



The Shepherd's Staff

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
106 May Street
Walterboro, SC 29488
(843) 549-5353

December 2019

From Pastor Craig:

Thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me as I begin my interim time at Good Shepherd. Let me share a little of who I am. After growing up in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio I attended Capital University (a Lutheran school) and Trinity Seminary, both in Columbus, Ohio. My first assignment was in St. Paul, Minnesota and my wife and I remained there for 3 additional calls for 36 years. During my years of ministry in Minnesota I was awarded a Bush Foundation fellowship for Doctor of Ministry studies at Princeton. My last 15 years in Minnesota I was ELCA Coordinator for Ministry Leadership for the nine synods of Region 3. Ten years ago we retired to Sun City Hilton Head. After a few years I was coaxed out of retirement to do part time ministry at St. Johns Lutheran in Beaufort. I continue there one day per week and one Sunday per month.

Your council has decided that they would like me to be with you normally as much as 3 Sundays plus special services, as well as one day per week. Initially that day will vary each week as I try to become acquainted with people and activities here. In December I'll be here on Sundays 1,15,22, and Christmas Eve. On weekdays I will try to visit the home bound and take in meetings or activities. I would also like to hear as many of your stories as possible. This will be a work in progress, but your council and I want to be sure you have access to pastoral service during this interim time. By February I'd like to settle on a regular day that I will be in Walterboro.

It used to be that the time between pastors was a time to save up some money and take a break from mission. That's old thinking. Interim is a time to reassess where you have come from, to

celebrate the gifts of this congregation, and revision the future. I'm pleased to be able to join with you and help guide these important tasks as Good Shepherd continues in mission.

During the interim please use your council officers for day to day congregational information, but here is my contact information for pastoral concerns:

Pastor Craig Boehlke, 67 Thomas Bee Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909. Home phone is 843-304-4124 and my cell is 843-288-1500. Often the best way to contact me for non-emergencies is by email, prcraig@aol.com.

The Lutheran Men in Mission of Good Shepherd

At our November meeting, Doug Lindstrom introduced our guests, Pastor David Elick and his wife Kathy. Pastor Elick provided an excellent program on David and Goliath and how we deal with our personal giants in today's world. We also had a delicious meal provided by the Brinson Brothers; Dean and Doug.

The annual **Fall Fish Fry for Social Ministry** was again a great success. The profits of the event were about \$1,400 and the men will donate the majority of that to the Good Shepherd **Social Ministry program**, which includes our **Food Pantry ministry**.

Our officers for 2020 will be Doug Lindstrom (chair), Rob Rusnak (vice chair), Winfield Simons (Secretary) and Kevin Wicker (Treasurer).

On **Monday, December 9**, the Lutheran Men and Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA will meet at the home of Kevin and Diane Wicker for their **annual Christmas dinner** beginning at 6:30 p.m. All men and women of the church are welcomed. (Please sign up in the church narthex if you plan to attend.)

Financial Report For November 17, 2019

General Fund Weekly Offering Goal	\$ 2,035.00
General Fund Offering received last week	\$ 1,675.00
General Fund Offering received, year to date	\$ 87,009.00
Ministry Spending Plan in 2019; week # 46	\$ 93,572.00
Lutheran World Hunger, month-to-date	\$ 141.00

Sunshine News :

The election process for **the 2020-2022 term of Church Council** will begin on Sunday, December 1, and will conclude on Sunday December 15. Please make every effort to attend worship on these three Sundays to help select our members who will serve the next three years on Council.



The **LMM/ Women's Christmas Dinner** will be Monday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Kevin and Diane Wicker. Everyone is asked to bring side dishes and desserts. The meat for the meal will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex so that we will know how many are coming.

The Special Gathering Choir will be presenting their Christmas Cantata at Good Shepherd on Sunday, December 15, at 3:00 pm. All are welcome to come!

The Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 15, at 6:00 pm. The program will be followed with light refreshments. Volunteers are needed to provide food for the evening. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

On Wednesday, December 18, at Wonderful Wednesday, we will have our **Christmas Celebration** with a meal together, singing Christmas hymns, and decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. All are welcome to join!

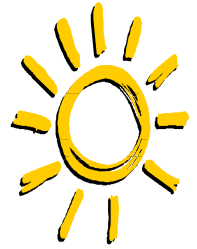
Wonderful Wednesday will be on winter break beginning December 19. Wonderful Wednesday will return on Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

The council meeting in December will be on December 15 at 11:00 am (or immediately following worship).

The **South Carolina Lutheran newsletter** is published six times each year and is filled with information about what's going on in our South Carolina Lutheran churches. If you would like to subscribe to the SC Lutheran for 2020, please place \$10 in the offering plate, with your name, and designate the donation for "SC Lutheran" by December 15th. The SC Lutheran is available online at <https://scsynod.com/media-center/>

Sunshine News : (Continued)

Our monthly newsletters are **now available on our church website**, www.walterborolutherans.com by clicking on the "Newsletters" tab.



Wonderful Wednesday participants recently finished **a coin drive to help with God's Global Backyard**, a program of the ELCA's Good Gifts program. A total of \$240 was collected in coins. What does \$240 buy? The children decided to spend their money in this way: two goats, two pigs, a colony of honeybees, two roosters, and three flocks of chicks. These gifts of farm animals will help farmers in places all over the world to feed their families and grow their business. To learn more go to the following website: ELCA.org/goodgifts.

If you would like to **place someone on the prayer list** that is printed in the bulletin, please fill out a prayer request form, found in the narthex, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. The prayer list is updated every three months. You may also email your prayer requests to thewickers@lowcountry.com.

Our **Annual Christmas Caroling** will be held Sunday, December 22 at 4:00 pm. Come join us as we go and sing at the Victory House and Pruitt Health. More info later.

Sign-up Sheets for various volunteer opportunities in 2020 are now in the narthex. Please check them out and consider volunteering.

The loose and special designated offerings for December will support our **Social Ministry Fund**. At Good Shepherd, the Social Ministry program includes the Food Pantry as well as assistance for utility bills, prescription medication, etc. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for "**Social Ministry**" on your offering envelope.

Parents of confirmation-age youth will be meeting on Sunday, December 29, at 3:00 pm at the church with Pastor Craig Boehlke.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

The Sanctuary Candles for the month of December are given to the glory of God by Charles and Faye Rister in honor of our children.

**** Note:** The cost of Sanctuary Candles is \$20 per month. Please place a check in the offering plate to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church designated **"Sanctuary Candles"**.



Flowers for December

December 1:	Jon Carpenter
December 8:	Doug and Ellen Brinson
December 15:	Open
December 22:	Bob and Gloria Ferris
December 24:	Janet Szymanski
December 29:	Marie Wilson

Please complete a "Flowers for Sunday" form, located in the narthex, at least one week prior to your designated week. Cost of flowers is \$45 each week. Place a check in the offering plate to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church designated "flowers."

(Luke 2 : 8-14)

⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Dec. 1	10:00 AM	First Sunday of Advent 1 st Ballot / Council Elections
Tuesday, Dec. 3	10 AM-Noon 5:30 PM	Food Pantry Choir Practice
Wed., Dec. 4	5 -7 PM	Wonderful Wednesday
Saturday, Dec. 7	All Day	Pearl Harbor Day
Sunday, Dec. 8	10:00 AM	WELCA Shops at Walmart Worship Service 2 nd Ballot / Council Elections
Monday, Dec. 9	6:30 PM	LMM/ Women's Christmas dinner
Tuesday, Dec. 10	5:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed., Dec. 11	5 -7 PM	Wonderful Wednesday
Saturday, Dec. 14	10 AM-Noon	Children's program practice
Sunday, Dec. 15	10:00 AM 11:00 PM 3:00 PM 6:00 PM	Worship with Communion 3 rd Ballot / Council Elections Church Council Meeting Special Gathering Christmas Cantata Children's Christmas program
Tuesday, Dec. 17	10 AM-Noon 5:30 PM	Food Pantry Choir Practice
Wed., Dec. 18	5 -7 PM	Wonderful Wednesday
Saturday, Dec. 21	All Day	First Day of Winter
Sunday, Dec. 22	10:00 AM 4:00 PM 10:00 PM	Worship Service Christmas Caroling Newsletter deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 24	8:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wed., Dec. 25	All Day	Christmas Day
Sunday, Dec. 29	10:00 AM 3:00 PM	Service of Lessons & Carols Confirmation Meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 31	All Day N/A	New Year's Eve No Choir Practice
Wed., Jan. 1	All Day	New Year's Day

SERVING IN DECEMBER

Ushers :	Kevin Wicker / Jon Carpenter
Lay Reader :	Kevin Wicker
Altar Guild :	Diane Wicker
Communion Asst. :	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Acolyte :	Charity Patterson
Offering Tabulators :	Carl Lindstrom / Jon Carpenter
Grounds Care :	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Council Devotions	Faye Rister

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In November !!!

***Note: If you are unable to serve during your month, please be responsible and ask someone to substitute for you.*

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Wallace / Roof Fund

Given by:

Doug & Ellen Brinson (Roof)

In Memory of:

Allen Hart

Food Pantry

Given by:

Janet Szymanski
Shannon Guess

In Memory of:

Gladys Mosandel
Allen Hart

Doscher / Fellers Fund

Given by:

Janet Szymanski

In Memory of:

Allen Hart

General Fund

Given by:

Charles & Faye Rister

In Memory of:

Frieda Davis

**Merry
Christmas!!!**

Financial Corner:

We've got a lot going on in the Financial Corner at Good Shepherd as we move into the 4th quarter of the year. **First**, thanks for the tremendous giving in the month of October, as noted in the "October offerings and gifts". **Second**, your Finance Committee is busy formulating a **Spending Plan for 2020** for consideration by the Council at their December meeting. The Finance Committee will meet on the afternoon of December 1 to continue this process. And **third**, you all should have received a letter and pledge card in the mail recently. Your response to this letter is important to our planning process for our ministry in 2020. You can place your pledge in the "blue box" at church, or mail it to the church in the self-addressed envelope, and it will be placed in the blue box for you. Our Recording Secretary, Doug Brinson, will tally all the pledges and provide a total to the Finance Committee and Council. At some point in December, we will ask Pastor Craig to offer a prayer at the altar for our pledges.

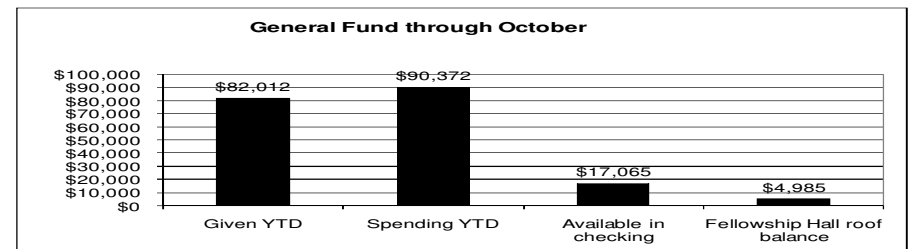
Don't forget that we have an **on-line giving program** called "Tithely" which allows you to give your offerings through your computer, pad or smartphone, or it allows you to set up an automatic draft from your account to the church banking account on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis. If you have questions regarding Tithely, contact Jon Carpenter or Kevin Wicker.

Meanwhile, until next month, I hope to see you in church.

Kevin

October Offering and Gifts

General Fund	\$ 11,704
Wallace Fund	\$ 245
Social Ministry / Food Pantry	\$ 363
Wonderful Wednesday	\$ 279
Flowers	\$ 175
Candles	\$ 20
Doscher / Fellers Scholarship Fund	\$ 20
Service Committee	\$ 25
Hurricane Disaster Relief	\$ 1,005
Novusway	\$ 56



Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA

The Good Shepherd Women met on Monday, November 4, 2019, at 6:00 pm at the office of Shannon Guess. Shannon Guess was the hostess for the evening, and Amy Rusnak had the devotions. The minutes from the October 2019 meeting were reviewed. The Treasurer's report was received as information.

Business:

1. **2020 SCWELCA Convention** will be held on June 12-13, 2020, at St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Newberry, SC. The theme for the convention will be "Just Love." The convention project will support the SC Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. More information will be in the Winter Ripple.
2. **Upcoming projects:**
 - a. **Fill the Stocking:** Diane has received information from Cindy Riley, First Steps director. Cindy has provided information for six children. A Thrivent Action team has been submitted to help with the costs. Diane, Amy, Marie, and Shannon will meet at Walmart on Saturday, December 7, at 10:00 am to shop for the children. Donations need to be in to First Steps by Monday, December 9. Their collection site is at Bethel Presbyterian.
 - b. **Boy Scouts- Veterans' Christmas:** A Thrivent action team has been submitted to help with this project. The women also donated \$150 towards this project.
 - c. **Special Gathering:** A donation of \$150 has been made to Special Gathering.
3. **Empty Bowls** was held on Tuesday, November 12, with both a lunch and a dinner. The turnout was great for both meals. Thank you to everyone in the congregation who provided food and volunteered. Good Shepherd's food pantry will be one of the recipients of the proceeds for this event.
4. **LMM/WELCA Christmas dinner** will be on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 6:30 pm at the home of Kevin and Diane Wicker. The meat for the meal will be provided. Everyone who comes is asked to bring either a side dish or

Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA (Continued)
a dessert. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex so we will know how many plan to come.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be Monday, January 6, 2020 beginning at 6:00 pm, at the church. Diane Wicker will be the hostess and will also have devotions. This will be our annual planning meeting- a good time for anyone who may be interested to join us.

Diane Wicker, secretary
Good Shepherd Women



LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

Brenda and Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim Strickland, Buddy and Joyce Carter, Frances Barton, Ted Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Eleanore Gloeckler, Mary Lommen, Frank Wilson, Margaret Juttner, Gloria Ferris

Friends and Family

Mr. & Mrs. M. Nettles, Mr. & Mrs. G.W. Bunch, the family of Gladys Mosandel, Lavern Smoak, Jolena Haulston, Mr. & Mrs. G. Spivey, Bill Walters (Janet Szymanski), the family of Dot Evans (Joyce Carter), Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Jean Strickland (Theresa Crosby and Ray Strickland), Margaret Hoff (Amy Rusnak), Roxanne Lane (Kevin Wicker), Tim Reisner (Rusty and Lisa Mezel), the family of Allen Hart, James Casella (Maria Patterson), Bradley Davis (Angela and Kevin Crosby), Inieg Wilson (Christine Henderson), the family of Gary Taylor (Olin Bishop), Tommy Sims (Bob and Gloria Ferris), the family of Sue Cook, the family of Helen Fralix

December Birthdays :

December 2	Margaret Juttner
December 4	Eleanore Gloeckler
December 5	Gail Lindstrom
December 7	Mike Alberts Connor Smyly
December 11	Sandra Roberts
December 12	Marion Glover
December 16	Austin Smith
December 17	Jimmy Strickland Sarah Hitchens
December 19	Zachary Knapp Isabelle Knapp
December 20	Andrea Singletary Holger Obenaus
December 25	Jesus Christ
December 26	Linda Hayes Greg Lommen
December 27	Donald Eason



December Anniversaries:

December 24	Gaby and Gerald Thomas
December 28	Jeff and Lisa Lord

The Shepherd's Staff is published by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 106 May Street, Walterboro, SC 29488. Phone : (843)549-5353. Any Sunshine News or other information that you would like to include into the newsletter should be mailed to the church or given to Doug Brinson. Doug can be contacted at 538-8219, DJBrinson@Yahoo.com or by leaving it in his box in the robing room. This information needs to be received no later than the **22nd** of the month so that it can be included in the monthly publication and sent out on time.