



August 2021

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From the Pastor :

August signals a time when we squeeze in those last bits of summer leisure before school starts back and the fall routine kicks in. At Good Shepherd we'll have a few guest pastors as Georgia and I spend some vacation time in the Colorado Mountains and do my one Sunday at St. Johns in Beaufort. These are good opportunities for you to be exposed to a variety of preaching styles and appreciate the gifts of several different leaders. Toward the end of the month or early in September we'll receive the results from our Congregational Vitality Survey. Pastor Rick Carter and Bishop Aebischer will come to provide those results in person, likely at a midweek time. While the information alone will be interesting, we'll likely provide food as an added incentive to attend.

The call committee has been working on our Ministry Site Profile which will provide potential leaders with a detailed description of the life and mission of Good Shepherd. In some ways, I wish all of you could be involved in those discussions. They have been both inspiring and challenging. This congregation does so many things for being such a small community. But we face lots of challenges as both a church and a more rural community. The issue isn't so much survival as how do we thrive in an environment that seems to value other things. As we talked about challenges ahead, we noted that smaller communities like Walterboro really suffered from the pandemic. Our businesses already operated at a slimmer margin than those in higher population areas. Some have closed and may never come back. Likewise many laborers gravitated to the larger population centers where wages are higher. Certainly we want to be mindful of trying to support our local businesses as they work to recover.

I know many of you are eager to fully return to pre-pandemic routines. While the current virus infection rates are low in Colleton County, the threats of the Delta variant and other possible mutations have us being cautious and watchful. We have returned to singing in worship but continue to keep the service shortened by skipping some of the normal liturgy. Fellowship activities are returning as well, but still mindful of the need for care. The latest indications are that vaccines, while highly effective, probably won't be available to children under 12 for some months yet. Vaccine hesitancy also frustrates our efforts toward recovery.

But what have we learned in this last year and a half? Certainly we are discovering our resiliency and creativity. We have made adaptations and rolled with the punches in ways we would have never done in the normal routine. Streaming worship, adjusting how we do our service ministries, figuring out how to continue our teaching and children's outreach have all been remarkable. Our faith in God's love and grace are unwavering. Members are still helping one another, maybe more than ever. Maybe like the people of Israel wandering in the desert or in the Babylonian exile, our future may be even stronger and our faith more sure as a result of this experience.

Pastor Craig

Call Committee update

Your **Call Committee** met twice in June and once during July to work on the **Ministry Site Profile**. And, Council Chair Amy Rusnak sent the hardcopies of the **Congregational Vitality Survey** to Baylor University to be combined with those that were completed online. When available, the results of the survey will be presented to the congregation by Bishop Ginny Aebischer and Pastor Rick Carter through the means of a meeting of members and friends of Good Shepherd. (We hope that will happen in August.) Once the survey results are received, the Call Committee can complete the Ministry Site Profile and present it to the Church Council for approval.

Your Call Committee members are Angela Ferris, Shannon Guess, Kathie Whetsell, Rob Rusnak, Jon Carpenter and Kevin Wicker.

Sunshine News :

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 Diane Wicker. The prayer list is updated every three months. You may also email your prayer requests to thewickers@lowcountry.com.

SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday, September 19, 2021, Good Shepherd will celebrate 80+ years of ministry in Walterboro and 20 years in our current sanctuary with a Homecoming Service. Pastor Rebecca Wicker will be with us that day to bring the message. A catered meal will follow the service. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for further information.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with Lutheroad Day Camp the week of July 19- 23, 2021. We had a good week with a wonderful group of children and counselors, plus a great group of volunteers!

Our loose and special designated offering for August will support the **Pee Dee Indians** of the upstate. We are helping the Pee Dee Tribe build a multipurpose building on 14 acres that was donated to the tribe. The building will be used as a free medical clinic, an occasional shelter for the homeless, a place for children to come for tutoring and play in a safe environment and a nice building to use for meetings and gatherings. There will be a small area set aside as a museum of their heritage. Chief Peter Parr and the entire tribe are very excited about what we are doing. One of the Chief's statements about our efforts this year was, "You just can't out do God."

This is not a budgeted item, but you can help the PeeDee Indians by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for "**PeeDee Indians**" on your offering envelope.

The Sanctuary Candles for the month of August are given to the glory of God by Rob and Amy Rusnak in honor of Rob's birthday.



DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Service Committee

Given by:

Janet Szymanski
Bob & Gloria Ferris

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen

Wallace Fund

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen

Lommen Love Fund

Given by:

Shannon Guess

In Honor of:

Sue Nussman (Birthday)

Given by:

Pastor Nancy Oliver
Shannon Guess

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen

Organ Repair

Given by:

Shannon Guess

In Memory of:

Ms. Jane Neal
(Sue Nussman's sister)

General Fund

Given by:

B. E. "Edd" Wicker
Emmett Wicker
Edwina Wicker

In Honor of:

Kevin Wicker (Birthday)
Kevin Wicker (Birthday)
Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

Lutheroad Fund

Given by:

Rebecca Wicker
Marilyn Zielke
Dorn Cammon

In Memory of:

Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen
Mary Lommen

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker

In Honor of:

Lutheroad Volunteers
(Janet Szymanski, Marie Wilson,
Maria Rodriguez, Kathie
Whetsell, Rod Rusnak)

Financial Corner

I hope your summer is going well thus far. There's not a lot to report regarding the month of June. Boring financial reports are usually good because they indicate things are running within budget, and gifts are exceeding expenses. I would note that we had some generous gifts to the **Wallace Fund** during June which have reduced the amount that we "owe" the fund for the church ceiling repairs and the parsonage HVAC to \$5,550.

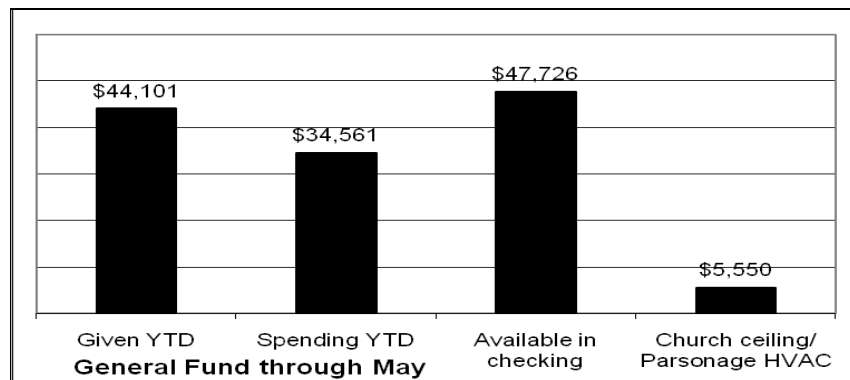
I would also note that by now you should have received your **mid-year financial statement** from our Recording Secretary, Doug Brinson. If you see any errors in how we have recorded your gifts to the church for the first six months of the year, please contact Doug.

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. And, I hope to see you in person or on-line for church.

Kevin

June Offering and Gifts :

General Fund	\$ 6,673
Service Committee	\$ 95
Lutheroad	\$ 363
Flowers	\$ 95
Wallace Fund	\$ 2,040
Candles	\$ 20
Maintenance Fund	\$ 60



Thank You !

I would like to thank everyone for the phone calls and visits. Special thanks to Pastor Craig for his phone calls and visit (I thoroughly enjoyed meeting him and our visit), Kathie Whetsell for the fresh veggies and fruit plus taking me to the doctor and the beautiful card, Charles and Faye Rister for the food, and Kevin Wicker for delivering the beautiful church flowers.

Everything was greatly appreciated and enjoyed!

Cleo Gartner

On behalf of the entire Lommen family, we are so very grateful for all of the love we were given at Mom's Celebration of Life service on Thursday, June 24. The service was just perfect and we know Mom would have been so happy that we were in her church. We were so honored that so many people could attend even on a weekday. Thank you for the flowers and the special effort in putting up the tree to honor our family. The reception that followed was just beautiful and such great food to enjoy. The special snack bags to celebrate Mom's life were really special as was all the food that was so generously given and prepared. While this is still such a challenging COVID time, you all went above and beyond to make our family feel loved and we appreciate every special touch and effort put forward.

May God continue to bless you all and keep you in His care. With all of our love and thanksgiving for this amazing Good Shepherd Lutheran Church family.

Kim, Chris, Greg, Pete, Jamie, and our families

SERVING IN AUGUST

Lay Reader

Kathie Whetsell

Communion Assistant

Marie Wilson

Acolyte

Volunteer Needed

Ushers

Jon Carpenter /

Kevin Wicker

Grounds Care

Dean Brinson

Council Devotions

Dean Brinson

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In July !!!

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

July Council meeting notes : 7-11-2021

Council met following worship on Sunday, July 11, in the Fellowship Hall. Amy opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

1. Pastor Craig informed the Council that he is coming to Walterboro one day a week and making some home visits. Pastor also informed Council of his schedule for August and September.
2. Council approved that any “undesigned” funds that have been received in memory of **Mrs. Mary Lommen** be used for our **Lutheroad Day Camp**.
3. Council accepted a second estimate from **Property Committee** chair, Carl Lindstrom, on prices for replacement windows for the parsonage. They also asked Shannon for a price estimate that she has on file for painting the parsonage windows and trim. Council was also informed that Garrett has completed the installation of the new breaker box in the parsonage, and that project is nearing completion with the exception of a few loose ends that are being addressed.
4. Council approved a recommendation from the **Christian Ed Committee** for a Doscher/Fellers Scholarship for Haleigh Gamble. Haleigh plans to attend Charleston Southern University in the fall, pursuing a degree in Social Studies Education. She will be using the funds to help with paying for books and enrollment fees.
5. Council approved a recommendation from the **Worship and Music Committee** to cater the meal for our Homecoming Sunday on September 19 and to fund that meal from the Thrivent Choice Dollars account.
6. Amy reported that members of the Good Shepherd **WELCA**, and friends, are planning to begin painting the Pastor’s office on Saturday, July 24.
7. Amy informed the Council that the Congregational Vitality Survey (CVS) is near completion and she will be sending those to Baylor University for processing. Once the results are available, Bishop Ginny Aebischer and Pastor Rick Carter will schedule a meeting with the

entire congregation to discuss those results. Amy also reported that the **Call Committee** is meeting regularly to work on the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). Some of the data from the Congregational Site Survey will be incorporated into the Ministry Site Profile once the CVS results are available. The Ministry Site Profile will be presented to the congregation, and will be made available to perspective candidates for pastor of Good Shepherd.

The next Council meeting will be on Sunday, August 15, following worship.

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

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim Strickland, Joyce Carter, Frances Barton, Ted & Sara Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Frank & Marie Wilson, Margaret Juttner, Gloria Ferris, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Ron Szymanski, Eleanore Gloeckler, Ernie & Cleo Gartner, Gene Whetsell



Friends and Family

Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Bill Walters, the family of Lisa O’Quinn, the family of Caroline Wertz (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland (Ray and Theresa Strickland), the family of Janice Sauls, Robert Dorroh, Jr. (the Wickers), John Green (Maria Rodriguez), the family of Will Blackmon, Carolyn Bishop, Fran Pye, Deborah Walker (the Risters), Dwayne Davis (Amy Rusnak)



Christian Education:

The next meeting of the Christian Education committee will be Saturday, August 14, 2021, at 10:00 am at the church. We will be discussing plans for Wonderful Wednesday in the fall.

Worship and Music

The Worship & Music Committee met after worship on Sunday, July 11. The worship guidelines were reviewed. No updates were made at this time. Plans for Homecoming Sunday, September 19, 2021, were discussed. Rev. Rebecca Wicker has agreed to come and bring the message that day. There will be a meal after the service. After some discussion, it was decided that the meal would be catered. A request was sent to the church council that Thrivent Choice dollars be used to cover the costs of the dinner. Council approved the request. Diane will check with suggested caterers for prices before the next committee meeting. Faye will bring the list of those invited for the 75th celebration, as well.

The Worship & Music Committee will have their next meeting after the service on Sunday, August 8, to review the current worship guidelines and to continue planning for Homecoming Sunday, September 19, 2021.

Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd Women are currently on summer break. Their next meeting will be Monday, August 30, 2021, at 6:00 pm at the church. Maria Rodriguez will be the hostess for the evening.

Alter Flowers for August

August 1	Diane Wicker
August 8	Cheryl Clayton
August 15	Rob and Amy Rusnak
August 22	Vendricks
August 29	Maria Rodriguez

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."

AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 AM Worship with Communion.	2 <u>Birthdays :</u> Ray DeLonge Sandy Alberts Marge Johnston	3 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry <u>Birthday :</u> John McCullough <u>Anniversary :</u> Dean & Candace Fralix	4 7:00-9:30 AM BNI Meeting in the Fellowship Hall <u>Birthday :</u> Caroline Reynolds	5	6	7
8 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Worship & Music Committee Meeting. <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor Norton Rosebrock	9 <u>Birthdays :</u> Rusty Mezel Donna Murphy	10	11 7:00-9:30 AM BNI Meeting in the Fellowship Hall	12	13	14 10:00 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting <u>Birthday :</u> Dalbert Reser
15 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Church Council Meeting <u>Birthday :</u> Rob Rusnak	16 <u>Birthday :</u> Tara Brinson	17 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry <u>Birthdays :</u> Angela Crosby Sara Avant	18 7:00-9:30 AM BNI Meeting in the Fellowship Hall <u>Birthday :</u> Justine Murphy	19 <u>Birthday :</u> Erin Johnston	20	21
22 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline <u>Birthday :</u> Theresa Reynolds Barton	23 <u>Birthday :</u> Eddie Werntz	24 <u>Birthdays :</u> Faye Rister Merri Simons	25 7:00-9:30 AM BNI Meeting in the Fellowship Hall <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor Craig Boehlke	26 <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor John Wertz <u>Anniversary :</u> Winfield & Merri Simons	27	28
29 10:00 AM Worship Service 4:00 PM Special Gathering Board Meeting.	30 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women Meeting. <u>Birthdays :</u> Sheree Avant Jamie Strickland	31 <u>Birthday :</u> Ernie Gartner	1	2	3	4