggie Bjertness**, *Pastor of Adult Faith Formation*
- Deacon Julie Wilson**, *Director of Kids Ministry*
- Linda Bartholome**, *Congregation Engagement Director*
- Diana Wright**, *Youth Director*
- Ryan Schatz**, *Technical Director*
- Stephanie Maier**, *Marketing Administrator (part-time)*

CONTRACT STAFF

- Matt Endreson**, *Choir Director*
- Tom Hanson**, *Traditional Worship Accompanist*
- Casey Bartz**, *Choir Accompanist*
- Myrna Hanson**, *Adult Bell Choir Director*
- Joe Lindquist**, *Ring & Sing Director*
- Joan Engeseth**, *BeFriends Coordinator*
- Kathy Kassenborg**, *Financial Secretary*
- Jake Curry**, *Chef (At Your Service Catering)*
- Sonja Teigen**, *Wedding Coordinator*
- David Wirth & Dave Weidner**, *Custodians*
- At Your Service Cleaning**, *Contract Custodians*

gsOFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm
Friday, 10:00 am–2:00 pm

Welcome, Baby Wright!

Parker Josephine Wright was born on May 12

Join us in welcoming the newest member of our team, Parker Josephine Wright! She is the daughter of our Youth Director, Diana, and her husband, Tyler. Parker, her fur-brother, Hyzer, and her parents are all doing well.



VACATION WITH A PURPOSE

Mission Jamaica

JANUARY 20-27, 2024

Learn More

Scan Here

Questions?

Linda@ktgs.org

\$150 Deposit Due by

Thursday, June 1

Total Trip Cost

Approx. \$2,000

GET YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD MERCH

Order online

Ship to you

OR

Pick-up in Moorhead

ptmark.com/collections/goodshepherd

LIFE in FM

the GOOD SHEPHERD FARGO-MOORHEAD PODCAST

Listen on

HAPPY 70TH, GOOD SHEPHERD!

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd was started in 1952 by the Home Missions Department of the Evangelical Church. Rev. Sanford Sorgen was called as the congregation's first pastor. Services began on March 15, 1953, at Riverside Elementary School, with the first building being completed one year later. The official "certificate of incorporation of religious society" was on June 15, 1953. Our original church held 300 people, and the congregation quickly outgrew their space. The Sanctuary addition was dedicated in October 1967.



Groundbreaking for our existing church was in the summer of 2006. A portion of our plot of land at 40th Avenue and 28th Street was gifted to Good Shepherd by the Johanson family with the "if you build it, they will come" attitude. In 2007, Good Shepherd moved to its new home and had its first worship service on June 3! Good Shepherd members embraced the move and were hands on with their generous gifts and prayers.



Rev. Sanford Sorgen

I remember the first wedding that was held at the new Good Shepherd in May 2007. It was just a couple of weeks prior to our official opening, and 28th Street was still gravel. The drainage hadn't been finished yet, and the church parking lot was surrounded by a "moat" due to recent rains. The father of the bride had built a driveway to connect the gravel road to the parking lot. My friend, Janis Eidsness, and I were driving to the wedding and she said, "Pray that we get safely to the church from this narrow gravel road to the parking lot!" We arrived safely, and the wedding was beautiful. Our new Good Shepherd building had a blessed beginning! —Karen Skarpness

May God continue to bless our congregation with the ability to bring the Good News to more people as we continue to be "ForFargoMoorhead"!



Hanging the bell at the original church—the same bell that now hangs in the current bell tower.



Original church on 6th Street in Moorhead (near Eventide)



Groundbreaking of the new church at 4000 28th St S



Placing the beams for the Sanctuary



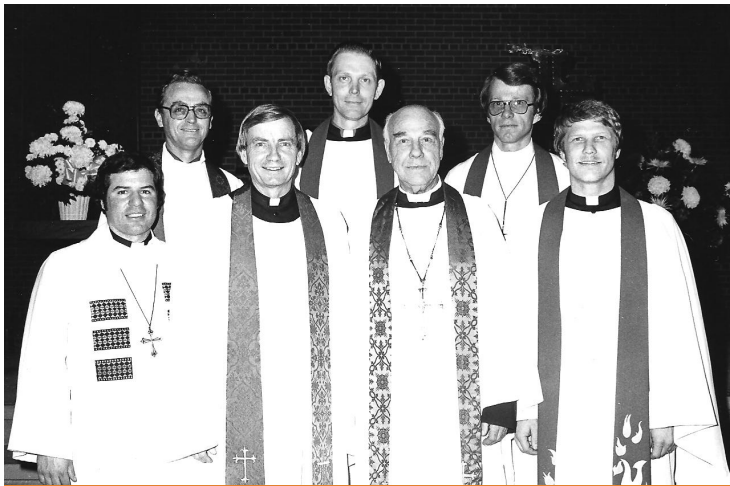
Church members touring the construction site



Good Shepherd 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2003. Pictured from left to right are Rev. James Bergquist, Rev. Larry Vigen, Rev. Tom Holtey, Rev. Robert Anderson, Rev. Shauna Hannan, Rev. Elwood Rieke, and Rev. Dan Megorden.



Former Good Shepherd Staff pictured from left to right are back row: Barb Spilde and Sheila Blixt; middle row: Rev. Patty Larson, Kara Skatrud, Ed Oberlander, Rev. Gerrit Van Hunnik, Judy Sanders, Kathleen Lingen, and Rev. James Bergquist; and front row: Peter Connelly. Not pictured, Janis Eidsness.



Good Shepherd 25th Anniversary Celebration in 1978.



In July 2022, Good Shepherd welcomed Rev. Meggie Bjertness, Pastor of Adult Faith Formation, to serve with our Lead Pastor, Rev. Mary Suomala Folkers, and Rev. Taylor Wilson, Pastor of Worship and Mission.

Good Shepherd
FOR FARGO MOORHEAD

Sundays, 11:00 am
WDAY 970 AM

SPONSOR A GOOD SHEPHERD
Radio Broadcast

Honor your loved ones with a \$250 donation in their name
GoodShep@ktgs.org or 218.233.4980

GOOD SHEPHERD

Amazon Wish List for Kids & Youth Ministry

SCAN HERE TO DONATE

gskIDS
gsYouth
gsMoorhead.org



GOOD SHEPHERD
COLUMBARIUM

The Columbarium—a monument with niches for funeral urns to be stored—is located just south of the Sanctuary. Good Shepherd members may purchase a niche for \$1,400/niche (holds up to 2 urns). Contact the Church Office at 218.233.4980 or GoodShep@ktgs.org.

Summer Worship
with Good Shepherd

**Wednesdays (through August),
7:00 pm (Firepit)**
**Sundays, 8:30 am (traditional)
& 10:30 am (contemporary)**

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AROUND THE CAMPFIRE
Bring your own lawn chair and enjoy one of our umbrellas as we sing, share in Holy Communion, and hear a message. S'mores after!

SUNDAY WORSHIP INDOORS
Traditional worship with organ and piano.
Coffee, donuts, and fellowship between services.
Contemporary worship with the band.



Good Shepherd
#FORFARGOMOORHEAD

4000 28th St S | Moorhead, MN 56560

218.233.4980 | GoodShep@ktgs.org
gsMoorhead.org | @GSMoorhead | #FORFargoMoorhead

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Moorhead, Minnesota



We Are Hiring!

Part-time Finance Administrator

The Finance Administrator is a detail-oriented, experienced financial professional responsible for compiling financial data, HR activities, and coordinating with outsourced financial services vendor to ensure financial decisions are in line with Good Shepherd's Mission to gather joyfully, grow spiritually, and go faithfully, so that all may know the Good Shepherd and have abundant life in His name. The Finance Administrator works with the congregation's accounting firm to ensure integrity of Good Shepherd's financial operations and maintains internal controls following the financial policies and procedures of The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.



If you or someone you know would be a good fit for this position, the job description is available at KnowTheGoodShepherd.org/employment. Qualified applicants may apply by emailing a cover letter and résumé to PastorMary@ktgs.org.

