



CALL PROCESS UPDATES

# Stepping into a New Season

A Look at What's Ahead in 2024

## Greetings, Good Shepherd!

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

As you are all aware, Pastor Chris's last day with us was December 31, as he has taken a call at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. We thank him for his many contributions to Good Shepherd over the last 7+ years and we wish him and his family well as they transition to their new church and city.

With that said, I wanted to update you on three items that the Board has been focused on since Pastor Chris announced his resignation:

1. Interim Lead Pastor
2. Transition Team Task Force
3. Call Committee

Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe and her team have been diligently working on identifying an Interim Lead Pastor for Good Shepherd. As of now, we have nothing to report on this item. I hope to know more in early to mid-January, so stay-tuned for subsequent communication. Rest assured, we are in the very capable hands of Pastor's Sheryl, Dara,

Mark and Joe and our wonderful staff in the interim.

The Board approved the creation of the Transition Team Task Force at our December meeting. This Task Force will be chaired by Steve Frei. The other members of the Task Force include Jen Holmer, Sara McCormack, Don Nelson, Kay Simmons, and Katie Wagner. Thank You! The key deliverable for this Task Force is the Ministry Site Profile, which needs to be completed before we can formally begin the Call process.

The Ministry Site Profile contains both quantitative and qualitative characteristics of our church. The qualitative characteristics relate primarily to our collective Vision for Mission and Leadership Needs at Good Shepherd. The Vision for Mission and Leadership Needs information will be sourced primarily through listening sessions with the Congregation, Board, Staff and Committees, and our recently adopted Strategic Plan. The current expectation is that the Transition Team Task Force will complete its work in April and will be presented to the Board for approval shortly thereafter.

The work related to the appointment of the Call Committee has yet to begin. Our Constitution states the Call Committee shall consist of a maximum of eight members, and no more than half the members shall be members of the Board of Directors. Our goal for the composition of this committee is a well-rounded, diverse, passionate group with a variety of skillsets. This task will be completed and approved by the Board in March.

As always, if you have questions about this or anything else, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the Board or email us at [goodshepherdboard@gslcwi.com](mailto:goodshepherdboard@gslcwi.com). We plan to provide another transition updates to the congregation during services on January 14. You can follow all updates on the process by going to our website at [gslcwi.com/transition/](http://gslcwi.com/transition/).

I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!



**Robert Beggs** | Board President  
[boardpresident@gslcwi.com](mailto:boardpresident@gslcwi.com)

## Baptisms

Olivia Kaye Dietzler, daughter of Carissa and Brian Dietzler. Baptized on December 10.

## Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Margaret Salisbury on the death of her husband, Tony Salisbury of Madison, WI on November 28, 2023.

Christian Sympathy to Sue Huxtable & family on the death of her mother, Mary Bosben of Madison, WI on December 8, 2023.

Christian Sympathy to Jane Schmieding & family on the death of her mother, Jean Paul of Madison, WI on December 21, 2023.



## Thank-You from Deacon McCarty

Dear Good Shepherd Community,

I am deeply grateful for the love, support, and encouragement you have shown me throughout my seminary journey. Your presence and participation in my ordination service will be a memory that I cherish for years to come. What a blessing it is to be part of a church community that nurtures faith leaders!

Many thanks,  
Jessica McCarty

## ImpactLife Blood Drive at Verona Campus on January 8

38% of the population is eligible to donate blood. Fewer than 10% actually do. This is a problem. Every day, many Americans depend on blood donations from generous volunteer donors for critical components of their medical care...it is truly the most personal natural resource. Save lives by making the commitment today: to donate yourself, and to ask your friends, colleagues, and loved ones to donate with you. There are cookies – and the feel-good buzz of saving up to four lives – waiting for you on the other side. Sign up to donate on January 8 from 3-6 p.m. at [gslcwi.com/impactlife](http://gslcwi.com/impactlife).

## FINANCIAL DASHBOARD November 2023 Update

### Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 756,798	\$ 778,663	\$ (21,865)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(871,455)	(858,722)	(12,733)
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(24,637)	-	(24,637)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (139,294)	\$ (80,059)	\$ (59,235)

### Cash Balances

	November 2023	June Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 487,651	\$ 607,582	\$	(119,931)
Board Designated Funds	67,775	112,154		(44,379)
Restricted Funds	309,942	384,576		(74,634)
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 865,368	\$ 1,104,312	\$	(238,944)

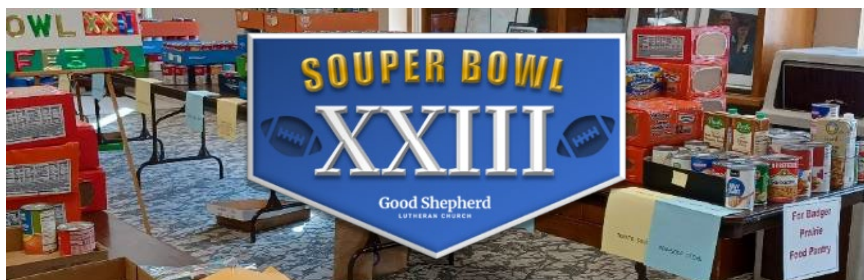
### Mortgage Balance

	November 2023	June Fiscal YR 2023	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 503,541	\$ 665,097	\$	(161,556)

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## Thank You for your Generosity!

Thanks to your support we are happy to announce the Ready, set Grow Generosity campaign was able to make the goal of increasing giving by 7.1% in 2024. In addition, 15 more members than last year filled out an intent card for 2024. Your support will help Good Shepherd implement our Strategic Plan in 2024 as we undergo a year of transition. Any questions? Go to [gslcwi.com/giving](http://gslcwi.com/giving). Thank You!



## Souper Bowl XXIII Sunday is February 11<sup>th</sup>

The kick-off to Souper Bowl XXIII is at the 6 p.m. service on Sunday, February 4th, followed by big plays from by the AMPED students and the Little Blessings Preschools during the week. Preferred soups include chicken noodle, chicken with rice, vegetable beef, cream of mushroom, cream of chicken, any chunky style soups, and ramen noodles. We are also asking for your help with monetary donations, so the Pantry Coordinators at the Good Shepherd, Allied and Badger Prairie Food Pantries can use the money to purchase needed food and other items given at the Food Pantries. Checks can be made to Good Shepherd with Souper Bowl in the memo line. If you donate cash, please do so carefully and indicate that it is for the Souper Bowl. Donate online at [gslcwi.com/SouperBowl](http://gslcwi.com/SouperBowl). Select 30-Souper Bowl from the drop-down selections under 2024 General Fund. The souper good news is you can make your monetary donations any time before Souper Bowl Sunday. Our challenge and goal are to collect more than the 1,685 cans of soup donated during Souper Bowl XXII.

## January is Outreach Month at Good Shepherd

All throughout the month of January we will celebrate and spotlight the many outreach ministries of our church. Here are a few ways you can get involved this month!



### Weekly Focuses for Outreach

Sundays following Worship

Pastor Dara | dschuller@gslcwi.com

Both Campuses

Ministry teams will have displays in the lobby at both our Madison and Verona church campuses after the worship services with information about their ministries and how to get involved.

- Week 1 | January 7** - Feeding Ministries
- Week 2 | January 14** - Outreach Partners
- Week 3 | January 21** - Interfaith/Global Ministries
- Week 4 | January 28** - Ministries to Children



### Welcome New Refugee Families

Arriving Tuesday, January 16

Pastor Dara | rthomas@gslcwi.com

gslcwi.com/refugees

A refugee family of 4 from Guatemala will be arriving on January 16th. Your involvement can change lives—join us today and be part of their warm welcome!



### Israel: In Context

Wednesday, January 17, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Pastor Dara | dschuller@gslcwi.com

Peterson Hall at Madison Campus

Rabbi Jonathan Biatch from Temple Beth-El and Rabbi Bonnie Margulis from Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice talk about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict from a Jewish perspective.



### Trafficking Awareness Event

January 24, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Rick Thomas | dschuller@gslcwi.com

Peterson Hall at Madison Campus

Learn how human trafficking affects us all and what you can do to help curb the problem.



### Pizza Ranch Fundraiser

January 22, 4-8 p.m.

Sarah Iverson | siverson@gslcwi.com

Pizza Ranch in Verona

Stop by the Pizza Ranch for another great evening designed to raise funds for HS Youth Travels!



### Family Blessing Service

During all worship services on Sunday, January 7, we will have a time of blessing for families. Families come in all shapes and sizes, so please know that whether you are a single individual or worship with a group of extended family/friends virtually, you are welcome to receive a prayer blessing as we settle into the new year.

### RIC Sunday is January 28

Good Shepherd became a Reconciling-in-Christ congregation in 2019. On Sunday, January 28, our services will feature a special emphasis on what it means to be a welcoming congregation to all people. Look for a special devotional featuring Good Shepherd member stories related to this welcome later this month.

### Sign Up for 2024 Altar Flowers

We are looking for people to sponsor an altar flower bouquet(s) in 2024 in memory or in honor of a loved one, or for a special occasion. The bouquets are a beautiful addition to the altar at both campuses! You can sign up on the Altar Flower Chart at the Madison Campus by the entrance to the office OR you can also sign up online at [gslcwi.com/flowers](http://gslcwi.com/flowers) OR by sending an email to Judy at [jhoard@gslcwi.com](mailto:jhoard@gslcwi.com). Each arrangement is \$50. When paying by check, please make it payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with "altar flowers" in the memo line.

### Little Blessings Open House

On Sunday, January 7 and 21 at the Madison Campus, stick around after worship to learn more about Little Blessings Preschool. Preschool Director Heidi Anderson will be there to introduce families to the space, explain the school's teaching philosophy and answer any questions. Even if you don't have preschoolers, this is a great opportunity to learn more about one of the ministries our church provides.



**Good Shepherd**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**What a year!**  
What might be in  
store for 2024?  
*See you  
around  
Church!*

