



Sunday, July 20, 2025

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

Matthew 5:4

## Embracing Hope: Processing our Grief

Today we begin a seven-week journey as a congregation, a season of mourning. Since January 1, 2025, we have lost three people who were a part of our BSW family and we have had six family members of our BSW family also pass into eternity.

Those we have lost include Bill Nicholson, Vernon Woods, and Stephan Hill. Also, Michael Adams (Sandy's husband), Thomas (brother of Sandra Crook), Russell and Suzanne Lamb (father and mother to Deb Fuehrer, grandfather and grandmother to Ariel Fuehrer, and great grandfather and grandmother to Tommy, Jade, and Frankie), Lorraine (Eloise's sister and last remaining sibling) and Brandon's young cousin (lost in an auto accident).

## Family Business for July 20, 2025

- 1) Alfred Kalembo and Henry Smith are visiting in September on September 14th
- 2) Pray for sea container shipping procedures
- 3) Wood County Jail collection month continues
- 4) Four participants and two back-ups still needed for Pastor Milt's doctoral research study in September
- 5) LBA meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm
- 6) BSW Underground work day at the Warehouse today 2-5pm

## Embracing Hope: Processing our Grief Week One: Climbing towards base camp

1. The big shift in our culture's death rituals
2. Mourning is biblical – Matthew 5:4
3. Our journey
  - a. Climbing Mount Everest; setting up base camp, scaling the summit, and view from the peak.
4. To climb Mt Everest, you need a sherpa ... Jesus is our sherpa
  - a. Isaiah 53:1-15
  - b. Matthew 14:1-12
  - c. John 11:32-35

## *This Week at BSW*

On Sunday (7-20) – Micro-churches meet in the Wood County Jail.  
Pastor Lonnie leads.

On Sunday (7-20) - BSW Underground Service Day #2 at the  
Warehouse from 2 pm to 5 pm. Work, refreshments, games, and fun.  
Fall retreat scholarship money earned. Speak to Pastor Seth for details.

On Monday (7-21) – Women's study group with Joelle Lemke from  
5:30 to 6:30 pm in the church lobby.

On Monday (7-21) – Men's study group meets from 7 to 8 pm at the  
Robinson Park Pavillion.

On Tuesday (7-22) – The Shepherd's Loft clothing ministry is open to  
people in need of clothing, bedding, and towels with appointments at  
9:30, 10, 10:30, and 11 am available. Donations will be accepted from 9  
am until noon.

On Tuesday (7-22) – Bible study in the Loft processing area at 11:15 am. Pastor Milt leads a study of Ecclesiastes.

On Wednesday (7-23) – Micro-church at Waterford nursing home at 10:30 am. Pastor Milt leads.

On Wednesday (7-23) – Youth for Christ's Next Level from 3:30 to 5:30 in the Underground Youth Room.

On Thursday (7-24) – Pastoral Staff meeting at 11 am.

On Thursday (7-24) – Grief Processing class in the Wood County Jail from 2 to 3 pm. Pastor Milt leads.

On Friday (7-25) – The Shepherd's Loft clothing ministry is open to people in need of clothing, bedding, and towels with appointments at 9:30, 10, 10:30, and 11 am available. Donations will be accepted from 9 am until noon.

## *By The Numbers*

### Celebrating new life in Christ:

For the 2025-26 Church year (June 1, 2025 until May 31, 2026):

Those confessing Christ as Savior and Lord: 2

Those recommitting their life to Christ: 0

Those being baptized: 0

Call-to-Ministry: 0

## Attendance Report

Date	Sanctuary	Micro-Churches	Online Raw #	X 1.7 Reporting Number	Total Foot Print
Y-T-D Averages To 6/30	95	38	29	50	183
July 6	99	29	30	52	180
July 13	116	39	24	41	196
July 20					
July 27					
Average					

Supporting BSW: There are four ways that you can support BSW with your tithes and offerings.

- 1) Securely online at [bakerstwesleyan.org](http://bakerstwesleyan.org) using the “support BSW” tab on the right-hand side of the homepage.
- 2) In the jar provided in the sanctuary on the tech booth.
- 3) By mail to Baker Street Wesleyan Church, 640 Baker St. Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, 54494. Attn: Treasurer.
- 4) Donation of stock and securities to our Edward Jones account.

## Tithes and Offerings Report

Date	General Fund	Zambia Partnership	Warehouse Partnership	Wish List	
Y-T-Date As of 6/30	17,580	6,138	1,560		
July 6	2,422	2			
July 13	2,422	2	670		
July 20					
July 27					
Totals					

Earmarked giving ... Jail Ministry \$5 and Pastor Seth's Salary \$5,000

## Leadership Team 2025-26:

Local Board of Administration as elected at the Local Church Conference on Sunday, June 22, 2025 serving until the next local church conference.

Chairperson: Rev. Milt Van Natta, Senior Pastor

Treasurer: Jamie Mlsna

Secretary: Kimberly Bier

Members-at-Large: Kat Esser, Mike Hamilton, Diane Jackson, Bonnie Lemke, Brandon Pautz, and Kevin Lien. Vice-chair pending election.

## Your BSW Staff Team

*Lead Pastor/Teaching Pastor/Shepherd's Loft:* Rev. Milt Van Natta

*Next Generations Director/Music Leader:* Pastor Seth Dykstra

*Assistant Pastor of Discipleship/Zambia:* Rev. Carri Johnson

*Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Care/Prayer Chain:* Rev. Jim Leston

*Jail Ministry Missionary:* Rev. Lonnie Selje

# Hearts on Fire: Four Spiritual Journeys in 2025

**Journey One-** *First Time Through:* Reading/Listening to Good News Bible

Monday, 7-21: Colossians 3

Tuesday, 7-22: Colossians 4

Wednesday, 7-23: 1 Thessalonians 1

Thursday, 7-24: 1 Thessalonians 2

Friday, 7-25: 1 Thessalonians 3

Saturday, 7-26: 1 Thessalonians 4

Sunday, 7-25: 1 Thessalonians 5

**Journey Two-** Daily Holiness Devotional Reading: *When Morning Gilds the Skies* by Dr. John Oswalt. Read the devotional for each day.

**Journey Three-** Praying for the World from World Almanac and Book of Facts: Be a cot-bearer and pray for the world by name. Also pray as the Lord leads you.

- 1) Read the intercession prayer from page 18 of the Field Guide for Daily Prayer
- 2) Pray for President Trump and Vice-President Vance. Also, Speaker of the House Mike Johnson and Senate leader John Thune.



- 3) The congressional delegations of Montana, Nebraska, and Nevada (Senators on page 10 and Congressional Representatives on page 14).
- 4) These five countries and their leaders; Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, and Panama (Pages 820-822).
- 5) Pray for the state of Wisconsin Supreme Court; Annette Ziegler, Rebecca Bradley, Rebecca Dallet, Brian Hagedorn, Jill Karofsky, Janet Protasiewicz, and Susan Crawford.
- 6) Pray for Governor Evers and the 33 state senators and the 99 state assembly persons of the state of Wisconsin.

Journey Four- Morning and Evening Surrender. Read John Baillie's *Diary of Private Prayer*. One prayer for morning and one prayer for evening. Please read out loud over your own life and heart.

### Wood County Jail Collection Month

July is our annual collection for the men and women incarcerated in the county jail. Our Pastor Lonnie is the jail chaplain. There is a display on the technology booth. Items needed are reading glasses, Kwik Trip "fuel only" \$10 cards, Bibles, playing cards, word/number books, games, and composition notebooks. Please read the display and help out if you can.

Next men's breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 20 at 8 am.