



1500 Sand Lake Road | Holmen, WI 54636 | 608-526-4829 | gsholmen.org

The Shepherd's Voice – August 2026

Council Members and Their Roles

- **Jim Pagel:** Treasurer
- **Dan Schams:** Secretary and Education Team
- **Jacob Werre:** President and HR Team
- **David Carlson:** Worship & Inreach/Spiritual Care
- **Steven Blankenship:** Evangelism and Technology
- **Chad Wacker:** Building & Grounds and Fellowship

Preschool News from Tammy Melott, Early Childhood Coordinator / Preschool Director

VBS week was once again so wonderful! We had an average of 68 children attending each night. We also had 25 volunteers which made everything run very smoothly. Our theme was Exploring the Nature of God. The children learned that God is our Creator, God is our Safe Place, God is Love, and God is Forever. The final night ended with fellowship, ice cream treats, and a bounce house. To God be all glory for blessing the message of God's grace and love for us through our Rainforest Falls VBS program.



I would also like to thank everyone who volunteered their time and donated snack, craft, and game items needed. Your willingness to help the program in this way is a huge help and very much appreciated.

Sunday School sign up is now open. Children 3 years old - 6th grade can be a part of our Sunday School program. We do have a change in classes this year. The classes will be Pre-K/K, 1st-3rd, and 4th-6th. We are also going to continue to offer our Youth Bible study on Sunday mornings for kids in 7th-12th grade. This class is being led by Kala McClellan. Please watch for emails from her in regard to the Bible study/youth activities throughout the year. Being September 13th is kick-off Sunday and also the 50th anniversary celebration for our church, we will be starting Sunday School on Sunday, September 20th. I would like to have a good idea of how many children will be attending Sunday School this coming year, so please sign up as soon as possible. We would love to see the children of our congregation involved in this wonderful program, and we would encourage them to invite their friends as well. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tammy Melott at tmelott@gsholmen.org.

The teachers have been working on getting ready for the upcoming school year. They are working on their curriculums and prepping their classrooms. Lisa Carlson's morning classes are full with 16 children signed up for each. Her afternoon class, which is T/W/TH from 12:30-3:15, has a few spots available. Ashley Sime's full-time class, which is 8am-3pm, still has four spots available. We are also

offering after school care from 3pm-5:30pm which is new for this year. Please continue to share with family, friends, and neighbors that we have open spots. Preschool starts on Tuesday, September 8th. We also welcome Kathryn Rebernack as our part-time assistant in the full-time classroom. We look forward to having her be a part of our ministry here at Good Shepherd. Please pray for God's continued blessings on our preschool and staff as we prepare for another school year.

New Administrative Assistant

Hello, I am Tracie Bateman, the new Administrative Assistant here at Good Shepherd. I have been a member of Good Shepherd since 2007, along with my husband and 2 children. When the Administrative Assistant was first established, about 10 years ago, I was the person that held the job. I left to take a position at UWL, and have recently retired after working 30 years in education, at the high school and college level. I am very excited to be back in the office and am open to any ideas you may have for the Weekly Voice, Monthly Newsletter, Worship Bulletin, or anything else that I am involved in.

Offering Envelope Update

If you put your offering in the plate at church, please take the time to write the amount on the front of the envelope. When offerings are recorded, only the envelope is available to the person inputting the data. If there is no amount written on the envelope, then you are not getting that money recorded as an offering. This also applies if you give an offering without using your envelopes. Checks or cash that are not in envelopes are not listed under your name. If you have any questions please contact Tracie in the office or a member of the Church Council.

Introducing At Home Bible Studies this Fall!

Good Shepherd will be beginning a new opportunity called At Home Bible Studies this fall.

These small groups will meet in members' homes during the week for a short Bible study series. Each group will spend time in Scripture, discuss practical questions, and encourage one another in faith.

The goal is simple: to grow in God's Word and grow closer to fellow members of our church family.

At Home Bible Studies are designed to be welcoming and conversational. You do not need to be a Bible expert. You do not need to have all the answers. Just come ready to listen, learn, and be encouraged by God's Word together with fellow Christians.

The first session will be a short commitment, likely four weeks. Groups will meet at different times and locations, so you can choose the option that works best for your schedule.

At Home Bible Study is a great opportunity to:

- Spend more time in God's Word.
- Meet and encourage fellow members.
- Build stronger Christian friendships.
- Reflect more deeply on Scripture.
- Grow together as a church family.

Signup sheets will be available beginning in August. Please review the available groups and choose the day, time, and location that works best for you.

Questions? Contact Jacob Werre at jacobj_4@hotmail.com or 608-606-4426.

Coulee Region Owls Meeting

The Coulee Region OWLS will be holding their monthly meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2026 at First Ev. Lutheran Church, 400 West Avenue South, La Crosse at 12:00 Noon with a potluck luncheon. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Coffee will be provided. All church members – men and women age 55 or older – are welcome. Our program will be a Singalong of Christian Hymns with Mrs. Vicki Riness. Please come for a visit, enjoy the friends you meet, a good lunch and an enjoyable program of singing. There will be a free will offering.

August Birthdays

Amy	Sjolander	8/1
Renee	Skaer	8/3
Tammy	Melott	8/4
Tracie	Bateman	8/5
Mark	Olson	8/5
Dan	Peterson	8/5
Missy	Klein	8/9
Steve	McCoy	8/11
Duane	Meyer Sr.	8/12
Chris	Trocinski	8/12
Tanner	Underberg	8/12
Benjamin	Menden	8/13
Landon	Sobkowiak	8/14
Blakely	Boisen	8/15
Taylor	Hauser	8/15
Alexis	Sill	8/15
David	Carlson	8/17
Don	Bautch	8/18
Acacia	Bateman	8/19
Hannah	McClellan	8/20
Dylan	Huiss	8/21
Braylon	Boisen	8/22
Ann	Everson	8/23
Heather	Burke	8/25
Davian	Daily	8/28
Katelyn	Patten	8/29

September Birthdays

Jessica	Gamoke	09/03
Alan	Ross	09/04
Mason	Bateman	09/04
Ray	Sandvick	09/05
Taylor	Sill	09/05
Zachary	Larson	09/05
Jenaya	Larson	09/08
Dorian	Bautch	09/08
Graham	Sime	09/10
Haven	Blankenship	09/11
Samantha	Wolfe	09/12
Kirsten	Olson	09/12
Carson	Karow	09/12
Olivia	Lyga	09/12
Stefanie	McCoy	09/13
Joshua	Lipps	09/14
Kyle	Sime	09/14
Jessica	Blankenship	09/14
Daniel	Schams	09/18
Barb	Weinberger	09/26
Henry	Karow	09/26
Mark	Ross	09/27
John	McDonald	09/29

If your birthday isn't mentioned and you would like it to be or your birthday is incorrect, please let the church office know, office@gsholmen.org.

Ushers, Greeters, Counters and Cleaners

August Schedule

Sunday, August 2nd		Week of August 2nd to August 8th		
9:00am Ushers	Greeters	Counters & Cleaners		
Jim Rupprecht	Sheryl Rupprecht	Counters:	Cleaners:	
Aaron Larson	Sarah Larson	Al Herbers	Sjolander	Sanctuary
		Carl Newman		
Sunday, August 9th		Week of August 9th to August 15th		
9:00am Ushers	Greeters	Counters & Cleaners		
Jacob Werre	Kathy Werre	Counters:	Cleaners:	
Bennett King		Chad & Whitney Wacker	Werre	Sanctuary
Sunday, August 16th		Week of August 16th to August 22nd		
9:00am Ushers	Greeters	Counters & Cleaners		
Dan Peterson	Julie Peterson	Counters:	Cleaners:	
Mike Melott	Tammy Melott	Mark Bateman	Patten	Sanctuary
		Howard Burmester		
Sunday, August 23rd		Week of August 24th to August 29th		
9:00am Ushers	Greeters	Counters & Cleaners		
Mike Melott	Tammy Melott	Counters:	Cleaners:	
Richard Brockway		Sylvia McDonald	Newman	Sanctuary
		Jacquelyn Kinsey		
Sunday, August 30th		Week of August 30th to September 5th		
9:00am Ushers	Greeters	Counters & Cleaners		
Erik Sjolander	Amy Sjolander	Counters:	Cleaners:	
Karsen/Dawson Sjolander		Dave Karbula	Gamoke	Sanctuary
		Erik Sjolander		



August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	27 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	28	29	30	31	1
2 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	3 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	4	5	6	7	8
9 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	10 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	11	12	13	14	15
16 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	17 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	18	19	20	21	22
23 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	24 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	25	26	27	28	29
30 9am Streaming Worship YouTube 9am Weekly Worship 10:15am Bible Study	31 6:30pm Monday Night Worship	1	2	3	4	5

Please note that the church calendar is subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar, please check our church website as the calendar changes often. www.gsholmen.org.