



Good  
Shepherd  
CHURCH

2026-2027

COUNCIL  
NOMINATIONS

# CHURCH COUNCIL DISCERNMENT

## for the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year

Each year, Good Shepherd members discern three new leaders for our Congregational Church Council. These Good Shepherd Church member biographies are for your reference in preparation for the Annual Meeting vote on Sunday, May 3.

### What are the gifts needed on Council?

Aside from the gifts of leadership, the most important gift is the ability to prayerfully discern God's will for our congregation. This includes the ability and willingness to listen to God and our congregation.

### What are the responsibilities of Council?

Per our constitution, Council members serve a 3-year term. At Good Shepherd, Council typically meets a once a month, but that can vary depending on the needs of the congregation.

**All Annual Meeting-related documents are now available to be viewed at [gshepchurch.org/council](https://gshepchurch.org/council).**

*"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." - Romans 12:2, NIV*

# Karl Cordes

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My name is Karl Cordes, and I am a devoted husband, father, and long-time member of Good Shepherd Church, where my faith and leadership have been rooted for over two decades. My wife, Michelle, and I joined Good Shepherd in September of 2001, and we have been married for 33 years. Together, we have been blessed with two children, Alex (29) and Hannah (25), who remain a central part of my life and faith journey.

Professionally, I have spent the past 23 years working in software sales, technology, and customer success. My career has been built on fostering strong relationships, leading with integrity, and helping others succeed—qualities that also shape my approach to ministry and service. Outside of work, I enjoy traveling, golfing, working out, and I am an avid car enthusiast.

My faith journey was transformed on May 17, 2002, during a Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) weekend, when I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. Since that moment, my walk with Christ has brought tremendous blessings and purpose to my life. I credit Good Shepherd as the foundation upon which my faith was built and continue to see the church as a guiding force in my spiritual growth. Motivated by my faith, I strive to be a light in a world that often feels filled with darkness.

***“I credit Good Shepherd as the foundation upon which my faith was built.”***



# Karl Cordes

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Throughout my years at Good Shepherd, I have actively served in a variety of leadership and ministry roles. I was a Church Council Member from 2009 to 2015, including serving as Vice President in 2010 and President in 2011. I also served as a Contemporary Worship Leader from 2004 to 2010 and spent many years investing in the next generation as a Sparks, Fuel, and Ignite leader from 2003 to 2017. Additional service includes time on the Worship Tech Team and, most recently, as a Men's Bible Study Leader. Each of these roles reflects my deep commitment to strengthening the church and encouraging others in their faith.

One of the greatest blessings in my journey has been my involvement in small groups. Through these relationships, I have found a community that extends beyond Sunday worship—a group of Christian brothers and sisters who share life's joys, challenges, and spiritual growth together. These connections have truly become like family and continue to shape my faith.

I strongly believe in Good Shepherd's mission, seeing it as both timely and essential. I view it as a guide for faithful living and a powerful tool for making a transformational impact within the church, the local community, and beyond. I am especially encouraged by the Forward Initiative and fully support the vision and direction it provides for our future.

As Good Shepherd enters a new season of growth and transformation, I am dedicated to listening for God's guidance and to the voices of our congregation. I believe strong leadership requires collaboration, discernment, and a heart for service, and I remain passionate about helping lead our church faithfully into its next chapter.

# Renee Duncan

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My journey with Good Shepherd began in 2019, when I was searching for a church home to support our family, especially as we navigated raising a child with autism. From the moment we walked through the doors, I felt a sense of peace and belonging. It was clear to me that God was guiding us here.

My husband, Rob, and I have been together for 13 years, and we have a 9 year-old son, Sebbie (short for Sebastian), who keeps us busy in the best way. Rob works as a paraprofessional at Lincoln Elementary in Plainfield, where Sebbie also attends. I serve as an HRBP and Site HR Lead for a manufacturing facility in Monee, IL. Outside of work, I enjoy serving during church services, walking our Labrador, Lexi, and playing video games with my son.

Over the past four years, I've served on the Serving Team during communion and offering. My husband and I have also hosted movie nights for Fusion families and others in the community. These experiences have been a meaningful way for me to stay connected and give back to a church that has given so much to us.

I strongly believe in Good Shepherd's mission to walk together in the calling of Christ. To me, that means showing up for others through conversation, generosity, prayer, and simply being present. I fully support the Forward Initiative and the opportunity it creates to extend God's love in practical, impactful ways.

***"From the moment we walked through the doors (of Good Shepherd), I felt a sense of peace and belonging."***



# Renee Duncan

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Recently, I've felt a clear calling to grow deeper in my involvement. Through intentional time in prayer and scripture, I've been led to serve more consistently and step into new opportunities. I see serving on the Church Council as a natural next step where I can listen, contribute thoughtfully, and help guide decisions in a way that reflects God's word and supports our church community.

# Chet Hartsock

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My wife Beth and I have been attending Good Shepherd since 2005. Prior to attending Good Shepherd, we attended St. Thomas and Holy Spirit in Naperville. I grew up as Southern Baptist and during college, I drifted away from the church. When we started having children, I joined the Catholic Church as Beth was raised Catholic. When the issues in the Catholic Church came to everyone's attention, I stopped attending. At the time I was a member of the Galaxy Soccer Club BOD and many of the board and Coaches attended Good Shepherd. So, we attended some of Pastor Greg and Gary's services. I really enjoyed the church as a whole and we joined. I regularly attended the downstairs service with the Red Door that pastor Glen started. We went through the first expansion that created the Worship Center. After the expansion, we regularly attend Church services in the Worship center. We have regularly attended since and were very honored when my daughter was married by Pastor PJ at Good Shepherd.

Our first child Nicole is now married and has a 2-year-old son and lives in Phoenix. Our second child, Tyler, lives in Chicago and our third child Brandon currently is living with us as he works at Starbucks and attends ASU College online in the Cyber Security field. Our family moved to Naperville in 1999. My profession was Computer Consulting and took me all over. I was in computer consulting until 2016 when I switched from consulting to leading the National Accounts Operations at Kens Beverages. So today I Sell, Service and Install everything piece of equipment in a McDonalds, Casey's, Starbucks, or Circle K, as well as many other types of stores.

***“While helping at Good Shepherd, the mission of ‘Inviting everyone to walk together’ has helped me along my faith.”***



# Chet Hartsock

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My faith journey was really started with the CHRP group I attended. The group of men that helped put on the next CHRP and many from the next CHRP continued with everyone as a men's small group. This allowed us to all stay close and help each other in our continuation in our faith walk. This has created a group of friends that we still get together even though some no longer attend Good Shepherd. But while at Good Shepherd, I have been involved in many different areas such as the Marriage Ministry, the Welcome Team, Security Team, serving in the Cornerstone Café, and more.

While helping at Good Shepherd, the mission of Inviting everyone to walk together has helped me along my faith. For example, when asked to attend the mission trip to Honduras, this was far from what I thought I would be doing! But embracing the "Inviting everyone to walk" helped me feel that this was something I needed to do. The entire trip was an incredible experience and the joy we received from sharing our faith with the people was an incredible experience.

I believe my next step in my faith walk is as a member of the Good Shepherd Church Council. The position will help me support the Church that we have grown to love so much and are proud to invite friends to join us for services. This position would help me promote and grow the extremely positive things going that we currently have in the Church for future generations. I believe the position would take advantage of everything that I have done already with the church, past BOD experiences, and Executive committees with the Galaxy Soccer Club and PTA. I think God will be able to make use of everything that I have experienced and apply it to Good Shepherd to help guide future discernments. When possible, I would like to get input from members of the church, groups of the church, and my wife, all while praying to God, about what path I should follow with the issue at hand. I would be honored to be a member of the Good Shepherd Church Council!

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# Pat Hughes

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My name is Patrick Hughes. My wife is Suzy and together we have three children and four grandchildren. We have one more due in October.

Like many Lutherans, I was raised Roman Catholic. I grew up in Naperville and attended Saints Peter and Paul and Benet Academy.

I went to college out of state and graduated from University of Arizona with a degree in Finance. That led to a career in sales and sales management that kept me moving around the country until 1991 when I returned to Naperville. Before retiring in 2021, I was managing the sales team for the US division of a multinational company and sat on the executive committee.

When my children were young, I tried to raise them Catholic but the scandals of the 1980's and 90's, caused me to find another place of worship.

In 1996 my wife found and introduced me to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. At the time, the liturgy was similar and I felt comfortable with the change. I had two daughters confirmed and one married at Our Saviour's. One of our grandsons was baptized there and Suzy's parents and brother are inurned there. Our Saviour's was an important part of my family's life for 27 years.

***“We must welcome all sinners to walk in the calling of Christ for a life of eternal impact.”***



# Pat Hughes

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The covid pandemic was a wake up call to many people, and it caused me to examine my faith. Fortunately, that led me to find truth in the Bible and put my trust in Jesus Christ.

When Our Saviour's reopened, we found everything had changed and my wife and I needed to find a church that was biblically based. Our search led us to Good Shepherd where thankfully, our faith has thrived.

Shortly after filling out the connect card, I was invited to join the Wednesday morning Bible class. That led to men's breakfast on Saturday and Robert Geise's class on Science and Genesis. Later I joined a small group.

I currently volunteer monthly to bring refreshments to the buddy break volunteers and straighten the pew backs in the sanctuary weekly. Recently, I joined one of the two pastoral search committees.

I volunteered for a position on the church council because I believe in Good Shepherd's mission and want to see our church thrive. As many Lutheran churches are shrinking, I consider the Forward Initiative necessary to demonstrate to our fellow parishioners and community that our church is growing, guided by a worthy mission. I have faith the improvements will energize our current members and be welcoming to visitors. People are eager to engage with an organization that is thriving.

I believe the mission of Good Shepherd is aligned with what Jesus asks from us. We must welcome all sinners to walk in the calling of Christ for a life of eternal impact. We are all sinners. Thank you for reading, and if discerned, I look forward to serving you on the council.

# Diane Kennedy

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My name is Diane Kennedy and I am honored to be a church council candidate. I have been an active member of the Good Shepherd Church community for the past 22 years. I have served as an usher, tech team member, communion server, new member luncheon team, VBS volunteer (2025), décor/clean-up volunteer for church Christmas & Easter holiday services, Loaves & Fishes volunteer, Hesus House meal team, 2 mission trips to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Women's CRHP 30 participant, Women's CRHP 31 staff member and scripture witness, Women's Wednesday Evening Bible study group participant for many years, GriefShare Support group participant in 2024 (after death of my godson), Women's Advent Tea participant, Quilt Ministry (2026), and Theology Cohorts participant.

I am a lifelong Lutheran. I was baptized in 1959 and confirmed in 1973 in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. I joined the Missouri Synod while in nursing school (1978) as it was geographically closest church where I could walk to from my dormitory. I remained in Missouri Synod churches in communities I resided in prior to joining Good Shepherd in 2004.

***“My faith has always been the guiding force in my interactions with people, my environment, and the difficulties I have encountered in life and in my career.”***



# Diane Kennedy

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I was married to my husband Shawn in 1992 and we have one child, Cora, who will be 30 years old in May 2026. I was born and raised on a dairy farm in Northeastern Wisconsin and relocated to Illinois in 1991 after meeting my husband. I am a retired Registered Nurse. Since my 2023 retirement, I have actively participated in volunteer activities at the Naperville Area Humane Society, the Midwest Dachshund Rescue, PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities chapter, Touch My Heart Farm (chicken therapy farm for Special Needs adults). My hobbies include quilting and cooking (I am a definite “foodie”!). Recently I took up zip-lining.

My faith has always been the guiding force in my interactions with people, my environment, and the difficulties I have encountered in life and my career. My faith has deepened throughout my years at Good Shepherd thanks to growth opportunities available to me as a member. It’s truly been a journey from the head to the heart. My current participation in the Theology Cohorts has provided me further biblical education I have thoroughly enjoyed.

Cohorts have also put in my heart the desire to be of service in the ministries and the ongoing spiritual health of Good Shepherd. As Good Shepherd celebrates its 50th anniversary as a congregation, it must also look forward to future generations coming into its mission, which means for the church to remain active in the world long after its founders are no longer living. Good Shepherd needs to help the next generation grow in its faith and engage others in faith and ministry.

As a council member, my goal would be to collaborate with congregation and council to keep Good Shepherd moving forward in its Christ breathed mission, listening to discern God’s direction with humility and perseverance. Trusting in God’s timing!

# Josh McBroom

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My name is Josh McBroom, and my family and I have been members of Good Shepherd Church since 2006. My wife, Emily, and I feel incredibly blessed to be raising our three sons in this church community, which has been an important part of our family's faith journey.

One of the most meaningful ways Emily and I have served at Good Shepherd was volunteering in the church nursery for about ten years. Caring for the youngest members of our congregation and supporting other young families was a special and rewarding experience for us.

Professionally, I have spent nearly two decades as a financial advisor, helping families plan for their futures and practice wise financial stewardship. I have also had the privilege of serving our community in local government, first on the Naperville Park District Board and now on the Naperville City Council.

Through these experiences, I have been involved in helping guide organizations of significant scale and responsibility, which has deepened my appreciation for thoughtful leadership, collaboration, and careful stewardship of resources.

***“Faith, family, and service are central to our lives.”***



# Josh McBroom

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Faith, family, and service are central to our lives, and if selected to serve on the church council I would be honored to support the mission and ministry of Good Shepherd.

*"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." — Joshua 24:15*

# Jeff Rubin

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My wife, Janice, and I have been members of Good Shepherd for 33 years. We have been married for 48 years and raised our three children—Joshua, Jami, and Jessica—here. Each of them was actively involved in the life of the church and was confirmed and married at Good Shepherd. Today, five of our eight grandchildren attend Good Shepherd, which is a tremendous blessing to our family. Janice also served as the Director of Family Life Ministries for 15 years and later as a member of the Church Council for four years.

I retired two years ago after a 37-year professional career with Molex/Koch Industries, including 27 years in Sales Management and 10 years in Internal Leadership Consulting. These roles required strategic thinking, collaboration, mentoring, accountability, and servant leadership—skills that I believe translate well to church governance and council service. In retirement, I stay active through pickleball, golf, fitness, small group Bible studies, and serving on the Good Shepherd Tech Team. I also prioritize time supporting our children and their families.

***“Throughout our faith journey, serving has been a cornerstone of our lives.”***



# Jeff Rubin

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My faith journey began at age 19 in what I often describe as an unexpected way. A high school friend invited me to play basketball at his church, while at the same time I was dating my future wife, Janice, who was a member there. God used both relationships to draw me in, and I was confirmed, baptized, and married in the same summer at age 21. Later, while living in the Los Angeles area, our faith deepened through serving as junior high youth leaders and participating in a weekly Bible study. Janice's rock-solid faith and encouragement have been foundational to my spiritual growth.

Over the past 33 years at Good Shepherd, I have been blessed to serve in many ways, including Christ Renews His Parish retreats, youth retreats and encounters, small groups ranging from junior high to adult studies, the Tech Team, and Church Council—where I also had the privilege of serving as Council President. Through these experiences, I have witnessed the Holy Spirit move in powerful ways and have seen how God reveals Himself through every season of life. I am deeply grateful for the many blessings God has and continues to bestow on Good Shepherd. I feel strongly that we must seek God's direction through prayer in all Council work. Proverbs 3:6.

I would be honored to serve again if chosen, and to support the continued growth of our church through strengthening discipleship, encouraging personal generosity, enhancing our facilities to better welcome our community, and expanding our impact through local, national, and global missions.

# Tyler Wojtkiewicz

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I have called Good Shepherd home for nearly 20 years, long enough to have seen a few building updates, a lot of familiar faces, and more than a few seasons of growth along the way. This church has shaped me in meaningful ways through worship, relationships, leadership opportunities, and even the occasional hard conversation that ultimately deepens faith and community.

I was raised in the Lutheran tradition, but over time my faith has grown from something inherited into something personal. Like many, my journey has included seasons of wrestling, and learning to trust Christ more deeply. Today, I would describe my faith as steady, grounded in Word and Sacrament, shaped by community, and strengthened through serving others.

Over the years, I've had the opportunity to be involved in several areas of ministry at Good Shepherd, including serving as a confirmation leader, young adult ministry coordinator, and middle school and high school ministry leader. For the past three years, I have also served on Church Council, including time as Council President. In these roles, I've been part of financial stewardship conversations, staffing decisions, pastoral search efforts, and long-term planning initiatives. Through it all, I've tried to approach leadership thoughtfully and prayerfully, with a desire to listen well and help discern where God is leading our congregation.

***"I've tried to approach leadership thoughtfully and prayerfully, with a desire to listen well and help discern where God is leading our congregation."***



# Tyler Wojtkiewicz

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Professionally, I work as a civil engineering consultant supporting public transportation agencies throughout the state. My work focuses on long-term planning, and the responsible stewardship of resources that serve communities well into the future. That mindset carries into how I approach church leadership. I value clarity, structure, and sustainability, while recognizing that the mission of the Church is ultimately about people, not just plans.

Good Shepherd's mission, "Inviting everyone to walk together in the calling of Christ for a life of eternal impact" resonates deeply with me. I believe the church plays a vital role in forming disciples who live out their faith in everyday life, and I care deeply about helping build a strong foundation so that future generations can experience that same calling with clarity and purpose.

Outside of church and work, I love spending time outdoors, especially camping and getting away into nature. It's in those quieter places that I often find the space to reflect, reset, and be reminded of God's presence in both the big picture and the small details.

When I was first asked to consider serving on Council, I stepped forward because others encouraged me and I felt convicted that my skills could serve the church in that season. If given the opportunity to continue serving, I would continue to approach it with open ears, an open mind, and an open heart. And, if nothing else, I'll do my best to keep meetings moving and bring at least a little bit of humor along the way.

# Thank You

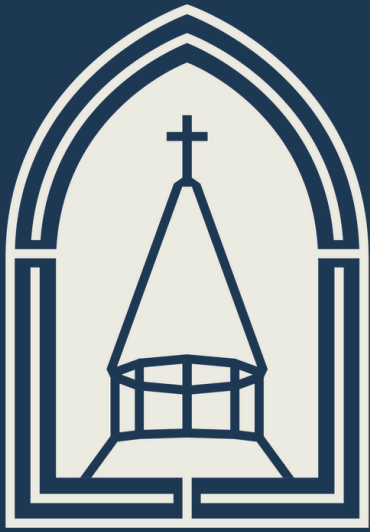
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Thank you for taking the time to read through the bios of those who have been faithfully lifted up for discernment to serve on our Congregational Church Council.

By participating in the voting at our Annual Meeting, you're making your voice be heard and you're helping shape the future our community. Please take the time to prayerfully consider these members of our congregation and your own capacity towards serving in any of our ministries and/or with our mission partners during this next year.

Please reach out to our Council by emailing them at [council@goodshepherd-naperville.org](mailto:council@goodshepherd-naperville.org) with any questions.

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