



## RECONCILING IN CHRIST

# Resilient Community

SUNDAY 2025



ReconcilingWorks  
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



**“Therefore welcome one another as Christ  
has welcomed you for the glory of God.”**

Romans 15:7

Reconciling in Christ (RIC)  
Sunday at Good Shepherd  
is **January 12, 2025**.

The theme this year is Resilient Community, which allows us to celebrate how far we have come in difficult times while also reminding us we need to keep moving toward the goal of true inclusion.

Since our congregation voted to become a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Partner in 2019, Good Shepherd has worked, and continues to work, towards inclusion. We have encouraged adding personal pronouns (she/her, he/him, they/them, etc.) to name tags on Name Tag Sunday. Pronouns affirm gender identities and create safe spaces by referring to people in the way that feels most accurate to them. Our church buildings have clearly labeled gender inclusive restrooms. We continue to work toward making materials

that have updated language inclusive of gender non-conforming individuals (for example, swapping out “Women and men” with “siblings in Christ”). We have begun to host a series of educational opportunities, including a presentation by OutReach LGBTQ+ Community Center and a Kaffeeklatsch for safe Q&A and have more planned in 2025.

Romans 15:7 tells us to “welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.” Christianity is inclusive! Jesus embraced people from all walks of life. This inclusive message invites everyone to experience love, forgiveness, and community. I encourage you to read the Welcome Statement we approved at Good Shepherd and participate in the many ways we demonstrate our love for all of God’s children!

By focusing our attention on how community bonds and relationships sustain the individual members of the community, we can build resilience in institutions and individuals. When we work together, communities are stronger. When we work together, people are stronger. Together, these concepts of inclusivity and resilience highlight both the openness of Christ’s love for everyone, and the strength believers find in their faith to face difficulties with hope and grace. Let us continue to not only accept, but to make active room for everyone, ensuring equity and respect for all.



**Sarah Simon**  
Reconciling in Christ  
Chairperson

### Baptisms

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

### Christian Sympathy

Christian Sympathy to Ed Miles and family on the death of his father, Raymond Miles of Whitewater, WI who died on November 14, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to Lois Born, and Wendy Strobel and family, on the death of their husband and father, Gerry Born of Madison, WI who died on December 12, 2024.

Christian Sympathy to the family of Richard Nordeng of Waunakee, WI who died on December 14, 2024.

### Weddings

Congratulations to Mariana Rodrigues and Miles Wenzel who were married at Good Shepherd Church on December 12, 2024.

### Update from Lynne Kroger

Dear Good Shepherd,

Thank you, thank you for your thoughts, prayers and get-well cards I received. I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful congregation. I am doing VERY well and look forward to seeing you all.

Blessings and love,  
Lynne Kroger

### Supporting Madison Street Medicine this Winter Season

Madison Street Medicine’s mission is to fill the gaps in access to healthcare and housing in Madison. They live that mission every day, by meeting people where they are at. Their volunteers are doctors, nurses and other medical professionals who hold multiple clinics weekly to meet the health needs of Madison's vulnerable population. Their immediate needs for unsheltered are men's gloves both new/used, backpacks- larger, new/used, bottled water, tents - new & used, thermal underwear, pillows, comforters and sleeping bags – new & used. If someone would like to donate any of these items they can contact Donna Maysack at: donna@madisonstreetmedicine.org

## FINANCIAL DASHBOARD November 2024 Update

### Statement of Activity - General Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$ 751,399	\$ 884,778	\$ (133,379)
General, Admin & Program Expenses	(890,503)	(881,597)	(8,906)
Mortgage Principal - General Fund	(25,491)	-	(25,491)
Revenue less Expenses and Mortgage	\$ (164,595)	\$ 3,181	\$ (167,776)

### Cash Balances

	June			
	November 2024	Fiscal YR 2024	YTD	Change
General Fund	\$ 282,814	\$ 496,430	\$	(213,616)
Board & Mortgage Reserve Designated Fu	34,962	36,110		(1,148)
Donor/Grant Restricted Funds	199,128	228,816		(29,688)
Beyond Campaign Projects Fund	10,043	75,504		(65,461)
Columbarium	80,059	63,195		16,864
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 607,006	\$ 900,055	\$	(293,049)

### Mortgage Balance

	June			
	November 2024	Fiscal YR 2024	YTD	Change
Loan Balance Outstanding	\$ 78,671	\$ 259,172	\$	(180,502)



### Registration is now open for Pine Lake Camp | July 13-18

It's never too early to start planning for summer! Registration is open for Good Shepherd's week of July 13-18 at Pine Lake Camp near Waupaca. This incredible camp experience is available for kids in 1st grade through high school. Sign up at gslcwi.com/pinelake before March 1st for the early bird discount! Whether your child is looking for adventure, personal growth, or simply time away in nature, Pine Lake Camp offers something for everyone. Spots fill up quickly, so don't wait—register now and secure your spot.

### Souper Bowl XXIV Sunday is February 9

Mark your calendars for Souper Bowl XXIV on Sunday, February 9, with a kick-off at the 6 p.m. service on February 2. Preferred soups include ramen, chicken noodle, and chunky-style, or give monetary contributions to support three food pantries. Checks should note "Souper Bowl," and online donations can be made at gslcwi.com/SouperBowl. Let's beat last year's total of 2,051 cans!





## See the BIG events this Month

# BIG JANUARY



### Baptism Class

- January 16 at 6:00 p.m.
- Emily Gold | [egold@gslcwi.com](mailto:egold@gslcwi.com)
- Zoom

Anyone interested in baptism here at Good Shepherd is welcome to join our baptism class on Thursday, January 16th at 6 p.m. via zoom. Email Emily Gold to register for the class.



### “Life After Doom” Zoom Study

- Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. | Starting January 16
- Meg Nielsen | [churchladymeg@hotmail.com](mailto:churchladymeg@hotmail.com)
- [gslcwi.com/refugees](https://gslcwi.com/refugees)

The book is by Brian McLaren, who writes at the intersection of religious faith and contemporary culture.



### Dietrich Bonhoeffer Class

- Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. | Starting January 21
- Eric Holmer | [eholmer@gslcwi.com](mailto:eholmer@gslcwi.com)
- Madison Campus and On Zoom

A Five Week Course exploring German Lutheran Pastor/Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer and how his ministry helps us to grapple with deep divisions and working out how to be faithful amidst them.



### Learn about the Literacy Network

- Wednesday, January 29 at 5:30 p.m.
- Rick Thomas | [rthomas@gslcwi.com](mailto:rthomas@gslcwi.com)
- Peterson Hall at Madison Campus

Good Shepherd's Madison Campus provides space for the Literacy Network to use for adult English classes. Learn more about the important work Literacy Network does in our community. A light supper will be served.



### 25 Years of Little Blessings

- Sunday, February 2 | 1-3 p.m.
- Heidi Anderson | [handerson@gslcwi.com](mailto:handerson@gslcwi.com)
- Little Blessings Classroom - Madison

Celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Little Blessings Preschool. We'll recognize past and current staff, have light refreshments and activities, and hold a worship service focusing on birth to three families.

### Sign Up for 2025 Altar Flowers

Sign up to sponsor altar flowers in 2025 in memory, honor, or celebration of a loved one or special occasion. Sign up at the Madison Campus, online at [gslcwi.com/flowers](https://gslcwi.com/flowers), or email Judy at [jhoard@gslcwi.com](mailto:jhoard@gslcwi.com). Each arrangement is \$50. Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with "altar flowers" in the memo.

### Sunday, Jan. 12 | Baptism Recognition

- Recognizing all 2024 baptisms
- Baptism liturgy focused on inclusion
- Adult Baptism at 9 a.m.
- Affirmation of Baptism services at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. in Verona

Join us following the 10 a.m. service outside the Verona Campus Sunday, Jan. 19 as we hold a special ceremony to celebrate being debt free. The Holy C.O.W. will provide refreshments..



### Sunday, Jan. 26 | Good Shepherd Food Pantry 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### One Combined Service – Madison 9 a.m.

- Good Shepherd Food Pantry turns 20
- Reception with cake following service
- Food Pantry open house
- Mini Outreach Fair
- Bring food donations to church Sunday (no soup please, save for Souper Bowl)
- Food Pantry rededication after lunch for clients and volunteers on Jan. 30



#### Pr. Brent Campbell Returns

Former lead Pastor Brent Campbell returns to preach in honor of this special occasion.



**Good Shepherd**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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608-271-6633

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**What a year!**  
What might be in  
store for 2025?  
*See you  
around  
Church!*

