Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Shepherd's Voice – October 2026

Call Extended to Pastor Daniel Lindner

At our Call Meeting on September 9, Good Shepherd extended a Divine Call to **Pastor Daniel Lindner** to serve as our pastor. Pastor Lindner, 48, is married to Heidi and currently serves as the **WELS Campus Ministry Mission Counselor**. He and Heidi live in Minneapolis, though his current ministry has him traveling frequently.

Pastor Lindner has acknowledged the call and will be prayerfully considering where the Lord would have him serve over the coming weeks. He welcomes conversations with members of Good Shepherd during his deliberation. Email is the best way to arrange a time to talk, though he can also be reached by phone or text.

Email: daniel.lindner@wels.net
Cell: 920-344-9585

Please keep Pastor Lindner, Heidi, and both Good Shepherd and WELS Campus Ministry in your prayers as he deliberates this call.

Meet Your Vacancy Pastor

Pastor Tesch and his wife Barb were called into ministry in a dual parish, St. Peter's in rural Marshfield and Emmanuel in rural Stratford, WI in 1986. After serving there for 10 years they were called to Peace, Hartford for 5 years. In 2001 they were called to Trinity, Marinette where they served until 2022, when Pastor Tesch retired. After retirement, he served the vacancy at Shepherd of the Hills, Inver Grove Heights from 2022-2024, and the vacancy at St. Peter's, Hamburg, and St. Peter's, Chaseburg, from 2024-2025. They are now happily serving our Lord as members of St. Paul's, Onalaska. God has blessed them with 7 children and 6 grandchildren, all of whom live in the La Crosse and Cottage Grove, MN areas. We look forward to serving our Lord among his people at Good Shepherd and we pray that the Chief Shepherd will provide a permanent pastor soon.

Pastor Tesch contact information:

Email: pastor@gsholmen.org
Phone: 715-587-8521

Opportunity to Help Good Shepherd Support Pastor Pope

As previously announced, Good Shepherd will be providing Pastor Pope with transition compensation and assisting with his health insurance costs for a couple months. We believe this is an appropriate way to recognize his years of service to our congregation and to provide support during what will be a difficult period of transition

Members who would like to contribute toward these expenses may designate their gifts to Special Projects on Vanco and to **Special Projects - Pastor Pope** if contributing by envelope/check.

Voter's Meeting

The Fall Vision Together Voters' Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 25th. It will start at 10:15 am inplace of Bible Study. We encourage everyone to attend to hear and learn about our ministry.

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

We are thanking God for a wonderful start to our preschool program once again this year. A special thank you to our teachers, Lisa Carlson and Ashley Sime, and to our assistants, Heather McCarty and Katie Rubernick for all their hard work getting their classrooms and curriculums ready to go. To God be all praise for blessing us with such wonderful, caring individuals that dedicate their lives to God's service and the advancement of his kingdom in this way! The families and children of our preschool are truly blessed because of them.

Sunday School started September 20th as well. We meet on Sunday mornings at 10:20AM and end at 11:00AM. We have some familiar and some new faces running our Sunday School this year. We would like to welcome Haylei Lyga, Caylee Bruemmer, Mike Tubbs and Kenton Newman to our Sunday School/Youth Group staff. We also thank Carolyn Schams, Cassie Huiss, Jessica Blankenship, Rochelle Gamoke, and Kala McClellan for their willingness to continue serving as Sunday School/Youth Group leaders. May God continue to bless the children of Good Shepherd through these important programs.

The Trunk or Treat sign-up has been posted. We would love to have 10-12 cars decorated for this event. You would decorate your car and hand out a treat of your choice. I will also need volunteers to serve snacks/beverages, to monitor the crafts, and to monitor the games. If you are willing to help, please sign up. Teens are welcomed and encouraged to help as well. Trunk or Treat will take place on October 24th from 10AM-12PM. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tammy Melott at tmelott@gsholmen.org.

Trunk or Treat

The Trunk or Treat sign-up has been posted on the wall by the windows. I am looking for people/families willing to decorate their trunks and hand out treats. We typically like to see at least 10-12 cars for this event. I also need volunteers to be in the kitchen making popcorn, handing out snacks and monitoring beverages, and monitoring the games and crafts. Teens are welcome and encouraged to help in any of these areas. Trunk or treat will take place on October 24th from 10AM-12PM. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tammy Melott at tmelott@gsholmen.org. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help with this event. It is very much appreciated!

Coulee Region Owls Meeting

The Coulee Region Owls has postponed their October meeting to October 22, 2026, because of the OWLS Convention held in October also. The Coulee Region OWLS will be holding their monthly meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2026, at First Ev. Lutheran Church, 400 West Avenue South, La Crosse with a Potluck Luncheon at 12:00 Noon. 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. Come for a visit, enjoy the friends you meet and a good lunch. There will be a free will offering.

Live Nativity Update

LIVE NATIVITY PROP NIGHTS- We will be starting to prepare/repair our props for our 2026 season on October 5th. Prop repair nights are Mondays and Wednesdays in October from 6:30-9pm at the Rotary Building (27 Market St. -entrance at center of the building.)

LIVE NATIVITY SET-UP at Riverside Park starts Saturday, October 31st from 9am-5pm. Rotary provides lunch. Many hands make light work! Please come for any amount of time you can spare. Can't help this Saturday? Come down any of the following Saturdays. (Nov. 7th & 14th and 21st.) Questions? Call Pat McGuire (608-385-0178)

County Fair Booth Feedback Requested

We are looking for feedback on the WELS booth at the county fair. The QR code will take you directly to the survey. If you would like to do the survey and need assistance, please reach out to Erik Sjolander.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONTHLY MEMBER UPDATE

August/September 2026

This monthly update is intended to give the members of Good Shepherd an overview of the ministry that we have joined together to carry out under God's blessing. Every member of our congregation is a vital part of our gospel ministry. We praise the Lord for you and each of our fellow Christians who have chosen to make Good Shepherd their church home.

WORSHIP

Weekly worship is a vital part of our Christian lives. We make every effort to gather in God's house to honor our God, to hear his Spirit-filled Word, to receive the strengthening of the Lord's Supper, celebrate the blessings of Baptism and be encouraged in our Christian lives.

August Attendance	August 2/3	August 9/10	August 16/17	August 23/24	August 30/31
In-Person Worship	144/15	76/13	99/10	95/16	111/10
YouTube Views	77	73	19	16	21

September Attendance	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20/21	Sept. 27/28	
In-Person Worship	95	150	96/15	103/8	
YouTube Views	18	22	11	6	

Bible Study

Bible Study Attendance	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27	
	N/A	N/A	12	11	

Offerings to the Lord

The Lord invites us to gratefully and regularly return to him a portion of what he has graciously given to each of us. The budget/goal amount is what we foresee as necessary to carry out the ministry that we have decided to do together. ***Continue to bring your offerings to the Lord as he continues to bless us! Here are different ways you can give your offerings in support of the ongoing gospel ministry of Good Shepherd.***

- **Mail** your offering to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – 1500 Sand Lake Road – Holmen, WI 54636
- Download **Give Plus Church** App on either Apple or Android device. Set up one-time or reoccurring offering. Credit card transactions have a 3% processing fee deducted from the offering while only 1% is deducted from an ACH bank transaction.
- Give **online** by going to www.gsholmen.org and click on "Online Giving"

Note: Good Shepherd's Fiscal Year runs from 7/1/26 through 6/30/27

	Offerings Received	Goal/Budgeted	Over / (Short)
Aug-26	$21,988	$27,586	($5,598)
Fiscal Year-to-Date	$38,684	$49,656	($10,972)

***Additional** offerings given to specific funds **above** budgeted amounts*

Luther High School			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$20	$20	$0

WELS Missions (Congregational Mission Offering)			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$50	$50	$0
Debt Reduction / Future Ministry			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$10	$10	$0
Benevolence			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$50	$100	$3,550
Youth Ministry			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$0	$0	$724
Tuition Assistance			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$0	$0	$2,784
Special Projects			
	Aug-26	Fiscal YTD	Fund Balance
Received	$721	$5,571	$8,778

Congregational Debt			
Mortgage	$0	Line of Credit	$0
Congregational Savings			
Future Ministry		$225,931	

Good Shepherd Office Update

The Office Administrator will be on medical leave beginning October 26. They will be out of the office for 2-4 weeks and checking email from home as feasible. You can contact the office through office@gsholmen.org.

Newsletter Items

The newsletter will be sent out during the first week of each month. If you have information that you would like included, it needs to be submitted by the 25th of the previous month. These items may be emailed to office@gsholmen.org. Please note in the subject of the email that it is for the newsletter. Thank you.

October Schedule

Sunday, October 4th		Week of October 4th to October 10th		
9:00am Ushers	**Greeters**	**Counters & Cleaners**		
Mike Melott	**Tammy Melott**	**Counters:**	**Cleaners:**	
Dan Peterson	Julie Peterson	Mark Bateman	Melott	*Sanctuary*
		Howard Burmester		
Sunday, October 11th		**Week of October 11th to October 17th**		
9:00am Ushers	**Greeters**	**Counters & Cleaners**		
Alan Ross	Odetta Ross	**Counters:**	**Cleaners:**	
Mark Ross	Nicole Ross	Sylvia McDonald	Sjolander	*Sanctuary*
		Jacquelyn Kinsey		
Sunday, October 18th		**Week of October 18th to October 24th**		
9:00am Ushers	**Greeters**	**Counters & Cleaners**		
Erik Sjolander	Amy Sjolander	**Counters:**	**Cleaners:**	
Karsen/Dawson Sjolander		Dave Karbula	Werre	*Sanctuary*
Richard Brockway		Erik Sjolander		
Sunday, October 25th		**Week of October 25th to October 31st**		
9:00am Ushers	**Greeters**	**Counters & Cleaners**		
John McDonald	Sylvia McDonald	**Counters:**	**Cleaners:**	
Mike Melott	Tammy Melott	Jacob Werre	Patten	*Sanctuary*
		Cassie Huiss		

October Birthdays

Joanna	Grochowski	10/01
Debi	Blankenship	10/01
Mike	Fixmer	10/03
Aspen	Blankenship	10/03
Alexander	McCarty	10/06
Kennedy	Behn	10/06
Gemma	Rieck	10/09
McKenzie	Mico	10/10
Sylvia	McDonald	10/10
Kyle	Gamoke	10/11
Michael	Evenson	10/11
Fredrick	Heuer	10/13
Chad	Herbers	10/13
LouAnne	Farley	10/13
Chad	Wacker	10/14
Bruce	Jorstad	10/15
Layne	Helmreich	10/17
Darlene	Evenson	10/17
Larry	Rockwell	10/19
Mike	Raabe	10/19
Susan	Peterson	10/20
Christian	Hauser	10/21
Gwendolyn	Schams	10/23
Jayne	Karbula	10/23
Jennifer	Gerke	10/23
Evelyn	Sting	10/24
Zachary	Menden	10/29
Seth	Gartner	10/31

November Birthdays

Carey	Babe	11/1
Jim	Pagel	11/1
Emily	Schmidt	11/3
Bill	Bader	11/4
Audra	Newman	11/4
Madeline	Kendhammer	11/6
Gavin	Huiss	11/8
Kim	Olson	11/9
Kali	Sand	11/9
Katie	Westlund	11/12
Mike	Klein	11/17
Josh	Cramer	11/23
Alex	Menden	11/23
Rick	Blankenship	11/24
Abram	Carlson	11/26
Cassie	Huiss	11/26
Paisley	Wacker	11/26
Richard	Bakalars	11/27
Blake	Finn	11/27
Adalynn	Cramer	11/29
Anna	Hauser	11/30

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.

