

invitation

Please pray for Good Shepherd at this exciting time. Please prayerfully consider the way that you can energize our ministry and sustainably power our building through your giving in 2019.

In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter with an invitation to consider. Please read it carefully and respond generously. We will be hearing stories in the coming weeks, engaging in conversation, and gathering intentionally during worship on Sunday, November 18, to place our Statements of Intent at the altar.

mission statement

We are a congregation empowered by the Good Shepherd to:

- Nurture and support Christ's flock through Christ centered worship.
- Welcome all, offering trust and respect while sharing God's unconditional love.
- Reach out to the broader community through service and responsible stewardship of all God's creation.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
701 Iowa Avenue
Decorah, IA 52101
563-382-3963

goodshepherddecorah.org

EmPower Good Shepherd: The People and the Place

Stewardship Appeal 2019



introduction

In 2018, the people of Good Shepherd have been on the move! Here are just a few examples of how we've stepped forward in faith.

Good Shepherd youth traveled for many service trips, camps and retreats. They also experienced a wonderful Vacation Bible School and led us in a Global Church Sunday this summer. It was so moving to watch the kids carry in flags from the nations of the world as we prayed for the healing of the nations.

Good Shepherd is a leader in the Decorah Kids Lunch Club Program and in the ELCA's AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunity) Initiative. Hungry kids and migrant children in our area are receiving food and medical care because of our work. We are also providing legal aid to immigrants through our work with the NE IA Path to Citizenship initiative.



This summer the building was swarming with people helping to paint the exterior of the church. We moved pews and did prep work to keep costs low as the sanctuary was refreshed. Most days this summer you could see a volunteer out mowing the yard, working in the garden, or tending the plants around the building.



ministry initiatives

EmPower Good Shepherd: The People and the Place

Your generosity in 2018 has allowed us to connect the generations to God and to one another, equip people for service in God's world, and embark on a multi-year project to make our building even more inviting. It's exciting to see what happens when the people of God step forward in faith.

God calls us to further this work in 2019.



The Good Shepherd band plays in front of the congregation's solar panels.



Good Shepherd youth and communion visitors preparing to deliver the Valentine's Day cards that the youth made for members in long term care facilities.

We will empower the people and the place of Good Shepherd by:

- deepening the impact of worship for all ages. Our children, youth and family ministries will focus on helping our youth to appreciate, participate and lead in worship. Our pastors and communion visitors will keep our elders connected to worship. When our Music Director is away for the spring we will ensure that the vibrant music ministry continues by employing a variety of strong musicians.
- helping people live out their faith through social action. We will support initiatives like AMMPARO, Kid's Lunch Club and Path to Citizenship with both our funds and our service.
- living out our mission as a congregation that stewards God's creation through installing an energy efficient heating and cooling system. As we enter a new phase in our multi-year plan to care for our building, the time has come to upgrade our HVAC (heating, venting and air conditioning) system in the Fellowship Hall and education wing. After carefully considering many options, taking into account good financial and ecological stewardship, the Facilities Improvement Committee proposes a system that uses heat pump and geothermal technology.

To carry out this important ministry, our goal is to increase giving by \$14,000 over 2018 in new offerings throughout 2019.

We invite you to consider how you can help to empower this ministry through your intended giving in 2019. Please read the giving charts on the following pages for an idea of how you may be able to contribute.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR



Your joyful participation enables our response. Review this chart and consider these questions:

- How does my giving level compare with other ways I use money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive?
- Where would I be on the chart if I doubled my giving? Can I consider doing that?
- How much more could I give if I really wanted to?