



March 2021

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From Your Interim Pastor :

One of the unique differences of living in the low country after all my years in Minnesota is the coming of spring. Up north the Lenten season was all in winter, with maybe the earliest hints of spring if Easter was in late April. Here, while the Lenten season emphasizes a time of austerity and contemplation, it seems like nature around us is already bursting forth in celebration. Okay, so this year spring has been a little slow, but I have no doubt that by the time you read this the redbuds will be in bloom and the lorapetalums will be popping out. The contrast doesn't end there. In Minnesota spring often seemed like a 2-4-week season, whereas we get a robust 3 months or more of this glorious season.

With the coming of spring this year we have hope for the return of a more normal life. My wife and I have been fortunate to have received both doses of the Pfizer vaccine with the only side affect being a slightly sore arm. Right now, the availability of the vaccines is limited, but that will likely change dramatically within the next month or two. As a congregation we are making plans for summer camps and Lutherroad. We expect to be able to do more and more safely as vaccinations accelerate and the prevalence of the virus diminishes. While maintaining vigilance, I encourage all of you to begin to anticipate what we can be planning.

As we continue through the Lenten season, I invite you to continue to participate in both Sunday and Thursday opportunities to revisit our Lutheran catechism. These are fundamentals of our faith which help sustain us, particularly in times of trouble. Being able to recite some of these from memory is an asset. And understanding more of the background makes our words and rituals more meaningful. Toward the end of the Small Catechism Luther has offered us morning, evening, and table prayers. I'd encourage you to try using these (or something similar) to frame your day and mealtimes in God's care. The pandemic has no

doubt brought us some bad habits----but here's a chance to develop a new, life-giving practice for each day.

Finally, don't let your guard down now. We've come so far and there's light ahead. Continue to care for yourself and others. Stay in touch with family, friends, and your church community. Stay safe and we'll see you soon.

Pastor Craig

Thank You!

Thanks to **Mrs. Ferne Brandt** and Special Gathering for the cable covers we now have in the sanctuary to help us avoid trip hazards with our Zoom equipment. Also, thanks to Mrs. Ferne for the hand sanitizer spray we use in our restrooms.

Also thank you to **Nancy Peer** for her donation to the new "**Lommen Love Fund**" in memory of Arden & Mary Lommen.

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

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

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), William Cummings, Ashlyn Johnk, Tammy Long (Kathie Whetsell), the family of Kathy Janney, Rick Janney (the Risters), Dalton Shealy, Pastor Tommy Lineberger (Kevin Wicker), John Green (Maria Rodriguez)

Sunshine News :

Tithe sheets for 2020 have been mailed out to anyone that made a contribution to Good Shepherd. If you made a donation and did not receive a tithe sheet or if you received one that has an error on it that needs correcting – please contact me at:

Doug Brinson
380 Chamblee Road
Walterboro, SC 29488
DJBrinson@yahoo.com



The **2021 Church Directory** is available in the church narthex and church office. Due to Covid concerns, please let one of your Council members know if you would like one delivered or mailed to your home. Please, if you find errors in the directory, notify Kevin Wicker, preferable in writing.

There are **no altar flowers** for the month of March because of Lent.

Our **midweek Lenten program** continues this month via Zoom each Thursday at 7:00 pm. Information about the program will be sent out each week by email and mail. Our theme this year is “A Renewed Look at the Small Catechism.” Please join us as much as you are able.

Our **Lenten offerings** this year will go to support Newberry College and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

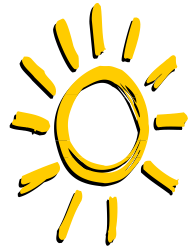
The next **Red Cross Blood drive** will be Monday, March 8, 2021, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Contact the Red Cross for an appointment. **Volunteers** are needed to perform temperature checks as donors enter the parish hall. Contact Diane Wicker if you are willing to help.

Wonderful Wednesday will meet this month on Wednesday, March 10, and Wednesday, March 24. We start at 5:00 pm and finish at 7:00 pm. A light meal is provided for all participants. The children’s class will be looking at the events of Holy Week leading up to Easter. The adult class is led by Kevin Wicker.

The **Sanctuary Candles for the month of March** are given to the glory of God by Doug and Ellen Brinson

Sunshine News : (Continued)

The annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will be Saturday, March 27, from 10:00 am to 12 noon. Watch the bulletin and the website for further information



The **church history** has been updated to include the activities of 2020. It can be viewed on the church website. Copies of the 2020 portion of the history are available in the narthex or by request.

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.

Our loose and special designated offering for March will support our **Lutheroad Day Camp** at Good Shepherd this summer. **Lutheroad** is a day camp led by counselors from **Lutheridge** that will be held July 19 through 23. Lutheroad is a fun-filled week for our children who have completed grades Kindergarten through Fifth. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help offset the **\$4,500 cost** of Day Camp by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for “**Lutheroad**” on your offering envelope.

SERVING IN MARCH

Lay Reader	Rob Rusnak
Communion Assistant	Kevin Wicker
Acolyte	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Ushers	Jon Carpenter
	Doug Lindstrom
Grounds Care	Kevin Wicker
Council Devotions	Kathie Whetsell

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In February !!!

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

February Council meeting notes : 2-21-2021

Kevin opened the meeting with devotionals.

1. Carl Lindstrom, Property Committee chair, reported that the Property Committee is seeking bids to replace the HVAC units in the sanctuary. Those bids are due March 6. He also reported that Dean Brinson has made much needed repairs to the accordion door in the Fellowship Hall. Carl is also organizing a walk-through of the Pastor's Office and the Parsonage to develop a list of items that need to be addressed.
2. Council approved the parsonage back yard oak tree removal cost be taken from the Maintenance Savings Account using some of the remaining funds from the parsonage roof replacement.
3. Pastor Craig reported on plans for Lenten services and the upcoming Worship and Music Committee meeting to discuss Holy Week and Easter services.
4. Amy reported on the Executive Committee meeting, the Christian Education committee meeting, the restart of the Wonderful Wednesday program, Lutheroad Day camp plans for this summer, upcoming Camp and Education Scholarships, the WELCA Spaghetti dinner and the church Social Ministry/Food Pantry program. Amy also briefly discussed the 2020 congregational summary report to the ELCA.
5. Council approved the Christian Education Committee motion on the cost of Lutheroad Day Camp for campers and the amount of Education Scholarships for the Fall semester. These funds come from the Doscher and Fellers Scholarship Fund.
6. Council approved the purchase of a laptop computer for Zoom worship, Confirmation class and Wonderful Wednesday. The computer will be purchased using Thrivent Choice Dollars.
7. Council appointed a subcommittee to develop written guidelines for our Social Ministry program and the newly established Lommen Love Fund. Council will review those guidelines next month. The subcommittee members are made up of Amy, Shannon and Kevin.
8. Kevin made Council aware of problems with the church organ that is being addressed by our representative from Fox Music.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Craig.

Your council members are Amy Rusnak (Chair), Shannon Guess (Vice Chair), Jon Carpenter (Secretary), Kathie Whetsell, Marie Wilson, Doug Lindstrom, Dean Brinson, Garrett Brinson and Kevin Wicker.

Financial Corner

At the congregational meeting on Sunday, February 7, the “in-person” and “Zoom” members voted to adopt the new **2021 Spending Plan for Ministry**. The 2021 Plan is 2.8% more than the 2020 Plan, which equates to an increase of \$44 per week needed. The new Plan is based on assumptions that we will return to a more “normal” ministry in 2021 as the virus is brought under control. It is also based on our present model of ministering with our Interim Pastor. As it was so well pointed out by Council member Dean Brinson during the meeting, if we reach the point during the year that we are ready to call a Pastor for Good Shepherd, we will revise and vote on another Spending Plan for the remainder of the year.

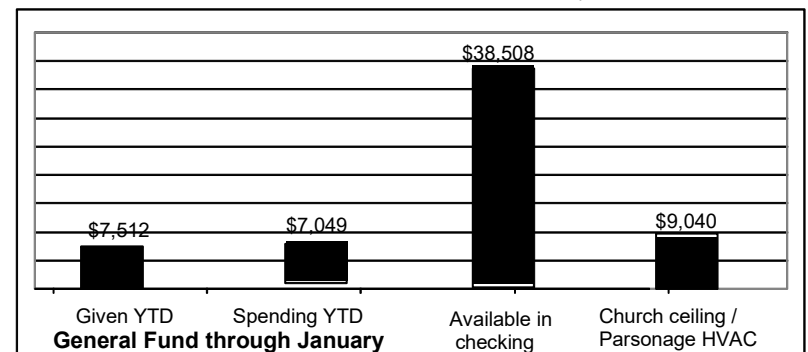
Thanks to Charles and Faye Rister for their **Thrivent Choice Dollars** donation during January.

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 in person or on-line for church.

Kevin

January offering and gifts :

General Fund	\$ 7,511
Initial Offering	\$ 76
Flowers	\$ 225
Candles	\$ 20
Lutheran Home of SC	\$ 100
Wallace Fund	\$ 650
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 1,481
Lilies	\$ 75
Maintenance Fund	\$ 80



Good Shepherd Women:

Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the women's spaghetti dinner fundraiser held on Saturday, February 13. We had a successful event (in spite of the rain).

The next meeting of the Good Shepherd Women will be Monday, March 1, 2021, at 6:00 pm at the church. The meal will be provided by Faye Rister.

Christian Education:

The next meeting of the Christian Education committee will be Saturday, March 6, at 10:00 am via Zoom. Plans for the Easter Egg hunt will be discussed.

Lutherad Day Camp will be coming to Good Shepherd the week of July 19-23, 2021 (Monday- Friday). Applications will be available in April. The cost per child will be \$60.

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 see Diane Wicker for applications. The deadline for receiving applications is **May 1**.

Worship and Music

The Worship and Music Committee will meet after worship on Sunday, February 28, 2021. We will be discussing plans for Holy Week and Easter. Please watch the bulletin and the website for further information about Holy Week.

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.

MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	1 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women meet. Birthday : Mason Alberts	2 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry Birthday : Tyler Westbury	3 Birthday : Donnie Eason	4 7:00 PM Lenten Service (via Zoom)	5 Birthday : Garrett Brinson	6 10:00 AM Christian Education meets (via Zoom)
7 10:00 AM Worship with Communion Deadline to order Easter Lilies	8 1-7 PM Red Cross Blood Drive Birthday : Andrew Hitchens	9	10 5-7 PM Wonderful Wednesday Birthdays : Haleigh Gamble Hannah Gamble	11 7:00 PM Lenten Service (via Zoom)	12	13 Birthday : Maria Rodriguez
14 Daylight Saving Time 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Church Council via Zoom Birthday : Winfield Simons	15 Birthdays : Frances Barton Charlotte Brinson Jeremiah Johnston	16 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 7:00 PM Lenten Service (via Zoom)	19	20 Birthday : Barrett Lord
21 10:00 AM Worship Service Birthday : Charles Rister	22 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline	23 Birthday : Eddie Sineath	24 5-7 PM Wonderful Wednesday	25 7:00 PM Lenten Service (via Zoom) Anniversary : Kevin & Angela Crosby	26	27 10:00 AM - Noon Easter Egg Hunt
28 10:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship	29 Birthday : Candace Fralix	30	31	1 Maundy Thursday April Fool's Day	2 Good Friday	3