

Candidates for Board of Directors



Tyler Gold

Tyler has been a member of Good Shepherd for 27 years, and active for 21 of those years. He started with youth activities in middle school, moved on to high school events, and now mentors and chaperones those trips that he once went on. Current, Tyler sits on 2 committees, Finance and Children Youth and Family, both of which he has an active member on for 3 plus years. Outside of church he is a Senior Tax Accountant at Wipfli in the Construction and Real Estate Team and experience spanning over 3 years. Tyler is a member of NAIOP, AICPA, and WICPA among other professional organizations that allow him to gain valuable experience which allows him to transfer to his work to current Committees and the Board of Directors. Things he is most excited for in the upcoming years "I am most excited for the direction that the church is moving, and what we will be able to do in the future with the new strategic plan. After serving my first two and a half years on the board I am excited to get back into work as we work to bring current members back into congregational wide events and continue to evangelize new members and invite our neighbors to continue to grow with us in Christ." Tyler is married to his high school sweetheart Emily Gold who is also a member at Good Shepherd and involved in the 6 PM Sunday night service. Tyler and Emily met in high school on a church retreat and recently welcomed their first-born Mila James Gold in March.



Betsy Johnson

Betsy has been a member of Good Shepherd for about 20 years. I have had the opportunity and the blessing to be part of several committees and many ministries at Good Shepherd since I have been a member. I am honored to be considered to be a part of the Church Board to witness the work God yet has to do through this church and all of its members. My husband Steve and I have been married for 17 years and have 3 children, Benjamin, Blake, and Adam. We currently live in Belleville and worship at the Verona campus.



David Vogt

David has been a member of Good Shepherd since being married in Peterson Hall in 2008. He is a leader at CUNA Mutual Group where he manages a team of process improvement consultants for the Retirement Operations Department. David holds an BA in Human Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an MBA from Edgewood College. He currently is the Treasurer of the Parents Advocating Student Success (PASS) Board. PASS is a non-profit corporation focusing on the school's surrounding community, holding the contracts with Verona Area School District and the Endowment for the school held by Madison Community Foundation. PASS works with the broad community to fund the Endowment for the school's long-term financial needs.

David is blessed to be married to his best friend Andrea. Andrea has been a member at Good Shepherd since moving to Verona as a child and together they are raising their three energetic children in the same church family – Marah (13), Gavin (10), and Jade (7). David and Andrea love to spend time camping with the kids, playing games as a family, and hosting family and friends in their home as often as possible.

Candidate for Nominating Committee

Ross Larson



Ross Larson and his family joined Good Shepherd in 2016. He is married to Emilie, who plays violin at The Deep, and has two children, Drew and Maya. He graduated with a degree in Psychology and French from Luther College, and works as a Software Developer at Paradigm in Middleton. Ross was elected to serve on the SCSW Synod Council in 2022. Ross served as a Lay member on the Synod Council in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin from 2010-2016. He also served on the Bi-Synodical Candidacy Committee for the East Central and Northern Great Lakes Synods from 2010-2016. He was a camp counselor for Crossways at Imago Dei Village during his college years, and also volunteered as the System Administrator for Crossways camps from 2008 to 2013.

Judy Kalan



We moved to Madison from Denver, Col., in 1994, joining Good Shepherd that same year. Music has always been my passion since I was 7 years old. I learned to play the organ, began playing for the church at the age of 12. I have always felt one of the ways people become involved in church is through its music and worship on Sunday morning. I was raised LCMS until coming to Good Shepherd, and was also involved in the church through Sunday School, Bible school and various other youth and adult programs.

My bachelor's degree is in music education with a minor in organ from Colorado State University. Upon graduation I taught elementary music in Broomfield, Col. After starting a family, I started my own business with an emphasis on group and private piano teaching, utilizing Pace and Mayron Cole teaching methods. I was also an organist at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church for 24 years and heavily involved in the children's music programs. For three years I started and ran a Parent helping Parent group through Cherry Creek High School as a liaison resource person for parents with troubled teens.

Since coming to Good Shepherd, I have been a choir member, substitute organist and accompanist as well as on the Worship, Music and Arts Committee. I also was on the early committee under Pastor Dave Swenson to look at the concept of one church and two campuses. In the late 90's to 2005, I worked for Madison College as a School to Career coordinator overseeing 40 school districts, providing grants for technical education and putting on seminars for HS faculty. For a number of years I have been involved on the boards of Madison Symphony Orchestra League, Friends of the Concert Organ, and Verona Area Performing Arts.

Karen Smith



Karen and her family have lived on the north side of Verona for nearly 20 years, and they joined Good Shepherd Verona when it was meeting in the cafeteria at Badger Ridge Middle School. Karen's early focus was church school and children's music. She led large group worship in church school, accompanied Joyful Noise, and assisted with many Christmas programs through the years. Eventually, Karen joined Echoes of Grace as a vocalist and keyboard player.

Recently, she served on the Shared Leadership Task Force and the Worship, Music and Arts Committee. Since the Verona campus returned to indoor worship this Fall, Karen has served as a Worship Assistant and enjoyed the opportunity to greet Good Shepherd members in person again on Sunday mornings.

Karen is an internal accountant at SVA. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, crafts, and connecting with friends. She is honored to be a part of the Nominating Committee, and looks forward to finding more opportunities to grow and serve our congregation in the coming year.