Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
700 North Wright Rd
Janesville, WI 53546
608-754-0067

THE STAFF NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER

What's happening at Good Shepherd

For recordkeeping purposes, please only use the offering envelopes that were assigned to you at the beginning of the year.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS
AUGUST 2026

		Attendance	
08/02/26	$927.00	69	**1 service**
08/09/26	$261.00	55	**1 service**
08/16/26	$1,824.00	81	**1 service**
08/23/26	$2,037.00	97	**1 service**
08/30/26	$1,837.00	97	**1 service**
	$6,886.00		

You can now send your offerings electronically through our website (goodshepherdjanesville.org) by clicking on the Support Our Ministry link.

Last Sunday the Church Council decided to skip collecting Pledges and Time and Talent forms this month. However, we still need you to support Good Shepherd this month and in the months to come just as you have supported our church in the past. We all know the bills will keep coming in no matter what we do.

Thank you and God Bless.

Good Shepherd Stewardship Council
and the general Good Shepherd Council

Continuing the Conversation

Good Shepherd identifies itself as a welcoming congregation. One of the ways we experience that is in how we interact with others. As I walk through church before and after worship, I always see the same thing: people gather in small clusters talking with friends, neighbors or someone they have just met. People wander in and out of these conversations. The topic of conversation varies. Sometimes it is about something that is happening in the church. Sometimes the conversations are about the weather or recent news events, sometimes about outside topics of interest sometimes about personal or family concerns. Sometimes there is reflecting on the sermon - agreeing or disagreeing with something that was said. But always, those conversations are people engaging one other in the place where they have gathered for worship.

I am reminded of our teaching that one of the means of grace in a Christian's life is the "mutual conversation and consolation of believers." We may not use that language very often, but that is what is happening with those conversations - a mutual sharing of the faith and the ways faith is lived out from day to day. There may be an indication of understanding or empathy for how another is struggling to live. Martin Luther taught that such conversation was a way in which we experience the presence of God the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the church. Other means of experiencing grace are Baptism and Holy Communion, which would indicate these conversations hold a very important place in the life of the believer.

In these experiences God promises to be present. God's grace will be conveyed. When we remember God is present as we have conversations, it will likely make a difference in the kind of things we talk about and also in how we listen to one another.

Now, if we carry these thoughts into the conversations we have with other people throughout the week, with all the people we meet, wherever we are, how will that affect those conversations? This is a little picture of what worship is and of how it affects us and our lives. We gather to worship and learn. We leave called and prepared to reach out and to serve, sharing from the ways worship impacts us. Blessings to you as you carry Christ to others through your daily life.

In Christ,
Pastor David Andert

Grace and Peace to you. August and September have been very busy months for both of our congregations. There have been picnics, a couple of funerals, drive-in services, in church services, First's Music Director moved forward with her career, and many, many meetings for preparing the fall and upcoming Christmas seasons, along with what's in store with First going forward.

Our council met on September 13th and I'll recap what has been finished around the building.

- You may have noticed that our shed is in the process of being re-roofed. However, this past week's rain has slowed the progress. It will be finished soon, weather permitting. Thanks goes to Dean from First, along with those who helped him (our own Dick is the only one I know about at this time).

- We received a gift that enabled us to purchase and install a new stove in our kitchen.

- The Council approved purchasing new lights for at least the fellowship room. Why, you may ask? Well, currently a replacement bulb is only about $4 cheaper than replacements.

- There is a new ECHO newsletter out with many fun upcoming fundraising events listed. Please look at the copy in the fellowship room, or get a copy from ECHO directly.

- Prayer Vigil is October 3rd. If you are unable to physically able to participate personally at the church, I was thinking that maybe you could take 10 to 30 minutes and pray wherever you are (for the church, all leaderships, school children and personnel, even the person who last ticked you off).

- Our Worship & Music area had many dates covered, which you should read about in another area of this newsletter. However, there are 2 dates that I'd like you to be aware of especially:

    - December 20 and 24. On the 20th, First has a tradition of doing a Christmas for All Ages, which the Council has decided to not participate in. Instead, Good Shepherd will have a traditional Sunday service.

    - On the 24th, Good Shepherd will have our own Christmas Eve service at 5pm.

- Good Shepherd renewed the contract with Pastor David for another year.

As this year comes to a close and with a new year coming soon, as a congregation, we will be needing to make some tough decisions about closing/merging. The Council is looking forward to hearing everyone's opinions about this. My thoughts are hard to share in large groups. If you feel the same way, please, feel free to talk with any council member or Pastor David about your concerns, feelings, and opinions.

Mike Hornby, President
608-295-7258

Council Minutes 09/13/26

Present: Mike Hornby, Ruth Demmon, Dick McWIlliams, Enid Branham, Terry Seltz, Syd Rauworth, Juanita Habeck and Pastor David Andert

Meeting called to order by President Mike Hornby at 11:46 a.m.

Devotions: Christ Our Home ... Matthew 21. 18-22 Lotteries and Mountains

Minutes: Ruth made a motion to accept the minutes as written/submitted, seconded by Enid...YES=6..NO=0..ABS=2

Reports:

Property/Grounds...A big thank you to Ruth, the stove is now in and working; met with the City Inspector, the frost free faucet by the north end had to have a breaker installed (too old), all breakers must be checked when water is shut off for winter; due to storm damage the barn roof shingles and some boards are being replaced, with some help from FLC; lawn has been mowed; he let us know there several lights by the Alter that need repair, after some discussion Syd made a motion to replace all lights, seconded by Terry ..YES=6 ..NO=0 ..ABS=2, passed.

Care/Concern...Echo newsletter has many upcoming events that the community will be able to be involved in, collections have been good, still collecting peanut butter and jelly; the potluck in August was good; thanked everyone for the birthday wishes and hugs; Prayer Vigil sign up ready and will be 10/3 from 6am-6pm; back to 2 services in October will need new signup sheets for snacks--Enid said she'd print them, will need to lines, Mike will make sure to let FLC know they are covering 1st service and GS will cover 2nd service, on 11/15 is appreciation Sunday for volunteers, Mike will check to see how FLC handles this.

Stewardship: Pastor proposed to keep tithes currently using, put something into the newsletter to more fully explain; banner and framework has been built and installed, checked on the banner after the storms and everything is good.

Education: finished Early Church, October studies undecided, asked Pastor for some ideas.

Worship/Music: 9/27 is One Church, One table at 10am, outdoor service with picnic-style potluck(BBQ chicken and pork provide, bring a side, salad, or dessert), bring lawn chair or blanket ..bad weather meet at GS ..there will be a Jell-O competition; 10/18 Recognition and potluck(Pastor Michael); 10/25 Reformation Sunday ..same service for 8am and 10am; 11/1 All Saints /Confirmation Sunday ..All Saints service at 8am, FLC will have confirmation at 10am service; 11/15 no mid-week Advent service; 12/20 FLC has 1 service with an all age Christmas pageant and will combine with FP, GS will plan our own service for 10am; 12/24 GS will have a Christmas Eve service at 5pm, Mike will inform FLC of decision; Karen Schumacher has been asked to be the Coordinator of Readers and Communion helpers, Mike will check in with her about her decision.

Council Minutes 09/13/26—continued

Treasurer's Report: the last 4 weeks offering has been $1342, $1837, $1824, $261(8/10) and $1032(9/13). Still working on getting the church credit card resolved. Enid needs a new laptop as she can no longer back up data entries, cost will be #350-$400. Enid made a motion to purchase a new laptop for Treasurer's use, seconded by Syd ..YES=6 ..NO=0 ..ABS=2, passed

Pastor's Report: Pastor David asked to have his contract renewed for another 6 months. Responsibilities and mileage only 2 changes, contract was signed, Charlotte Hawley was transferred to Madison with a severe infection, meds seem to be working. Enid made a motion to accept reports as given, seconded by Syd ..YES=6 ..NO=0 ..ABS=2 passed.

Old Business: None

New Business: Fall cleaning needs to be done, Kitchen area has been done already Dick will make a list of things we need to have done, date will be 9/26 from 9am-12pm. FLC cleaning crew has been cleaning each week, including carpet stain from leak and alter area where there some wine stains, check with the crew to see if they have anything they feel needs to be on the list. As a congregation we will be needing to make some tough decisions about closing/merging..Enid informed us that we cannot financially afford a part-time Pastor and pay the bills, this will be tabled for now.

Next meeting October 4,2026; Syd has Devotions. Dick made a motion to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer, seconded by Enid, 1:45pm, passed

Submitted by Juanita Habeck, Secretary

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

To keep current on news from the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, visit https://scsw-elca.org/
You can also signup to have their weekly newsletter emailed to you: https://scsw-elca.org/news/

Join us for worship live on our Facebook page every Sunday morning at https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdJanesville

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:00 am Men's Group	2	3 6 am—6 pm Prayer Vigil
4 8:00 am & 10:00 am Worship Services with Holy Communion	5 **Church Office Closed** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	6	7	8 8:00 am Men's Group	9	10
11 8:00 am & 10:00 am Worship Services with Holy Communion 11 am—3 pm— Main Street Market Day fundraiser	12 **Church Office Closed** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	13	14	15 8:00 am Men's Group	16	17
18 8:00 am & 10:00 am Worship Services with Holy Communion	19 **Church Office Closed** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	20 10:00 am Deadline for November newsletter articles	21	22 8:00 am Men's Group	23	24
25 8:00 am & 10:00 am Worship Services with Holy Communion	26 **Church Office Closed** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	27	28	29 8:00 am Men's Group	30	31

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Sunday Worship
10:00 am

Office Hours
Tuesday—Friday
9:30 am—3:30 pm

Oct 6	Tami Schoeller
Oct 8	Todd Bogner
Oct 16	Mike Hornby
Oct 18	Michelle Boardman
Oct 20	Chuck Kinyon
Oct 22	Craig Edgecomb
Oct 22	Connie Masterson
Oct 29	Carol Connors
Oct 29	Naomi Nelson