



Sunday, August 31, 2025

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

Matthew 5:4 and the Beatitudes

Special Service Today

Today concludes our official season of mourning at BSW. The losses continue with the death of the husband of one of our long time Shepherd's Loft volunteers late this week. Today is not a normal worship service at BSW. Rather it is a mourning ritual in which we will turn to God for comfort for all of the people from our congregation and our extended families that have left us this calendar year. The service will also honor the families who have experienced loss this year.

Family Business for August 31, 2025

- 1) Today is Ice Cream with Pastor and Kay for the children fifth grade and under. Meet in the fellowship hall immediately after service.
- 2) The Shepherd's Loft is closed this week for stock conversion.
- 3) No small groups on Monday night due to the holiday.
- 4) *Coffee with Pastors* for the seniors on Thursday morning at 9:30.
- 5) One last participant needed for Pastor Milt's research project.

Sermon notes:

Legacy

Acts 4:32-36 ... Acts 9:27 ... Acts 11:22-26 ... Acts 13:1-3
... Acts 15:36-39

We brought nothing into this world when we were born.
We will take nothing out of this world when we die. But
we will leave something behind – a legacy!

What is the legacy that you are leaving behind?

This Week at BSW

On Sunday (8-31) – Micro-churches meet in the Wood County Jail. Pastor Lonnie and Pastor Milt lead.

On Monday (9-1) – Labor Day holiday. Enjoy the last holiday of summer and be safe!

On Monday (9-1) – Men's and Women's study groups are off for the Labor Day holiday.

On Tuesday (9-2) – The Shepherd's Loft clothing ministry is closed to patrons this week to convert the stock to fall and winter clothing. Donations will be accepted from 9 am until noon.

On Tuesday (9-2) – Bible study in the Loft processing area at 11:15 am. Pastor Milt begins a study of the book of Revelation. Join us for a fresh perspective on Revelation.

On Wednesday (9-3) – Micro-church at Waterford nursing home at 10:30 am. Pastor Milt leads ... Micro-church at Arborwood Lodge at 1:30 pm. Pastor Jim leads.

On Thursday (9-4) – Coffee with Pastors at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. This is the senior (50+) ministry of BSW and includes food, fellowship, songs, prayer, and Bible teaching (from Pastor Jim this month)

On Friday (9-5) – The Shepherd's Loft clothing ministry is closed for converting the stock to fall and winter clothes. No appointments to receive clothes accepted. Donations accepted from 9 am to noon.

On the calendar at BSW:

- The Christmas showbox collection is underway for 2025. All the details are available on Tech Booth. The collection boxes are there also!
- Please continue to pray for Pastor Carri Johnson as she prepares to travel to Zambia in October to speak at a women's conference there.
- The next men's breakfast is Saturday, September 20th at 8 am.
- Dr. Alfred Kalembo and Dr. Henry Smith are here on September 14th to share how our partnership is making a difference in Zambia.

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 (Jesse and Amber)

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 7/31	97	37	31	53	187
August 3	97	37	37	63	197
August 10	117	45	15	26	188
August 17	102	53	21	36	191
August 24	107	40	29	49	196
August 31					
Average					

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

- 1) Securely online at 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 7/31	29,144	6,354	4,100		
August 3	3,788	2			
August 10	1,944	2	610		
August 17	2,041	102			
August 24	2,871	2	550		
August 31					
Totals					

Earmarked Giving last week: Jail Bible \$262.00

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).

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

Building and Grounds Care Team

- Project Managers: Mike Hamilton, Brandon Pautz and Mimi Sievers.

Hearts on Fire: Four Spiritual Journeys in 2025

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

Monday, 9-1: 1 Peter 1

Tuesday, 9-2: 1 Peter 2

Wednesday, 9-3: 1 Peter 3

Thursday, 9-4: 1 Peter 4

Friday, 9-5: 1 Peter 5

Saturday, 9-6: 2 Peter 1

Sunday, 9-7: 2 Peter 2

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 Utah, Vermont, and Virginia (Senators on pages 11 and Congressional Representatives on page 16-17).
- 4) These five countries and their leaders; Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, and Sri Lanka on pages 834-836.
- 5) Pray for the United States Supreme Court on page 558 (lower right).
- 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.

Season of Mourning at BSW

We grieve the loss of:

Bill Nicholson	Vernon Woods
Stephan Hill	Russell Lamb
Suzanne Lamb	Michael Adams (Sandy's husband)
Lorraine (Eloise's sister)	Brandon Pautz's cousin
Sandy Adam's sister-in-law	Sandra Crook's brother Thomas
Dianne Olsen (Newman family)	Mitzi (Leeann Woods' cousin)
JoEllen (Gordon's sister)	Bob (Pat's husband)