

Empowering every generation to seek the missing, shepherd the weary, and share the table.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

**Minutes of Council Meeting**

June 14, 2026

The Council meeting was called to order by Council President, David Lucas at 6:30 PM.

Present were Karen Lucas, Alice Buckner, Becky Shealy, Ben Haigh, David Lucas, Deborah Whitlow, Gaye Tucker, Jan Haigler, Lisa Sanchez, Mary Margaret Hoy, and Mike Weaver.

A Devotion was given by Jan Haigler.

Jan shared information about Flag Day and how it relates to Lutherans and all Christians.

Adoption of Agenda.

Having no additions or corrections to the agenda, the June Council Agenda was accepted.

Approval of Minutes.

David Lucas asked for any corrections to the May 17, 2026 Council Meeting minutes. Some corrections were made. Jan Haigler motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Becky Shealy seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the May Council Meeting minutes were **Approved** as corrected.

Attendance and Membership for May 2026.

**SUNDAYS**

| <u>2026</u> | <u>9:30</u> | <u>SS</u> | <u>YouTube</u> |                                                     | <u>2025</u> | <u>9:30</u> | <u>SS</u> | <u>YouTube</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| 5/3/2026    | 105         | 38        | 56             |                                                     | 5/4/2025    | 95          | 36        | 32             |
| 5/10/2026   | 88          | 33        | 97             |                                                     | 5/11/2025   | 92          | 38        | 51             |
| 5/17/2026   | 91          | 32        | 26             | <b>2025 &amp; 2026<br/>Graduate<br/>Recognition</b> | 5/18/2025   | 91          | 31        | 32             |
| 5/24/2026   | 98          | 23        | 47             | <b>2026<br/>Confirmation</b>                        | 5/25/2025   | 86          | 34        | 41             |
| 5/31/2026   | 92          | 29        | 18             |                                                     |             |             |           |                |
| Average     | 95          | 31        |                |                                                     | Average     | 91          | 35        |                |

Note: YouTube numbers reflect number of views, not number of people viewing.

**May 2026**

Total Membership as of 12/31/2025: 568

Total Active Members 12/31/2025: 397

Current **ACTIVE** Realm membership at the time of the May 2026 Council Meeting: 383

Members Added since the May 2026 Council Meeting: 0

Members Removed since the April 2026 Council Meeting: 1

Sam Smith: moved to resident inactive status May 18, 2026

Current **ACTIVE** Realm membership at the time of the May 2026 Council Meeting: 382

**Reports**

1. Treasurer's Report: Report Submitted.  
Jan Haigler explained that the Day School account was closed. [REDACTED] was added to the Playground fund and the remainder of the Day School account was put into the fund for General Operating Expenses. The Lutheran Men in Mission account was also closed by Peter Zornow and the funds added to the General Operating Expenses fund.
2. Realm Financial Report: Reports Submitted with no questions.
3. Pastor Andrew's Report: No Report.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

1. Communication Committee – Kate Ferlauto: No Report Submitted.  
Kate sent an email to let the Council know that the Communication Committee was working with the Learning Committee to advertise the Church picnic at Camp Kinard on August 9, 2026.
2. Evangelism Committee – Gaye Tucker: Written Report Submitted.
3. Finance Committee – David Lucas: Written Report Submitted.  
Becky Shealy added under the Technology Subcommittee that Eric Kemp may order a new laptop when they are on sale, but we will not replace the Pastor's laptop at this time.
4. Gifts Committee – Sid Havird: No Written Report Submitted.
5. Learning Committee – Lisa Sanchez: No Written Reports Submitted.  
Lisa shared that Olive Wang will be helping with Sunday School this summer. The Parish Administrator will be contacted to schedule Olive for a background check.
6. Parish Life Committee – Deb Whitlow: No Written Report Submitted.  
Deb let the Council know that there was no June meeting, but the committee communicated by email to plan the farewell brunch for Pastor Andrew.
7. Property Committee – Mike Weaver: No Written Report Submitted.  
Mike shared that the tiles on the Altar floor will only last about 2 years. We need to replace the particle board with something more permanent. A decision needs to be made as to what material should be used. Mike also said the bushes along Forest Drive need to be taken down. A new Forest Acres regulation allows for only 70 lbs. of trash to be removed by the city without paying an additional fee. This could be an issue on clean-up days.

8. Social Ministry Committee – Mary Margaret Hoy & Alice Buckner: No Written Report Submitted.  
Mary Margaret shared that allowing families to pick up food twice a month has reduced the amount of money in the Food Pantry fund. She let the Council know that it takes about [REDACTED] a month to supply the pantry. David Lucas mentioned that the SC Synod has grants available for Social Ministry needs.
9. Worship Life Committee – Becky Shealy: Written Report Submitted.  
Becky mentioned that Don Caughman will be proofreading all printed materials. Jim Johnson is planning to have handbells on two Sundays.
10. Youth & Children Committee – Ben Haigh: No Written Report Submitted.  
Ben handed out a report at Council. He mentioned the need for funds for Lutheridge Camp and for GraceWorks. It was discussed that the Summer Mission Fund has money that is designated to help children in their faith formation. This is a possible source of money for Lutheridge and GraceWorks. Deb Whitlow checked with Leigh Ann Tollison to verify the use of this fund, and she concurred it was for children's faith formation. Good Shepherd is planning to partner with Incarnation Lutheran Church to participate in a new program called bRIDGE. There are 2 families committed to the program and 3 who are interested. The cost of an 8-month program would be around [REDACTED], which would be split with Incarnation.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

The book "Lead Like It Matters" by Craig Groeschel was presented by Gaye Tucker as a good resource for the Council. The book has 14 chapters, a conclusion, and discussion questions. It was suggested that the Council use the book as a monthly study, with one chapter discussed at each meeting. Becky Shealy made a motion to order a copy of the book for each Council member, to have the Council read one chapter each month, and to have the Council member of the month lead the discussion at each Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Alice Buckner and passed unanimously. A church member has agreed to purchase the books.

The Council has lined up Supply Pastors from June 21, 2026 through July 19, 2026. The Council meets with Bishop Ginny Aebischer on July 7, 2026 to discuss an Interim Pastor and the Call process.

It was decided that Jan Haigler would do the announcements until an Interim Pastor is in place.

A motion was made by Gaye Tucker to ask Emily Stolba to be an on-call Pastor for emergencies until the Council meets with Bishop Ginny Aebischer. Becky Shealy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Petitions and Communications: None.

The Pulse: N/A

Executive Session (if needed): N/A

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM with everyone saying The Lord's Prayer.

August 2026 Report  
Interim Pastor

This report reflects my activities since beginning as interim on August 2.

Worship – Presided and Preached

August 2

August 9

August 16

Administration

+ I have met all the staff (except Jim Johnson) and we all agree a regularly established staff meeting is needed. We're waiting til Jim returns to determine the exact date and time and frequency.

+ I met with Nancy Hyatt and learned about POGS. Have their scheduled meeting, September 9, on my calendar.

+ I attended the congregation picnic at Camp Kinard on August 9.

+ I met with the Visitation Team (Don Caughman, Don Hyatt, Nancy Hyatt) and they reviewed for me the list of persons they actively care for. They suggested phone calls for Lavina Chandler, Joyce Mobley and Justine Parker, Barbara Sutton, Darlene Whipple, and Brenda Wicker. I have completed all calls with the exception of Joyce and Justine. I left a voice mail for Justine and she has returned the call. I plan to catch up with her in a day or two.

I also am working with Nancy and Don and with Don C to set times to go visit members with them.

I also met with Debi and Marcia (sorry, haven't learned last names yet) to discuss how the support team works

+ I met with the Executive Team on Tuesday, the 11<sup>th</sup>.

+ I plan to attend the Fun Friday event scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup>

+ will attend the August Council meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> and will meet with Lisa Sanchez prior to that meeting.

Think that does it! Thanks for the huge welcome I have received from everyone!

God's Peace,

Pastor Jane

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## Evangelism Council Report

August 16, 2026

The Evangelism Committee met on July 8, 2026 at 5:00 pm with the following members present:

Don Caughman, Marion Eargle, Verna Sawyer, Bruce Shealy, Gaye Tucker

Absent: Sid Havird, Pat Quattlebaum

Don Caughman began the meeting with a devotion.

The following items were presented and discussed:

### Old Business:

1. Neighborhood Shepherding Groups: After a thoughtful discussion, the committee agreed to revisit the development of shepherding groups. Bruce Shealy agreed to organize a task force to review the original plan and make it more applicable to our current congregation and its needs. The task force will have its first meeting on August 18, 2026. Serving on the task force are: Chair, Bruce Shealy, Tom Brown, Don Caughman, Cindy Cummings, Sid Havird. Nancy Hyatt and Gaye Tucker. Pastor Jane will also attend the meeting.
2. Visitor Packet: Gaye will make changes to the current letter placed in the Visitor Packet. Ushers and other members are encouraged to welcome and offer a packet to visitors.
3. We have had a great response to the ordering and wearing of name tags. To date, we have ordered 57.

### New Business:

1. Fall Festival: Gaye Tucker shared the possibility of joining Trenholm Road Methodist, Eastminster Presbyterian and Shandon Methodist for a Community Fall Festival in October. Gaye has contacted Sarah Conrad to find out more details.

Next meeting: Date is to be set.

Respectively submitted,

Gaye Tucker



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 9, 2026**

**PRESENT:** Deb Embrey, Jan Haigler, Rod Kent, Janet Lockhart, David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Gloria Oakes, Becky Shealy

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, by David Lucas, chairperson of the Finance Committee, in the conference room.

**DEVOTIONAL:** Jan Haigler shared a devotion about finance referenced in Matthew 6.

**MINUTES:** The minutes from April 14, 2026 were emailed to all members. Gloria Oakes moved to approve the minutes as emailed. The motion was seconded by Becky Shealy and approved unanimously.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Jan Haigler provided the April 30<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 balance sheets for the savings and checking accounts. The money market savings account balance as of April 30<sup>th</sup> was [REDACTED] and as of June 1<sup>st</sup> was [REDACTED]. The checking account balance as of April 30<sup>th</sup> was [REDACTED] and as of June 1<sup>st</sup> was [REDACTED]. Jan pointed out that in April, as requested by Council, she transferred [REDACTED] from checking to the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund is now over [REDACTED]. Jan also pointed out that the Food Pantry Fund is now down due to allowing families to request food twice a month.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT:**

Deb Embrey reported the offering numbers for April and May 2026. We received [REDACTED] in general offering for the month of April 2026, which is 109.96% of our monthly budget needs, which is over the average for the month of April. In April of 2025 we had 87%, for April 2024 we had 57% and for April 2023 we received 74%.

For May of 2026, Deb reported we received [REDACTED], which is 74.22% of our monthly budget needs. Except for last year, we generally receive around 70% for the month of May. May of 2025, we received 124%, due to an estate settlement. In May of 2024 we received 71% and in May of 2023 we received 79%.

Deb let us know that the first 5 months of 2026 offerings received are 95.45% of budget needs. This is the best we have done in a long time.

Deb also reminded us that Jan Haigler will be writing an article in the July newsletter to remind the congregation not to stop giving during this transition time. The business of the church continues.

**TABULATORS REPORT:** Becky Shealy reported that all tabulators are doing fine. There have been some issues with tabulators calling in unable to tabulate at the last minute. Tabulators are reminded to make arrangements prior to their Sunday, if they are unable to tabulate.

**TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:**

Eric Kemp will hold off on ordering the new laptop that would have gone to Pastor Andrew. Jamie Conrad's computer is working well for her currently.

**Finance Committee Meeting - MINUTES**  
**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**June 9, 2026**  
**Page 2**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup> Statement of Activities was reviewed with no issues. The June 1<sup>st</sup> Statement of Financial Position was reviewed with no issues.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Additional items that will affect the budget this year were discussed. This includes the salary for the new Parish Administrator, Jamie Conrad, and continued compensation for Deborah Mitchell as the Bookkeep and Trainer for the new Parish Administrator. Also, we will be compensating Deb Embrey for the additional Parish Administrator duties she has performed and for her continued role as Assistant Bookkeeper.

Members of the committee signed up for devotions for the rest of the year.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 PM with everyone reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Lucas

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**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**August 11, 2026**

**PRESENT:** Deb Embrey, Jan Haigler, Rod Kent, Janet Lockhart, David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Cathy Milejczak, Becky Shealy (via Teams)

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM, by David Lucas, chairperson of the Finance Committee, in the conference room.

**DEVOTIONAL:** Karen Lucas shared a devotion about embracing change, with references to Isaiah 43:18-19..

**MINUTES:** The minutes from June 9, 2026 were emailed to all members. David Lucas moved to approve the minutes as emailed. The motion was seconded by Jan Haigler and approved unanimously.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Jan Haigler provided the July 31, 2026 balance sheet for the savings and checking accounts. The money market savings account balance as of July 31<sup>st</sup> was [REDACTED]. The checking account balance as of July 31<sup>st</sup> was [REDACTED]. Jan pointed out that the checking account balance is very low, but we have not had to move any money into it from the reserve fund. The unallocated interest income is up to [REDACTED]. Jan said we should not carry over [REDACTED] in that account. The committee agreed to send a motion to council that we move [REDACTED] from the unallocated interest income to the ramp ministry fund. The unallocated interest income receives around [REDACTED] a month.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT:**

Deb Embrey reported the General Offering amount for the months of June and July. We received [REDACTED] in general offering for the month of June, which comes to 71.53% of our monthly budget needs. This amount is average for June. In June of 2025, we received 64% of budget, in June of 2024, we received 71% of budget, and in June of 2023 , we received 64% of budget.

We received [REDACTED] in general offering for the month of July, which comes to 77.55% of our monthly budget needs. This amount is close to average for July. In July of 2025, we received 82% of budget, in July of 2024, we received 68% of budget, and in July of 2023, we received 80% of budget.

Deb Embrey sent out the mid-year contribution statements on July 28<sup>th</sup>. There were 132 giving units, 120 statements were emailed and 12 printed. Deb handed out 6 to members at church on Sunday and mailed 6 to members.

With the departure of Pastor Andrew, our budget needs have reduced a little.

**TABULATORS REPORT:** David Lucas reported that the tabulators are doing fine. We can always use more.

**TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:**

There was no report from technology.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> Statement of Activities was reviewed with one question about the Layettes for Tanzania. Cathy Milejczak explained that these are bundles of clothes for infants, which are much appreciated by our Tanzania church family.

The Statement of Financial Position was reviewed with no questions.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Jan Haigler explained the Compensation Spreadsheet for our Interim Pastor Jane. We have a 6 month contract with Pastor Jane, which will be renewed each 6 months as needed.

Deb Embrey shared that with the new Parish Administrator's salary plus the amount to compensate Deborah Mitchell and Deb Embrey, we are still under budget.

David Lucas will hand out the budget worksheets to the committee heads at the August council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM with everyone reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Lucas

## MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

**PRESENT:** Nancy Hyatt, Barbara Nagy, Becky Shealy, and Deb Embrey

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Memorial Sub-Committee meeting was called to order at 2:00pm on Wednesday, July 8, 2026.

**DEVOTIONS:** Deb Embrey opened the meeting with a short devotion called “Everlasting Life” referencing Daniel 12: verses 1 through 3.

**NEW BUSINESS:** After reviewing the report of available accounts and list of items needed by other committees, the Memorial Committee decided on the following gifts to purchase, and which deceased member’s account will be used for specific purchases.

- 1) A Food Pantry cabinet for the church office will be purchased with the funds from Silas Holmes account.
- 2) A Pastor’s office chair will be purchased with the funds from Mary Massey (Gaye Tucker’s Mom) and Mary Clune (Lisa Sanchez’s Mom) accounts.
- 3) A white Altar cloth and small white Altar handcloths will be purchased with the funds from Joanna Carpenter’s account.
- 4) A white Christ The King Banner will be purchased with the funds from Bill Jordan’s account.
- 5) 3 folding tables and 3 premium-fitted tablecloths, 20 round polyester tablecloths, 6 rectangular polyester tablecloths, and 40 heavy cloth hangers for use in the FAB from the following accounts:

Rosemarie Brown

Paige Frierson

Jeanne Jamison

Michele Morrison

Dale Richardson

Phyllis Tollison

- 6) 20 Choir Robes will be purchased from the following accounts:

Lena Duncan

Gene Upright

Tom Buckner

Frank Hinshaw

Nancy Kitchens

Henry Richardson

Bill Thompson

- 7) Magnetic Church nametags for individuals. Were purchased with funds from the Undesignated Funds.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Embrey

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**Learning Committee Meeting**  
**MINUTES - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

**Date:** July 13, 2026

**Present:** Don Caughman, Stacy Gross, Ben Haigh, Bruce Shealy, Lisa Sanchez

**Absent:** Heather Gilbert, Donna Haigh

**Call to Order and Devotion:**

The meeting began at 5:30 with a devotion based on 1 John 4:12 “No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”

The first topic of discussion was Sunday School. The Children’s class has not had anyone in attendance since June 7th. A list of the children on the church roll was presented, and it was noted that many of them have long been inactive. Lisa will continue to reach out to a few families at a time. The distribution of Bibles to 3 year olds, rising 3rd graders and rising 6th graders was discussed. Bibles will be purchased in memory of Ricky Inman by his family. Neal Inman wants to be part of the presentation.

Adult classes are going well. Don and Ben reported that their class has had good discussions. They split the leadership role 50/50. Bruce reported that his class is moving into Acts through Revelations in Driving the Gospels. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in Classroom 2.

Fall Sunday School was discussed. The first day will be 9/13/26. Lisa will discuss handing out Bibles during the announcements with the Interim Pastor once one is in place. Lisa will also ask the Interim Pastor about doing Confirmation. She will talk to Chriss Hermann to see if he would like to teach Sunday School, and she will also talk to the parents of the youth who are confirmed to assess interest in a class. The committee discussed that Middle and High School students want to have a social opportunity in class with peers.

The Good Shepherd Fellowship Picnic was discussed. There will be a love offering collected for the GSLC Food Pantry at the event. The annual Summer Splash will occur at the picnic. Committee members pointed out things they wanted to see in the announcements, including an RSVP deadline. Lisa will get copies of the map to the Pavillion for distribution, along with directions to Camp Kinard.

The next topic of discussion was the possibility for Small Groups in the Fall. After a brief discussion of available materials, it was decided to look for material to go with the theme of the Parish Retreat, Energized by the Spirit. Lisa will look for that topic specifically in the online resources she found. It was suggested that we use the term facilitator or moderator for the people leading the small groups, and that training be provided to the facilitators. Lisa will

discuss with the Interim when one is in place. The committee discussed the need for consistent attendance versus the ability to be more flexible when people are not able to come all of the time.

Bruce Shealy sent Lisa some documents relating to Small Groups that were developed when Pastor Herman was at GSLC. The committee agreed to look at them in the future.

Bruce gave an update on his ongoing Small Group. They plan to study the 35 parables and discuss how they relate to growing the church.

Ben Haigh suggested partnering with Walt at Incarnation for events. We will look into options.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 with the Lord's Prayer.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Lisa Sanchez

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## **MINUTES – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Parish Life Committee Meeting**

**Date:** August 10, 2026 @ 5:30

**Present:** Cindy Cummings, Bobbie Storey, and Deb Whitlow

**Absent:** Amy Kemp, Suzanne Sanders, Mike Weaver, Kappy Steck, and Laura Leigh Smith

**Call to Order and Devotion:** Deb Whitlow provided the devotion for the night.

Meeting Minutes:

Old business:

Discussed the successful Congregational picnic, in partnership with both the Learning and Youth Committees. We had a great turnout, the food was great, and the fellowship was awesome.

New Business:

Supper Club will be held October 17, 2026 as planned. It will be held from 5-7 PM in the FAB. Social hour will be from 5:00-6:00 PM, Dinner will be at 6:00 PM. Menu will be BBQ from either Shealy's or Hudson's. We hope to lower the cost to [REDACTED] per person.

Began talking about doing the Congregational Christmas Party again. In conjunction with the Children's Christmas Program. Contact Ben Haigh, Amy

Kemp, and Jim Johnson to see when that will take place. We would like to do different stations again and will discuss more at the next meeting.

The idea of a "Thankful box" being put out during the month of November, We would collect items for a New Years Dinner for the families of the GSLC food pantry. Deb Whitlow will reach out to Mary Margaret about this.

Started the conversation about the Annual Epiphany Service just to have it on our radar.

**Parish Life Events Calendar:**

October- (October 17th)- Supper Club (Large Group)

November- No event

December- (December 13th)- Christmas Party

January- Epiphany

Next meeting Monday, September 14, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 6:30 PM.

**Submitted Respectfully:** Deb Whitlow

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

AUGUST 2026

The Property Committee did not have a formal meeting over the Summer, but have been acting on several projects.

- 1) The Sanctuary HVAC unit had a leak and was repaired in time to have no affect on Sunday services. Cost was [REDACTED] to North Point Heating and Air.
- 2) The church offices were painted at a cost of [REDACTED] thanks to a recommendation from Richard Inman. The other quote was [REDACTED] from a Columbia based painting contractor.
- 3) New South Waste has offered dumpster collection services at a cost of [REDACTED] per month compared to [REDACTED] per month by the current provider. The current provider requires a 60 day notice before current service may be canceled so a new dumpster will be on property in October. The new company will be providing a locking bar on the container to help prevent unauthorized use. People using the FAB need to be aware of the coming change.
- 4) There are several vertical cracks in the column at the base of the FAB stairs that has been brought to our attention. This could be a problem with settling or more serious. An engineer has been consulted and we should have a better idea of the magnitude in the next week or 2.
- 5) A mirror and robe rack have been provided for the convenience of our interim pastor in the church office.

Mike Weaver – Property Committee

**Social Ministry Committee Meeting  
MINUTES - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

**Date:** July 15, 2026

**Present:** Mary Margaret Hoy {co chair}, Alice Buckner {co chair}, Kerry Stubbs, Janet Lockhart, Suzanne Sanders, Susan Uehling, Don Caughman.

**Absent:** Janice Haigler, Steve Steck, Susan Sturkie, Cathy Milejczak, Mike Weaver, Jim Johnson, Rod Kent.

**Call to Order:** Alice Buckner called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Devotion:** Don Caughman gave the devotion and the prayer.

**Approval of Minutes/Actions:** Alice Buckner asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Social Services Committee meeting held on March 10, 2026. Janet Lockhart provided the motion, which was seconded by Suzanne Sanders; a voice vote resulted in unanimous approval.

**Committee Projects:**

- **Food Pantry** – Mary Margaret Hoy reported that the food pantry distributed to 42 families with 136 members including a 14 member family. Last month [REDACTED] was spent, with [REDACTED] donated, and with [REDACTED] on hand. Food pantry funds were replenished after an appeal to the congregation. The food pantry continues to provide at this time twice monthly distribution. Volunteer staff is down one member due to a health issue.
- **Meals on Wheels** – Don Caughman reported that Good Shepherd currently is reduced to 4 clients, due to budget cuts on federal and local levels, as well as an increase of 36% in per meal cost. The Good Shepherd group of volunteers continues in their mission.
- **Fun Fridays** – Susan Sturkie reported via email that it was going well.
- **Ramp Ministry** – No new report at this time.
- **Family Promise** – No new report; Jim Johnson absent.
- **MORE Justice** – Janet Lockhart and Anna Marie Plyler are stepping down as team leaders. Janet will continue to be part of the housing committee. Plans are in place for August council meeting.
- **A.C. Flora/Schools** – School support for AC Flora was discussed. Social Ministry will need additional information about needs. Don Caughman offered to reach out to the school's contact person to discuss specific needs. Mary Margaret will provide the counselor's name to Don.

**Old Business:**

- **Monthly Emphasis** – Monthly emphasis for July was Big Red Barn. August emphasis will be Senior Resources with Meals on Wheels to receive the contribution. Suzanne made the motion with Janet seconded it. There will be a note in the newsletter to increase funds for Meals on Wheels. September: Palmetto Lifeline [chosen by Sunday School children].
- **School Supplies** – The school supply drive will run through August 30. Boxes are in place with donations starting to come in. There will be two bulletin inserts regarding school supplies. Donations will go to Bradley Elementary and Forest Lake. Susan and Don volunteered to distribute the donations.
- **Christmas Donations** – Susan Uehling reported on Angel Tree continuing with [REDACTED] gift card for men and women shelter. She will use a Thrivent grant to give a pizza party for the shelters.

**New Business:**

- **City of Columbia SHINE program** - Helps low to moderate income residents with home improvements, life and safety issues. Non-profits apply for grants. Good Shepherd ramp ministry can share the information with clients to apply for a grant.
- **Eastminster Presbyterian Joint Social Ministry Projects** – Pending, when more information is available.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 PM in Classroom 2

**Devotion for Next Meeting:** Mary Margaret Hoy

**Adjourn with Prayer:** With no other business brought forward, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm and closed by the group with the Lord's Prayer.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Alice Buckner



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## Youth & Children Council Report

August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

No standing committee for Youth & Children.

Activity for July and August has primary been working with Leigh Ann Tollison in preparation for the bRIDGE program kickoff in September. Leigh Ann has been leading this initiative in conjunction with Lutheridge and Incarnation Lutheran Church. She is planning on attending the retreat portion with the Kemps and Snodgrass families. I am unable to attend the retreat portion due to my work schedule. The Ortiz and Gilberts will also be participating in the program but are unable to attend the retreat portion this year. One of the great aspects of the program is it can expand to other families throughout the program year making it flexible for current and future members with children in the age range that would like to join even after kickoff. Leigh Ann is the reason this program is moving forward at Good Shepherd with her determination and belief in bRIDGE and with the generosity of our congregation it is funded. I do believe this program will bear fruit and look forward to its future development in our community. Thank you Leigh Ann and everyone that has been instrumental in helping organize support for bRIDGE.

I worked with Lisa Sanchez and Deb Whitlow to try and join in some of the Summer Splash aspects with the congregational Fellowship Picnic last weekend and I believe it was very successful. Thank y'all for letting me be part of this event.

The Fall Festival is coming soon and there will be more information forthwith. Gaye has reached out and we are planning a joint effort with churches in the community this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Haigh