

PASTOR'S NOTE

Being Led by the Spirit

Welcoming a new period of transition for Good Shepherd

Interim times present opportunities for transformation and renewal, but these kinds of changes are no easier for us than they were for Nicodemus.

Change brings Nicodemus to Jesus.

He can see God at work in Jesus in a new way, “no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person” (John 3:2d).

Jesus says Nicodemus must be born from above. But spiritual rebirth, transformation from one state of being to another, is beyond human control.

The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit. –John 3:8

When by faith we are open to rebirth in the Spirit, we transcend our own human limitations, as we recently experienced with the call of a new Lead Pastor.

It was a culminating moment, the voice of the congregation was the sound of the Spirit bringing new life to Good Shepherd, carrying us forward in the life-long process of transformation and rebirth.

We might list all we accomplished in two years, more than we could have foreseen, but it is not about what specifically we accomplished that matters anyway.

What matters is Good Shepherd choosing to be led by the Spirit, remaining open and active in a season of change. An active church is an attractive church, a quality candidates look for, a sign the congregation is ready to join with the new Lead Pastor as they follow the same Spirit that brought them together.

Thanks to our church leaders and the support of the congregation, Good Shepherd remained strong and vibrant through the interim period.

Thank you Good Shepherd for the many ways you welcomed me and for your openness and courage through the many transitions of these past two years.

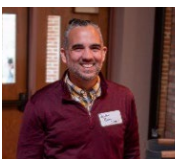
I will carry in my heart all that I learned with you, to where I next serve as Interim Pastor. Where that may be, I don't know.

The wind blows where it chooses.



Craig McMahon

Interim Lead Pastor Craig McMahon



Pastor Ben Sheets Accepts Call to Serve as Good Shepherd's Lead Pastor

On Sunday, April 19, the members of Good Shepherd voted overwhelmingly to call Pastor Ben Sheets as the fifth lead pastor in the history of the congregation. Learn more on page two!

Baptisms

April 12th, 2025: Arthur Jay Bergstrom, child of Hannah and Ryan Bergstrom.

Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy to the family of Diane Charles of Verona, WI who died on April 5, 2026.

Christian sympathy to Kurt Maier and family on the death of his mom, Marilyn Hutter of Wisconsin Rapids, WI who died on April 8, 2026.

Christian sympathy to Sheryl Burkel and family on the death of her husband, and Leah Sawicki and family on the death of her dad, Martin Burkel of Madison, WI who died on April 13, 2026.

Annual Meeting August 9

Save the date for the Annual Meeting of Good Shepherd at 10:30 a.m. at Madison Campus following combined worship at 9:00 a.m.



Red Cross Blood Drive on May 18

The American Red Cross will be at Good Shepherd's Madison Campus on May 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Become a Good Shepherd Legacy Builder & Receive a Free Gift

Sign a letter of intent to give an estate gift to the Good Shepherd Foundation and we'll thank you for your future generosity by giving you a Good Shepherd Foundation Yeti mug to use during coffee hours after church.

Visit gslcwi.com/foundation to learn more

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD March 2026 Update

Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 1,820,026	\$ 1,741,185	\$ 78,841
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(1,750,274)	(1,700,161)	(50,113)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ 69,752	\$ 41,024	\$ 28,728

Cash Balances

	June			
	March 2026	Fiscal YR 2025	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 621,459	\$ 574,578	\$	46,881
Board Designated Reserves	609,221	-		609,221
Donor/Grant Restricted Funds	550,008	362,559		187,449
Capital Campaign Projects Fund	838	27,497		(26,659)
Columbarium	103,650	91,840		11,810
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 1,885,176	\$ 1,056,474	\$	828,702



LEAD PASTOR CALL PROCESS

Welcome, Pastor Ben Sheets!

Pastor Ben accepted the call on Sunday, April 19 after members of Good Shepherd voted overwhelmingly to extend him a call. Pastor Ben expects to finish up his work at his present congregation in Lana'i City, Hawai'i over the next few months before he begins his new position on June 15. Pastor Ben writes: "The Spirit of the Resurrected One sealed upon us in baptism binds us together, shaping us into a community of radical grace...This same baptismal Spirit has, I trust, led me to this moment along with you. I am honored by the possibility of being called to serve in this time and place – at Good Shepherd, a community vibrant in faith and bold in love, for such a time as this."

Learn more about Ben and the Sheets family by visiting: gslcwi.com/meet-the-candidate



Zoom with Aziz Abu-Sarah

- Thursday May 7 at 7:00 p.m.
- Eric Holmer | eholmer@gslcwi.com
- Verona Campus & Zoom

One of the authors of *The Future is Peace* joins Good Shepherd for a conversation about their New York Times best-selling book about their journey to promote peace.



Always There Fair

- Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Sarah Simon | sdsimon.wi@gmail.com
- Badger Ridge Middle School in Verona

This fair is designed to uplift queer joy and support LGBTQ+ students around Verona and Dane County. Good Shepherd’s RIC team will host a table.



Meadowood Health Fair

- Monday, May 11 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Rick Thomas | rthomas@gslcwi.com
- 5902 Raymond Road, Madison, WI

A free event bringing together organizations from across Madison to offer health screenings, family support, wellness activities and connections to local programs. The Holy COW will be serving lunch at the event from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.



Volunteer at Brat Fest

- Friday, May 22 – Sunday, May 24
- Rick Thomas | rthomas@gslcwi.com
- Alliant Energy Center

Please join the Madison Area Jail Ministry Friends Partners and supporters and have fun volunteering at Brat Fest on Memorial Day Weekend!



Grace Collective Hike & Tacos

- Tuesday, May 26 at 5:30 p.m.
- Holly Simon | hollyjsimon@gmail.com
- McKee Ice Age Trail Segment

We'll trek through one of the most beautiful trail segments in the state, enjoy conversation, nature and enjoy tacos at AzTec Taqueria at 6:30 p.m.!



May Fix-It Faire

- Thursday, May 28 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Rick Thomas | rthomas@gslcwi.com
- Madison Campus

The Good Shepherd Fix-It Faire will have expert volunteers with skills in various fields who will assist and repair items for free, such as clothing, furniture, electronics, small appliances, bikes etc.



May is Facilities Month

Our monthly ministry series will focus on facilities in May and show how the facilities we have been blessed with over our 67-year history are allowing Good Shepherd to fulfill our Mission of Welcome, Forgive and Serve. Watch online and in our weekly announcements to see how this ministry enhances our mission.



AMPED CONFIRMATION Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, May 3

Join us as we celebrate a meaningful moment in the faith journey of our young people. Affirmation of Baptism, often known as Confirmation, is a special time when students publicly affirm the promises made at their baptism and commit to continuing a life of faith. It's a joyful occasion for our whole church family to support, encourage and pray for them as they take this important step. The service will also be available to stream online.

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| Natalie Barneson | Bree Maier |
| Lily Beehn | Grady Matilla |
| Nolan Bubbers | Tyler Nackers |
| Fiona Cooper | Eden Nemmetz |
| Callum Davenport | Tyson Ott |
| Carly Esser | Paul Sand |
| Graham Fiedler | William Schiefelbein |
| Denison Hewitt | Emily Sorum |
| Logan Hofer | Walter Spelsberg |
| Tayte Johanningmeier | Gavin Vogt |
| Andrew Johnson | Makenna Wallace |
| Christopher Landis | Natalie Wuerzberger |
| Maya Larson | Eleanor Ziemlewicz |



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608-845-8955

Fax 608-271-2657
info@gsclwi.com
gsclwi.com

Sunday Worship Times
In-Person & Online | gsclwi.com/live
9:00 a.m. Madison Campus
10:00 a.m. Verona Campus
6:00 p.m. Verona Campus

ONE SERVICE. ONE LOCATION. One Worship Service Memorial Day Weekend

 Sunday, May 24 at 9:00 a.m.
 Madison Campus

Good Shepherd will gather for One service in One location at One time on Sunday, May 24. This service will also be available as a livestream. Our next combined worship service will take place on July 5 at Verona Campus.

Worship Online at
gsclwi.com/live



FAREWELL BLESSING
Pastor Craig McMahon
Interim Lead Pastor