

# Glimpses of the Kingdom of God

by Pastor Dara Schuller-Hanson  
Pastor of Community Partnerships

The first year I helped serve at the Community Thanksgiving Meal in 2013, I remember Pastor Sheryl who had led the meal many times by then, explaining to me that it was one of her favorite days of the year. She told me that when she looked around at everyone sitting and eating together it gave her a glimpse of the Kingdom of God. We are told in scripture that the Kingdom of God is the fulfillment of God's will for the world—where God's grace through Jesus Christ rules all and where all are fed and have what they need. Every year as Thanksgiving gets closer and I help with preparations for a meal to serve hundreds of people at Good Shepherd, I pray to once again get that glimpse of God's Kingdom.

Even with the pandemic and our changing world, we have continued to host our Thanksgiving meal where church members, friends and community folks come together to eat and give thanks to God. This meal has had some changes in the last few years. At the height of the pandemic we served a record number of meals (over 700!) to-go style. But we

are back to our sit-down meal format because part of the goodness of this day is sitting and eating together. Just as we gather around the communion table in worship and experience God's goodness in the bread and wine, so too do we unite in a meal of thanks at Thanksgiving that unites us and reminds us of God's goodness. It takes over 100 volunteers to cook and carve turkeys, prepare stuffing, serve the meal, beverages and desserts, do the dishes and help clean up. It takes another 100 folks to donate food and alongside our annual turkey order, we prepare food for ~400 people. Families have made this meal a part of their Thanksgiving tradition and folks from around Dane County know if they need a place to go for food and for fellowship, they can come to our church. Thank you to all those who help cook, volunteer and donate in order to make this meal happen! Whether you have attended or volunteered in the past, you are welcome to be a part of this beautiful tradition.

With gratitude,



SAVE THE DATE  
**Thanksgiving Eve  
Worship**  
November 26

SAVE THE DATE  
**Thanksgiving Meal**  
November 27

**Baptisms**

October 6— Marcelina Sease Christensen, child of David Christensen and Sophia Reyes Sease.

**Weddings**

Congratulations to Kristen Erickson and Daniel Bonazza who were married at Good Shepherd Church on October 12, 2024.

**Christian Sympathy**

Christian Sympathy to Jeff Kuchenbecker and family on the death of his son, Michael Kuchenbecker, of Madison, WI, who died on October 5, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to Julie Seaborg and Andrew Seaborg and family on the death of husband and father, Walter Seaborg, of Madison, WI who died on October 21, 2024.

**All Saints Sunday is November 3**

On All Saints Sunday, we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead through Jesus Christ. We also grieve our beloved dead, knowing that God honors our tears. As we have done in the past, we will honor and remember Good Shepherd members who have died during the past year on Sunday, November 3.

**We remember with thanksgiving:**

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bert Anderson        | Bob Nielsen       |
| Mary Bosben          | Sue Owen          |
| Bonnie Edwards       | Jean Paul         |
| Al Ellingboe         | Darryl Pike       |
| Pat Hageman          | Gisela Rosenkranz |
| Bob Herbsleb         | Phyllis Sakalos   |
| Michael Kuchenbecker | Tony Salisbury    |
| Jerry Lange          | Mary Schroeder    |
| John Lewis           | Walter Seaborg    |
| Jan Love             | Keith Skoug       |
| Jean Marshall        | Charlie Stark     |
| Lois Marty           | Susan Sullivan    |
| Margaret Miller      | Al Wearing        |
|                      | Ruth Wilbraham    |

We give thanks and pray for all the saints in our lives and those in our community who are struggling with their loss.

**FINANCIAL DASHBOARD**  
**September 2024 Update**

**Statement of Activity - General Fund**

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 404,075	\$ 537,880	\$ (133,805)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(553,688)	(510,496)	(43,192)
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(15,018)	-	(15,018)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (164,631)	\$ 27,384	\$ (192,015)

**Cash Balances**

	September 2024	June Fiscal YR 2024	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 318,262	\$ 496,430	\$	(178,168)
Board & Mortgage Reserve Designated Fu	34,962	36,110		(1,148)
Donor/Grant Restricted Funds	200,539	228,816		(28,277)
Beyond Campaign Projects Fund	40,876	75,504		(34,628)
Columbarium	75,107	63,195		11,912
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 669,746	\$ 900,055	\$	(230,309)

**Mortgage Balance**

	September 2024	June Fiscal YR 2024	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 153,875	\$ 259,172	\$	(105,298)

**GOOD SHEPHERD COLUMBARIUM**

**A Peaceful Place of Final Rest and Remembrance**



As we take time on All Saints Day to remember those who have gone on to their heavenly rest, it is also a good time to be reminded that the Good Shepherd Columbarium is available as a final resting place for you or your family members. Since its inception in 2014, the Columbarium has provided a beautiful, peaceful place of final rest and is a visible reminder of loved ones much like the old church cemetery once was.

The Good Shepherd Columbarium is located on the grounds of the Verona Campus and consists of walls with granite niches in which urns containing the ashes of loved ones are placed. There is also a peaceful garden, a statue of the Good Shepherd, benches for contemplation, and a soothing waterfall. In addition to the niches, the walkway around the Columbarium consists of stone pavers, which can be purchased and engraved as a memorial to loved ones. Benches are also available for purchase in honor of a family member, a friend, or the glory of God.

Columbarium niches are available to Good Shepherd members, their families and to friends of the church. There are currently 144 niches in the columbarium with 36 currently available to purchase. If you have been thinking about purchasing a niche, visit the columbarium, take a walk through its peaceful setting, and if you decide on it as a final resting place, contact Rick Blum, Columbarium Administrator at 608-640-4902 for details on purchasing your niche.



## Team World Vision Marathon

November 10

Danielle Sill | [Danielle.n.sill@gmail.com](mailto:Danielle.n.sill@gmail.com)

Downtown Madison

Help cheer on the runners and walkers participating in the Madison full and half marathon as they move their feet for clean water worldwide!

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

## Keeping Neighbors Connected

Housing costs in Wisconsin have been going up in recent years and housing assistance has become one of the most needed areas of help in the Meadowood neighborhood where the Madison Campus is located. In 2018, our church in partnership with other neighborhood churches and local social workers started a housing assistance program in cooperation with Joining Forces for Families. Over the years, we have helped hundreds of households experiencing a crisis to be able to stay in their apartments and homes because of this Fund. The program is facilitated by the JFF Social Worker in our neighborhood who knows and can support the families most in need. Because of the continually increasing cost of housing, this fund is still needed by our community. Orchard Ridge UCC along with Good Shepherd have committed to helping raise more money for this fund. As the holiday season approaches and you consider how you might help those in need, please consider donating to Keeping Neighbors Connected.

### GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN

## Thank You For Being Open to Generosity

Thanks to everyone who has returned their "Be Opened" intent card for the 2025 Generosity campaign. Every card turned in helps us get one step closer to reaching our goal of increasing our giving by 5.8% this year. If you haven't turned in your card, you still have time. Bring in your intent card and put in the offering plate next Sunday, mail your card back to church or go online and fill out a card at [gslcwi.com/giving](http://gslcwi.com/giving).



### CHURCH LEADERSHIP

## Board Members Commissioned

On Sunday, October 20 the congregation commissioned the members of our Church Board.

## Time to Order Poinsettias

The deadline for sponsoring a poinsettia plant(s) for the Christmas Eve Services is Thursday, November 14. Each plant costs \$17. You can order online at [gslcwi.com/christmasflowers](http://gslcwi.com/christmasflowers), use the link in the weekly e-Newsletter OR completing the green order form in the bulletin inserts at both campuses. Please return to the Madison Office with your payment, attention Judy. Thanks for ordering your poinsettia today!



### CAMPUS PROJECTS

## Key Building Improvements

Good Shepherd's Madison Campus is ready for winter. The church recently spent \$92,500 to replace the roof over the education wing and narthex after it was found to be leaking and in failing condition this summer. Money raised through the Beyond capital campaigns helped pay for the investment.



### AMPED CONFIRMATION

## Guest Speakers Help Guide Parents

Good Shepherd welcomed retired educators to host an evening discussion about how to connect and converse with your middle schooler. Thank you to Fitness for the Mind for leading our parents through this engaging event!

### TRUNK OR TREAT

## Fall Fun at Madison Campus

Hundreds of children and families stopped by the Madison Campus parking lot on Saturday, October 26 for the annual Trunk or Treat event. Thank you to all who volunteered to help welcome and serve!



**Good Shepherd**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Madison Campus (MAILING ADDRESS)**  
5701 Raymond Rd.  
Madison, WI 53711-4231  
608-271-6633

**Verona Campus**  
7291 County PD  
Verona, WI 53593  
608-845-8955

Fax 608-271-2657  
[info@gsclwi.com](mailto:info@gsclwi.com)  
gsclwi.com

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

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## Thanksgiving Together at Good Shepherd



**THANKSGIVING WORSHIP**  
**Celebrate on Thanksgiving Eve**  
Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us in giving thanks and celebrating the abundant blessings of God at our annual Thanksgiving Eve Worship service. Time for fellowship will follow while enjoying pie, cider and coffee. Help provide pie for the event by signing up online at [gsclwi.com/thanksgiving](http://gsclwi.com/thanksgiving)



**COMMUNITY EVENT**  
**Thanksgiving Day Meal**  
Thursday, November 28 - 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

You're invited to the Madison Campus for a full Thanksgiving meal with friends, family and neighbors. Sign up to serve or donate food starting October 31 at [gsclwi.com/thanksgiving](http://gsclwi.com/thanksgiving). Thank you for making this meal an important part of our community!