



The Shepherd's Staff

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

May 2021

From Your Interim Pastor :

We're finally at a turning point! On May 2 the congregation will elect a call committee, some 18 months after my interim service began. On May 16 Bishop Aebischer from the South Carolina Synod will join us in worship and then meet with the council and call committee to outline the process for seeking a new pastor. This has been a long time coming. You have been most patient, especially when we were thrown the curve of dealing with a pandemic. We're still not finished with those precautions, but we're beginning to see light ahead that causes us to be hopeful.

Just so you know, there's still a lot of work to be done. One of the next steps is called the "Congregational Vitality Process". This includes a survey to be filled out by all the members and congregational associates. This survey, along with the next critical step, the Ministry Site Profile, attempt to express how God is at work in our church and community. Most importantly, what is God calling us to do in these next chapters of Good Shepherd's life.

When I came to Good Shepherd in November of 2019, the focus was on recovery and righting the ship after a difficult period. We barely were started on that when Covid hit and we scrambled to put together a ministry plan under the most challenging of circumstances. For a short time, we streamed with St. Johns in Beaufort until we were able to develop our own Zoom capabilities. By June we worshipped outside in addition to the Zoom offering. And then in November we moved inside (still Zooming), but with stringent protocols to keep everyone safe. Gradually more are being vaccinated and feeling more comfortable returning in person. Protocols are being adjusted, but it may be fall before we're able to significantly reduce our guard.

Over these months we've talked a lot about God's grace and presence in our lives. We've reflected on our history. Finally in September we'll celebrate that 80th anniversary one year later than planned. I've tried through preaching to teach more about our scriptures and our Lutheran theology, building a foundation for envisioning our future. Two of the three congregational calls I had in Minnesota were following a major congregational crisis, so I know that it takes time to restore confidence in our church and to hear the gospel message. I firmly believe we will get there. God is faithful and God's spirit is at work in us.

Work is beginning on a number of important areas. Wonderful Wednesday, the women's group, Worship and Music, and Council are back and summer camp will happen this year. Before long I expect we'll have the men's group and the Christian Education committee back in person. Repairs to the parsonage are in the planning stages. The pastor's office is being spiffed up. The sanctuary has a new HVAC system. All of this is really cool--- literally! In the months ahead communications will ramp up with surveys and information flowing. Stay tuned!

Pastor Craig

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Food Pantry

Given by:

Nancy Peer

In Memory of:

Ken Peer

Scholarship Fund

Given by:

Janet Szymanski
Charles & Faye

In Memory of:

Carolyn Wertz
Carolyn Wertz

Lutheroad

Given by:

Kevin Wicker

In Honor of:

Diane Wicker on her Birthday

Wallace Fund

Given by:

Robert & Kelly Markiewitz

In Honor of:

Charles Rister on his Birthday

Sunshine News :

There will be a **congregational meeting** after worship on Sunday, May 2, 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the proposed call committee as recommended by church council.



The **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be at Good Shepherd on Monday, May 10, 2021, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Volunteers will be needed to conduct temperature checks as donors arrive. Please see Diane Wicker if you are willing to volunteer.

Wonderful Wednesday will meet for the last time before summer break on Wednesday, May 12, beginning at 5:00 pm. This will be the annual movie night for the children. The meal will be served at 5:00 pm, so that the movie can begin at 5:30 pm. Wonderful Wednesday will return in September.

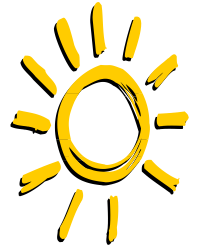
On **Sunday, May 23, 2021, the Day of Pentecost**, we will be receiving four members through Affirmation of Baptism. These four individuals are Haleigh Gamble, Natalie Gamble, Charity Patterson, and Chastity Patterson. Plan to wear red as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, the birthday of the Christian church, and four confirmations for Good Shepherd. Weather permitting, there will be a reception with light refreshments after the worship service that day to welcome them.

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.

Lutheroad registration forms are now available. If your child attended Lutheroad in the past and is eligible to attend this year, a form was mailed to your child. Registration forms will also be available on the church's website soon. The dates for Lutheroad day camp are July 19-23, 2021 (Monday- Friday). The **deadline** for registration is Monday, **July 5, 2021**. If you have any questions, please see Diane Wicker.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

Our loose and special designated offering for May will support the **Cristo Rey "An Abundance of Grace"** appeal. Last year we donated our May Designated Offering to Cristo Rey in honor of Bishop Yoos' retirement, and this year we continue to support the members of Cristo Rey and Reverend Jorge Leone in the construction of their facility. With construction costs escalating recently, the costs of construction have skyrocketed for the people of Cristo Rey. Pastor Leone and the members of Cristo Rey are also holding satellite worship services in Gaston and Pelion. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help Cristo Rey by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for "**Cristo Rey**" on your offering envelope.



The Sanctuary Candles for the month of May are given to the glory of God by Natalie Gamble.

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.

Financial Corner

March was another month of generous giving to the ministries of Good Shepherd by in-person offerings, using the secure drop box at the Fellowship Hall door, and by utilizing Tithely online giving. Thank you.

You'll note that we have received some very generous gifts to the **Lommen Love Fund** from the family of Arden and Mary. A subcommittee of Council is working on the policies for the **Lommen Love Fund** and for our **Social Ministry Fund** and will be presenting those policies to Council soon. Stand by for more details of these two wonderful ministry funds.

Due to the financial burden to repair the **ice maker** in the Fellowship Hall, the annual maintenance cost, and the limited amount of ice used for church functions, the Council approved removal of the appliance at their April meeting. Years ago, this ice maker was purchased with a grant from our Shepherd's Care program.

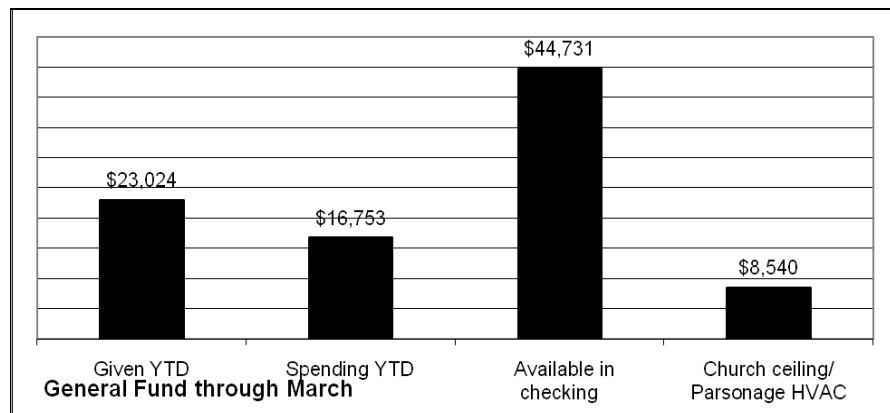
Next month, you'll see recorded a gift from Bethel Presbyterian for our **Food Pantry**. Shannon has written an official "thank you" from Good Shepherd, but, if you know someone from Bethel please pass along our thanks for their very generous gift.

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

March Offering and Gifts :

General Fund	\$ 9,154
Wonderful Wednesday	\$ 231
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 6,000
Scholarship Fund	\$ 25
Flowers	\$ 45
Candles	\$ 20
Lutheroad	\$ 483
Wallace Fund	\$ 1,110
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 225
Lilies	\$ 50
Maintenance	\$ 80

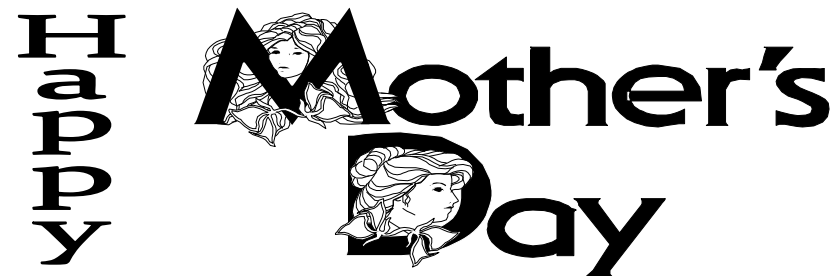


SERVING IN MAY

Lay Reader	Jon Carpenter
Communion Assistant	Kathie Whetsell
Acolyte	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Ushers	Kathie Whetsell / Garrett Brinson
Grounds Care	Doug Brinson
Council Devotions	Doug Lindstrom

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In April !!!

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



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

Friends and Family

Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Bill Walters, the family of Lisa O'Quinn, Mari Jo Smith, the family of Carolyn Wertz (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Dalton Shealy, the family of Pete Gosnell, the family of Charles Cummings (Kevin Wicker), John Green (Maria Rodriguez), the family of Will Blackmon, the family of Rick and Kathy Janney, Carolyn Bishop (the Risters), the family of Gene Hiers, Gene Whetsell (Kathie Whetsell), Donna Murphy and family (Shannon Guess)

Good Shepherd Women:

The next meeting of the Good Shepherd Women will be Monday, May 3, 2021, at 6:00 pm at the church. The meal will be provided by Amy Rusnak.

Christian Education:

Applications for school scholarships are now available, along with the guidelines for the application. These scholarships are for those students in our congregation who are pursuing either an associate degree or a bachelor degree. Please see Diane Wicker for applications. The deadline for receiving applications is **July 1**.



The next meeting of the Christian Education committee will be Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 10:00 am via Zoom. We will be discussing plans for Lutheroad Day Camp.

Worship and Music

The Worship & Music Committee met after worship on Sunday, April 18. The current guidelines for worship were reviewed and some minor changes were made. The committee also discussed plans for Pentecost Sunday (May 23) and the memorial service for Mary Lommen to be held at Good Shepherd on Thursday, June 24.

The next meeting of the Worship and Music Committee will be after worship on **Sunday, June 13, 2021**.

Alter Flowers for May

May 2	Kevin and Diane Wicker
May 9	Dean and Charlotte Brinson
May 16	the Vendricks
May 23	Shannon Guess
May 30	Kathie Whetsell

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."

March Council meeting notes: 4-11-2021

Council met in the Fellowship Hall following all of the Covid-19 protocol of the church. This was the first in-person meeting by the Council since the April meeting of 2020. The meeting was opened with devotions by Dean Brinson.

1. The financial report for March and for the first quarter of 2021 was presented and accepted as information and the minutes from the March meeting were approved.
2. A list of items presented by the Property Committee for the repairs to the parsonage and the Pastor's office were received and discussed. Members began discussion of these items along with alternate ideas and priorities.
3. In other Property business, the Council discussed the condition of the Fellowship Hall icemaker, which has been out of service for the past month. Based on input from our service technician, Council approved not repairing the icemaker and to work toward removal and disposal. For the occasional event that we need ice we will purchase ice from local businesses.
4. Amy reported to the members that the 2021 South Carolina Synod Assembly will be held virtually again this year due to Covid-19 precautions. The Assembly will be held on June 26.
5. Pastor Craig presented material to the Council from the Synod's guidelines for transitioning to a new pastor including the Interim Pastor Report, Congregational Vitality Process, Developing the Congregational Ministry Site Profile, Guidelines for selecting the Call Committee, and the Work of the Call Committee. The Council spent a great deal of time during the next portion of the meeting discerning a list of congregational members who Pastor would ask to serve on the Call Committee.

In future meetings, Pastor Craig will continue to present the Synod guidelines to the Council. And, in the near future, Bishop Aebischer will be meeting with the Council and the Call Committee to discuss the Call Process. (This has been scheduled for the May 16 Council meeting 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.

MAY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 6:00 PM Deadline for Camp Scholarships Birthdays : Rebecca Wicker Samantha Bell
2 10:00 AM Worship with Communion followed by a Congregational Meeting.	3 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women (in the Fellowship Hall) Birthdays : Ava Smyly Morgan Dandridge	4 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry	5 Anniversary : Dean & Charlotte Brinson	6 Birthday : Luke Shaw	7 Birthday : Jared Fralix	8 8:30 AM Thrivent Team Pack-A-Thon Birthday : Frank Wilson
9 Mother's Day 10:00 AM Worship Service.	10 1 -7 PM Red Cross Blood Drive Birthdays : Ethan Alberts	11	12 5 -7 PM Wonderful Wednesday	13 National Day of Prayer Birthdays : Samantha Crawford	14	15 Anniversary : Rob & Amy Rusnak
16 10:00 AM Worship followed by Church Council Meeting Birthdays : Anne Marie Flanders	17	18 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry Birthdays : Alisha Casella	19	20	21 Birthdays : Matt Zielke Anniversary : Shannon & Billy Guess	22 10:00 AM Christian Education Committee meets (via Zoom). 10: 00 PM Newsletter Deadline
23 10:00 AM Day of Pentecost Worship with Communion	24	25 Birthdays : Mary Eason Cindy Corley	26 Birthdays : Sarah Rosebrock	27 Birthdays : Hope Brinson Smyly	28 Anniversary : Charles & Sandra Roberts	29 Anniversary : Bob & Gloria Ferris
30 10:00 AM Holy Trinity Sunday	31 Memorial Day (observed)	1	2	3	4	5

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Sanctuary Indoor Worship Guidelines during Covid-19
(04-18-2021)

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 Amy Rusnak 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. 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.
6. 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.)
7. 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. (To avoid as much contact as possible, ushers will not hand out bulletins or other material to worshipers.)
8. The water fountain will be closed, but water bottles will be available.
9. Interior doors will be left open to eliminate the need to touch doors and door handles.
10. Each worshipper is responsible to use the spray sanitizer provided in the restroom after each use.
11. Outside doors will be left open, as weather permits, for better air circulation.
12. There will be no singing during the service while in the sanctuary. “Humming” will be encouraged.
13. Every effort will be made to keep the length of the service to 40 minutes or less.
14. 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.
15. The sanctuary will be closed for 24 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.