

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2026



WOW... We are truly blessed. Our Christmas for Kids event was amazing. We had 466 children registered which equates to 173 families. Thank you to all who donated toys, financial support, their time or just a prayer to get through this busy time.

As we navigate from one event, we jump into another one. Our conference assembly is scheduled for February 15 at 2:00 pm. The hosting church is Zion Lutheran Church in Oelwein. As we prepare for our meeting, our churches are focusing on their own church assemblies. We ask that you consider a monthly donation to Shepherd of the Hills. Our mission to help those in need has expanded immensely. Our need in the surrounding areas is heartbreaking but we as a conference **ARE** making a difference. Your donations are so important and needed as we navigate through tough times. We are unique as we are the only conference that is offering the events, crisis help and thrift store support in the state. That is something to be proud of. We can make a difference if we support one another. **TOGETHER!**
Happy Holidays and stay safe and healthy.

Clothing Center Updates:

Our thrift store is **FULL**. Many nice things to select from. After the new year, we will have a half off sale. Please continue to follow our social media for the dates of our sales. Remember, most of our items are only \$1.00 and our sales in turn make our items \$.50
We will be **closed** from December 24 through January 4, 2026. This gives me some time to recover from Christmas for Kids and start the new year out re-energized.

Shepherd Conference News:

Pastor Gary Hatcher (St. Paul Garnavillo, First Lutheran McGregor) will be retiring at the end of 2025. We will miss him and wish him well on the next chapter of his life.
We would like to also recognize Pastor Mike Ashman (St. Paul and St. John Guttenberg) on the anniversary of his ordination on 01/03/1993.
Please say a prayer for all of dedicated Pastors in our conference and for the churches that are in-between Pastors at this time. We are very blessed to have them and cherish the work that they do.

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Shepherd will be **CLOSED
December 24-January 4**

**Conference Assembly:
February 15, 2026 @ 2:00 pm
Zion Lutheran, Oelwein**

*Any event may be subject to change

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**Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm**