



Sunday, March 8, 2026

*Then our mouth was filled with laughter  
And our tongue with joyful shouting;*

...

*The Lord has done great things for us;  
We are glad.*

*Psalm 126:2-3*

## Welcome to BSW Family Day

Welcome to Family Day at BSW! Today we worship and fellowship as one big family. There is a special message for the children. A special meal immediately after service and family fun time in the Family Center from 11:45 to 1 pm. The nursery is open for the children three and under.

Family Business today:

- 1) Welcome to Family Day!
- 2) Thank you to Thursday's crew that went to Marshfield
- 3) Special Outing on Wednesday night for the youth ministry
- 4) Men's Breakfast next Saturday morning

Celebrating Rev. Tom and Doris Dunbar

- Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Pastor Tom
- A letter from Washington D.C.
- Renewal of Tom and Doris' wedding anniversary

Pastor Milt shares on lessons of Pastor Tom's ministry

Notes:

We ask everyone to silence their cell phones before entering the sanctuary for worship service. If you need to be available to your work or family, please place your phone on vibrate.

## *This Week at BSW*

On Sunday (3-8) – Easter Choir practice in the sanctuary shortly following service.

On Sunday (3-8) - Four micro-churches meet in the Wood County Jail this afternoon.

On Monday (3-9) – Women’s study group will meet in the church lobby from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Joelle Lemke leads.

On Monday (3-9) – Men’s study group will meet in the Family Center from 7 to 8 pm.

On Monday (3-9) – Hispanic micro-church under the leadership of Ana Moreno.

On Tuesday (3-10) – 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 (3-10) – Bible study at 11:15 am in the Shepherd’s Loft processing area. Pastor Milt leads a study on women in the Bible.

On Wednesday (3-11) – Micro-church at Waterford nursing home at 10:30 am. Pastor Milt leads.

Wednesday (3-11) – BSW Underground outing at Mini Golf (940 Huntington Avenue) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm ... free mini-golf, pizza, games, and music.

On Friday (3-13) – Ladies Bible Study at Graces Family Restaurant at 9 am.

On Friday (3-13) – 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.

Saturday (3-14) – Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall.

### Capital Campaign Underway

BSW has launched a \$100,000 capital campaign to replace it’s antiquated HVAC system. Other necessary projects include sealing the fellowship hall floor and resurfacing the parking lot.

**\$6,250 raised so far!**

## Upcoming Events

- Sunday, March 15 is the Membership Sunday. BSW will be welcoming several new members.
- Saturday, March 21 is the women's fellowship breakfast and craft gathering at 9 am in fellowship hall. The breakfast is for ladies 18+. There is no child care provided.
- Thursday, April 2 is a Day of Prayer from 12 pm to 4 pm in the sanctuary.
- Thursday, April 2 at 6 pm is our Last Supper Communion service.
- Friday, April 3 at noon is our At the Cross Good Friday service.
- Friday, April 3 at 6 pm is our At the Tomb Good Friday service.
- Sunday, April 5 at 10 am is Resurrection Sunday celebration!
- Monday, April 6, the Shepherd's Loft will be closed until Monday, April 27 for resurfacing of the floor in the Fellowship Hall.

## *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: 22

Those recommitting their life to Christ: 16

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 2/28	103	46	31	53	202
March 1	115	44	42	71	230
March 8					
March 15					
March 22					
March 29					
Monthly Averages					

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	Capital Campaign
Y-T-Date As of 2/28	112,322	10,830	13,029	100	1,150
March 1	4,137	2			5,100
March 8					
March 15					
March 22					
March 29					
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

- Head Trustee: Mimi Sievers
- Trustees/Project Managers: Mike Hamilton and Brandon Pautz

# 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, Father

A pure heart

Dear BSW Family,

One of the jail volunteers recently asked me a question about my faith through this stage of my life. He assumed pastors have more faith and so have an easier time. After answering his questions, I thought about a conversation I had with my father years ago. He was around retirement age at the time, and he was lamenting that he didn't understand that pastors were just people like everyone else. He commented that he wished he'd understood that earlier in life, as he would have prayed differently for his pastors. We are the same as you, just held to a higher standard. (James 3:1)

My volunteer conversation continued with my explaining that I have learned in life that when I'm going through something tough, it's usually a lesson God wants to teach me. Rather than be a "slow-learner," I have learned to ask Him to show me that lesson sooner than later to end the trial. (That has typically worked, except the time He wanted to teach me perseverance!)

I'm learning a lot this past year of illness.

□ I have learned to expect delays in having my health issues dealt with. Patience has never been one of my virtues as I'm a Go-Getter by nature.

□ I have had such excruciating pain that I now understand why people commit suicide. Not that I entertained those thoughts, but God opened my eyes to the desperation people can feel. It also gave me better understanding as to emotional pain people suffer. I learned the same part of brain processes physical as well as emotional pain.

□ Then one day I realized at a new level the love of God in His willingness to not only leave heaven, but die for me. As difficult as it was some days for me to move and take care of basic physical needs, Jesus was beaten, bloody, sleep-deprived, falsely accused, etc. Not only did He do this out of obedience (remember He did try to get the Father to move to a Plan B at Gethsemane) but he knew the cost before He ever created me knowing all the screw ups I'd have in my life. That's some deep, holy love!

As for my physical update, I am moving forward slowly with the ablations. The knee should be in done in April and then we'll tackle the hip. I see the specialists in Madison again March 13. They will be able to let me know if the lung disease

has gotten worse or not. In the meantime, I get advice from every doctor I see and then have to check to see if it will interfere with other treatment I am getting for another ailment. I know there is a lesson for me in all of this, but I haven't learned that one yet! I am thankful for a friend who is willing to be my 2 nd set of ears at my local doctor appointments. Brain fog and information overload can sometimes interfere with my memory.

I appreciate your prayers, cards, and notes. They are so encouraging. I also thank you for respecting my request to hold calls. Texts, emails, and notes work best for me. I now understand Pastor Milt's need to limit energy output! Pastor Milt and Bonnie stay in contact with me and can update you between my notes.

With Love,

Pastor Lonnie

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