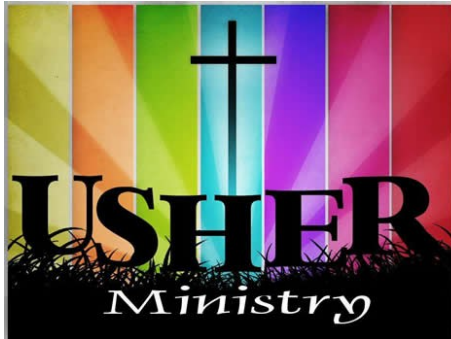


Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

svlctownsend.org

August 2026 Newsletter



The call person for August is
Marilyn Blumhagen
Phone: 406-670-5035

Greeters and Readers for August:

August 2	Ross & Diane Johnson
August 9	Margie & Ken Urich
August 16	Tom Grabinski & Gretchen Carrels
August 23	Daryl & Marilyn Blumhagen
August 30	Carol McGuire & Marilyn Blumhagen

Bible Readings for August 2026

The Bible readings are conveniently found in the *Christ in Our Home* books available free at the back of the church. We also have some available in larger print. Follow each day with a Bible Reading and a short inspirational message that gets you off to a great start!



- ♦ August 2 Church Council Meeting (shortened)— following church service
SWIM & FLOAT 1:00-3:00 p.m.—free admission and floats for all!
- ♦ August 11 WELCA 4:00 p.m. @ church- All women are welcome!
- ♦ August 16 Regular Church Council Meeting
- ♦ August 18 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 a.m. at Trailhead Church
- ♦ September 13 **SUNDAY SCHOOL** resumes 9:45 for grades K-5
ALL CHURCH PICNIC will follow immediately after church



"Jesus said: I am among you as one who serves." Luke 22: 27



- ♦ SVLC is responsible for the stocking and distribution at the food pantry during the month of August. It's fun, it's easy and it's so fulfilling. A sign up sheet is located at the back of the church.
- ♦ **Helpers are needed the 1st, 3rd, 5th weeks of the month**
- ♦ Donations of food and garden produce are accepted on Fridays from 9-11 a.m.
- ♦ Monetary donations may be mailed to Broadwater Food Pantry PO Box 1164, Townsend, Montana 59644

Look for a collection box for school supplies at the back of the church!

Our mission kits offer extraordinary gifts of love for people coping with war, disaster and poverty. This is the season for finding those **school** bargains! Whatever you add will help provide a school kit for a child in need. Traditionally Gretchen assembles all of the kits in the Spring and they are trucked to a Lutheran World Relief distribution center in Minneapolis. Your gifts are appreciated!

Supplies needed include:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 drawstring backpack | 5 unsharpened #2 pencils | 4 notebooks 70 sheets each |
| 5 blue or black pens | 1 eraser 2 1/2 inches | 1 box crayons 16 or 24 |
| 1 scissors | 1 pencil sharpener | 1 ruler with 30 cm/12 inches |



Thanks Nancy Highland for writing a Thrivent grant for the Swim & Float.



Terry & Jan Stocks 8/1
John & Lori Rains 8/2
Bruce & Nancy Highland 8/3
Don & Jackie Kynett 8/19
Erick & Jackie Sorenson 8/25
Guthrie & Alanna Oiestad 8/30
Jim & Darlene Beck 8/30



Savvy Stiles 8/6
James Lucas 8/7
Ross Johnson 8/11
Dan Stocks 8/15
Jan Stocks 8/24
Deb Arnold 8/29

Educational and Outreach Opportunities



The Wednesday Bible Study will resume 1:00 p.m. in September.

Stay tuned for more information on the Thursday Bible Study.



Swim and Float

Sunday August 2nd

1-3:00 p.m. Swimming Pool Park

Free Swimming and Root Beer Floats for the community

Sponsored by WELCA/ Thrivent



Sunday School for children in grades K-5 begins September 13th.

Sunday School will follow the children's sermon about 9:45.

Bring a friend!



All Church Picnic

Sunday, September 13th **immediately following church**

◇ **At Shepherd of the Valley**

Please add your name to the list so WELCA can purchase enough chicken.

There's a sign-up sheet if you would like to help with a side dish.





July 12, 2026 Meeting of the SVLC Council

Council members present: Margie Urich, Dave Rowell, Aiden Mosher, Diane Johnson, and Jim Beck,

Council members absent: Clint Watson, Julie Mikula, and Rick Arnold

Others attending the meeting: Treasurer Lisa Rowell, Ross Johnson, and Steve Ward, SAM

The meeting was called to order at 10:43 am by Vice-president Margie Urich. Steve Ward led the council in prayer.

Church member comments: There was no correspondence from a member or a concern expressed by the member present at the meeting.

Diane Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 14, 2026 regular-meeting. The motion was seconded by Steve Ward and passed.

Treasurer's report: Lisa Rowell reported:

Average June attendance was 38

The Offering for June was \$6102 and other income was \$325

Church expenses for the month were \$4798

The month's rental income was \$2363 with expenses of \$350

The end of June checking balance was \$5799

The money market balance was \$43,599, with \$5771 of that encumbered

The CD balance was \$250,000, with \$30,000 of that in a plumbing reserve

Steve Ward moved to accept the treasurer's report, Diane Johnson seconded the motion, and it passed.

SAM Report: Nothing to report

Call Committee Report:

The call committee has not had a candidate to consider.

Two pastor positions in the Montana Synod have been filled, but 20 congregations are still seeking pastors.

Two pastors have been looking for positions in the Synod, but are interested in congregations with 400-500 members.

Committee Reports:

Dave Rowell noted that an application of Roundup herbicide has not controlled weeds in the back parking area. Rebel Spraying can apply a sterilant (yearly) to the area for what Dave estimates will cost \$175 or less. Jim Beck made and Diane Johnson seconded a motion to have Dave Rowell contract for the application of herbicide on the back parking lot and the area between the church and the rental. The motion passed.

The renter has moved out of the rental (307 N Cherry St.). Dave Rowell noted several concerns with the house and asked the council to participate in the post-meeting tour in order to make better decisions concerning the house.

Because of budget limitations and immediate concerns with the rental (307 N Cherry St.), Dave Rowell suggested that the sidewalk replacement at the parsonage be reconsidered at the March 2027 meeting.

Continuing Business:

Steve Ward sought insurance quotes from several companies. Only one company responded and they will only give a quote as the insurance renewal date approaches. The discussion of insurance will be postponed until the December meeting.

From discussions at the Synod convention, Ross Johnson conveyed that no churches in the Synod have adopted the 2025 model constitution. He suggested that council members review the model constitution (made available at the meeting) for discussion at the August meeting.

Aiden Mosher said that no city permits were required for the roof over the basement stairs. He has submitted his Eagle Scout project to the Montana Boy Scout Council for approval. Aiden was reminded to gain approval of Dave Rowell and Clint Watson for both the plans for and construction of the project.

New Business:

The possibility of a 60th anniversary commemoration in 2027 was discussed. Margie Urich said that she would bring it up at the July WELCA meeting and report back to the council in August.

Jim Beck showed an example of a maintenance log that he has maintained intermittently over the past 20 years. It was suggested that the logs be given to the treasurer so that expenditures over a certain amount could be used to trigger log entries.

Council Member Concerns:

The QuickBooks subscription will be canceled.

There being no further business, Steve Ward made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Diane Johnson and passed at 11:34 am. The meeting attendees prayed the Lord's Prayer.

After the adjournment of the meeting the council members toured the rental (307 N Cherry St.).

Jim Beck, Secretary

Margie Urich, Vice-President