

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Family,

We hope this message finds you well and filled with hope for the future of our church community. By now, you've received a letter from Pastor Karen and Pastor Matt introducing this year's mission support theme: "What We Can Do." Together, we are invited to reflect on how we can respond to God's generosity and support the mission of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC).

## **Facing Change Together**

- Pastor Matt's contract extension ends May 31, 2026.
- Pastor Karen's contract expires June 30, 2026.

We anticipate continuing our intentional interim period for through 2026, which may include a full-time or part-time interim pastor. Our goal is to call a permanent, full-time pastor by late 2026 or early 2027.

## **Supporting Our Ministries**

- **2026:** Projected expenses will increase by approximately \$30,000. Since we approved a deficit budget for 2025, our income needs to increase by about \$70,000.
- 2027: Expenses are expected to rise by an additional \$12,000.
- Mortgage: Our mortgage will be paid in full in April 2030, eliminating \$51,516 in annual expenses.

Your gifts make it possible for us to sustain and grow our ministries, care for our facilities, and serve our community.

## How You Can Help

#### 1. Share Your Treasures

Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment for the coming year and let us know by returning your pledge card.

#### 2. Share Your Time & Talents

GSLC has eight ministry teams, each with a unique focus. Discover where your gifts can make a difference at our Outreach Fair on Sunday, October 19, after worship during the faith formation hour. Watch for more details in weekly emails and bulletins.

## 3. Update Your Membership

If your situation has changed and you are worshipping elsewhere or no longer consider yourself a member, please let us know at office@eflock.org.

# **Celebrating Our Achievements**

We have met financial challenges before—thanks to your generosity and commitment:

- \$300,000 mortgage debt reduction campaign (2019–2023)
- \$18,000 "Bridge the Gap" to bring the 2024 budget deficit to \$0 (December 2024)
- \$55,000+ contributed to the Shepherd's Legacy Fund (this year)

## We CAN do this TOGETHER!

## **Next Steps**

- Complete and return your pledge card by Sunday, October 26, 2025.
- Fill out the Time and Talent Survey included with this letter. We'll make sure the right people are notified and contact you!
- Join us at the Outreach Fair on Sunday, October 19 after worship.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Together, we can accomplish great things for Good Shepherd and our wider community. We're excited to do the work and see firsthand **What We CAN Do TOGETHER!** 

With gratitude,

Shannon Moore & Madeline Stockbridge Mission Support Team Co-Chairs