



# Good News From Good Shepherd

*“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”*

John 10:11

November, 2021

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
9066 Gunpowder Road, Florence, KY 41042  
859.746.9066

website: [www.gslcky.org](http://www.gslcky.org)  
Church's Email: [secretary@gslcky.org](mailto:secretary@gslcky.org)

## Whiz Kids

Good Shepherd resumed the Whiz Kids program this Fall after last year's Covid hiatus. Whiz Kids is sponsored by City Gospel Mission. Nine 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Ockerman Middle School attend at Good Shepherd each Wednesday from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. They are fed a snack, play games, attend a Jesus Time lesson and work with a tutor on their reading skills. Good Shepherd provides the food, kitchen personnel, game leaders, Jesus Time teachers and tutors. Kathy Nielson is our Whiz Kids leader.

Whiz Kids is one of our church's outreach programs. While on the face of it, we are involved to help the children read better, there is so much more to Whiz Kid's. We are graced with the opportunity to mentor the children showing them who Jesus Christ is and what he means to us in our lives. Some of the children have never heard of Jesus before or, even if they have, they don't have a relationship with him that is encouraged by someone outside of Whiz Kids.

On the first evening that I met my student this year, I asked if we could start with prayer. After we prayed, I asked him if he knew who God is. He said that one of his friends at school told him Jesus is God, but he said that he did not know who Jesus is. That comment shook me up. How could anyone not know who Jesus is? But this is the society we live in now – a society without God in people's lives.

And that is why we participate in Whiz Kids. Our tutors are able to build relationships with their students and listen to the kids talk about fun things and their struggles. During my hour with my student, we open with prayer and talk about the student's week. We then read our assigned book, discuss it, and work on spelling words. In the time we have remaining, we read a Bible story together. So far, we have read about creation. Soon we will read about Adam and Eve, the Fall, and God's promise of a savior. What a blessing it is to share with the children God's love for them.

The great commission is for us to make disciples of all nations. The disciples were to be witnesses in Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Whiz Kids is our witness in our Judea. These children come from the neighborhood in which we live. Please pray for the tutors to be diligent in their witness.

Table of Content	
From the Head Elder – Whiz Kids	page 1-2
A Message from Your President	page 3
Christian Education Opportunities	page 4
Women Auxiliary	page 4-5
Youth Events	page 5
Operation Christmas Child	page 5
Thanks for Giving Baskets	page 6
Thrivent Member Opportunities	page 6
Birthdays	page 6
October Events	page 7-11

Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student	Tutor	Student
Jen Ostermeier	Joel	Karen Sladen	Chloe	Rob Nielsen	Jonathon
Billy Mitchell	Edvin	Debbie Beckham	Fransisco	Sue Speicher	Cat
Karen Neubauer	Sophie	Sherri Smith	Keegan	David Smith	Blake

Pray for the opportunity for them to share the gospel with the children and help the kids to understand what the gospel means to their lives. And please pray for the students to be receptive to the gospel message. Lastly pray that the parents hear the gospel through their kids and come to see the power of God's salvation in their daily lives. We have begun listing in the weekly prayer email the name of one Whiz Kid child per week to remind us to pray. Please take that opportunity. God does respond to our prayers.



Whiz Kids is not just about teaching the kids to read. It is not about whether the Whiz Kids' families will attend our church services or not. We participate in Whiz Kids to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those who have not heard. Thank God for his gospel. Thank God for the opportunity to share.

**1 Thessalonians 2:8** <sup>8</sup> So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

**Thank you to all of our Whiz Kid's Volunteers!**

Coordinator: Kathy Nielsen

Kitchen Aides: Guddy Gawara Lynda Oberst

Lynn Mitchell Janie Stickel

Games: Becky Aragon

Jesus Time Leaders: Marlis Norton Debbie Beckham Mary Givhan

Tutors: Debbie Beckham Rob Nielsen Jen Ostermeier

Billy Mitchell Karen Neubauer Sue Speicher

Karen Sladen Sherri Smith David Smith

Substitutes: Barb Barvincak Linda Kuhn



David Smith, Head Elder (210.218.3685, Destax1962@gmail.com)

## A Message from Your President



In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

The history of Thanksgiving Day as a holiday is fascinating. Check out: [History of Thanksgiving Day](#). In fall 1621 it was a 4 day feast celebrating survival. In fall 1623 it was a time of fasting(!) and thanksgiving celebrating the end of a long drought. For 30 years prior to Abe Lincoln declaring a national holiday in 1863, the "Mother of Thanksgiving", Sarah Josepha Hale, solicited the government for a national observance. In the midst of

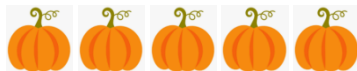
the Civil War, Abe Lincoln appealed to the nation to ask God "to commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to "heal the wounds of the nation." We could use that now. Finally, Franklin Roosevelt, trying to improve holiday retail sales during the depression, tried to move the holiday up a week, but had to relent and it was re-established on the fourth Thursday of November in 1941.

We know spiritually, Thanksgiving Day is every day - in every circumstance and every condition. But let me ask you, in which camp do you spend the most time? "Good morning, God!" or "Good God, it's morning!"? Do you embody an attitude of gratitude or an attitude of 'lack-itude'?

If we don't have in abundance one or more of the warm, wonderful things listed in the picture, does that mean we don't have reason or need to be thankful? Think Job. He lost all of those things, and complained a lot! But, he did not '*sin with his lips*', even after losing home, family, livestock (food), health and finally, friends.

*[after being afflicted with boils:]* Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. Job 2:9-10 NKJV

Hopefully, Thanksgiving Day is more than a cliché in our households, reduced to parades, turkey, football, and for some, shopping. Let's view it as the cherry on top of all the days of thanksgiving. Add something special. Spend time in scripture. Compose a special prayer. Mend a relationship with forgiveness and an invitation. Share the bounty within your means. And especially thank Jesus for what he gave up, went without and suffered **for you** - to grant those eternal things most to be desired - forgiveness, redemption and adoption as children of God. Rejoice with Job (19:25), in every circumstance, every day, and especially on Thanksgiving Day, "*For I know that my redeemer lives, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.*"



**Council Actions:** Work began on the **2022 budget** and on what we should plan for as significant capital investment in building improvements/maintenance. This year's budget will look rather lopsided on review as we elected to update it in April with the actual expense for pastor. Doing so helps us understand our requirements going forward.

There was also consensus on council to reconvene **the CAT committee in January** for the specific purpose of checking in our previously chosen goals and activities. Are we on track? Are we different? Do we need to redirect? And as a result of that review, do the mission and vision statements of 15 years past still reflect well our current focus as a congregation and if not, what should the statements be now? It is my hope that if you were a participant on the original CAT committee, that you would be willing to pursue these questions as a group next year.

Your council is still in need of a volunteer for appointment to **the position of Secretary**. The Secretary is a voting member of council and a trustee, responsible for recording the minutes of both council and voter meetings.

In other leadership activity, **the Finance Committee** is working on an Employee Policy that will eventually be presented to the congregation and the **Stewardship Committee** is entertaining some new campaign ideas and our traditional fall emphasis. Thank you to **Christian Ministry/Outreach** for a successful Mobile Food Pantry and especially all the volunteers and contributors!

**Marlis Norton, Council Pres.**

*Embraced by His Grace, Engaged in His Word, Empowered by His Spirit*



# Christian Education



## Women's Bible Breakfast • Saturday • November 13

Our study will be a selection from the LWML Quarterly. We will be on-site for those who wish to attend in person. You are encouraged to bring your own favorite breakfast and are not required to share. If you wish to share a dish, awesome. If you wish to participate remotely, let the office know by Wednesday, November 10 and a Zoom session will be set up and the study emailed to you.

## Women's Sunday Bible Study • *Forgiveness* • 8:45 a.m.

Our small group meets in the Duchow Room. Our study is *Forgiveness* by Donna Pyle (now Snow). The book is available from CPH for \$14.99. Please feel free to join in. It's not too late!

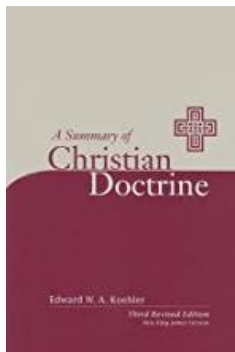
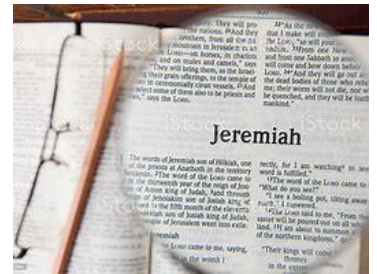


## Women's Tuesday Bible Study • *Men of the Bible* • 9:30 am

We are meeting in person; providing zoom for those who prefer. All are welcome. Join in any time. We study one person each session, no book required. If you wish to be included, let Lynn know and we'll get the meeting invite to you. Our current subjects found in Kings, beginning with Solomon.

## Women's Bible Study at Sherri Smith's *Jeremiah* Tuesdays 3-5 pm and 6-8 pm

All women are welcome to join WBS, including friends outside of GSLC. We are discussing *Jeremiah*, a book that speaks to our country today as much as it did in Jeremiah's day. Contact Sherri who lives in Union at 210-854-2598 if interested.

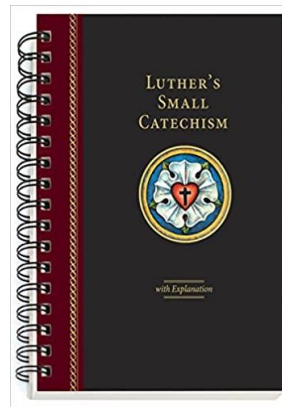


## Men's Bible Study

New date and time

Beginning Tuesday Oct 12 - 5 pm

*A Summary of Christian Doctrine*



## Luther's Small Catechism

Pastor's Bible Study

Sunday 8:45 am Wednesday 7:00 pm

## Women's Auxiliary of the Federation - Mission Opportunities

### Cookie Pack



The annual **Cookie Pack for Care Centers** will be in person on **Monday, December 6** at Christ Lutheran beginning at 9 a.m. This year we will only be seeking 'regular' cookies - NO diabetic versions needed, and please NO nuts and NO bar cookies. Make it a family affair! Get the kids involved! Deliver cookies by the dozens to church **by Sunday, Dec. 5** and they will get delivered to the event if you cannot attend to help assemble the boxes.



## Fidget Blankets

Ladies, can we get together on a fun and multi-skilled project for Alzheimer patients? The Auxiliary is encouraging us to come together to make Fidget Blankets. They are small lap units with sensory stimulating adornments. Instructions are available. Complete your blanket anytime this fall - maybe target Christmas! See Marlis for information.



## Thanksgiving Dinner and Corn Hole Tournament

Saturday, November 5

Turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, corn, rolls, and dessert.

Tournament starts at 4 pm

Dinner at 6 pm

Cost

Dinner \$10 per plate

Corn Hole Tournament \$5 per person; \$10 per team



## Operation Christmas Child

The Human Care Committee is again offering you the opportunity to participate in the Operation Christmas Child Program. This program brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and evangelistic materials that tell the Good News of God's love.

Please pick up one of the shoe boxes and a pamphlet at the display by the entrance. Determine whether you are buying for a boy or girl, and what age group. Fill the box with inexpensive gift and hygiene items (suggestions are listed on the info sheet). If you are able, donate \$9 for each shoe box to cover shipping and other project costs. Just put that in an envelope on top of the items in the box. Fill out the label with the requested information, and tape to the top of your box. Secure the box with a rubber band and leave it at the display no later than November 14th. If you prefer, you can use your own shoebox from home and wrap it in brightly colored Christmas wrapping, or even purchase one of the plastic shoeboxes that the children can keep.

We will drop them off the week of November 16th. This is a fun project for children to help out with. They enjoy choosing what gifts go in the box. Please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives one of these gifts, and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ.



## Thanks for Giving Baskets

Fill a Thanks Giving Basket for local families that need food assistance. The baskets will be provided along with a list of items needed. Return the filled basket anytime up until Nov. 21st. You may still contribute individual items as well. Donations for meat vouchers will also be accepted. Each voucher is \$15. Just make a notation on your envelope if you'd like to contribute!! Deadline: November 21th

## Thrivent Members

Benefit Members (policy holders) and Associate (friends that support)

There are 2 ways that you can support your church and community through the Thrivent Financial Service. You will need your Thrivent account number and set up a log in for your account at the Thrivent log in screen on their website [WWW.Thrivent.com](http://WWW.Thrivent.com) and have a current email address for yourself. Look for the log in section and register to log in if you do not already have a log in.

1. Action Team Grants- Action Team grants can be applied for at the Thrivent Log in screen for 3 reasons. Fund raising, Education, and Service Event. A Benefit Member can be granted up to 2 -\$250.00 gift cards per year. An Associate member is given 1- \$250.00 for members under the Family Membership Plan. Each Action Team event must be applied for, approved by Thrivent and then followed up on with a complete report (before you can apply again). This is something that several members of the church know how to do and would be willing to assist in helping anyone to do this. There are multiple ways to do an Action Team grant and use it to provide multiple things for our church activities and community events and youth events too. Mary Givhan – Tammy Woolley- Lynn Mitchell- Jenn Ostermeier-Becky Aragon are just a few of the ones that know how to apply for these. Contact one of us and we will help.

2. Thrivent Choice Dollars- this is where you draw interest that is payable to a NON Profit organization and you are told that you can choose which one. We (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Florence KY) are a choice in the group of non-profits, please make sure to check the address when choosing GSLC, there are several churches named Good Shepherd in the directory. Once you choose GSLC Florence KY then that money is directed to our bank account. You must choose this each year when notified you have Choice Dollars available to designate to a charity. You may also call 1-800-847-4836 for assistance if you do not want to log in to do this.



### November

Julie Rath  
Eva Sellers  
J.T Cottrell  
Jacob Brann  
Rob Nielsen  
John Yri  
Anne Yri  
Barb Barvincak  
Lynn Mitchell

November 8  
November 8  
November 11  
November 12  
November 15  
November 17  
November 18  
November 27  
November 28

### December

Vincent Woolley  
Taylor Mason  
Shirley Duane  
Calvin Herr  
Ashlyn Brann  
Josh Molina

December 1  
December 5  
December 18  
December 18  
December 21  
December 28



# October Events

## Drive Thru Food Pantry







## Reformation Pot Luck







**Halloween Treats**



**The Woolley Boys and their neighbor**

**Eva Seller and her friends**





**The Branns and the Regans**



**Dr. Mom and Madelyn**



**Pooh Bear Jillian**



## Halloween Carving at the Aragon's An annual tradition



Men of Good Shepherd and Friends visit New Riff Distillery





Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
9066 Gunpowder Road  
Florence, KY 41042