



Established 1900

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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563-258-2936



Established 1893

VOLUME 1 OCTOBER 2025 ISSUE 83

In last month's newsletter, I utilized the front page to "plug" some upcoming events. I talked about the beginning of P.E.E.P.S., our after-school program. I talked about our inaugural "Bless and Ride" event. I talked about our Harvest Meal in Farmersburg. This month, I'm doing a bit more of the same but wanted to add one more: our Christmas Day meal. I know, I know, it's too early to talk about Christmas, but I wanted to add it to the list of important events in the life of our church. I'll step through each event or program one by one:

P.E.E.P.S. – Our after-school program at St. John Luana is already underway. This is year two, and we were blessed to start off the year at Beulahland Christian Camp. It's like a weekly VBS with a meal, worship service, and some fun. We'd love to see more kids ride the bus to Luana and spend their after-school time with us.

Bless and Ride – Next up! We've never done this before, but we're hosting a UTV ride combined with a meal and bags tournament. All proceeds will go to our own Heather Hageman (Director of Shepherd of the Hills) and her family to tackle medical debt.

Harvest Meal – At St. John Farmersburg, happening **October 26th**. This is normally Farmersburg's biggest event of the year, and we all look forward to it. Turkey tenders, stuffing, mashed potatoes, corn, squash, buns, and pies. To-go orders will be available. What more could you ask for?

Christmas Day Meal – This is our second year, and it's a joint event between both St. John churches. Last year, it was hosted in Luana, and we served over 120 folks—not bad for our first year! This year, it will be hosted in Farmersburg, and we hope to see you there. More details will be coming down the road.

Bonus Event – This is not a St. John event, but as proud members of the SOTH conference, we fully support the Hog Roast at the St. Olaf Auditorium on **October 5th** from 4–7.

I always try to add scripture to newsletter articles, and to be honest, this one is mostly about highlighting events. I'll leave you with a very simple Psalm:

Psalm 100 (RSV)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
Know that the Lord is God!
It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him, bless his name!
For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

May this joy and gratitude carry us into every event, gathering, and ministry of our church life together.

ENTER HIS GATES
WITH *Thanksgiving*
AND HIS COURTS
WITH PRAISE;
GIVE *Thanks*
TO HIM
AND PRAISE
HIS NAME.
Psalm 100:4



FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Bill Scherf III. (25)
V. Pres: Bruce Glawe (25)
Sec: Loretta Weipert (26)
Treas: Linda Schoulte (26)
Council Members: Ken Erickson (27),
 Crystal Goltz (27) & Dave Hageman (25)

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

OUTSIDE JANITOR:

Loren Scherf

INSIDE JANITOR:

Mary Beth Tielbar

WELCA:

Pres: Shirley Marmann
V. Pres: Velma Kuehl
Sec: Nancy Moon
Treas: Becky Fuelling
Mission Action: Bev Moon,
 Nancy Moon, Marlene Glawe,
 Linda Friedlein & Ethel Lenth

MEN'S GROUP:

Pres: Ryan Moon
V. Pres: Brad Hoth
Sec/Treas: Dan Moon

ALTAR GUILD:

Directress: Cheryl Bossard
Sec: Heather Crogan
Treas: Velma Kuehl

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)
Members: Janelle Smith (25)
 Becky Fuelling (25)
 Aaron Smith (26)
 Amanda Goltz (27)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS;

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:
<http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

FARMERSBURG NEWS



Pastor Appreciation Month is observed in October each year, dedicated to recognizing the contributions and service of pastors and clergy members. Pastor Appreciation Day falls on the second Sunday of October, which in 2025 will be on October 12th. This month is a time for congregations to show gratitude and support for their pastoral leaders through various acts of appreciation.



October

2 Jacob & Sara (Meisner) Nehl
 15 Chris & Kayla Schmidt
 17 Harry & Darcy Gerndt
 31 Jeremiah & Ashley Schoenfeldt

October Known Baptisms

2 – Brayden Hoth
 3 – Declan Wolfe
 4 – Landon Goltz
 Josiah L'Dean Scherf
 Maverick Lee Palmersheim
 Jameson Wayne Palmersheim
 17 – Darcy (Kurth) Quamme
 18 – Matthew Radloff
 20 – Mateo William Moran
 25 – Doug Glawe
 William Scherf III
 Gary Scherf
 27 – Bennett John Radloff



FARMERSBURG NEWS

USHERS

October 5 & October 12
 Captain Don Bossard Wyatt Glawe
 Justin Fuelling Jason Klinge

October 19 & October 26
 Captain Scott Goltz Lyn Tielbar
 Rod Stagman Gilbert Brainard

ACOLYTES

October 5 Carsen Kirby
 12 Volunteer
 19 Connor Kirby
 26 Volunteer

ALTAR GUILD

Heather Crogan
 Velma Kuehl

GREETERS

October 5 Don & Cheryl Bossard
 12 Kelly, Ashley & Autumn Shaw
 19 Julie Kurth & Valerie Kurth
 26 Gilbert & Barb Brainard

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

October 5 Bill Scherf III.
 October 19 Linda Schoulte

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Shirley Marmann & Velma Kuehl

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

August

3 Froelich Barn

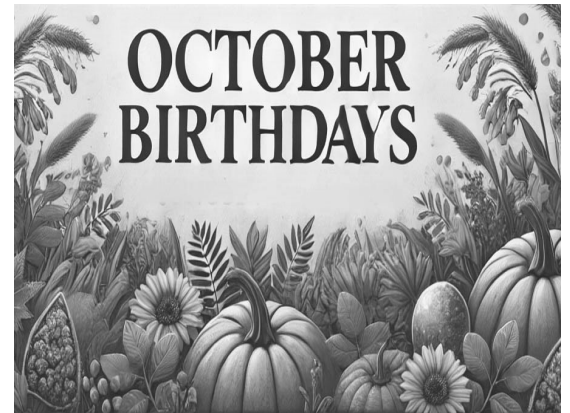
10- 24

17- 33

24- 24



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



WELCA

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Election officers stayed the same.

We sold 44 Anniversary pans and 37 trivets.

Our Christmas party will be December 3 at 1 PM all ladies of the church are invited.

Notice a quilt was given to SOTH for their auction and to EWALU for their auction. The *Ewalu Quilt* sold for \$750.



October

3 Bennett John Radloff
 4 Wm. Scherf III
 5 Verdean Schlake
 7 Mike Reardon
 8 Amanda Nelson
 9 Ben Schlake
 12 Carisa Taylor
 14 Eli Byroade
 17 Nicholas Thornton
 18 Jeff Wiedenman
 Lyndean Tielbar
 19 Joshua Kluth
 Adam Lnenicka
 Megan (Glawe) Klink
 20 Brian Pate
 Chad Taylor
 24 Gilbert Brainard
 28 Arlo Michael VanHauen
 29 Melissa (Fuelling) Wolfe

St. John Annual Harvest Dinner is October 26



Volunteers are needed for Saturday prep work, Sunday morning, during the event and clean-up. Food donations will also be needed. There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex. Stop in at Church anytime and sign up.

FARMERSBURG NEWS

ST. JOHN FARMERSBURG COUNCIL MINUTES Date: September 14, 2025

Present: Bill Scherf, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Linda Schoulte, Dave Hageman and Jeremy Wolfe. Absent: Bruce Glawe and Crystal Goltz

Meeting called to order by President Bill at 1123 Opening devotions given by Jeremy.

Loretta moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Linda. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of August 10, 2025 meeting made by Linda. Second by Dave. Motion carried.

Dave moved to approve the treasurer's report, second by Linda. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

*Tomorrow at 6 pm planning meeting for Benefit ride.

*Christmas meal planning starting soon.

*Jeremy is going to follow up on Moser's payment for music at Froelich church service.

*Is finishing up door to door in Luana. Then will start door to door in Farmersburg.

Old Business: None

New Business:

*Discussed Harvest Meal scheduled for October 26. Loretta will find 3 individuals to apply for Thrivent Cards. Loretta will order 120# turkey at Quillins in Monona. Loretta will make sign up sheets for food and volunteers.

Committee Reports:

Evangelism - None

Parish Education - 5 children have been attending PEEPS, have taking 2 trips to Beulah Bible camp and having a blast. Confirmation has started, have 3 students (1 from Luana congregation & 2 from Farmersburg congregation). First Communion will be on All Saint Sunday November 2nd, 1 student. Loretta notified parents of Liam Scherf of the date.

Property - Bees on property now under control.

Stewardship - None

Worship - None

Memorial - None

Men's Group - None

Women's Group - None

Motion to adjourn by Linda, second by Ken. Motion carried.

Next meeting October 12, 2025 after worship.

Respectively submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary

FARMERSBURG NEWS

August 2025 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

561.00
927.00
1730.00
962.00
40.00
346.97 (PayPal Offering)



Church Financial Report

Missions:

NE Iowa Synod: 270.00
SOTH: 232.00
Food Shelf: 122.00
St. Pt. Home: 35.00
LSI: 50.00
EWALU: 35.00

Staff Compensation:

Pastor: 2636.37 + 228.48 + 351.38 (Portico) (Housing from different Account: 707.58)
Inside Cust.: 215.48
Outside Cust.: 126.98
Organists: 96.97

Expenses:

Black Hills (gas): 47.23
Alliant (elec): 440.90
NEIT: 166.40
Church Mutual 773.00
Bank Fee 17.07 (Checks)
Marco 195.39 (Copier Contract)

Total Income: 4566.97

Total Expenses: 5071.25

General Checking Balance – August 1, 2025: 548.62
August 31, 2025: 44.34

Kelly Shaw, Treasurer



The two zodiac signs for October are Libra, from September 23 to October 22, and Scorpio, from October 23 to November 21.

The birthstones for October are Opal and Tourmaline. Opal is known for its mesmerizing, iridescent play-of-color and is associated with hope and purity, while Tourmaline comes in a variety of hues, with the name deriving from a Sinhalese word for "mixed colors," and is some times called the "birthstone of mixed colors".

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.:

Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Jerry Schroeder (26)

V. Pres: Aaron Smith (25)

Sec: Vicky Baade (27)

Cur. Treas: Diane Kraus (25)

Bene. Treas: Stan Dull (26)

Financial Counters: Council

DEACONS:

Jerry Schroeder (26)

Tim Donlon (26)

Loren Lenth (27)

TRUSTEES:

Diane Kraus (25)

Aaron Smith (25)

Heath Landt (26)

Vicky Baade (27)

Luke Steege (27)

WELCA:

Leaders:

January—March: Karla Schrader

April—June: Mel Lenth

July—September: Lisa Meyer

Oct.—December: Vicky Baade

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (26)

Sec: Darci Engelhardt (26)

Banners/Linens/Candles:

Lisa Meyer (25)

Mary Schroeder (27)

Special Services/Flowers:

Diane Kraus (25)

Betty Handke (27)

Bapt./Comm.:

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

Seasonal Banners:

Mary Schroeder

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)

Members: Janelle Smith (25)

Becky Fuelling (25)

Aaron Smith (26)

Amanda Goltz (27)

St. John's Luana website

www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS



Pastor Appreciation Month is observed in October each year, dedicated to recognizing the contributions and service of pastors and clergy members. Pastor Appreciation Day falls on the second Sunday of October, which in 2025 will be on October 12th. This month is a time for congregations to show gratitude and support for their pastoral leaders through various acts of appreciation.



October VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Stan and Dawn Dull

Read Lessons & Prayers:	Oct. 5	Mary Schroeder
	Oct. 12	Mel Lenth
	Oct. 1	Luke Steege
	Oct. 26	Vicky Baade

Acolyte:	Oct. 5	Dayne Anderson
	Oct. 12	Josh Schierholz
	Oct. 19	Emme Wikner
	Oct. 26	Livia Steege

Communion Servers:	Oct. 5	– Loren Lenth & Vicky Baade
	Oct. 19	– Tim Donlon & Luke Steege

Altar Guild: Diane Kraus

Flowers: Erma Swenson



Our sympathy to the family and friends of Thomas Meuleman (South Bend, Indiana), who passed away on August 25, 2025. Melanie Lenth (Loren) was his sister.

LUANA NEWS

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

October

14 – Duaine Davis
 16—Vicky Baade
 17 – James Meyer
 25 – Cindy Landt
 26 – Duaine Palas

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
Aug. 24	28	
Aug. 31	37	
Sept. 7	34	33
Sept. 14	<u>30</u>	
	129	33



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 – David Schultz
 12 - Matthew Baade
 14 – Ryker Linder
 21 - Jerry Schroeder
 23 – Karla Schrader
 24 – Marj Schrader
 Neal Wikner
 26 – Duaine Davis

St. John Council Minutes September 14, 2025

Present were: Pastor Jeremy, Jerry Schroeder, Diane Kraus, Loren Lenth, Aaron Smith, Stan Dull, and Vicky Baade. Luke Steege, Heath Landt, and Tim Donlon were absent. Meeting was called to order by President, Jerry Schroeder.

Pastor led devotions.



Vicky read the minutes of the August 10 meeting. Stan moved to accept the minutes, Loren seconded, approved.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Diane moved to accept the reports, Vicky seconded, approved. The \$30,000 transfer from Thrivent approved at the last meeting was made for \$25,000 instead since the painting bill was reimbursed from the memorial fund.

Church insurance – a third quote is in the works.

Keith Johnson brought dirt for the areas on the south side of the church where landscaping had been removed. Grass will be seeded this week.

A suggestion was made to find a way to ring the church bell from the main floor.

We do not need to reimburse Farmersburg \$50 for ½ of the Froelich barn rent. The hosting congregation pays the rent with the two churches hosting alternate years.

We have not heard anything from the surveyor yet. These things take time.

Karla will pay the property tax for the entire year in September.

There were positive comments about the new tv. Having the words on the screen to follow along with helps people who have hearing issues and helps everyone focus on the sermon better. Moving the tv so it does not block the view of the altar was a good idea.

Jerry adjourned the meeting. Members prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be October 12 at 7:30am.

LUANA AUGUST REPORT

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	45.96
Alliant - Electricity	276.95
Karla Schrader –Secretary	500.24
Cindy Landt – Custodian	461.50
NEITEL	119.85
Jeremy Wolfe- salary	2,636.46
Jeremy Wolfe – housing	707.58
Jeremy Wolfe –July mileage	268.80
IRS- July	159.37
Plunkett's – pest control	57.25
Church Mutual – Prop. Ins.	444.26
Portico – July	702.75
Brennen's Painting	6,715.00
City of Luana – w/s/g.	<u>119.54</u>
	13,215.51

INCOME

Aug. 3	1,229.00
Aug. 10	1,145.00
Aug. 17	932.00
Aug. 24	764.00
Aug. 31	987.00
	5,057.00
Trfr Repair Fund	1,850.00
From Mem. Fund	<u>6,715.00</u>
	13,622.00
Bal. July 31, 2025	611.54
Income	<u>13,622.00</u>
	14,233.54
Less Expenses	<u>13,215.51</u>
	1,018.03

SPECIAL FUNDS

St John Scholarship Fund CD	43,249.01
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,788.07
Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,676.58
St John CD	125,000.00

RENT/REPAIR FUND

Bal. 7-31-25	\$11,121.61
8-19 Rent September	700.00
8-25 from Mem fund	6,715.00
8-25 Dep from Thriv.	25,000.00
Aug. Int.	<u>33.38</u>
	43,569.99
8-19 to current	6,715.00
8-27 to current	<u>1,850.00</u>
Bal. 8-31-25	35,004.99

CURRENT FUND

	Envelopes	Plate	Total
Aug. 3	1,190.00	39.00	1,229.00
Aug. 10	1,125.00	20.00	1,145.00
Aug. 17	907.00	25.00	932.00
Aug. 24	742.00	22.00	764.00
Aug. 31	<u>957.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>987.00</u>
	4,921.00	136.00	5,057.00

THRIVENT BALANCE

Bal. June 30, 2025	\$156,886.20
Withdrawal	25,000.00
Income	341.47
Taxes, fees, expenses	38.60
Change in Value	<u>1,975.39</u>
Bal. Aug. 28, 2025	<u>\$134,713.28</u>

BENEVOLENCE REPORT

INCOME

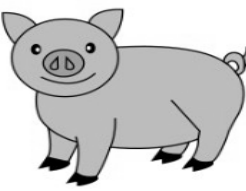
Aug. 3	Offering	135.00
Aug. 10	Offering	5.00
	Food Shelf	25.00
	Soth Oper	100.00
Aug. 17	Food Shelf	10.00
Aug. 24	Offering	5.00
	Food Shelf	60.00
	SOTH Oper.	50.00
Aug. 31	Offering	75.00
	Food Shelf	60.00
	SOTH Oper	<u>50.00</u>
		575.00

SOTH	130.00
SOTH Oper	200.00
Food Shelf	155.00
Synod	<u>90.00</u>
	575.00

Both Churches News

Shepherd of the Hills Hog Roast
 October 5, 2025 4:00pm-7:00pm
 St. Olaf, Iowa Auditorium

Dine In & Carryout



FREE WILL DONATION
Serving: pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, salads, desserts and beverages

Online auction bidding starts 9/15-10/4
 Facebook: Shepherd of the Hills Ministry
 In person bidding starts at the Hog Roast from 4pm-6pm

All money raised will go to the crisis fund to help area families in need

Thank You
 for your donation

We wouldn't be able to do what we do without the support of people like you



someonesentyouagreeting.com

UTV RIDE! BAGS! FOOD! GAMES!



T Shirts!



BLESS AND RIDE
 ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
 FARMERSBURG, IA

OCTOBER 11TH

ORDER HERE:
<https://getpicwear.com/st-john-lutheran-church-utv-fun-shop/home>

- ◆Registration opens at 8 AM
- ◆Ride begins 10 AM from St. John's Farmersburg
- ◆\$40.00 per vehicle
- ◆Meal starts serving at noon (freewill offering)
- ◆Bags starts at 1:30 PM
- ◆Games, Music and Fun!
- ◆Proceeds go to Heather Hageman Shepherd of the Hills Director
- ◆Questions? 563.258.2936 or pastorjeremywolfe@gmail.com

The profits from the Harvest Meal will support St. John Lutheran Church in Farmersburg by contributing to general funds that help maintain church operations, programs, and other activities throughout the coming year. We are serving Turkey Tenders, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Squash, Buns and Pies. To go orders will be available.

Sunday, October 26
 SERVING 11:30 AM -1:00 PM

HARVEST MEAL

Turkey Tenders, Mashed Potatoes/gravy, Stuffing, Corn, Squash, Rolls, & Pie

Dine In or Carry Out
 Suggested Donation \$12

St. John Lutheran Church

208 E. Washington Street
 Farmersburg, Iowa

Worship 10:30 AM

RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS



WELCA Hello you are all invited to the Fall gathering at Zion Lutheran- Oelwein **Oct. 25, 2025 9-1pm** Your WELCA contact or church office has received our mailing. Please RSVP by Oct. 15 to zionoelwein@gmail.com If you can type FLOCK LUNCH in subject line or leave message on church phone 319-283-1207. Presentation on buttons from Black Hawk Button Club-Waterloo. I am a little Button with A Big Story to tell.....Exodus 36:13. The skilled craftsman made 50 gold clasps and fastened the log curtains together with the clasps. In this way, the Tabernacle was made of one continuous piece. From Life Application Study Bible (refers to Lydia's curtains for the Tabernacle made from her purple cloth—clasp is another word for button and were made from gold)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Roger Landt, Kelly Staley, Stacy DeSotel, Julie Mohs, Charlie Post, Joy David, Dallas Tielbar, Shelby Preston, Bram Byroade, Melody Pate, Jim Fuelling, Mike Reardon, Ron Tayek, Cheryl Bossard, Beth Bries, Alan Feldmann

MILITARY: Avrey Smith, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas, Will Schrandt

ELKADER CARE CENTER: Grace Doerring,

GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon, Harold & Jeanette Vogt

TOWER LIVING CENTER: Lendall Schievelbein

SAMARITAN BETHANY ROCHESTER, MN 55901: Dorothy Kluth

KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett

WAUKON GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER: Rita Pritchard

HOMEBOUND: Glenda Henkes, Jim Fuelling, Shirley Wagner, Jeanette Krambeer in Des Moines

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2025



Fall is upon us and farmers will be harvesting their crops... so getting a take out to thank those hard working farmers from the Hog Roast is just what they need. October 5 from 4 pm to 7 pm we will be serving pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, salads, delicious desserts and beverages. FREE WILL DONATION. We are also having a silent auction. Beautiful quilts will be up for silent bidding online now until September 4 at midnight. We will continue the bidding in person at the Hog Roast from 4-6. There will be other great items to bid on at the Hog Roast as well. (No online bidding for those items) We even have a 2011 Chevy Cruise compact car that will be at the Hog Roast for bidding. Please check out our Facebook page for your opportunity to bid on those beautiful quilts!

I appreciate all the support I have received during my health struggles. One day at a time! October 11 there will be a benefit to help offset the cost of my medical expenses. I welcome all of you to attend. UTV ride begins at 10 am. Meal will start at noon. Cornhole (Bags) starts at 1:30pm. Games, music and fun all at St. John's Lutheran Church in Farmersburg.

Clothing Center Updates:

The thrift store is looking amazing. We have transitioned from summer to fall/winter. If you would like to donate, please schedule a day for the drop off. We will not be accepting spring/summer stuff until March.

My volunteers have been a wonderful asset to Shepherd of the Hills. They come not only to work, but we have a blast and laughter fills the room. If you would like to volunteer, please contact me. We are very flexible and appreciate whatever time you are willing to give us.

Shepherd Conference News:

If your church would like to hear more about what Shepherd of the Hills is and what we do, please let me know. I am willing to come and talk during your church service. I love to spread the news of the great things we do for the community, those in need and our youth. We have helped families for decades and continue our mission with pride and compassion.

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

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Hog Rost Fundraiser
October 5th, 4pm-7pm
St. Olaf Auditorium
(In-person dining and take outs available)

Christmas for Kids
December 17-18

**Any event may be subject to change*

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman
100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,
St. Olaf, IA 52072

Telephone: 563-783-2409

Fax: 563-783-2428

E-mail: shephill@neitel.net

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