



GOOD NEWS GROUPS

CONNECT • GROW • IMPACT...UP CLOSE

Fall 2025

WHY JOIN A GOOD NEWS GROUP?

God did not design us to face life on our own. Instead, he intended for believers to be woven together in a community so that they might encourage one another as together they walk the often-difficult path of life.

We strongly encourage you to consider joining one of our Good News Groups. As we get bigger, they are an increasingly important way for us to carry out our ministry:

- They are a way that our church provides opportunity for members to get to know one another better.
- They are a way that we help new members assimilate, knitting them into the Good News family.
- They are a way for you to connect with your fellow Christians.

TYPES OF GOOD NEWS GROUPS

There are three different types of groups:

- **Connect Groups** gather for recreational fellowship.
- **Grow Groups** gather for Bible study and discussion.
- **Impact Groups** gather for church or community service.
- **Life Groups** combine all of the above.

If you plan on joining a Good News Group, you can sign up at church or by visiting GoodNewsLC.org/groups.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Group Type: Connect Group

Description: Playing family friendly board games and card games with friends and their families.

Facilitator(s): Gary and Amy Pepin gpepin@gmail.com
(920) 763-2606

Intended for: All

The Pitch: Come have fun with friends, family, and children to enjoy fellowship and fun. Play different family friendly board games and/or card games.

Costs: None

Meeting Info: We will meet at our house:

4038 Red Hawk Run
Black Earth, WI 53515

October 19
November 16
December 21

3:00 p.m. each time

MEN'S CARD NIGHT

Group Type: Connect Group

Description: This group will gather to play cards. The game might vary from night to night (examples: euchre, cribbage, hearts).

Facilitator(s): Dan Shinnick shinnick.dan@gmail.com
(608) 224-9292

Intended for: Any men who are interested

The Pitch: Sitting around a card table is a great opportunity to have fun, get to know others, and enjoy a little friendly competition! These card nights will be relatively low-key. Even if you don't have a ton of experience, you're welcome to come and learn!

Costs: None

Meeting Info: Location: Shinnick Home; 8982 Domini Road
6:00 p.m.

September 20

October 18

November 15

December 20

FEMALE FRIENDSHIP FORUM

Group Type: Connect Group

Description: A gathering of adult women to enjoy each other's company and conversation

Facilitator(s): Sadie Sutter sadiesutter@gmail.com
(608) 279-4089

Intended for: Adult women

The Pitch: Each month we'll arrange to meet at a local establishment for some snacks, beverages and conversation. Enjoy sharing the joys and struggles of life with your fellow Christian women.

Costs: Up to the individual

Meeting Info: Locations and times to be determined

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Group Type: Connect Group

Description: An informal meet up for coffee, conversation, and Scripture reading at Good News

Facilitator(s): Steve Grahm

Intended for: Adults

The Pitch: Stop in at church for a bit to say hi and catch up with some fellow Good News members (or guests). We'll put some coffee on and enjoy each other's company in our comfy gathering area.

At 9:45 a.m. we will read through the assigned Scripture readings for the coming Sunday and spend some time discussing them.

Costs: None

Meeting Info: Meet at Church

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Every Wednesday morning

WISCONSIN WALKERS

Group Type: Connect Group

Description: Going on hikes/nature walks and just generally exploring Wisconsin's state and county parks

Facilitator(s): Calvin and Kylie Arstein vicar.arstein@goodnewslc.org
(208) 938-0104

Intended for: Anyone

The Pitch: There are few better ways to start a morning than a bit of light exercise while enjoying the sights, sounds, and smells of nature! Come join the whole Vicar family and explore the local trails and parks, courtesy of the Wisconsin DNR.

Costs: At most a possible parking pass if at a state park (\$28/year; \$13/day)

Meeting Info: Saturday mornings (around 9 AM) every other week starting in September and going through October. Locations TBD (suggestions are welcome!).
Whoever can make it is welcome!

WOMEN'S POP UP BOOK CLUB: LINEAGE OF GRACE

Group Type: Grow Group

Description: We will read three stories in A Lineage of Grace and gather once for each story to discuss it.

Facilitator(s): Stephanie Shinnick fvlmom@hotmail.com
(920) 428-2601

Intended for: Women

The Pitch: Women's study is picking up where we left off last spring. Join us to read three different stories in A Lineage of Grace by Francine Rivers. The stories feature the Bible figures Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. We will meet one time for each story to discuss it. These stories are fictional narratives, and for each one, we will dig into what the Bible actually tells us about the featured character and compare it to the story we have read.

Costs: Purchase of the book A Lineage of Grace, available online.

Meeting Info: We will begin with the story of Ruth the week of September 21. I will survey those who sign up to find an evening that is convenient for the majority.
Subsequent meetings will be scheduled by the group.

BIBLE STUDY: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Group Type: Grow Group

Description: A study of the basic teachings of the Bible, including what we believe and teach as a Lutheran church.

Facilitator(s): Pastor Bauer pastor@goodnewslc.org
(608) 772-7500

Intended for: All are welcome
This is also the class intended for anyone interested in becoming a member at Good News.

The Pitch: Human beings often demonstrate that they are pretty good at asking the right questions. They aren't so great, however, at arriving at the correct answers to those questions. In this class we'll see how the answers to life's most important questions – questions that everyone wants answers to – are all found in God's Word, the Bible. Not only that, but God's answers to those questions are always good news.

This class is a great opportunity for Good News members to review the teachings of the Lutheran church; it's also a class designed for anyone interested in membership at Good News.

Costs: None

Meeting Info: Location: Good News
Day/Time: Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. starting September 21
Eight lessons

GOOD NEWS CHOIR

Group Type: Impact Group

Description: Our church choir gathers to rehearse music for use in our Sunday morning services.

Facilitator(s): Stephanie Shinnick fvlmom@hotmail.com
(920) 428-6201

Intended for: Adults who have an interest in singing (teens welcome too!)

The Pitch: Christians love to sing when they gather. Music is an incredibly valuable and effective way to proclaim what our God has done for us. Our church choir exists to enhance our Sunday services with music. Being part of the choir is a great opportunity to enjoy God's gift of music and provide a valuable service to our congregation as we worship.

Costs: None

Meeting Info: Sunday mornings from 8:00-8:45 a.m. at Good News

COMPASSION CREW

Group Type: Impact Group

Description: This group will organize acts of compassion for members of our church and community who are in need.

Facilitator(s): Stephanie Shinnick fvlmom@hotmail.com
(920) 428-6201

Intended for: Anyone interested

The Pitch: This group is mainly to organize different ways to reach out to members and others in the community who may need some care or compassion. Examples include: Sending cards to members for anniversaries, birthdays, etc., arranging rides for people that don't have access to transportation, visiting people who aren't able to get out of the house much, sending care packages to students, and organizing meals when needed (not necessarily providing all the meals, just organizing them).

Costs: None

Meeting Info: There might be a meeting once a month in person, but the organizing can be done through email and phone calls.

NURSERY CARE

Group Type: Impact Group

Description: This group provides childcare during the Bible study and for other church-related events.

Facilitator(s): Sadie Sutter sadiesutter@gmail.com
(608) 279-4089

Intended for: Older teens and adults

The Pitch: Enjoy young children? Need a weekly “baby fix”? Help watch our children who aren’t quite old enough for Sunday School yet so that their parents are able to attend Bible study.

Costs: None

Meeting Info: Sadie will coordinate the weekly schedule and meet with volunteers as needed.

GOOD NEWS GARDENERS

Group Type: Impact Group

Description: We will be maintaining and enhancing the flower beds and landscape areas around our church building.

Facilitator(s): Sandy Petersen sandypetersen1@icloud.com

Intended for: Plant lovers, plant experts, people that love being outside and beautifying properties.

The Pitch: Join the Good News Gardeners to help make our church grounds beautiful now and for years to come. This is an impact/service group but there is no doubt it will also be a connect group as we work together and have fun. Let's make the Good News grounds beautiful and have fun doing it.

Costs: None.

Meeting Info: By signing up, you help create a mailing list we can use when a groundskeeping event comes up.

There will for sure be a fall cleanup day coming up.

The ultimate purpose of the group is to help make the Good News Lutheran grounds beautiful.

GOOD NEWS LIFE GROUPS

Group Type: Life Groups

Description: Life groups are small groups of Good News individuals and families who meet regularly for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer.

Facilitator(s): TBD

Intended for: Anyone

The Pitch: Form deeper connections and grow in God's Word with a smaller group of Good News members. As our church continues to grow, it gets more and more difficult to get to know everyone at much more than a surface level. Life Groups get you more closely connected to a smaller group of people.

Costs: None.

Meeting Info: Based on the total number of people interested, we will form as many groups as needed.

Indicate your meeting preferences on the sign up sheet.

