



what we can do

responding to
God's generosity

To the joyful community at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Plover from your pastors,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus!

Join us for a congregational financial update meeting on Sunday, October 5, 2025, following worship!

As we enter this fall season, we invite you into a time of prayerful reflection and bold action. This year's mission support theme is **"What We Can Do."** This theme calls us to look honestly at our life together, to recognize the incredible gifts God has already placed in our hands, and to imagine what becomes possible when we respond with generosity.

God's gifts are never abstract. They come to us as particular people, in this particular place, at this particular moment. As the vision of God for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church reminds us, we are called to move beyond our walls and serve human need, to embody God's radical welcome, and to act with courage for justice, inclusion, and healing. Even in this season of transition the Holy Spirit is alive among us—strengthening us to serve, to witness, and to grow. At the same time, we know that "what we can do" includes being realistic and faithful stewards of our finances.

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, following worship, Paul Anderson, our council's financial liaison, will share with us a picture of where we are financially and what scenarios might be possible as we look toward calling our next pastor. It is vital that we present a realistic and hopeful picture of our financial capacity—so that when the time comes, we can welcome a new pastor with joy and confidence in our ability to support their ministry among us.

For several years, our budgets have run at a deficit, and yet, again and again, the people of Good Shepherd have responded with surprising and extraordinary generosity. This fall, we are inviting every household to consider three opportunities for strengthening our shared mission:

1. Welcoming and inviting new members into our community.
2. Encouraging households not currently giving to consider a first gift—no matter the size, every gift matters.
3. Asking those already giving to prayerfully reflect whether an increase is possible.

The question before us is not, “What can’t we do?” but rather, “**What CAN we do, together?**” With God’s abundant generosity as our foundation, and with our shared calling as Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we believe we can step forward in faith, trusting that God’s abundance is enough for us and for our neighbor.

And remember, our gifts are never just about meeting a budget line. They are about our souls—about how we are shaped as disciples of Jesus Christ. They are about feeding people who are hungry, walking alongside neighbors who are housing insecure, and proclaiming to those who have been victimized, marginalized, or told they are “less than” that they are beloved children of God, loved exactly as they are.

This isn’t ultimately about a budget—it’s about our mission. While we do need to be financially responsible, faithfulness sometimes means spending beyond our budgeted income for the sake of the Gospel to spread the good news and show Christ’s love to our neighbors. Giving reminds us that everything we have belongs to God, that God provides all we need, and that we do not need to be afraid.

We ask you to pray, to discern, and to act with courage and generosity in this season. Together, let us discover what God can do in and through us.

In Christ’s love,



Pastor Matt, Associate Pastor
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church



Pastor Karen, Interim Pastor