



# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
exists to **reach** out in Jesus' name and  
**gather** in deep community,  
to **learn** and **grow** into God's Kingdom,  
to **serve** our neighbor and **worship** the creator.

## 2025 Annual Report

# Seventy First Annual Meeting

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# 2025 MEETING AGENDA

## **OPENING**

Call to order and opening prayer

Motion to accept agenda

Review of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes

## **CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

### **REPORTS**

Finance Committee report

Presentation & Adoption of 2026 budget

Pastor Jeremy Serrano

Social Ministries

Youth

Property

Report of Council elections

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Solar Update

Selection of 2 lay members for 2026 Synod Assembly (San Jose-May 30 )

Congregational Input (questions, ideas, comments)

### **CLOSING**

Prayer

Adjournment

# 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

Seventy-First Annual Congregational Meeting  
January 26, 2025, Fellowship Hall

Quorum was reached 32 members in attendance; 13 needed

Meeting started at 12:00p  
Prayer by Rev Jeremy Serrano

Motion made to accept agenda Kathy Reis; seconded Mark Deniston; Discussion – none; motion passed

Review of Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting

Motion made to accept 24 meeting minutes by Kristi Buchholz; seconded by Anessa Hileman;  
Discussion – none; motion passed

## **Council Members**

Motion made to vote by acclamation made by Marcia Sander; Rev Jeremy Serrano seconded; motion passed

Mike Henry (Property) nominated for a 3rd 3 year term

Maureen Tetley – new member self nominated

Thank you Greg Buchholz for service to Church Council

Council members accepted by acclamation

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance – Anessa Hileman**

Many wins – fully funded Youth Gathering, kitchen renovation, A/C unit and freezer unit for Friends Feeding Friends; Funded repairs/improvements for preschool;

New funding sources – pastor share with St. John’s Lutheran Church, Holding Hands Montessori launched

Year end Summary- Decrease in offering and facility use income but increases in cell tower income;

Expenses continue to be greater than income; Bank balance continues to be stable; \$70,000 was withdrawn from investment account to cover designated fund expenses.

Projected 2025 income/expenses – Assumptions include continued decrease in offerings, increase in facility rental income, expenses will be covered with new income sources; Friends Feeding

Friends awarded \$22,000 grant, Friends Feeding Friends capital campaign for space improvements, may not need to pull money from investment account to fund expenses, and allocate 2024 Endowment Fund income per policy

Discussion re 2025 Budget – surplus budget (more money in than out); pastor salary increased to Synod minimum guideline; salary increases to Tom and Jamie; resume tithe to Synod, Capital

Improvement fund

Motion made to accept 2025 Budget by Kathy Reis; seconded by Mark Deniston; Discussion – none; motion passed

Discussion re Designated Funds –2024 required moving money from investment account to cover designated funds expenses; Finance Committee recommend moving Friends Feeding Friends building fund to Capital Improvement Fund, moving Flowers Fund and Community Christmas, Dinner Fund to General Fund Motion made to accept Finance Committee rec to move funds by Marcia Sander; seconded by Mark Deniston; discussion – none; motion passed

Thanks to Finance Committee, Counters, Finance Committee Secretary/Courier Susan Metzger,

Bookkeeper Kathy; Scott and Julie for holding down the office.

### **Pastor**

Thanks to volunteer office staff

St. John's Lutheran Church pastor share going well per congregation, Pastor

Excited about who we are as a congregation and where we're going

Exploring solar panels as a way to reduce power bill

Thankful youth were able to attend New Orleans Youth Gathering

Sunday Adult Bible Study to continue in March; Class for Home Visit training to start in February

### **Social Ministries – Scott Etzel**

Blood Drive collected 100+ units of blood; 5 drives planned for 2025

Friends Feeding Friends – Dana Deniston wants to thank all volunteers

Evangelism – Susan Metzger

Upcoming Events – Winter Nights, Resurrection Church (El Salvador)

**Youth – Renee Reis**

Attended Youth Gathering in New Orleans; plan to attend 2027 Gathering in Minneapolis;

Plans to go Santa Cruz, Great America, Rock Climbing in 2025

**Property – Mike Henry**

Kitchen Upgrade/Remodel Status Update – Equipment replaced and associated finishes

completed, New dishwasher needs factory authorized technician to troubleshoot for possible

defects in Booster heater before use, Health Department issued full approval for use, Deep

cleaning of kitchen upon full construction by professional cleaning service, Delays were due to

unforeseen circumstances

Congregation is an extension of property committee – eyes and ears to keep everything functioning

Sanctuary Roof – will look at for possible leaks; wear and tear from workers on cell tower

Hold Hands Montessori – Renee Reis

Open and working

**Synod Assembly -Renee Reis**

2 day event (St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Walnut Creek) May 17-18

Volunteers to attend – Maureen Tetley, Kathy Reis

Motion made to accept reps by Kristi Buchholz; second Marcia Sander; motion carried

## **Congregational Input**

Defensive undercurrent re Friends Feeding Friends using church resources; Great ministry of the church and a big positive; Council fully supportive of Friends Feeding Friends Perception of scarcity of monies for utilities (Marcia Sander); Friends Feeding Friends being as energy efficient as possible (Mark Deniston) Moment to remember deceased members

Pastor closed with prayer

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Kathy Reis; seconded Anessa Hileman; motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:28p.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,  
Tracey Rentner  
Council Secretary

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP

Dear friends in Christ,

As Lutherans, we are set free to love our neighbors and seek justice. In Colossians 2, read: “As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (6-7).

I am abounding in thankfulness for you, church. You are an integral part of this mission as we envision a world experiencing the difference God’s grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation. The ministries of congregations including yours, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together today and every day so more people may know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. From providing food to people experiencing hunger, to helping train the next generation of leaders that will lead this church, your support is at work here at home and around the world.

Your generosity to each of the three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has made it possible for us to do this work together. Your financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices are so valued. As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to continue to walk in Christ, remembering you are rooted and established in faith, and free to love and serve your neighbors. Thank you, church, for the ways you connect with and support our siblings across the ELCA and in our communities.



In Christ,  
The Rev. Yehiel Curry

Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

# PASTOR'S REPORT

Dear People of Good Shepherd,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The growth of a community is never just about numbers. It's about something deeper and far more meaningful. Together, we have grown in our love for Jesus—and it is that love that sends us out into the world to care for our neighbors.

As I look back on this past year, my heart is full of gratitude for the ways we have walked together as a community of faith. This has been a year marked by growth, collaboration, and new possibilities for ministry.

I am deeply proud of the church we are becoming. You continue to serve our most vulnerable neighbors through Friends Feeding Friends. You have faithfully cared for our partners in El Salvador through your generosity and your weekly prayers. You have opened our doors for regular blood drives that quite literally save lives. And in the midst of all of this, you show up—week after week—for worship. You quietly tend to our building and grounds, prepare food and fellowship after worship, lend your time in the church office, and serve faithfully on our many teams and ministries.

It is a gift and a joy to serve alongside you at Good Shepherd.

## **PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. JOHN'S**

It has been a little over a year since you, as a community, entered into partnership with St. John's Lutheran Church in Antioch. I am deeply grateful for the grace and generosity that both congregations have shown as I continue to prayerfully discern how best to share my time among you. Throughout this season, I have experienced a spirit of cooperation and goodwill that speaks to your faithfulness and care for one another.

Together, we now gather each Wednesday morning for Bible study at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom, and we have shared in one another's lives through invitations to worship, fellowship, and service. Members of St. John's have joined in Friends Feeding Friends, and on God's Work Our Hands Sunday they lovingly assembled more than 100 blessing bags. Looking ahead, we will come together again for a joint Zoom book study during Lent.

I trust that this partnership will continue to deepen, even as each congregation honors and maintains its own unique identity. I believe the future of Good

Shepherd is rooted in shared ministry and mutual support, and I am thankful for the ways God has already been at work among us. I look forward with hope and expectation to seeing how God will continue to bless this relationship in the days ahead.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

There is more on the horizon for us as a community, and I am grateful for the faithful leadership of our Church Council as we discern the path ahead together. The Council has committed itself to leading with clear and prayerful convictions. We seek to be a council that:

- Chooses life over death
- Chooses community over isolation
- Chooses joy and fun over drudgery
- Chooses boldness over caution
- Chooses a posture of frontier rather than fortress
- Chooses faithfulness now, rather than postponing it for later

These commitments have already shaped important decisions in the life of our congregation. They have led us to partner with St. John, to welcome a preschool onto our campus, to transition our power to solar energy, to refurbish the apartment at Luther Hall, and to faithfully bring our furnishing ministry to a close.

As we look to the year ahead, these same values are guiding us toward new possibilities. We are looking to refurbish our sanctuary, expand the renewal of Luther Hall, and more intentionally use our property for the good of the wider Concord community.

I am deeply grateful to serve as your pastor. We have already walked through much together, and I trust that God is still at work among us—calling us forward, shaping us, and inviting us into what comes next.

Peace,  
Rev. Jeremy Serrano

## VOTING INFORMATION

Our Church Constitution requires congregational election of Church Council members providing a council of at least 8 but no more than 12 at any period in time.

Our current Church Council is composed of our Pastor, and the elected members serving the terms indicated below:

<b>Renee Reis</b>	Second term expires January 2026
<b>Tracey Rentner</b>	First term expires January 2026
<b>Scott Etzel</b>	Second term expires January 2027
<b>Julie Kim</b>	First term expires January 2027
<b>Susan Metzger</b>	First term expires January 2027
<b>Mike Henry</b>	Third term expires January 2028
<b>Maureen Mattes</b>	First term expires January 2028
<b>Anessa Hileman</b>	Second term expires January 2028 (appointed)

The nominating committee has presented to the Church Council two persons to be voted on for election to the Church Council. The Candidates term will expire in January 2029.

The 2026 Council will (should) have a total of 8 members: 6 elected members, the Pastor, and the Treasurer. The Treasurer is a member of the Council, appointed, not elected, and thus has voice, but no vote.

The Council has approved the nominating committee's slate of nominees for the open positions. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting. However, the nominated member must either be present to accept the nomination or have provided a written acceptance of the nomination available to the presiding officer at the meeting.

This year, because we are hosting the meeting live in the Fellowship Hall we will vote with a show of hands by those present.

All confirmed members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church are eligible to vote. Ten percent of the congregation's membership is required for a quorum. A simple majority of those total votes cast constitutes election

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating committee was formed of our current Council Members and charged with the task and responsibility of preparing a list of candidates for the vacancies of the Church Council for 2026.

**Renee Reis**                      Second term expires January 2026  
**Tracey Rentner**                First term expires January 2026

The nominating committee was composed of:  
The current Good Shepherd Council Members

Respectfully submitted,  
Nominating Committee

## **COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

I would like to give a big shoutout to everyone on council for making 2025 an amazing year. I have continued to grow and have learned so much as your Council President. My deepest appreciation to everyone for helping me with that growth. I would like to thank the members of Good Shepherd once again for allowing me the opportunity to be a part of this great team.

This year, your church council continued to focus on growing and evangelizing, deciding to participate in the Clayton Pride Parade by having an information booth and talking to the community, as well as giving out great swag items. The Holding Hands Montessori Preschool has flourished and grew so much this year that an assistant was hired to help in the classroom. And Good Shepherd joyfully welcomed MIC (Ministry in Context) student Vicar Julia Rankin, from the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, who was able to receive hands on experience preaching for us on Sundays.

Your church council held a retreat in the Fall and created six goals to work towards completing. One was updating the signage around the church campus, which has been installed. The new signage on the buildings is clearly visible to visitors and looks great. And as a council, we are dedicated to continuing working on the remaining goals.

This year has brought with it healthy, wonderful growth as a community. Our partnership with St. John's Lutheran Church in Antioch, with the sharing of Pastor Jeremy, has remained strong. It has also given both congregations the opportunity to join in activities and services. In December, both congregations joined together for Cocoa, Cookies & Carols, giving everyone the chance to spend time with each other in community. All the wonderful things that Good Shepherd has done over the last year could not have been accomplished without the

dedication of church members volunteering, taking the extra time and effort to help see a project finished, and being flexible throughout all the processes.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Council President, and I look forward to the future God shows us.

Renee Reis

# PROPERTY TEAM

Haggai 1:8

...“Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the House, so that I may take pleasure in it and be Honored.”

## Notable Upgrades / Remodels / Maintenance in 2025:

### Kitchen:

- 1) Completed final touches to the Kitchen improvements as well as replacing a defective circuit board in the new dishwasher.
- 2) Health Inspector sign off on operational dishwasher for correct temperatures
- 3) Replaced defective faucet at existing sink.
- 4) Annual Hood Fan inspection and recertification
- 5) Maintenance of gas pilot lights and ignitors @ Oven
- 6) Ordered / Received extra dishwasher racks for dishwasher for increased efficiency of dishwashing.
- 7) Modified drain tube @ dishwasher to prevent overflow @ floor sink during draining process.
- 8) Added second jet-sprayer above middle sink for more efficient dishwashing process.
- 9) Reorganized Countertops / Cabinets for more efficient use during Fellowship Hour and Use-Group rentals.

### Fellowship Hall:

- 1) New PELICAN Brand Thermostats installed for Main Hall and Friends Feeding Friends rooms for more efficient air conditioning and heating control for PGE cost savings.
- 2) Replaced defective toilet in Women’s bathroom.
- 3) Replaced manual flush handles @ Men’s bathroom with Sensor Activated Flush Devices for increased sanitary measures and water cost savings.
- 4) Installed purified Water dispenser (thank you, FFF).
- 5) Installed designated storage cabinets for Use-groups and GSLC provisions.
- 6) Repaired Door-stop @ double door entry
- 7) Repaired defective Forced Air Unit @ one of the two AC / FAU units
- 8) Replaced batteries in all Alarm Sensors.

### Sanctuary:

- 1) Additional LED Lighting Upgrades / Replacements at Pulpit/Lectern/Alter/Children's area.
- 2) Replaced main Air Conditioning and Heating System Filters
- 3) Maintenance as required @ toilet and sewer pipes @ Basement Bathroom.
- 4) Plumbing pipe camera process to determine blockage @ item #3 above (repairs scheduled for early 2026)

### Luther Hall:

- 1) Foundation inspection was performed and approved by Structural Engineer to ensure stability for proposed re-use.
- 2) Roof Inspection performed and approved by Licensed Roofing Contractor to ensure stability for installation of Solar Panels.
- 3) Added demising wall between Apartment unit and Main Hall area.
- 4) Installed plywood deck overlay for ingress – egress safety.
- 5) Removed defective gutter and fascia boards for safety.
- 6) Replaced Security Lighting after removal of Item #5 above.

### Parsonage:

- 1) Replaced damaged Kitchen window
- 2) Repaired defective Forced Air Unit (Heater)
- 3) Installed Ring Camera for safety and security.
- 4) Replaced thermostat with NEST Brand type for more efficient air conditioning and heating control for PGE cost savings.

### Campus (general):

- 1) New overall Campus Signage partially installed (to be completed by 02/26).
- 2) Replaced Flags.
- 3) Select Shrub/Bush removal to discourage trespassing in non-public areas
- 4) Painting of seating benches in lower campus Rest/Calming/Sanctuary areas.
- 5) Added precautionary and temporary Rodent Control measures to Orkin Contract  
due to recent wet-weather effecting rodent habits related to burrows and food sources.
- 6) Working in tandem on the approved Solar Project with both the Council and Finance Committee, the Property team has been and will continue to be fully engaged with the Contractual aspects, Technical Design, Site Preparation, On-Site meetings with Vendor(s) and overall process of ensuring that the project will remain on track, on budget and on time as presented by our primary vendor (Sunsource).

### Moving Forward:

The Property Committee understands that there are other issues that are not addressed in this Annual Report. Please continue to reference the upcoming Council Minutes as they become available each month through 2026 to stay informed as to what our evolving goals are and please know that your input on anything we should add or change to those goals and how we can achieve them, will be sincerely appreciated.

### Recognitions:

The Property Committee consists of many volunteers and helpers that are not necessarily identified as members of the Property Committee but have made all of the above accomplishments and successes possible despite the many challenges and difficulties included and we thank each and every one of you that have given your time and energy toward the goal of “...bringing down the timber from the mountain and building this House..”

Thank you,  
Mike Henry  
Property Chair

# SOCIAL MINISTRY/OUTREACH

Acts 5:42 Day after day...they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

This bible verse gets at the core purpose in the mission of the Social Ministry and Outreach program at Good Shepherd; Reaching out in Jesus name...to learn and grow into God's kingdom.

With the many volunteers and staff at Good Shepherd doing God's work over the past year in the following ways, we truly have demonstrated that Good Shepherds Social Ministry and Outreach programs fulfill this mission as well as serving the needs in our community:

- **Friends Feeding Friends (FFF)** – See 2025 summary report from Dana Deniston.
- **Blood Drives** – Partnered with American Red Cross (ARC) in February, June, August, October and December, successfully collecting 130 units of blood in 2025 (a 30% increase over 2024 units donated).
- **Senior Food Program** – Partnered with Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties to provide free groceries to seniors age 55 or older on the first and third Thursdays each month
- **Little Box of Love Food Box** – Provided 24 hour access to free food, water and clothing in support of community needs
- **Diablo Valley Literacy Council (DVLC)**
  - **DLVC library/Tutoring Space** – Provide space in former “Fireside Room” for DVLC library and for tutoring of English language learning students. Provided training for volunteer tutors.
  - **Free Library Box** - Provided 24-hour access to free reading materials in support of community needs through Diablo Valley Literacy Council.
- **Montessori Preschool** – Partnered with Holding Hands Montessori Preschool (a small local woman owned and led company to operate a Montessori Spanish-bilingual preschool in the basement of the sanctuary building.
- **Outreach Events and Activities** – Engaged the church body in conducting over 18 outreach events and activities in 2025, reaching out to over 600 people.

In addition to the above programs, goals and plans for 2026 include:

- **Outreach Events and Activities** – Engage church council on a monthly basis in deciding which outreach events and activities to promote congregation involvement and support in 2026.
- **Blood Drives** – Partner with American Red Cross (ARC) in hosting six blood drives on Thursdays in 2026.

- **Housing on church campus** – Completing refurbishment of the existing apartment in Luther Hall, and renting out to help address the shortage of affordable housing in Concord.
- **Luther Hall** - Prayerfully entering into dialog with church council on ways that Good Shepherd can refurbish and utilize the remaining space in Luther Hall to assist with fulfilling the churches primary mission to reach out in Jesus name and gather in deep community.

These are just some of the Good Shepherd Social Ministry/Outreach programs.

We were successful this past year through the tremendous efforts of the men, women and children of Good Shepherd. Thank you!

Please reach out to a church council member if you know of other programs so that we can include them in our prayers and support as a council, or if you would like to get involved in one or more of the programs listed above.

Thank you!

Scott Etzel

Social Ministry/Outreach

# CHRISTMAS DAY MEAL

On Christmas Day Good Shepherd served our 4th Annual Christmas Day Meal to anyone who wanted to experience the joy of Christmas in a place where they would not be judged, where they would be accepted for who they are, and where they would be welcomed into a warm, loving environment.

We served ninety meals at a cost of \$8.33 per meal. Some guests asked if they could receive a to-go meal, without staying to eat, while others enjoyed their meal with us and then asked if they could take food with them, while some even took plates for their home-bound neighbors. The answer was yes to all of it. Hospitality means meeting people where they are.

We had two gift tables filled with presents for children and adults, and each person was invited to choose one or two items. This, too, was a huge success and a tangible expression of joy and generosity.

We are especially grateful for the gift received from Pastor Sarah Street at Our Savior's In Lafayette-five sealed envelopes containing money, donated by one of her parishioners and intended to be given to people in need. Although Pastor Sarah was unable to attend at the last minute, her husband Keith delivered the envelopes on her behalf.

Vicar Megan Kim, who has served as pulpit supply here at Good Shepherd and was recently approved for ordination in our Synod, joined us with her two children. Vicar Megan and I prayed together, asking God to guide us in discerning who should receive the Christmas envelopes. It was truly amazing to see how the five recipients became clear. The gifts were given and received with grace, generosity, and deep appreciation -God at work through our hands.

Another great gift of the day was seeing children and youth learning to serve others. We were blessed by the presence of two fourteen-year-old twin boys, a seven-year-old girl, and a nine-year-old boy who signed up to help. They served food and drinks, bussed tables, and sat with guests to talk and listen. The joy and excitement on their faces was unforgettable. We are grateful to be involved in teaching children the sacred work of serving others.

This is our fourth year of providing a Christmas Day meal to our community. With each year, we continue to build relationships, strengthen community, and grow more deeply into our calling to love all people while God reveals the face of Jesus in one another.

Our deepest thanks to all who helped with planning, setup, decorating, signage, serving, and cleanup. Many hands truly made the work light, and contribution-large and small-was deeply appreciated. This ministry would not be possible without you.

Sue Hertless  
Parishoner

# YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation classes have continued throughout the year, with our group meeting in the Fireside room as a temporary location until a more permanent spot can be established. The youth are great sports though, and it hasn't deterred them from participating in classes. We have continued learning about the Small Catechism; the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. On some Sundays, we put our knowledge to the test, and competed in games such as Bible Jeopardy, Wheel of Bible, and Find That Word in the Bible. The winners usually get a bit of bragging rights, at least until the next challenge. And this year, we joyfully celebrated the Confirmation of Ben Serrano on November 2.

The Youth of Good Shepherd have also begun talking about plans for the ELCA Youth Gathering that will be taking place in 2027. We have a year to start making plans and decide on how we would like to fundraise for the Gathering. If you have youth that will be in grades 8-12 next year, this is a perfect time to consider having them participate in the ELCA Youth Gathering with us.

I have enjoyed being able to work with the youth of Good Shepherd, and am excited to see what this next year has planned for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Reis

Youth Committee

## **2025 MIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

In 2025, we at Good Shepherd were pleased to welcome Vicar Julia Rankin as our Ministry-in-Context student from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS). This was for the 2025 Fall semester. On this committee were Maureen Mattes and Anessa Hileman. We met with Vicar Julia two times, once in November 2025 and once in December 2025. Each time we reviewed Vicar Julia's goals and any general comments about her experience at Good Shepherd. At the end of her term at Good Shepherd, PLTS paperwork, a review of Vicar Julia's service, was submitted.

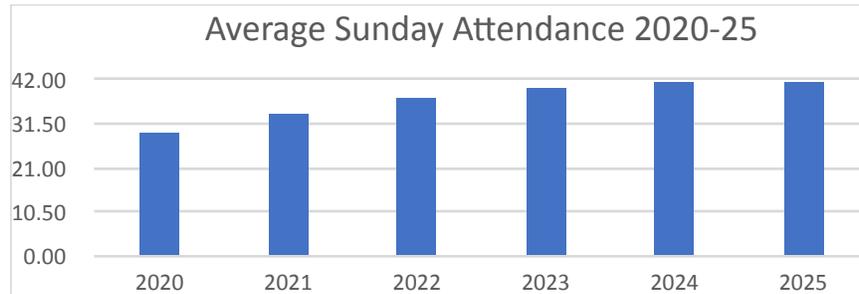
Vicar Julia expressed how she felt very welcomed by the Good Shepherd community and how she enjoyed expressing her style of participating in worship. She felt affirmed in her call to become a rostered Minister of Word and Service, and she was looking forward to her internship in Oregon next. It was an honor to meet with her and to learn about creation care and what being a deacon could potentially mean. The MIC committee and Good Shepherd wish Vicar Julia well her next ministry endeavors.

Submitted by Maureen Mattes

# WORSHIP AND ATTENDANCE 2024

This year we saw a slow but steady growth in our in-person and on-line worship totals. We experienced fewer deaths this year and baptized two babies into the congregation this year. 😊

We also welcomed new members and visitors to our weekly worship services. Our active membership is remaining steady.



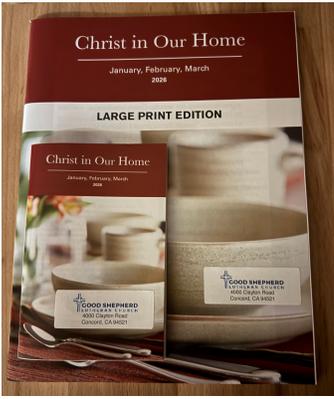
Along with Sunday worship, we also had well attended Lenten worship and suppers, and two Christmas Eve services. On Christmas Eve, we had members of St John's join us for the 5pm Candlelight service.

We also took our worship out into the community by joining with other churches in worship at the Clayton Pride Festival in downtown Clayton in June. After worship we had a booth with handouts that was well attended. Thanks to those who volunteered at the booth.

In October we had a Blessing of the Pets Worship Service and some of our neighbors joined us to have their pets blessed.

Each week we broadcast the Sunday worship service live on YouTube. The service is also recorded and can be viewed at any time from the link on our church webpage. If you are unable to worship in person or have a conflict you can always join the on-line worship in the comfort of your own home. We have regular worshippers on-line including Pastor Jeremy's mother.

If you can't get to worship due to transportation issues, let us know by calling the church office or emailing us at [office@gsconcord.com](mailto:office@gsconcord.com) and we can arrange transportation.



We welcome everyone in many ways to connect with God in a weekly worship setting. We also have daily Devotional Booklets available. If you cannot pick one up in person, let us know if you would like one sent or delivered to you.W

We are looking for more volunteers to help make our worship experiences meaningful. We especially need people to read the lessons on Sunday during worship. If this sounds like something you would like to try, please contact me, any council person, Pastor Jeremy or email the church office.

I would like to recognize the following people who regularly contribute to our worship experience. (my apologies if I have left your name off)

Music:	Tom Deans Flegel
Audio/Visual	Jamie Rodemsky, Ben Serrano, Levi Serrano, back-up Linda Rodemsky
Worship Slide Creation:	Julie Kim
Ushers:	Ron Figueroa, Rory Kappesser, Anessa Hileman
Assisting Minister:	Sue Hertless, Susan Metzger, Renee Reis, Maureen Mattes, Elsie Witt
Altar Guild:	Nancy Judge, Kathy Reis, Renee Reis
Lectors:	Many wonderful readers who volunteer who do this weekly

And after the worship service is over, Julie Kim has taken on the responsibility for making sure we have tasty food/snacks to nourish our bodies. If you have not joined us for fellowship after the in-person worship, you are missing out on some terrific food and conversation. Thanks also to Scott Etzel for assisting Julie and Jamie Rodemsky for washing the dishes every week. Thanks also to those who contribute food to be served.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the worship experience. Your presence is felt. Please join us in-person or on-line and invite your friends and neighbors to join us. All are Welcome!

Susan Metzger

# FRIENDS FEEDING FRIENDS

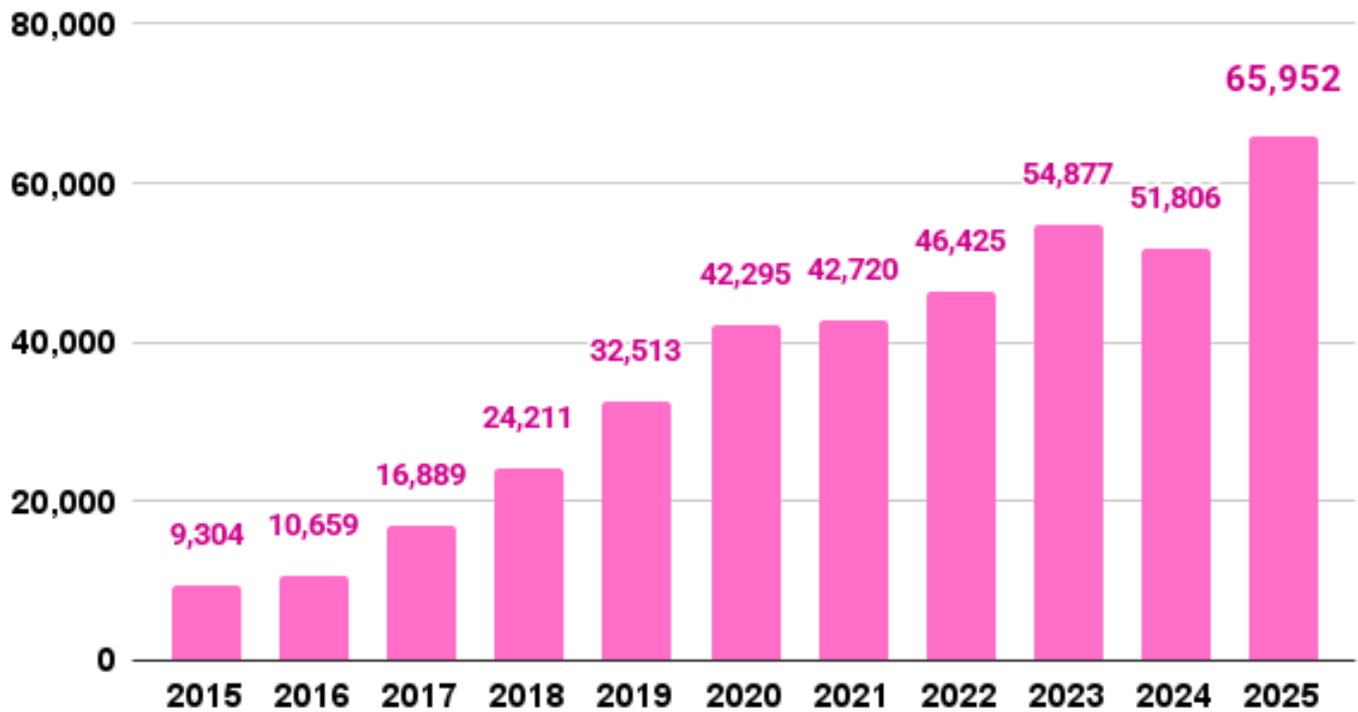
In 2025, our 22nd year of service, Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) experienced changes due to external circumstances. Activities from ICE and the government shutdown increased our client volume, but we happily helped many families and seniors who definitely needed assistance. A few years ago, we experienced a similar uptick due to Covid. In all situations, our hardworking volunteers met the challenge.

In 2025, FFF provided the following community services:

- Distributed food to 65,952 people, which included produce, meat, dairy, shelf stable food, breads, pastries, and blessing bags for the homeless.
- Cooked and provided 3,240 shelter meals.
- Donated hygiene items, snacks, clothing, blankets, pillows, sheets, pillowcases, towels, kitchen equipment, appliances, books, protein drinks, cold drinks, shoes, condiments, serving supplies and utensils to the shelter.
- Distributed clothing, kitchen items, shoes, toys, books, gifts, beanies, mittens, gloves, small furniture, walkers, crutches, diapers, shampoo, conditioner, soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, wipes, devotionals, calendars, grocery gift cards and small appliances to pantry clients.
- Provided household items and furniture for 78 households for clients transitioning from homelessness to housing.
- Delivered groceries to homebound individuals and seniors.
- Connected furniture donors with caseworkers to facilitate furniture pickup and direct delivery to clients.
- Referred clients to other social service organizations when specific needs arose.

Below is a bar graph depicting FFF's growth over the past 10 years:

### People Provided Food by Year



Respectfully submitted by  
Dana Deniston

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Balance Sheet**

**As of December 31, 2025**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Dec 31, 25</b>
Bank of America Checking (0287)	\$ 165,042.58
Bank of America Debit Card (8614)	\$ 3,921.84
MIF - Term Investment Account	\$ 13,000.00
<b>CASH</b>	<b>\$ 181,964.42</b>
Vanguard STAR Fund (0056)	\$ 122,598.32
Vanguard Wellington Fund (0521)	\$ 131,943.79
Valuation Adjustment (0056/0521)	\$ 29,765.72
<b>SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 284,307.83</b>
Vanguard Endowment MMF (2222)	\$ 40,727.51
Vanguard Endowment Well (2222)	\$ 66,034.30
Valuation Adjustment (2222)	\$ 75,294.29
<b>ENDOWMENT SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 182,056.10</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 648,328.35</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 648,328.35</b>
Bank of America Visa (9201)	\$ 740.15
Capital Expenditure Reserve	\$ 24,578.54
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 25,318.69</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 25,318.69</b>
Capital Improve. & Maint. Fund	\$ 3,382.89
Memorials Fund	\$ 6,228.49
Fellowship Committee Fund	\$ 1,747.90
Youth Fund	\$ 17,750.37
Archive Reserve Fund	\$ 100.00
El Salvador School Scholarship Fund	\$ 10,946.46
Resurrection Church Fund	\$ 4,014.10
Winter Nights Fund	\$ -
Friends Feeding Friends Fund	\$ 100,623.53
Ebenezer Fund	\$ 548.02
<b>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</b>	<b>\$ 145,341.76</b>
General Fund Equity	\$ 477,667.90
<b>UNRESTRICTED</b>	<b>\$ 477,667.90</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 623,009.66</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 648,328.35</b>

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual YTD**  
**January through December 2025**

	Jan - Dec 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>			
5 Contributions-Cash/Check/EFT	\$ 87,451.91	\$ 96,500.00	\$ (9,048.09)
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 87,451.91</b>	<b>\$ 96,500.00</b>	<b>\$ (9,048.09)</b>
14 Cell Tower Rental Income	\$ 88,504.84	\$ 84,732.00	\$ 3,772.84
15 Facilities use income	\$ 11,633.55	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 4,033.55
19 Preschool Income	\$ 19,953.00	\$ 19,863.00	\$ 90.00
20 St Johns-Pastor Share	\$ 67,118.00	\$ 67,121.00	\$ (3.00)
21 Interest/Dividend income	\$ 32,647.06	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,647.06
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 219,856.45</b>	<b>\$ 194,316.00</b>	<b>\$ 25,540.45</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 307,308.36</b>	<b>\$ 290,816.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,492.36</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
24 Licenses & Taxes	\$ 789.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 11.00
26 Altar Guild	\$ 201.62	\$ 200.00	\$ (1.62)
27 Maintenance & Repairs	\$ -	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00
28 Supplies	\$ 1,519.54	\$ 1,025.00	\$ (494.54)
<b>WORSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 2,510.16</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>	<b>\$ (110.16)</b>
<b>PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>			
31 Salaries & Wages	\$ 88,967.81	\$ 89,229.00	\$ 261.19
32 Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,215.01	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 44.99
34 Employer Retirement Contribution	\$ 11,691.48	\$ 11,775.00	\$ 83.52
39 Housing Allowance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
40 Pastor Social Security Offset	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
41 Supply Pastor	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 50.00
<b>Compensation</b>	<b>\$ 111,924.30</b>	<b>\$ 112,364.00</b>	<b>\$ 439.70</b>
43 Insurance	\$ 584.23	\$ 600.00	\$ 15.77
44 Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 981.52	\$ 825.00	\$ (156.52)
45 Employer Provided Housing Equity - Pastoral	\$ 4,999.92	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0.08
46 Professional Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
<b>Benefits &amp; Insurance</b>	<b>\$ 6,765.67</b>	<b>\$ 6,625.00</b>	<b>\$ (140.67)</b>
47 Literature and Study Materials	\$ 212.63	\$ 200.00	\$ (12.63)
51 Continuing Education	\$ 1,196.39	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (196.39)
52 Discretionary Fund	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
53 Auto Expense Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 120,098.99</b>	<b>\$ 121,189.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,090.01</b>
<b>CONGREGATION</b>			
56 Education, Seminar & Conference	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 550.00
58 Other Business Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
59 WELCA	\$ (173.00)	\$ -	\$ 173.00
60 Synod Tithe	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,277.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,523.00</b>

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**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual YTD**  
**January through December 2025**

	Jan - Dec 25	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
63 Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 4,763.12	\$ 4,570.00	\$ (193.12)
65 Bookkeeping Services	\$ 11,900.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 100.00
66 Organist	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (1,250.00)
67 Postage and Shipping	\$ 158.97	\$ 185.00	\$ 26.03
68 Supplies	\$ 1,055.23	\$ 800.00	\$ (255.23)
70 Evangelism	\$ 2,535.17	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 764.83
71 Technology	\$ 2,146.79	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (146.79)
72 Banking Activities	\$ 271.84	\$ 175.00	\$ (96.84)
73 Miscellaneous	\$ 1,092.10	\$ 900.00	\$ (192.10)
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 26,673.22</b>	<b>\$ 25,430.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,243.22)</b>
<b>PLANT OCCUPANCY</b>			
77 Utilities-Fire Alarm	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ -
78 Utilities-Gas & Electric	\$ 30,881.82	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 11,118.18
79 Utilities-Telephone&Internet	\$ 1,862.99	\$ 2,220.00	\$ 357.01
80 Utilities-Garbage	\$ 8,712.87	\$ 8,580.00	\$ (132.87)
81 Utilities-Water	\$ 7,962.48	\$ 6,900.00	\$ (1,062.48)
82 Solar	\$ 1,329.54	\$ -	\$ (1,329.54)
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$ 52,193.70</b>	<b>\$ 61,144.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,950.30</b>
83 Insurance	\$ 11,817.45	\$ 11,818.00	\$ 0.55
84 Licenses & Taxes	\$ 7,578.68	\$ 6,860.00	\$ (718.68)
87 Gardening	\$ 9,779.00	\$ 9,684.00	\$ (95.00)
88 Janitorial	\$ 4,201.46	\$ 3,960.00	\$ (241.46)
89 Supplies	\$ 888.28	\$ 700.00	\$ (188.28)
90 Property Committee	\$ 17,734.31	\$ 15,000.00	\$ (2,734.31)
91 Capital Improvements	\$ 14,895.00	\$ 14,895.00	\$ -
92 Preschool Expenses	\$ 845.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 655.00
93 Luther Hall	\$ 2,586.37	\$ -	\$ (2,586.37)
<b>TOTAL PLANT OCCUPANCY</b>	<b>\$ 122,330.74</b>	<b>\$ 125,561.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,230.26</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 273,078.62</b>	<b>\$ 278,380.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,301.38</b>
<b>REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 34,229.74</b>	<b>\$ 12,436.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,793.74</b>

2026 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Proposed Budget

<u>Description</u>	PROPOSED			
	2025 <u>Budget</u>	Dec-25 <u>Actual</u>	<u>Diff</u>	2026 <u>Budget</u>
<b>Cash Contributions</b>				
Cash/Check/EFT	\$ 96,500.00	\$ 87,451.91	\$ (9,048.09)	\$ 87,450.00
<b>Total Cash Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 96,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 87,451.91</b>	<b>\$ (9,048.09)</b>	<b>\$ 87,450.00</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
Cell Tower Rental	\$ 84,732.00	\$ 88,504.84	\$ 3,772.84	\$ 63,754.00
St. John's	\$ 67,121.00	\$ 67,118.00	\$ (3.00)	\$ 69,594.00
Preschool	\$ 19,863.00	\$ 19,953.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 20,673.00
Facilities Use	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 11,633.55	\$ 4,033.55	\$ 12,000.00
Interest/Dividend	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 32,647.06	\$ 17,647.06	\$ 32,650.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 194,316.00</b>	<b>\$ 219,856.45</b>	<b>\$ 25,540.45</b>	<b>\$ 198,671.00</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 290,816.00</b>	<b>\$ 307,308.36</b>	<b>\$ 16,492.36</b>	<b>\$ 286,121.00</b>
<b>PASTORAL STAFF</b>				
<b>Pastoral Staff Compensation</b>				
Housing Allowance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Pastor Social Security Offset	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Supply Pastor	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 2,100.00
Salaries, Wages	\$ 72,149.00	\$ 71,927.09	\$ 221.91	\$ 78,746.00
<b>Total Pastoral Staff Compensation</b>	<b>\$ 82,249.00</b>	<b>\$ 81,977.09</b>	<b>\$ 271.91</b>	<b>\$ 88,846.00</b>
<b>Pastoral Staff Benefits</b>				
Insurance	\$ 600.00	\$ 584.23	\$ 15.77	\$ 609.00
Retirement	\$ 11,775.00	\$ 11,691.48	\$ 83.52	\$ 12,178.00
Housing Equity	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,999.92	\$ 0.08	\$ 5,000.00
<b>Total Pastoral Staff Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 17,375.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,275.63</b>	<b>\$ 99.37</b>	<b>\$ 17,787.00</b>
<b>Senior Pastor Expenses</b>				
Auto Reimbursement	\$ 800.00	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Continuing Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,196.39	\$ (196.39)	\$ 1,000.00
Discretionary Fund	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Professional Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Literature and Study Materials	\$ 200.00	\$ 212.63	\$ (12.63)	\$ 200.00
<b>Total Senior Pastor Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,609.02</b>	<b>\$ 790.98</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>
<b>MINISTRIES STAFF</b>				
<b>Ministries Staff Compensation</b>				
<b>Salaries, Wages</b>				
Worship Director	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 14,605.36	\$ 394.64	\$ 15,000.00
Sound/AV Tech	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 2,435.36	\$ (355.36)	\$ 2,080.00
<b>Total Salaries, Wages</b>	<b>\$ 17,080.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,040.72</b>	<b>\$ 39.28</b>	<b>\$ 17,080.00</b>
<b>Total Ministries Staff Compensation</b>	<b>\$ 17,080.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,040.72</b>	<b>\$ 39.28</b>	<b>\$ 17,080.00</b>
<b>Ministries Staff Benefits</b>				
Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,215.01	\$ 44.99	\$ 1,308.00
Workers Comp. Insurance	\$ 825.00	\$ 981.52	\$ (156.52)	\$ 985.00
<b>Total Ministries Staff Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 2,085.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,196.53</b>	<b>\$ (111.53)</b>	<b>\$ 2,293.00</b>

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2026 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Proposed Budget

Description	PROPOSED			
	2025 Budget	Dec-25 Actual	Diff	2026 Budget
<b>Worship</b>				
Altar Guild	\$ 200.00	\$ 201.62	\$ (1.62)	\$ 200.00
Licenses, Taxes	\$ 800.00	\$ 789.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 800.00
Maintenance, Repairs	\$ 375.00	\$ -	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00
Printing and Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies	\$ 1,025.00	\$ 1,519.54	\$ (494.54)	\$ 1,025.00
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,510.16</b>	<b>\$ (110.16)</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>
<b>Congregation</b>				
Education, Seminar, Conference Fees	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,000.00
Other Business Expenses	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -
Synod Tithe	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Fellowship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,700.00
WELCA	\$ -	\$ (173.00)	\$ 173.00	\$ -
<b>Total Congregation</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,277.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,523.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,200.00</b>
<b>Administration</b>				
Banking Activities	\$ 175.00	\$ 271.84	\$ (96.84)	\$ 300.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 14,895.00	\$ 14,895.00	\$ -	\$ 14,895.00
Repairs, Maintenance	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 4,763.12	\$ (193.12)	\$ 4,630.00
Bookkeeping Services	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,900.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 12,000.00
Organist	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,750.00	\$ (1,250.00)	\$ 3,000.00
Postage and Shipping	\$ 185.00	\$ 158.97	\$ 26.03	\$ 500.00
Evangelism	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 2,535.17	\$ 764.83	\$ 4,500.00
Supplies	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,055.23	\$ (255.23)	\$ 800.00
Technology	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,146.79	\$ (146.79)	\$ 2,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,092.10	\$ (192.10)	\$ -
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$ 40,325.00</b>	<b>\$ 41,568.22</b>	<b>\$ (1,243.22)</b>	<b>\$ 42,625.00</b>
<b>Plant Occupancy</b>				
Insurance	\$ 11,818.00	\$ 11,817.45	\$ 0.55	\$ 13,846.56
Licenses, Taxes	\$ 6,860.00	\$ 7,578.68	\$ (718.68)	\$ 7,578.68
Preschool	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 845.00	\$ 655.00	\$ 2,000.00
Luther Hall/ADU	\$ -	\$ 2,586.37	\$ (2,586.37)	\$ -
Gardening	\$ 9,684.00	\$ 9,779.00	\$ (95.00)	\$ 11,684.00
Janitorial	\$ 3,960.00	\$ 4,201.46	\$ (241.46)	\$ 3,960.00
Supplies	\$ 700.00	\$ 888.28	\$ (188.28)	\$ 700.00
Property Committee	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,734.31	\$ (2,734.31)	\$ 15,008.76
<b>Utilities</b>				
Fire Alarm Systems	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ -	\$ 1,444.00
Gas and Electric	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 30,881.82	\$ 11,118.18	\$ 32,000.00
Solar	\$ -	\$ 1,329.54	\$ (1,329.54)	\$ -
Telephone and Internet	\$ 2,220.00	\$ 1,862.99	\$ 357.01	\$ 2,268.00
Trash Pick-Up	\$ 8,580.00	\$ 8,712.87	\$ (132.87)	\$ 9,250.00
Water	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 7,962.48	\$ (1,062.48)	\$ 7,750.00
Pest Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>\$ 61,144.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,193.70</b>	<b>\$ 8,950.30</b>	<b>\$ 52,712.00</b>
<b>Total Plant Occupancy</b>	<b>\$ 110,666.00</b>	<b>\$ 107,624.25</b>	<b>\$ 3,041.75</b>	<b>\$ 107,490.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 278,380.00</b>	<b>\$ 273,078.62</b>	<b>\$ 5,301.38</b>	<b>\$ 286,121.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 12,436.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,229.74</b>	<b>\$ 21,793.74</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

1/25/2026

# FINANCE

**Recognition:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church wishes to acknowledge the Finance Committee for their time and talents in 2025: Greg Buchholz, Sherry Chaplin, Reyanne Freeman, Anessa Hileman, Jon Moss, Linda Rodemsky, Marcia Sander, and Vicki Smiglewski. We express ongoing gratitude to our dedicated Counters, Greg Buchholz, Kristi Buchholz, Anessa Hileman, Sue Hertless, Marcia Sander, and Vicki Smiglewski, our Financial Secretary, Susan Metzger, office volunteers, Scott Etzel and Julie Kim, and our bookkeeper, Mike Slagle. Most importantly, we recognize and thank you, our church family and friends, who have shared faith, love and financial support to Good Shepherd throughout this past year.

**Summary:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church has maintained a positive financial position. This is due in part to our new income sources: St. John's Pastor Share and Holding Hands Montessori Preschool. Based on Preschool rent received through October 2025, we have recouped our \$15k investment in the Preschool renovations.

Good Shepherd's total income for 2025 was \$307,308.00. This total includes Offering Income as well as Other Income, including Cell Tower Income, Investment Income, St. John's Pastor Share, Preschool Income and Facility Use.

Offering Income \$	87,452.00
Other Income	<u>\$219,856.00</u>
Total Income	\$307,308.00

Designated funds are required to be used for the purpose they are given for. At Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, your financial backing allows the Friends Feeding Friends Ministry, along with community organizations, to provide food, furnishings and hope to those in need. The financial assistance to the Resurrection Church in El Salvador is recognized through continued prayer and thanksgiving from a grateful community.

Friends Feeding Friends	\$119,273.00
El Salvador School Scholarship	\$13,651.00
Resurrection Church, El Salvador	\$ 3,405.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 3,196.00
Other Designated	<u>\$ 1,934.00</u>
Total Designated Funds Collected	\$141,459.00

Thank you for your continued patronage, prayers and financial support to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and all of our ministries. May we all be blessed with a thriving, healthy 2026.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anessa Hileman, Treasurer

# MISSION INVESTMENT FUND OF THE ELCA

For more than 150 years, the Mission Investment Fund (MIF) and its predecessors have helped build the Lutheran church. In fact, we are the only ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) that specializes in financing building projects and land purchases for ELCA congregations and ELCA-related ministries.

When you invest with MIF , your investment dollars are put to work in the form of loans to ELCA congregations and ministries. These organizations, in turn, use the loans to build worship spaces, soup kitchens, senior housing and more.

The result? We have hundreds of active loans at work in ELCA congregations and ministries throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These loans, both big and small, serve a wide range of uses, but they all have one thing in common: Each is helping to support the growth and renewal of the church and share God's love with the world. The Mission Investment Fund is as strong as the faith on which we are founded. Our equity ratio is very healthy and many times higher than what regulators require and much higher than what most financial institutions maintain. This strong, stable capital base offers security to our investors and helps assure our ability to meet our obligations—while continuing our important ministry.

Learn more at [mif.elca.org](http://mif.elca.org).

## SOLAR UPDATE

In 2025 the Church Council investigated the possibility of installing a solar system on our church buildings to offset the cost of purchasing electricity from PG&E. Using solar is also a good use of resources and allows us to spend our resources on our Mission.

From SunSource's webpage:

SunSource partners with churches, nonprofits, Tribal Nations, and other communities to build energy independence that lowers costs, increases resilience, and reinvests savings where they matter most — back into your people and your purpose.

We consulted and got quotes from two solar companies who have installed systems on other Lutheran churches in Northern California. After analyzing the proposals, the council called a congregational meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup> to vote on whether to proceed. The response from the congregation was positive.

Since then we have contracted with a solar company, SunSource. We received a good review from another congregation who was happy with their system.

We decided to get our financing from Mission Investment Fund which is a financial ministry of the ELCA. (see information about them on another page).

As with any kind of financing there is a lot of paperwork to fill out and a lot of information to provide in order to demonstrate that we are financially stable. We have passed with flying colors and we should receive the financing in early February 2026.

Then the construction can be scheduled. A year from now we will no longer be dependent on PG&E for all of our electricity. We will still be buying some electricity from PG&E as we are only using solar on two of our three meters. Replacing the third would not be financially sound.

Thank you to everyone who supported us and watch for construction to start soon.



# FRIENDS FEEDING FRIENDS



