

# River Spirit

**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,  
UNITED METHODIST OSWEGO, IL 60543**

## “The Good News”

Allow me to share this Advent/Christmas reflection from one of my favorite authors, the late Henri Nouwen.

“Advent is a time of joyful waiting and joyful giving. The period before Christmas has that remarkable quality of joy that seems to touch not only Christians but all who live in our society.

But Advent is not only a period of joy. It is also a time when those who are lonely feel lonelier than during other periods of the year. . .

Supported by a loving, supportive community, Advent and Christmas seem pure joy. But let me not forget my lonely moments because it does not take much to make that loneliness reappear. If I am able to remember loneliness during joy, I might be able in the future to remember joy during loneliness and so be stronger to face it and help others face it.”

Come celebrate the season with your friends at Church of the Good Shepherd, so that we may bless one another on our journey toward the joy of the Lord.

Peace,  
Steve



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### \*\* Important Dates: December

- Dec. 3rd: UMW Unit mtg
- Dec. 6th: Christmas Walk–  
Chili Supper, Nativity, Bazaar
- Dec. 7th: LSP Breakfast with Santa
- Dec. 8th: Fellowship Brunch
- Dec. 14th: LSP Christmas Program
- Dec. 15th: Bulletin Submissions due for all bulletins 12/22– 1/5. River Spirit articles due for January.
- Dec. 15th: Cantata both services
- Dec. 24th:  
\*5pm Family Candlelight Service  
\*7pm Contemporary Candlelight Service  
\*11pm Traditional Candlelight Service
- Dec. 22nd : Sunday School Program
- Dec. 31– Jan. 1st: Office Closed

[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)

## From The Office:

\*\* Bulletins will be done in advance of the holidays. Please submit any bulletin announcements for Dec. 22rd– January 5th bulletins by December 15th as well as January River Spirit articles.

~ Thank you!

Yard Signs for the advent season  
Are available in the office.

There is no charge for a yard sign and  
we will store them after the holidays.

Help us invite your friends and neighbors

To unwrap the true meaning of  
Christmas

By placing a sign in your yard and  
posting the sign on social media.



Christmas Eve  
Worship  
5, 7, & 11pm

Join Us  
Sunday Mornings  
8:15 Traditional  
10:30 Contemporary

**WHAT IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT**

*Unwrap the true meaning with us this Christmas*

**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/gschurchumc/>



**Our 2019  
Good Shepherd Ornament  
(3rd in the series)  
Are still available!  
\$10**

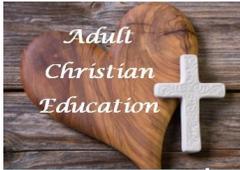


**POINSETTIA ORDERS: THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE! \$12** Help beautify the sanctuary for the holidays! Poinsettia orders are now being taken in the Gathering Room or by calling the office.

*Merry Christmas*

# Adult Christian Education

**(ACE) Sunday morning Classes as well as weekday evenings:** All are welcome. Come as you are able. Class times 9:30am - 10:30am. *Feel free to try groups without a commitment to all sessions and then attend the group you like, as you are able. For more information about the Adult Christian Education studies, an information table is located in the Gathering Room.*



**Adult study during Sunday School hour.** Join us in the Meditation Room Sundays at 9:30. Led by Janet McCarty

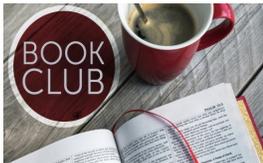


**Bible Between Bites.** We meet every Wednesday at 10:00 at Panera. Currently studying the Book of Luke. All are Welcome!

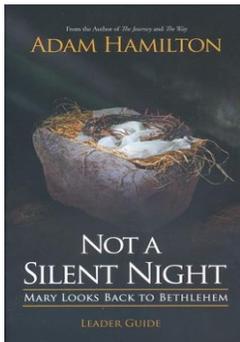


**GENESIS STUDY:** Pat Steele is leading a study of Genesis Fridays, at Salsa Verde in Oswego. Meet us at 11:30 if you want to join us for lunch or 12:00 if you want to join us for study.

You are welcome to call Pat Steele with any questions (630) 465-6437.



**BOOK CLUB:** Watch for updates on the next Book Club event.



**Adult Advent Study with Pastor Steve: "Not a Silent Night"**

Join Pastor Steve and others for 4 weeknight Advent classes, using Adam Hamilton's book *Not A Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem*. "Imagine from Mary's point of view, proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person, and so much more. Adam Hamilton begins at the end, with Mary at the crucifixion and resurrection; travels back in time as she witnesses his life and ministry and ends at the beginning, with the Christ child born in a stable, Mary's beautiful baby. This year experience Advent and Christmas with Mary."

## Winter Lay Academy



**2020**

**3 vital & invaluable courses!**

### 1. SACRAMENTS IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Presented by Rev. Jeffrey Bross,  
Aurora District Superintendent

### 2. LAY SERVANTS LEAD IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Presented by Roger Curless,  
Certified Lay Servant

### 3. TEACHING THE TEACHERS

Preparation to mentor other church leaders  
presented by Certified Lay Servants  
Mark Manzi & Chuck Dexter

## WINTER LAY ACADEMY

**January 4th & 11th**

**Friendship UMC**

**305 E. Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook**



# Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

## Understanding Stewardship

- † The motive for Christian stewardship is love and gratitude.
- † The purpose is to glorify God.
- † The guide is the revealed will of God.
- † The efficiency is the power of God's grace.

### What Is a Steward?

“A steward is more than a servant, slave, or ‘organizational church member.’ A steward is one who, having received a trust from God, is in partnership with God through Christ for the working out of God’s purposes for man and the world” (Joseph F. Jones).

### Testing your Knowledge of Scripture

Can you identify who the following person may represent in Scripture?

If you said the widow in the story of the widow’s mite, you were right. In Luke 21:1-4 we read, “*As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ‘I tell you the truth,’ he said, this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.*” Jesus commends the widow, who gave all that she had, not just the excess, as the others did. This story tells us that the level of generosity is much more important than the size of the gift. Even though she gave the last of her money, the widow did not expect to go hungry because she knew God would provide. She gave sacrificially, knowing that God would take care of her. Giving is an act of trust.



### Whom or What Are You Trusting?

Lack of trust is a major hindrance to our growth as stewards. Do we trust ourselves, someone else, or things rather than God? If our trust is misdirected, our fellowship with God will suffer, and we will not be fruitful stewards. “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight*” (Proverbs 3:5-6).

#### Where is our trust?

Having checking and savings accounts with adequate funds is helpful, but we must always remember that wealth in and of itself does not fulfill us nor provide any lasting value, happiness, or security. Money can deceive us in subtle ways. Do you find yourself worrying whether or not you have enough money? Do

When we give in to our natural tendency to want to accumulate, we begin to think that we need many things. As our incomes grow, so do our wants and desires. We see money as the way to happiness. We think that, when we have money, we have all we need and become self-reliant. Unless we make the decision, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live more simply and care more intentionally for others, we will spend all that we have on ourselves (we may even spend more than we have).

Our attitude toward money and things can change when we begin to trust God and his presence and provision. As the Apostle Paul said in Philippians 4:19:

***“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches.”***

When we become more zealous to choose God’s ways, we will experience his promises, comfort, and peace that result. We will find that God’s grace is sufficient for all of our needs.

God will grant us the strength not to succumb to the temptation to trust money and possessions. He will grant us the sight to see the pull that our materialistic world has on us as well as the understanding that we will find lasting peace and contentment only in Christ. As Jesus said: *“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”* (Matthew 28:20).

## **On the Lighter Side**

Three young boys were bragging about their fathers.

One of the boys said, “My dad works in the office, and he sits behind a desk and makes \$50 an hour.”

The son of an attorney said, “That’s nothing. My dad talks on the telephone for half an hour and makes \$75.” Not to be outdone, the son of a pastor said, “That’s still nothing. My dad talks for 20 minutes, and it takes four people to collect all the money.”



## **A Stewardship Thought**

Our relationship with Christ makes it possible for us to be content in all circumstances. Without Christ we will never be satisfied. We are, by nature, people who have insatiable appetites for more things, success, and power. A relationship with Christ quenches our worldly appetites and brings about a redirection of interests to eternal things. We become willing to accept God’s will and learn to be satisfied with what God gives us.

***A Christian steward does not dedicate his time, talent, and treasure that they may become God’s, but because they are God’s.***

***Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!***

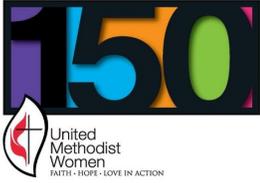


**ENDOWMENT FUND**

## **TRUSTS AND ENDOWMENTS**

Permanent endowments are gifts that keep on giving. If the endowment agreement states that the principal shall never be invaded and that income is paid out to support a designated cause through your church, then your gift is “forever.”

Trusts allow you to make a gift to your church in the future. You may set up the trust now and keep the income for yourself or other beneficiaries as long as you choose, or for life. The church will receive the property after that. There are special tax benefits for these kinds of trusts.



It's December already and time for UMW's **Annual Chili Supper** which will be held on **Friday evening, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8 in conjunction with Oswego's Christmas Walk**. This year we will also be having a Christmas Bazaar and Bake sale in the Gathering Room. I hope you have this evening marked on your calendars and are planning to attend. See you there!

It's also time for our **December UMW Unit Meeting on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. There will no formal meeting so come and enjoy fellowship and the Christmas themed evening.

Our officers for 2020 were installed at our November Unit Meeting. We welcomed new faces as well as said goodbye to others. We recognized Gail Ford, Carol Jansen, and Amanda Sidhu for their faithful service over many years to UMW in different capacities. The UMW Mission Team for 2020 is as follows: President, Janet McCarty; Secretary, Diane Clodi; Treasurer, Judy Schurman; Nominations Chair, Barb Schilling; Membership/Nurture and Outreach, Phyllis Wagner; Program Resources, Amanda Sidhu; Social Action, Debi Blocker; Spiritual Growth & Prayer Chain, Glenda Tifrea; Wedding Coordinator, Sharlene Momich; Funeral Coordinators, Kay Bonebrake & Gail Ford; and Kitchen Coordinator, Carol Dodd. We are still in need of a Vice-President so if you feel led to step up to this position, please let Barb Schilling know. We are always looking for new ideas so please share your thoughts with any of these ladies.

Judy Schurman and I were truly blessed when we delivered the generous donations you gave for Mutual Ground. My Prius was completely full with only room for Judy and I to sit. The ladies at Mutual Ground excitedly exclaimed when they saw the back of my car and said, "Paper Towels!" I've never seen anyone so excited over paper towels. When we were in their room, I was shown the one paper towel roll that they had left. They were also thrilled about everything we delivered. Julie Ford, the Volunteer Program Administrator, kept telling me thanks over and over and asked me to share it with you. She told two success stories – one lady recently was accepted in college and another lady got a job. She said they have stories like that daily. Judy and I left with buoyed up spirits and light hearts. Later I received the following thank you note from Michelle Meyer, Executive Director: "On behalf of Mutual Ground's Board, staff, volunteers and the people we serve, thank you for your generous in-kind donation of toiletries, homemade scarfs, coffee, sheets, underwear and more. It was wonderful for you to think of us and our clients - we are very grateful! Your continued support allows us to provide education, awareness, and life-changing services that empower individuals, families, and communities to end the cycle of domestic and sexual violence. We thank you for making our world a healthier, safer and stronger place!"

May the birth of Jesus be revealed to you in a meaningful way this season and may you seek God's guidance in the New Year.

Janet McCarty  
UMW





- The United Methodist Men meet every Friday morning at 7am for coffee and fellowship. All men are invited to join.
- We are always looking for people interested in the UMM stocking of the Kendall Co. Food Pantry on Wednesday evenings at 5:00pm.

Please contact the church office at 630-554-3269 or [office@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdoswego.org) with any questions.



All men are welcome to attend our monthly  
**Men's Lunch**  
Our next lunch is Wednesday, December 18th  
At noon.

A poster for the Oswego Christmas Walk. The background is a dark wood texture with snowflakes and pine branches with red berries at the top. The text is in a white, serif font. At the bottom left is a red heart logo with a cross inside, and at the bottom right is a small illustration of a Christmas village.

Friday, Dec 6th, 5-8 pm  
5 W Washington St  
**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
**Oswego Christmas Walk**

**Chili & Pie Supper.**  
with chili dogs, chips, homemade pie,  
brownies, cookies and beverages  
Proceeds go to UMM mission projects

**Nativity Scene Show**  
Nativity scenes of all sizes & types  
displayed in our historic sanctuary.  
Music by Fox River Music Academy.

**Craft Bazaar & Bake Sale.**  
Vendors of all types will be showcased

[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS



Our team of 6 participants went to work at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, IL from November 10-13. While there, the team members participated in tasks such as: working in the bike shop, building, sanding, and staining school desks, unloading trucks of donated items, and assembling school, layette, hygiene, and prison health kits. After the work day ended, there was ample time for rest and fellowship amongst the group, as well as with the large team of volunteers from Marshall, MI who shared the dorm building with our Good Shepherd crew.



The team was also able to deliver just under **150 pounds of donated items** to the MMDC on behalf of our congregation! Thank you to all who participated in the collection. Those items will be shipped to places here and abroad that have been affected by natural disasters.

We will be notified when items our team worked on get shipped to their destinations. Please check a future Missions Minute for an update. **Thank you to Laurel Gilbert, Steve Poniatowski, Barb and Neil Schilling, and Roger and Linda Spurgin** for representing Good Shepherd on this mission trip and being the hands and feet of Jesus for those in need.



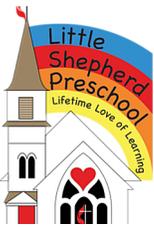
On another note, the Kendall County PADS season is well underway! We have been averaging between 3 and 8 guests per night this season, including 1 family with a child. We are so grateful for all of the inquiries into how you can help support the program. **Here are the top 5 ways you can support PADS this holiday season:**

- 1 Volunteer! **There are still openings for shift volunteers** at Good Shepherd and at other sites. Contact Shar Momich if you'd like to help at Good Shepherd, or visit <http://kendallcountypads.org/volunteer-training/volunteer-opportunities/> to find out where there are openings.
  2. Donate **new or gently used, clean fleece blankets** to be used by guests at a couple of shelter sites with heating issues.
  3. Donate **\$5-10 gift cards** for any of the following businesses: Yorkville Laundromat, NCG Yorkville Cinema, McDonald's, Dunkin' Donuts, Walgreens or Jewel-Osco (or other places with pharmacies).
  4. Donate **\$25 gas cards from Shell or Speedway** (specified for GAS ONLY).
- Last, but certainly not least, please **PRAY for our PADS guests and volunteers**, as well as for all those who live in homelessness and those who work to help them get their basic needs met so that they can begin to address whatever is needed to get them out of homelessness.

*If you would like to be involved with the Good Shepherd Missions Team, or if you would just like more information, please contact Sara Poniatowski at [poniatowski@att.net](mailto:poniatowski@att.net).*



**Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing** - Sign up has started for the Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle Bell Ringing fund raising campaign that is being supported by Good Shepherd. Again this year, we will man a Red Kettle at the Jewel store at Route 30 and Douglas. The funds collected by the Salvation Army will help those in need on a local and nationwide basis. This marks the 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that members and friends of Good Shepherd have donated their time to help raise these much needed funds. Volunteers are needed to fill one hour shifts starting at 9:30 am each morning, Monday through Saturday, starting December 2, 2019 and continuing through December 24, 2019. The last shift each day is from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. Sign-up sheets for each day are in the Gathering Room. Sign up can also be accomplished online. Just visit <http://signupschedule.com/edbradley> to view the complete schedule, see openings, and sign up. Thanks to everyone for their help.



Our Little Shepherd's have been working hard this holiday season. In conjunction with our church family, we are participating in the Salvation Army Angel Tree project. The children are learning the importance of giving back to others and they are excited to share their good fortune. We are also preparing for our annual Christmas program! We are fortunate enough to have Cheryl Todd accompany us on the piano as we sing for our friends and families. The children feel the power and love of being in the sanctuary during this performance, as well as during our monthly Pastor Chats.

We are very excited about hosting Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 7! The preschool is working with the youth group to help it all come together. We have enjoyed the collaboration.

In the classrooms, the children will be learning about the birth of Jesus and why that is so important to us. We will be reading bible stories, learning about shepherds and wisemen, and spreading the word of God to our families.

Thank you all for your continuing support of our preschool, we could not do it without you.

Amanda Sidhu  
Preschool Director



## YAK AND YARN

Yak and Yarn is still meeting the third Friday of the month from 6 –9pm. Our next meeting will be Friday, December 20, 2019, in the youth room of the church. It would be a great evening to complete your work on that ornament, decoration, or gift you've been working on.



COME JOIN US. Just bring yourself, a friend, your craft to work on, something to munch on and whatever you wish to drink. We have a great time and would like to include you. If you have any questions, please call Janet Reardon – 630-801-8928.

***A VERY CRAFTY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!***

# Welcome New Members!



**Ruth Kurtz** joins our church by Confession of Faith. She works as an Analyst/Purchaser at Caterpillar. In her leisure time Ruth enjoys singing, piano, gardening and golf. She already is a regular in our One A-Chord Choir! She lives at 25 Afton in Montgomery. [ruthejune@aol.com](mailto:ruthejune@aol.com)

**Joan Crawford** transfers her membership from Flowing Forth UMC (formerly Fourth Street UMC) Aurora. In her retirement she enjoys reading, baking, and doing puzzles. Joan is currently home-bound, but looks forward to being with us as soon as she can.



**Sue Gilla** (from Flowing Forth UMC) has already strengthened our staff as accompanist with the One A-Chord Choir. She is a skilled musician. She also plays in our Joyful Noise Handbell Choir! Sue lives at 1775 Fox Mead Circle in Montgomery [suegilla@gmail.com](mailto:suegilla@gmail.com)

**Pat Harmon** (from Flowing Forth UMC) enjoys sewing in her retirement. Pat lives at 1106 Heathrow Lane, Aurora, 60502. [Sewhappy17@yahoo.com](mailto:Sewhappy17@yahoo.com)



**Dennis and Edie Hard** (from Flowing Forth UMC) are retired and live at 2071 School House Ln, Aurora, 60506. [eahcdh@aol.com](mailto:eahcdh@aol.com)

**Carolyn Besch** (From Flowing Forth UMC) is retired and lives with her husband Clifford at 2715 Jenna Circle in Montgomery. 630-805-3068. Carolyn is the sister of new member Edie Hard.



**Beth Carter** (From Flowing Forth UMC) is a secretary for the Aurora Police Department. She has a daughter named Allison. Beth plays in our Joyful Noise Handbell Choir. She lives at 817 Lebanon Street, Aurora, 60505. [tjccarter@msn.com](mailto:tjccarter@msn.com)

**Stan and Bonnie McGraw** (from Flowing Forth UMC) are retired and live at 521 Simms St., Aurora, 50505. Stan is an avid bowler, and he enjoys singing with Bonnie in our One A-Chord Choir



**Christine Martin** (From Flowing Forth UMC) works as an office assistant for Park Vending. Her children are Alexander and Samuel. Chris plays in our Joyful Noise Handbell Choir. Her mother is our pianist, Sue Gilla. She lives at 1715 Lily St., Aurora, 60505 [bcasmarmartin@comcast.net](mailto:bcasmarmartin@comcast.net)

**Carlene Lindo** (from Flowing Forth UMC) lives at 54 Garden Dr. in Montgomery. 630-801-9978. She recently discovered that one of our church members (Marilyn Risch) was her next-door neighbor when they were 4 years old!



## Upcoming Events At Good Shepherd!



Join Us during the Christmas Walk for our FAMOUS Homemade Chili Supper and our beautiful Nativity Display in our historic Sanctuary.

Festive music provided by the Fox River Music Academy



Join Us December 7<sup>th</sup> 9-11am  
For Breakfast with Santa!  
Sponsored by our Little Shepherd Preschool



## Please Join Us! Breakfast with Santa!



**Saturday, December 7th  
9am – Noon**

**\$10 Adults \$8 Children (4-11)**

Children 3 and under are free with an adult ticket

**Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Coffee &  
A Hot Chocolate Bar!!**

**Bring your own camera to capture  
a picture with Santa!!**

Church of the Good Shepherd

5 W. Washington St. Downtown Oswego

Hosted by Little Shepherd Preschool & The Good Shepherd Youth Group

[www.littleshepherdps.com](http://www.littleshepherdps.com)

[littleshepherdps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:littleshepherdps@sbcglobal.net) 630-554-3269



## Christmas Eve

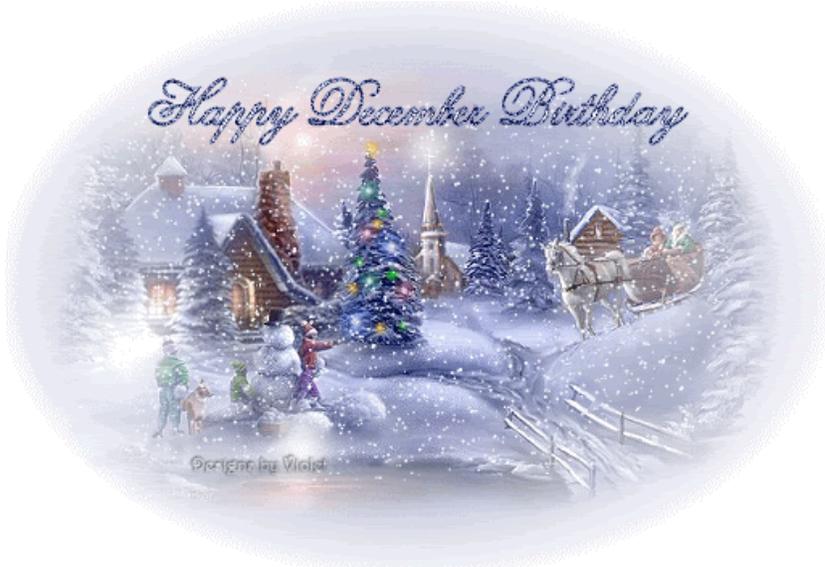
Welcome to Our  
Candlelight Service

5pm Family Service  
7pm Contemporary  
& 11pm Traditional Service



## December Birthdays

- 12/1 Ric Kayer
- 12/3 Chris Martin
- 12/4 Peg DeVol
- 12/4 John Momich
- 12/5 Don Snyder
- 12/6 Sherry Gillofo
- 12/9 Justine Farrow
- 12/9 Craig Logston
- 12/10 Phyllis Wagner
- 12/12 Ann LeClercq
- 12/13 Donna Mason
- 12/13 Diana Mewmaw
- 12/14 Isaac Zilvitis
- 12/15 Lucrietta Saka
- 12/18 Bob Baker
- 12/19 Trent Roberts
- 12/20 Karen Pleskovich
- 12/21 Lukas Dobbin
- 12/22 Margaret Wackerlin
- 12/23 Carol Dodd
- 12/25 Maggie Giles
- 12/28 Jaycee Fourmont
- 12/28 Nick Randazzo



Please notify the church office if you have a special life event that you would like included in our next newsletter. Email us by the 15th of the month at [publications@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:publications@goodshepherdoswego.org) Thank you.

Visit us at [www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org) for more information!

<https://www.facebook.com/gschurchumc/>



We are here to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
5, 7, & 11pm

**Join Us**  
**Sunday Mornings**  
8:15 Traditional  
10:30 Contemporary

**WHAT IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT**

*Unwrap the true meaning with us this Christmas*

**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)

# December

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 8:15am Worship 9:15am Hiz Kidz 9:30am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 3:30pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>3</b> 7am AA 5:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Scouts 7pm UMW Unit mtg	<b>4</b> 10am BH Antique Club Christmas—FH	<b>5</b> 7am AA 7pm Trustees 7pm—Advent Class 7pm Choir 7:30pm Band practice	<b>6</b> 7am UMM Coffee 5:15pm AA 5-8pm Christmas Walk 7pm PADS	<b>7</b> 9-12pm Breakfast with Santa FH 10am-4pm Cookie Walk 2pm—Brunch Set up
<b>8</b> 8:15am Worship 9:15am Brunch 9:30am Education Hour 10:30am Worship	<b>9</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>10</b> 7am AA 5:30pm Youth Choir	<b>11</b> 6:30am AA 10am Bible Bet.Bites 10:30am Staff mtg 5:30pm Food Pantry	<b>12</b> 7am AA 7pm—Advent Class 7pm Choir 7:30pm Band practice	<b>13</b> 7am UMM coffee 5:15pm AA 7pm PADS	<b>14</b> 10am LSP Christmas Program FH 4-9pm—AARC Party FH
<b>15</b> Cantata 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education hour 10:30am Worship 3:30pm Youth Group **All Bulletin ** submissions for 12/23—1/6 due as well as January River Spirit	<b>16</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>17</b> 7am AA 5:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Grace Cr	<b>18</b> 6:30am AA 9am Faith Cr 10am Bible Bet.Bites 10:30am Staff mtg 12:00pm Men's Lunch 1:30pm Covenant Cr 5:30pm Food Pantry 7pm Agape	<b>19</b> 7am AA 7pm—Advent Class 7pm Choir 7:30pm Band practice	<b>20</b> 7am UMM Coffee 5:15pm AA 6pm—Yak & Yarn 7pm PADS	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education Hour Christmas Program 10:30am Worship 3:30pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>24</b> 5pm Family Candlelight Service 7pm Contemporary Candlelight Service 11pm Traditional Candlelight Service	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas!	<b>26</b> 7am AA 7pm Choir 7:30pm Band practice	<b>27</b> 7am UMM Coffee 5:15pm AA 7pm PADS	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education hour 10:30am Worship 11:45am Bible Study 3:30pm Youth Group	<b>30</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>31</b> Office Closed	<b>1</b> Happy New Year! Office Closed	<b>2</b> 7am AA 7pm Trustees 7pm Choir 7:30pm Band practice	<b>3</b> 7am UMM Coffee 5:15pm AA 7pm PADS	<b>4</b>

[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)

## The Church of the Good Shepherd



**United Methodist**  
**5 W. Washington St.**  
**PO Box 695**  
**Oswego, IL 60543**

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship Service**  
**9:30 a.m. Christian Education Hour**  
**10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship**

Free childcare available during both services and Christian Education Hour

**Pastor: Pastor Steve Good**

[pastor@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:pastor@goodshepherdoswego.org)

**Youth Director: Rachel Conover** [jessicarc31@gmail.com](mailto:jessicarc31@gmail.com)

**Executive Assistants: Diane Baum and Jessie Livingston**

**Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm**

**Newsletter Editor: [publications@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:publications@goodshepherdoswego.org)**

**Office Email: [office@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdoswego.org)**

**Choir Director: Nicole Melody**

**Custodian: Bonnie Kennedy**

**Little Shepherd Preschool: [littleshepherdps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:little shepherdps@sbcglobal.net)**

**Director – Amanda Sidhu Teacher: Eileen Lesak**

**Teachers Aides: Vincenza Ferguson & Ellie Guzman**

**Organist & HandBell Choir Director: Cheryl Todd**

**Pianist: Sue Gilla**

**Reborn Praise Band: Jon Conover, Band Leader**

Everyone is Welcome!

- Wheelchair Accessible building
- 8:15 AM traditional and 10:30 AM contemporary services.
- Weddings dates available for our beautiful 1890's sanctuary and downstairs reception area. 630-554-3269.
- We practice open Communion, we honor the Evangelical tradition of using grape juice and bread and gluten-free crackers
- Space available for weddings, parties, events and meetings. Alcohol not permitted.



<https://www.facebook.com/gschurchumc/>

**Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors- United Methodist**