



April 2020

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From Your Interim Pastor :

Yesterday I did my first "Livestream" worship ever. Well, actually I've been part of churches that broadcast their services on the radio or via recording. But it's a strange feeling to have just 6 people present---and all of them practicing "social distancing". But as I looked at the camera, I envisioned your faces and that made it much more passionate for me. I was encouraged to learn that several of our Good Shepherd family watched either live or later in the day. Of course, this was from St. John's Lutheran in Beaufort, but overall, I was astonished that over the past 24 hours we had almost 800 views of that worship. Combined our two churches normally average less than 200. Fascinating!

As I write this your council executive committee has made the decision to cancel our worship and activities (in person) at Good Shepherd through the month of April. With our first virus case now reported in Colleton County, I'm quite certain that church will be among the group gatherings banned through at least April 15 and more likely for the entire month. I know this is difficult for everyone. But, remember, the church is the people---not the building. We will continue to be church as best we can in this extraordinary time.

Our intent is to continue to deliver the Thursday Lenten program and Sunday Bulletins via email, on the church website, and to deliver by hand to those who are not connected by internet. I will provide a weekly sermon. We will also offer the opportunity to worship via Facebook at St. John's Lutheran in Beaufort, either as a livestream or at a time that suits you. They have the technical expertise for live streaming and when I am not preaching there, I will serve as liturgist (so, if you choose, your pastor will be continuing to lead in worship). The weekly email will provide specific directions for connecting.

Jesus told his followers "don't be afraid" probably more than any other direction. Martin Luther also offered the advice that we should pray as if everything depends on God---and then act as if everything depends on us! So, keep up those prayers, and then be as safe as you possibly can be, for the sake of not just yourself, but for all your neighbors and friends. I keep reminding everyone that the actions we take today may not yield results for 2-4 weeks from now. The more we do now (which is really the less we do), the sooner this disease will start to abate.

Good Shepherd has had quite a challenging several months. But you have been resilient and profoundly committed to the mission of Lutherans in the Walterboro area. Difficult times are when Christian people have always shown their best, guided by faith and our trust in the Lord. We will get through this and what a great day it will be when we can be back together face to face.

Until then, we are still the church!

Pastor Craig

Christian Education Committee

Wonderful Wednesday has been cancelled through the month of April. Please check the church website or Facebook page for updates.

The annual **Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled**, as well as other events here at Good Shepherd.

Lutheroad Day Camp will be coming to Good Shepherd the week of July 20-24, 2020 (Monday- Friday). Registration forms will be available after Easter. The cost per child will be \$60. At this time, Lutheridge is still planning to have a summer camp program. If this changes, we will be sure to let you know.

Applications for camp scholarships are now available, along with the guidelines for the application. These scholarships are for children attending one of the Novus Way Camps this summer: Lutheridge, Lutherock, Lutheranch, or Luther Springs. Please contact Diane Wicker for applications. The deadline for receiving applications is **May 1, 2020**. Applications can be mailed to: Diane Wicker, 977 Quail Drive, Walterboro, SC 29488

Sunshine News :

There will be **no altar flowers during April** due to the cancelation of Sunday Worship Services. However, the Easter lilies were already ordered and we want to honor that order for the sake of this small business in Walterboro. The instructions for how to receive your lilies will come in an email the week before Easter.



We will start a **new prayer list** in April. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or continue to have someone on the prayer list, please fill out one of the forms found in this newsletter or in the narthex and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. You can also email your prayer requests: thewickers@lowcountry.com

Our current plan for Confirmation is to continue our meetings using Zoom video conferencing. Details will be forthcoming to those who are a part of the class.

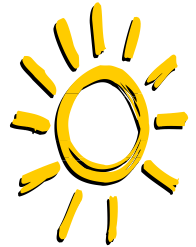
The loose and special designated offerings for April will support the **Clean Water** initiative to provide sources of clean, safe, drinking water for our sisters and brothers in our sister Synod in Tanzania. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help provide clean water systems in Tanzania by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for **“Clean Water”** on your offering envelope.

We are in the process of gathering photos for our church **Pictorial Directory**. Please watch for Council members who will be facilitating those photos around the church grounds as soon as we all return. They will also be glad to coordinate a photo at your home as we strive to include all of the Good Shepherd family. You also have the option of submitting a photo of our own.

We rejoice in the wedding of **Theresa Crosby and Ray Strickland** on April 4. This will now be a private ceremony with only immediate family, and there will be no reception following the service. There will be a **community celebration** at a later date once we are able to safely gather.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

The Sanctuary Candles for the month of April are given to the glory of God by Kevin and Diane Wicker in honor of Mr. Edd Wicker and in memory of Mrs. Jane Wicker.



**** 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”**.

Financial Report For March 15, 2020

General Fund Weekly Offering Goal	\$ 1,580.00
General Fund Offering received last week	\$ 1,600.00
General Fund Offering received, year to date	\$ 20,732.00
Ministry Spending Plan in 2020; week # 11	\$ 17,384.00
Lutheroad Day Camp, month-to-date	\$ 196.00
Lenten offerings to date	\$ 455.00

The Mystery of the Box : (Solved)

Regarding the Children's Sermon box at the altar with our “Alleluias” and candy locked up inside for Lent, here is a note from Mary Lommen's son, Peter.

“That was not the original box. The original was cardboard. Each of us would take turns bringing something from home and he would give the children's sermon about the item. One week I forgot to put something in, and scrambled over to the park before church and put a frog in the box. Of course the frog was wet and peed...so the original box got ruined. So he commissioned someone in the church to make a new one. That one is it. Over time, I took the box home about 60 or 70% of the time...the others my age either were not there enough or cared enough. When Pastor Nolt was leaving, he gave it to me to keep as a memento. It means a ton to me and I am glad that it is once again finding use at the church.”



- Peter Lommen

Financial Corner:

The following is a list of the funds we have at Good Shepherd and the purpose of each.

The **General Fund** is used to pay for the Operating expenses of our ministry and the routine maintenance of our facilities. The General Fund is most often associated with our Spending Plan for Ministry for the year. The balance in the General Fund is the checking account balance, less any designated item held in the checking account. The current balance is reported each month in the newsletter as “Available in Checking”.

The **Doscher/Feller Scholarship Fund**, formerly known as the **Doscher and Fellers Education and Outdoor Ministry Fund**, was established by Mr. Ralph Doscher and Mr. Stanley Fellers for the purpose of supporting the spiritual and educational growth of the Good Shepherd members and associate members through institutions of higher education and Lutheran outdoor ministries. These funds are used for financial assistance of young people attending summer camp (Lutheridge, Lutherock, etc.) and to provide financial assistance for members attending institutions of higher education after high school. The balance in the Scholarship Fund is now \$6,634.

The **Memorial Fund** is money set aside to purchase those items that are used in worship. Most recently, a new linen cloth was purchased for the altar. The current balance in the Memorial Fund is \$1,067.

The **Service Committee Fund** may be used to provide meals to bereaved families after the death of a loved one or hospitalized members when they return home. The current balance in the Service Committee Fund is \$540.

The **Sign Fund** was established at the request of the family of Sonny Roberts following his death. The fund is to be used to purchase a new sign for the church along Jeffries Boulevard. The current balance in the fund is \$955.

The **Social Ministry** funds are used to help those in need in our congregation and our community with food, utility bills, prescription medication, etc. The Social Ministry program includes the **Food Pantry program**. Approximately \$10,000 of assistance is managed through the Social Ministry Fund each year with support coming from members of Good Shepherd and throughout our community. The current balance in the Social Ministry Fund is \$4,410.

The **Wallace Fund** was established using a gift from the estate of Mrs. Margaret Wallace following her death. Mrs. Wallace left this as an unrestricted fund for use at the discretion of the Council. Although we have used the fund in recent years to shore up the General Fund, the general consensus has been to use this fund for capital improvements of the facilities. We have used the fund to purchase a new HVAC unit for the parsonage and to install the new roof on the Fellowship Hall. The current balance in the Wallace Fund is now \$25,900.

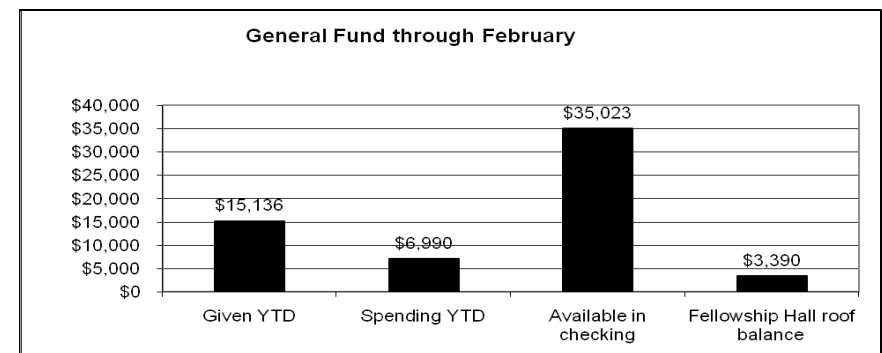
Your offerings to the ministry of Good Shepherd are important, even during this time that we are not meeting for worship and other activities. You may mail your offerings to the church at 106 May Street, Walterboro, or give online through our Tithely program on the website.

I'd love to see you in church, but until we can, please take care and be well.

Kevin

February Offering and Gifts

General Fund	\$8,211
Wallace Fund	\$360
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$1,243
Wonderful Wednesday	\$308
Flowers	\$225
Candles	\$10
Lutheran Retreat Centers	\$67
Easter Lilies	\$120
SC Lutheran Magazine	\$10



March Council meeting notes :

- The meeting was opened with prayer by Angela Crosby.
- Pastor Craig reported on our confirmation, first communion, baptism classes and wedding preparation.
- Council received reports from Christian Education, WELCA, LMM, Worship and Music and Property Committee.
- Council approved Sunday, September 13, as Homecoming Sunday marking the 80th anniversary of Good Shepherd. Pastor Rebecca Wicker will lead worship that morning.
- Council approved terminating the Palmetto Security account for the parsonage for the time being.
- There was discussion of azalea and crepe myrtle trimming on the property. Council approved the azalea cutting following the summer bloom. Crepe myrtle cutting was tabled until next winter.
- Council approved purchase of pictorial directory software using Thrivent Choice funds and to proceed right away with taking photos for the directory.
- Members discussed the 2020 Synod Assembly to be held May 14 through 16 in Columbia. During this assembly, our new Bishop will be elected.
- There was discussion regarding church security. Members entertained the idea of having a congregational dinner with guest speakers regarding church safety and health. The discussion will continue at the April meeting.
- The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Your Council members are Angela Crosby, Dean Brinson, Jon Carpenter, Doug Lindstrom, Garrett Brinson, Kathie Whetsell, Amy Rusnak, Shannon Guess and Kevin Wicker.

March 24, 2020 Executive Committee meeting :

The Executive Committee met by way of computer video on the afternoon of March 24. The following items were decided at that meeting.

- Worship services and other activities will be cancelled through the end of April out of an abundance of caution in regards to the corona virus.

- Council members will share a list of the members and friends of Good Shepherd and will be in contact with those people on a routine basis through the remainder of the virus event.
- We will continue to provide Pastor Craig's Lenten reflections on Thursdays and bulletins and sermon texts on Sundays. Also, the bulletin for St. John's Lutheran in Beaufort will be provided for those wanting to follow along with the Facebook live stream worship from St. John's each Sunday morning.
- Pastor Craig will be in contact with confirmation class families to discuss having confirmation classes by way of computer video.
- The next church council meeting, scheduled for April 5, will be conducted by computer audio/video.
- The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Craig.

Your executive committee members of the Council are Angela Crosby, Shannon Guess, John Carpenter and Kevin Wicker.

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

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, Gail and Carl Lindstrom

Friends and Family

Mr. & Mrs. M. Nettles, Mr. & Mrs. G.W. Bunch, the family of Gladys Mosandel, Lavern Smoak, Bill Walters, Laura Spivey (Janet Szymanski), Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Jean Strickland (Theresa Crosby and Ray Strickland), Margaret Hoff (Amy Rusnak), Roxanne Lane, Mary Wicker, Ben Wicker (Kevin and Diane Wicker), Patti Lohr (Angela and Kevin Crosby), Lori Nolte, Caroline Wernitz, Kathy Janney, the family of Dottie Buddin (the Risters), John Corley, DeeDee Eason Burns, Rita Banks, Jolene Godwin (Kathie Whetsell), Erik Lindstrom, Jason Archambault (Gail Lindstrom)

Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA

The Good Shepherd Women met on Monday, March 2, 2020, at 6:00 pm at the church. Faye Rister was the hostess for the evening. Diane Wicker presented the second session of the Bible Study, "We Are Called!" The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed. The treasurer's report was received as information.

Business :

1. SC Women of the ELCA convention: June 12& 13

Amy Rusnak and Marie Wilson will be attending as delegates from Good Shepherd.

2. Pentecost Sunday: Sunday, May 31

Morgan Dandridge is graduating from CCHS. The women would like to have a congregational dinner to honor Morgan. Diane will contact Melissa Connelly, Morgan's mom.

3. Mission Serve: Week of June 20-27, 2020

We will host the staff on Sunday, June 21. Diane shared with the group some information about this year's Mission Serve. We will talk about plans for their dinner at a later date.

4. Other business

Faye shared some information she had received from Julie Epple about the "Feed the Hunger" project that Julie is coordinating. The women voted to make a donation of \$120 to this project.

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

The April meeting has been cancelled. Hopefully, we will be able to have a May meeting. Please watch for further information on the church website.

The Lutheran Men in Mission of Good Shepherd

At their March meeting, the men enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Winfield and devotions led by Jon. Jon's devotions centered on **Prayer**, with a story about a young man named Gabriel and his Boy Scout pinewood derby car.

The men have postponed their **BBQ for Social Ministry** until later in the year. And, there will not be a meeting in April out of an abundance of caution for the Corona virus.

SERVING IN APRIL

Grounds Care :

Doug Brinson / Garrett Brinson

Council Devotions

Jon Carpenter

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In March !!!

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

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

****Note :** *All in-person events have been cancelled for the month of April. We will try to keep everyone updated through various means such as email, the website, and phone calls.*

Sat., Apr. 4	6:00 PM	Crosby/ Strickland Wedding (Private)
Sunday, Apr. 5	TBA	Church Council Meets (via Internet)
Tuesday, Apr. 7	TBA	Food Pantry
Tuesday, Apr. 21	TBA	Food Pantry
Wed., Apr. 22	10:00 PM	Newsletter Deadline

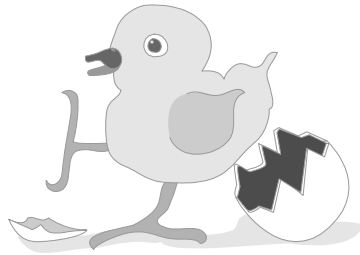
Mrs. Georgia Boehlke's Corn Chowder Soup Recipe

About ½ pound bacon	½ cup sweet onion, chopped
½ cup chopped celery with tops	2 Tablespoons flour
4 cups milk	1 can cream style corn
1 can whole kernel corn	½ tsp. salt
1 can (or 1 pound) small whole potatoes cut into bite size pieces	
1/8 tsp. pepper, parsley, and paprika	

In a large saucepan fry the bacon until crisp. Remove and drain. Crumble the bacon when cool. Pour off all but 3 T. of the drippings from the saucepan. Add onion and celery to the drippings in the pan. Cook and stir until the onion is tender. Remove from heat; blend in the flour. Cook over low heat, stirring until mixture is bubbly. Remove from heat. Stir in the milk. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil and stir for 1 minute. Stir in the corn, potatoes, salt and pepper. Heat through. Stir in the bacon. Sprinkle each serving with parsley and paprika. Serves 6.

April Birthdays :

April 1	Lisa Mezel
April 2	Christine Peterson
April 4	Gloria Ferris
April 6	Chastity Patterson Charity Patterson Kathie Whetsell Diane Wicker Ilona Strickland
April 9	Michael Banks
April 11	Mike Herrin
April 16	Helana Strickland
April 18	Madilynn Alberts
April 20	Christa Gilgen Martin
April 21	Hagan Strickland
April 26	Claire Hitchens
April 27	Bobbie Smith
April 30	Kirsten Paindiris



April Anniversaries :

April 5	Ned and Alice Vendrick
April 12	Marion and Gail Glover
April 14	Ted and Sara Avant
April 29	Cheryl and Donnie Clayton

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.

Prayer List April- June, 2020

Each week, Good Shepherd publishes a prayer list in the bulletin.

If you would like to place someone on the prayer list for longer than one Sunday, please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. If you prefer, you can email your request to thewickers@lowcountry.com

To be prayed for:

Requested by:

Condition:

Please remove:

A **new** prayer list will be started every three months.