



November 2020

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From Your Interim Pastor :

This last week on the drive up to Walterboro my wife read to me the history of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I had read it some time ago, but in hearing it again I was struck by the determination and dedication of the founders and long time members of this congregation. They faced tremendous challenges---from the dizzying numbers of pastors who served them in their early years, trying to build a building in the midst of a world war, having a couple of springs sprout in the basement of their fellowship hall. It's been an amazing 80 years, even if we had to postpone celebrating it in September.

This year will add some additional interesting chapters to that story. Nowhere in the past was their talk of needing to close the church facilities for months on end, canceling more activities and ministries than in our entire history. We'll be able to write of how we learned to worship electronically---mailing out bulletins and sermons----and several months outside under the portico (what a blessing it has been to have that structure take on new significance. When all is said and done, we may need to give that portico a name!

As we move into the winter months, you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter of the council's decision to move back into the sanctuary with significant, detailed precautions for keeping everyone safe. We've all read of Covid outbreaks from church gatherings in other communities. The last thing we want is for one of our own to be hospitalized on a ventilator. So, understand that we want to be extra careful in everything we do. I thank you in advance for your thoughtful compliance. And for those who still

don't feel safe, we'll continue to send out those bulletins and broadcast on Zoom each week.

In November we'll say goodbye to those many Sundays after Pentecost---that part of the church year that focuses on our life as followers of Christ. On November 1st we celebrate All Saints Sunday as we remember those who have passed on from us to God in the previous 12 months as well as all who have served as models of faith for us. On November 22nd it's Christ the King Sunday---the last Sunday of the church year and the celebrating of the final victory that awaits us all. And on November 29th we begin the Advent season. Time sure flies by, even in a pandemic. November 1 also marks one year that I have been with you as your interim pastor. Who could have known a year ago what an unusual journey we'd be on? Thank you for your support and faithfulness for the sake of your church.

Pastor Craig

Service Committee is Looking for Volunteers

Amy Rusnak will be joining our team to help organize meals for our people who need help following hospital stays or just need help with meals. If you would like to add your name to the list, please call Linda Gilgen at (843)844-8181.

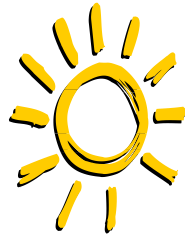
Also if anyone is interested in preparing meals to go in the freezer to be used when needed, please call.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to provide for our members.

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.

Sunshine News :

Church Council met at a “call meeting” on Sunday, October 25, to consider recommendations from the Worship and Music Committee for returning to indoor worship in the sanctuary. Council approved returning to indoor worship on Sunday, November 8, using the guidelines included in this newsletter.



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 on the table, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to Diane Wicker. The prayer list is updated every three months. You may also email your prayer requests to thewickers@lowcountry.com.

Our loose and special designated offerings for November will support the **ELCA World Hunger**. **World Hunger** responds to hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world by addressing root causes. Through a comprehensive program of **relief, development, education, and advocacy**, people are connected to the resources they need to lift themselves out of poverty.

ELCA World Hunger responds to Christ’s call to “Go and do likewise” (Luke 10:37), serving with compassion people who are most vulnerable, paying focused attention to the full participation of women and the needs of children.

Together, in Christ’s name, **we experience the transforming power of connection**. As individuals, congregations, and synods, our humble offerings and actions are gathered, blessed, and multiplied. Together, we are ELCA World Hunger.

This is not a budgeted item, but you can help by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for **“World Hunger”** on your offering envelope.

The Sanctuary Candles for the month of November are given to the glory of God by Shannon and Billy Guess in honor of Bud and Sue Nussman’s anniversary.

**** 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”**.

EMPTY BOWLS 2020

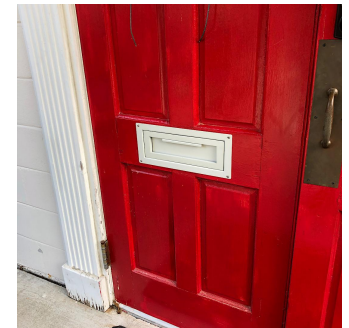
It is with sadness and regret that The Lowcountry Empty Bowls group announces the cancellation of the 2020 program soup lunch/supper. The Coronavirus has made big changes in the lives of all of us. The CDC and others are still cautioning everyone to continue to take care now, to maintain social distancing measures, to wear masks, and to guard against needless exposure in large gatherings.

Because of our new “closed-down” world, our local food pantries are even more important. More families are living closer to the financial edge; more people, more children need help to avoid hunger. In order to help our community meet this need and to make up for the loss of the revenues normally generated by our event, we are asking everyone to send a check to Lowcountry Empty Bowls, P.O. Box 531, Walterboro, SC 29488. The monies will be collected and divided up among the food pantries of Bethel United Methodist Church, Cottageville Methodist Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, St Anthony’s Catholic Church, and St Jude’s Church, the five churches that have provided the soup, bread, desserts and servers for our past meals. We will continue this collection through December 31, 2020, so please give when and what you can.

We want to thank everyone who has made our past events so successful and look forward to resuming this wonderful program as soon as conditions allow. In the meantime, please keep safe and healthy!

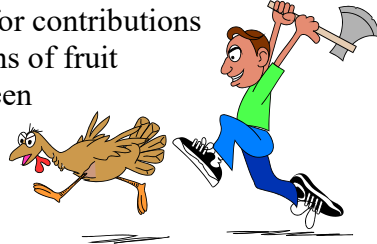
A New Drop Box!

At their October meeting, members of church Council approved the addition of a drop box on the door of the Fellowship Hall. The drop box has been installed and is ready for items that you need to leave for the church office, including offering envelopes. Simply pull down the flap, insert your envelope, close the flap, and open once again to make sure your item fell into the secure box inside the Hall.



Food Pantry

For the months of November and December we will have a **food drive to help support our food pantry** here at Good Shepherd. Our food pantry distributes food to those in need in our community. Currently donations of goods are needed instead of cash donations because of the inability to make bulk purchases at this time. We are asking for contributions of nonperishable food items such as cans of fruit cocktail, whole kernel corn, and cut green beans, boxes of saltines, bags of rice, spaghetti noodles, pasta sauce, ramen noodles, and peanut butter.



Good Shepherd Women:

The **Good Shepherd Women** will be meeting this month on Monday, November 2, at 6:30 pm at the church. This meeting will be BYOM (Bring Your Own Meal). We will have a brief business session followed by Bible study.

Christian Education:

The **Christian Education committee** will be meeting on Saturday, November 7, at 10:00 am via Zoom. We will be discussing plans for the children's service activity on Saturday, November 14, as well as plans for December. Please watch the bulletin, the website, and Facebook for further information.

Worship and Music

The **Worship and Music Committee** met after the worship service on Sunday, October 18, for the purpose of discussing plans to returning to worship in the sanctuary. A set of guidelines, as well as a start date, were discussed and referred to church council for approval.

We will be taking orders for **poinsettias for Christmas Eve**. An order form is included in this newsletter. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 6, 2020. Please make all checks payable to Good Shepherd and note "poinsettias" on the memo line.

October Council meeting notes : 10-11-2020

Amy Rusnak opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

1. The Pastor's report, financial report, Good Shepherd WELCA report, and Christian Ed Committee report were received as information.
2. Carl Lindstrom attended the meeting via Zoom to report on the Property Committee. The assessment of the parsonage repair needs is ongoing.
3. Charlotte Brinson attended the meeting via Zoom to report on the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry was open two days during September, but securing large quantities of food to support the distribution effort has been an issue for the committee members.
4. Council approved a request by the Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA to host a "take-out" spaghetti dinner on Saturday, February 13, 2021.
5. Council approved a gift of \$200 to St. Anthony's Catholic Church, from our Social Ministry funds, to support their community Thanksgiving Dinner project.
6. Council approved the purchase and installation of a drop box on the Fellowship Hall door to provide a safe place to drop off offerings or other material for the church. The cost of the box will be taken from our Thirvent Choice Dollars account.
7. Council approved recording the Council meetings on Zoom for use by the Secretary and for any member who misses the meeting. The recording will be deleted approximately four weeks after the meeting due to storage space on "the cloud."
8. Members discussed the Congregational Sustainability Assessment form from the Synod that will be completed as part of the Call Process. Doug Lindstrom, Garrett Brinson, Dean Brinson and Kevin Wicker will work on that form prior to the November Council meeting.
9. Members discussed the upcoming ballot for election of new Council members and how to administer that ballot in light of the Covid precautions.
10. Members also discussed resuming indoor worship, but decided to allow the Worship and Music committee time to meet and provide recommendations prior to the November Council meeting.

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

SERVING IN NOVEMBER

Lay Reader
Communion Assistant
Grounds Care

Tara Brinson
Kevin Wicker
Doug Brinson \
Garrett Brinson
Dean Brinson
Ushers will be selected
by Council for return to
indoor worship services

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In October !!!

*****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 Fund

Given by:

John & Linda Gilgen
Kevin & Diane Wicker
Doug & Ellen Brinson

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen

Parsonage HVAC Fund

Given by:

Doug Lindstrom

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen

General Fund

Given by:

Gene & Kathie Whetsell
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Silver
Bill & Janice Young
Shannon Guess

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen

Food Pantry

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker
Doug & Ellen Brinson

In Memory of:

Joanne Ferguson
Joanne Ferguson

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim Strickland, Buddy and Joyce Carter, Frances Barton, Ted and Sara Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Frank and Marie Wilson, Margaret Juttner, Gloria Ferris, Gail and Carl Lindstrom, Ron Szymanski, Eleanore Gloeckler, the family of Mary Lommen

Friends and Family

Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Bill Walters, the family of Lisa O'Quinn, Grace LaRoach, Michelle Rousch (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Diann Tuthill (Lisa Mezell), DeeDee Eason Burns, Tammy Long, Clyde Frazier, William Cummings, Ashlyn Johnk (Kathie Whetsell), Hugh Wilson, the family of Joanne Ferguson, the family of Margie Wannamaker.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of **Mrs. Mary Lommen**, who passed away on Friday, October 9, 2020. Mrs. Lommen was a long time member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church where she actively served in many of the church roles. Services are being deferred until a future date – TBD.

Also keep in your prayers the family and friends of **Joanna Ferguson**, Charlotte Brinson's sister, who passed away Friday, October 26, 2020. To many she was well known for her sweet spirit and humble character.

And finally, for those that have attended Good Shepherd for many years, remember in your prayers the family and friends of **Margie Wannamaker**, the daughter of Mrs. Bessie Smith, who also passed into eternal rest on Friday, October 16, 2020. Mrs. Bessie was an organist at Good Shepherd for many years. A graveside service was held at Live Oaks Cemetery here in Walterboro.

May God grant each of these sisters in Christ eternal rest and ease the suffering of their families and friends.

Financial Corner:

At their meeting in October, the Council members approved the purchase and installation of a **secure drop box** on the front door of the Fellowship Hall. The box will provide a place where you can drop your offering off at the church if you would like. Currently, members and friends are giving their offerings for our ministry in person at the outdoor worship service, by Tithely on-line giving, or by way of the U.S. mail. The drop box offers an additional safe method of giving to the church. The funds for the drop box will come from our Thrivent Choice Dollars account.

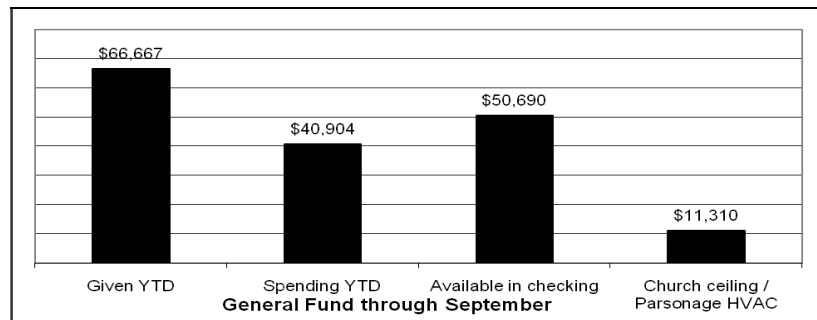
Last month we talked about completing the payback to the **Wallace Fund** for the Fellowship Hall roof, and beginning to repay the Fund for the parsonage HVAC replacement and sanctuary ceiling water damage repair. We have already begun receiving gifts for that purpose. You can monitor the progress of that effort each month in the diagram below. Currently, the balance owed to the Wallace Fund for those two projects is **\$11,310**.

Thank you all so much for your continuing support of the ministry of Good Shepherd. As always, if you have questions concerning the finances of Good Shepherd, please give me a call.

Until next month: peace, joy and good health. And, I hope to see you outdoors or on-line for church. — Kevin

September Offering and Gifts

General Fund	\$ 6,403
Wallace Fund	410
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	170
Lutheran Homes of SC	105
Sanctuary Candles	20



Christmas Poinsettia- Order Form

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve, please fill out the form and place in the offering plate. There are two options with the price listed for each option. Please make your check payable to Good Shepherd. You may pick up your poinsettia following the Christmas Eve service.

Deadline to order is Sunday, December 6, 2020.

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Size

_____ small: \$20

_____ large: \$25

Color

_____ red

_____ white

Check enclosed Yes _____ No _____

Check # _____

NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 2:00 AM Daylight Savings time ends 10:00 AM All Saints Day / Communion followed by Confirmation class. <u>Birthday :</u> Becky Hitchens	2 6:30 PM Good Shepherd Women meet. <u>Birthday :</u> Anthony Casella	3 Election Day 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry <u>Birthday :</u> Brantley Carter <u>Anniversary :</u> Garrett & Tara Brinson	4 <u>Birthday :</u> Leila Shaw	5	6	7 10:00 AM Christian Ed. Committee via Zoom <u>Anniversary :</u> Sue & Bud Nussman
8 10:00 AM Worship followed by Worship and Music Committee 5:00 PM Council (Zoom) <u>Birthday :</u> Julie Epple <u>Anniversary :</u> Phil & Carrie Shaw	9 1:00-7:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive	10 <u>Birthday :</u> Martin Luther (1483)	11 Veterans Day <u>Birthday :</u> Bob Ferris	12 <u>Birthday :</u> Braeden Rhea Westbury	13	14 10:00 AM Children's Service Activity
15 10:00 AM Worship Service	16	17 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry <u>Birthday :</u> Dorn Cammon	18	19	20 <u>Birthday :</u> Kevin Crosby	21 <u>Birthday :</u> Patrick Smith Patrick Gamble
22 10:00 AM Christ the King Sunday 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline <u>Birthday :</u> Charles Roberts	23 <u>Birthday :</u> Vonda Calcutt	24	25 <u>Birthday :</u> Ben Wicker Alice Vendrick	26 Thanksgiving Day !!! <u>Birthday :</u> Donnie Clayton	27	28
29 10:00 AM First Sunday of Advent	30 <u>Anniversary :</u> Danielle & Douglas Fraser	1	2	3	4	5

Sanctuary Indoor Worship Resumes on Sunday, November 8, 2020.

Church Council met on October 25 and approved returning to indoor worship on Sunday, November 8. Council members also approved the following guidelines for indoor worship. Transmitting and recording of the service will continue using Zoom for those who prefer to worship from home.

1. All participants will be required to wear masks, which cover mouth and nose, to be admitted to the sanctuary and for the duration of the service.
2. If you do not feel well that morning, please do not come to church.
3. If anyone who attends worship, and thereafter tests positive within a week, they should notify Council Chair Jon Carpenter or Pastor Craig.
4. An usher will be present to do a temperature check of each person at the door and to offer hand sanitizer before entering the sanctuary.
5. Members and friends will be asked to stay outside until admitted to the sanctuary by the usher.
6. The ushers will constantly monitor the narthex and the sanctuary during the service to greet people who may enter during the service, check their temperature, offer hand sanitizer, take them to a suitable socially distanced seat, and to take care of any needs of the congregation.
7. Social distancing will be observed with seating in designated pews with assistance from an usher. (Pew cushions will be removed and selected pews will be marked off.)
8. There will be a table in the narthex where bulletins will be available for pick-up and an offering plate for the placement of offerings.
9. The water fountain will be closed, but water bottles will be available.
10. Interior doors will be left open to eliminate the need to touch doors and door handles.
11. Each worshipper is responsible to use the spray sanitizer provided in the restroom after each use.
12. Outside doors will be left open, as weather permits, for better air circulation.
13. There will be no singing during the service while in the sanctuary. "Humming" will be encouraged.
14. Every effort will be made to keep the length of the service to 40 minutes or less.
15. Worshipers will be asked to turn off their smartphones WiFi feature or place them in "airplane" mode so as to not use the limited WiFi that we'll be using for Zoom.
16. The sanctuary will be closed for 48 hours following each service.

Note: The ushers will need to arrive 20 minutes before worship to check those in attendance as they arrive and direct them to their seats.