



Sunday, January 11, 2026

*But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create;*

*For behold, I create Jerusalem for rejoicing*

*And her people for gladness.*

Isaiah 65:18

### Family Day at BSW

Welcome to Family Day at BSW. Today the whole congregation – young, old, and in-between – worship as one big family. Our day includes a family potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall immediately after service and fun in the Family Center from 11:45 to 1 pm.

The nursery will be open for little ones three and under. The cry room is also available to families and it is adjacent to the lobby on the north side.

Family Business for January 11, 2026

- 1) LBA meeting on Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30 pm. Last week's meeting was postponed due to bad weather.

Family Sunday Message  
Pastor Seth Dykstra

Your notes:

## *This Week at BSW*

On Sunday (1-11) – Four micro-churches meet in the Wood County Jail this afternoon.

On Monday (1-12) – Women’s study group will meet in the church lobby from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

On Monday (1-12) – Men’s study group will meet in the Family Center from 7 to 8 pm.

On Tuesday (1-13) – 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 (1-13) – Bible study at 11:15 am in the Shepherd’s Loft processing area. Pastor Milt leads a study on women in the Bible. This week we will also look at Christ in the Old Testament.

On Tuesday (1-13) – The Local Board of Administration (LBA) will meet at 6:30 pm in the lobby for its quarterly meeting. Last week’s meeting was postponed due to bad weather.

On Wednesday (1-14) – Micro-church at Waterford nursing home at 10:30 am. Pastor Milt leads.

On Wednesday (1-14) – Next Level ministry for youth from Youth for Christ held in the Family Center from 3:30 to 5:30 pm ... then the BSW Underground at 6 pm until 8 pm. Tonight's book is Job.

On Thursday (1-15) – Pastor's staff meeting at 11:30 am.

On Friday (1-16) – 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.

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The BSW Christmas shoeboxes went to three different countries this year; Suriname in South America, Malawi in East Africa (near Zambia), and Mauritius (an island off the coast of East Africa).

Dr. Alfred Kalembo reports that LIZA – the Leadership Institute of Zambia, Africa – will celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on January 25, 2026. Dr. Kalembo says that BSW was the first Wesleyan Church in North America to support LIZA. We currently support school-age children through LIZA.

## *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: 18 (Jim on 12-26-26)

Those recommitting their life to Christ: 11 (one this week on 1-1-26)

Those being baptized: 2

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 12/31	103	46	28	48	197
Jan 4	108	56	29	49	213
Jan 11					
Jan 18					
Jan 25					
Monthly Ave.					

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 12/31	89,786	10,614	11,210	100	
Jan 4	4,011	2			
Jan 11					
Jan 18					
Jan 25					
Monthly totals					

## 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.

# Spiritual Formation 2026: Guarding our Hearts

## (Proverbs 4:23)

- 1) Journaling through the Bible ... Slow reading year
- 2) Praying daily over our hearts the prayer of John Baillie (14<sup>th</sup> day in morning) ... praying specifically for our spiritual hearts in the manner of Ephesians 1:3 ... the prayer is listed below
- 3) Praying for spiritual blessings from Psalm 119 or the Ephesians 1:3 Grace/Desire plan
- 4) Dennis Kinlaw's daily devotional *This Day with the Master* to challenge us to spiritual growth

Father grants us ...

A brave heart

A true heart

A tender heart

A heart with great room in it

A heart fixed on you

A pure heart

Dear Church Family,

Pastor Milt has graciously allowed me to keep you posted on my health. Your kindness and generosity have been overwhelming for me. Many of you who have offered to help, especially rides, were total strangers. I think about the Good Samaritan, and am so thankful for a church family who is willing to practice that type of love.

Sad to say my appointments don't look like they'll slacken any time soon. The good news is that the pulmonary rehab is helping . . . slow but sure . . . and forward is still forward. I had to cancel the infusion in Madison and have decided not to move forward with it. It became too stressful to put everything together and I'm trying to remove stress from my life. Through a series of events (and talks with the Lord) I believe He's already working miracles in my life, and healing doesn't have to be one of them for Him to prove His love and grace.

I am especially blessed to have a Christian doctor who I notice is speaking more about faith the more I see her. How wonderful to have a physician who understands there are better things waiting for us after this world! Her approach will be to treat the side effects of the meds I am taking and give me as much quality of life as she can. God is so very faithful! Right now, I find myself building physical strength through the rehab and hope the pain management doctor can help me get better control over that. I am so very thankful for doctors who are willing to put their ego aside and allow me input into my treatment plan. God is also amazing in the team He is forming to replace me at the jail. And how kind of Him to allow me more time working with the programs. When we talk about His hand on everything, it is no exaggeration.

The final piece of the jail ministry was to find someone to handle all the administrative duties. One of our volunteers is willing to do that, but cannot jump in immediately. How nice to know the person is there and that in God's time the transition will take place. A friend and I were talking about how life is a tapestry woven by God. She added that not one thread is wasted. How true! This past week I received a call from a friend of a volunteer. My name had been shared regarding a prayer request, and a week later she applied for the mental health job at the jail. She had questions for me about jail. I was concerned about the change in mental health staff, because I believe mental health and spirituality are intertwined. I have peace about her if she does indeed get the job. I believe the programming will not only flourish but grow if she becomes part of the jail staff. Attacks are ongoing for our ministries. A couple of volunteers didn't pan out as we'd hoped. But others are stepping up and taking on more responsibility. Inmates are turning their lives over to God, many are connecting with churches, and I hear from more and more of them as they allow God to transform them. You are part of that work with your financial support, your prayer support, and your love for those who "try out" Baker Street. May God bless you even a fraction of how much He's blessing me!

With love, Pastor Lonnie

