

WELCOME, HOSPITALITY & EVANGELISM

The Heart of Hospitality: More Than a Greeting

by Ronda Beggs, Hospitality Coordinator

At Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we believe that every person who walks through our doors should feel the love of Christ from the very first moment. That's why our **Hospitality Ministry** plays such a vital role in our church community.

Hospitality is more than just a warm smile or a handshake at the entrance. It's a **ministry of presence**, making people feel seen, valued and welcomed—just as Jesus welcomed all who came to Him. Whether it's helping someone find a seat, answering questions, offering a cup of coffee, or simply remembering a name; small acts of kindness go a long way in reflecting God's love.

For **first-time guests**, the hospitality team is often their **first impression of our church**. That experience can determine whether they return or seek spiritual connection elsewhere. A welcoming environment can break down walls of fear, doubt or loneliness and open hearts to the message of the Gospel.

But hospitality doesn't stop with newcomers. It's also about **building community among our members**, celebrating life's milestones, and

noticing when someone's been missing. Through these efforts, our church becomes not just a place of worship, but a true spiritual home.

The Bible encourages us in Romans 12:13 to "**practice hospitality**," and Hebrews 13:2 reminds us that in doing so, we may even be "entertaining angels." This ministry is rooted in **servanthood**, offering a tangible expression of God's grace and welcome to all.

As we grow, the need for more loving, committed volunteers in this ministry also grows. If you have a heart for people and a desire to serve, we invite you to be a part of this essential team.

Together, let's create an environment where everyone who enters our church knows they matter—to us, and to God.

Interested in serving? Contact Ronda Beggs, Hospitality Coordinator at rbeggs@gsclcw.com

Spotlight Events

October 5

Courtney & Ronda available at both campuses.
Learn about worship volunteer opportunities

October 12

New Member gathering at Verona Campus

October 13

Book Study Begins:
Neighborhood Church

October 19

Invite-a-friend Sunday at all services

October 26:

Nametag Sunday

Faith in Action: Celebrating Our Ministries Throughout the Year

At Good Shepherd, our mission is simple but powerful: Welcome, Forgive, and Serve. This year, we are excited to introduce Faith in Action, a new way to intentionally lift up, pray for, and celebrate our church's many ministries—one ministry area each month. From music and care teams to outreach and education, every ministry plays a vital role in living out God's love in our community.

As scripture reminds us: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10.) Join us this year as we shine a spotlight on our ministries, celebrate the dedication of those who serve, and grow together in faith and service. Let's see our mission come alive—One ministry, one month, one faithful act at a time!

What's ahead?

November

Generosity,
Finance & Administration

December

Worship & Music

January

Justice & Advocacy



Baptisms

September 28 – James Allen Wewetzer, child of Nathan and Haley Wewetzer.

Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Tom Foltz and family on the death of his wife, Cathy Foltz of Madison, WI who died on August 27, 2025.

Christian Sympathy to Rob & Julie Bauer & family on the death of Rob's father, Robert "Bob" Bauer, of Plain, WI., who died on Monday, September 1st

Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Sally Holl of Rhinelander, WI who died on September 2, 2025. Sally was the oldest member of Good Shepherd Church, living until two weeks before her 100th birthday.

Christian Sympathy to Margaret Williams on the death of her sister, Deborah Struebing of Virginia Beach, VA who died on September 11, 2025.

Winter Coat Drive All October

This October we will be collecting clean, adult winter coats. We will be distributing the coats on Thursday, November 6. There will be a bin at both Campuses where you can put your coat donations. If you can volunteer on November 6, please contact Rick Thomas at rthomas@gslcwi.com

Watch the Parent/Youth Service Trip Video

This summer, over 40 members of Good Shepherd experienced a one-of-a-kind service trip in North Carolina serving with Lutheran Disaster Response. Parents and youth worked, learned, laughed and worshipped together.

FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY

Gathering Together for a New Season

On Sunday, September 14, Good Shepherd gathered for special times of fellowship after each worship service. Church School teachers at both campuses were commissioned and blessed as a new year began! It's not too late to register your child for church school at either campus by visiting gslcwi.com/churchschool25

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

August 2025 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 321,928	\$ 391,816	\$ (69,888)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(380,354)	(319,077)	(61,277)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (58,426)	\$ 72,739	\$ (131,165)

Cash Balances

	August 2025	June Fiscal YR 2025	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 277,363	\$ 574,578	\$ (297,215)	
Board Designated Reserves	609,537	-	609,537	
Donor/Grant Restricted Funds	448,048	362,559	85,489	
Capital Campaign Projects Fund	27,997	27,497	500	
Columbarium	104,028	91,840	12,188	
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,466,973	\$ 1,056,474	\$ 410,499	

What's Next for Good Shepherd's Lead Pastor Call Process

From Elizabeth Ackerman, Call Committee Chair

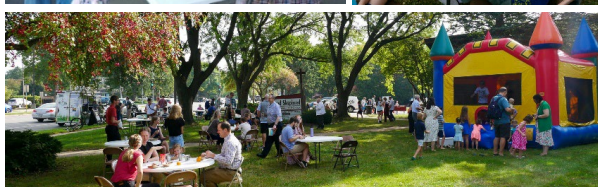
The Call Committee recently interviewed our first round of candidates for the Lead Pastor position. After prayerful consideration, we discerned that they were not the right fit for Good Shepherd at this time. We are prioritizing finding the right pastor to lead our congregation, even if it may take a bit longer. The search committee has mapped out a new strategic plan that incorporates updated direction from the bishop's office. We invite you to help by sharing news of this opening with friends, family, or colleagues who may have church connections. Thank you for your continued prayers for the process and prayers for our next lead pastor. Together, we trust God will lead us to the pastor meant for Good Shepherd's bright future.

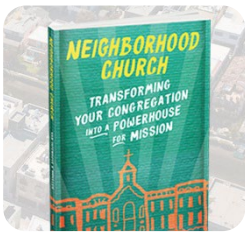
**Discuss the Call Process at next
Congregational Life Conversations**

October 12 | Madison
October 19 | Verona



Watch online at gslcwi.com/nc





Outreach Book Study

- Starts Monday, October 13 | 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.
- Pr. Dara Schuller-Hanson | dschuller@gslcwi.com
- Madison Campus & Zoom

Join this new lunch hour book study based upon finding a single word that can shape your entire year. Offered both in-person and online.



Bingo Night

- Tuesday, October 14 | 6:30 p.m.
- Ronda Beggs | rbeggs@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus

Come on down to the Verona Campus lobby for a fun night of games and snacks! All are welcome and you're encouraged to bring a friend.



Potluck & Prayer Labyrinth

- Wednesday, October 15 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Pr. Dara Schuller-Hanson | dschuller@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus

Bring a dish to pass for a potluck in Verona Campus Lobby at 11 a.m., followed by an introduction to our church's Prayer Labyrinth outdoors with Pr. Dara.



Fall Family Fun

- Saturday, October 18 | 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Emily Gold | egold@gslcwi.com
- Eplegaarden in Fitchburg

Get together with other families from Good Shepherd, while enjoying apple and pumpkin picking, farm animals, kids play area and more!



Knitters Meet & Greet

- Sunday, October 19 | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- Pr. Sheryl Erickson | serickson@gslcwi.com
- Madison Campus Lobby

Stop by after worship in our church lobby to "Meet & Greet" those who knit our prayer shawls and baptismal blankets with Shepherd's Hands Ministry at Good Shepherd Church.

Trunk or Treat

- Saturday, October 25 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- Rick Thomas | rthomas@gslcwi.com
- Madison Campus

Decorate your trunk and help with our Annual Trunk or Treat event. Register your trunk at gslcwi.com/trunk25. If you can't make the event, you can also donate candy to support the event!



RECONCILING IN CHRIST Learn about Gender Affirming Care

Sarah Simon, the RIC Chair here at Good Shepherd, is a speech-language pathologist at an outpatient clinic, specializing in gender-affirming voice evaluation & treatment. Join her on Sunday, October 19, following the 9:00 a.m. service at Madison, to learn more about gender-affirming care, the role of a speech-language pathologist and what you can do to support transgender people in your life.

FAITH FORMATION Watch Season Five of The Chosen Together

Starting Tuesday, October 14, we will meet each week at 6:30 p.m. in Peterson Hall to watch the most recent season of the acclaimed series "The Chosen" – featuring a unique look at the life of Jesus and his ministry. There will also be an option to join each week on Zoom. Contact Eric Holmer eholmer@gslcwi.com with any questions.

COMMUNITY EVENTS Get Repairs at the Fix-it Faire

Have something you need fixed? Come join us for The Good Shepherd Fix It Faire on Saturday, October 11 from 1-4 p.m. at our Madison Campus. The Fix It Faire is part of Good Shepherd's Outreach Ministry. It is a free meeting and repair fair. Good Shepherd members with repair skills in various fields will assist and repair items such as clothing, furniture, electronics, small appliances, bikes etc. The Holy Cow food truck will also be there serving delicious treats.

COMMUNITY SERVICE Red Cross Blood Drive

You can help save a life by donating blood at the upcoming American Red Cross blood drive hosted at Madison Campus on Monday, October 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Get more details at gslcwi.com/redcross1025

SERVICE Help with Food Pantry Pick-ups

Have a van or larger truck and willing to pick up donations for the Food Pantry on an on-call basis? Contact Rick Thomas at rthomas@gslcwi.com.



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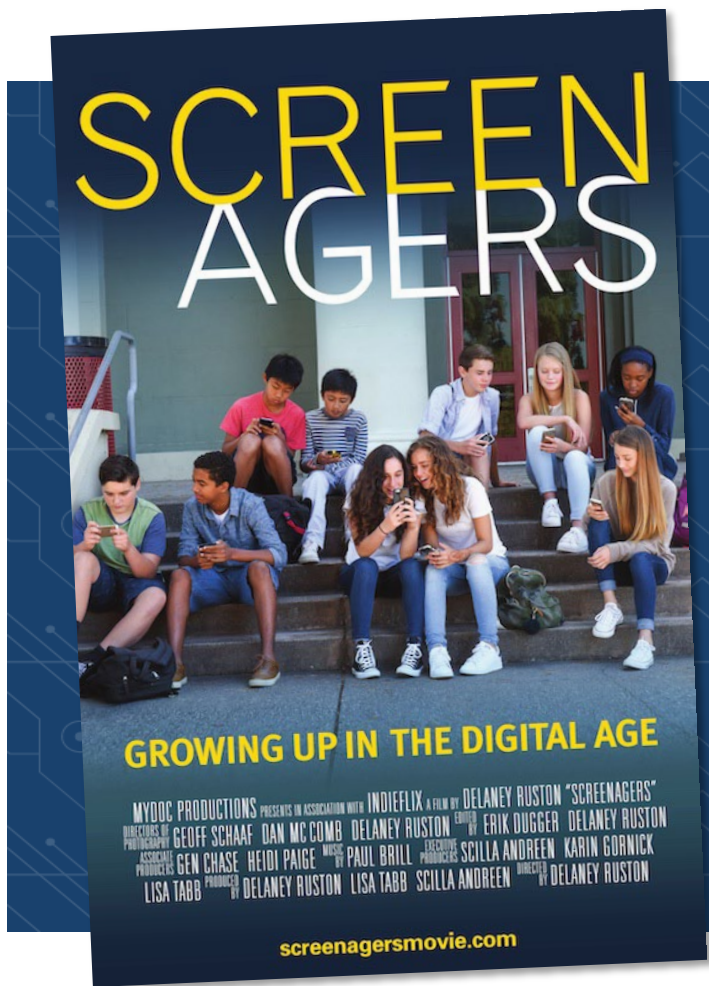
Sunday Worship Times

In-Person & Online | gslcwi.com/live

9:00 a.m. Madison Campus

10:00 a.m. Verona Campus

6:00 p.m. Verona Campus



FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

How are we being shaped by our devices?

Screenagers is an award-winning documentary that dives into the challenges families face in this digital age, now updated for 2025 with the latest science, research, and expert insights. All ages of Good Shepherd are invited to watch and discuss this documentary as together we face the critical ways that devices and technology are shaping our relationships with the world and each other.

Wednesday, November 6 at 6:15 p.m.
Verona Campus Sanctuary
All Ages Invited | Free Community Event