



September 2021

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From the Pastor :

A typical interim time between permanent pastors is usually about one year, give or take a little. But this time at Good Shepherd has been anything but typical. When I arrived in November of 2019 the congregation had been decimated by lost membership, decreased giving, and a general loss of spirit. We were just starting to gain some momentum when Covid caused us to shut our doors and gradually move to online worship. The pandemic has lasted way longer than any of us thought, and just as we began to see a potential end in sight, the Delta variant has re-emerged as a persistent threat.

But interim is a time for re-assessment and envisioning a new future. It turns out that we are being blessed with an extended period of looking at the many options before this congregation moving forward. Things are moving slowly, but that's probably a good thing. We don't want to jump into some ill-conceived short term solution, only to be second guessing ourselves in another two years. The last several years Good Shepherd has struggled to support a full time pastor when other options might have been more prudent. This church is blessed with mature lay leadership, generous support, and a strong sense of community. But we've also got a significant elderly population. We're grateful to see younger folks attending and new folks eager to participate.

What will the future bring? These next months we'll hear the report of the Congregational Vitality Survey and complete our Ministry Site Profile. Your council and call committee have made initial inquiries about having an extended internship or partnership with a neighboring congregation. The synod is keeping us in prayer and will be looking for pastors who may want to serve part time. I will continue to try to

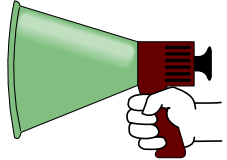
serve you as best I can on a part time basis. Some things we all can do is keep our church in prayer, enjoy those times when we get exposure to different visiting pastors, and continue to participate as we are able.

On September 19th we'll belatedly celebrate our 80th year (now 81) as a Lutheran community in Walterboro. Fall activities will resume---still modified for Covid with our commitment to safety---but moving forward all the same. Each of you is important to the future of your church. So whether you are still wanting to worship online, or involved and serving in whatever ways you can---re-commit to your church this fall. We're eager to see where God is leading us in our next chapters of faith.

Pastor Craig

Call Committee update

The **Congregational Vitality Survey** results are complete and our Council Chair, Amy Rusnak, will be scheduling a congregational meeting with Bishop Ginny Aebisher and Pastor Rick Carter to present the results. Everyone will be encouraged to attend that meeting to hear Pastor Rick and Bishop Ginny and to ask any questions you have of them regarding the call of our next pastor. Once the survey results are received, the Call Committee can complete the Ministry Site Profile and present it to the Church Council for approval.



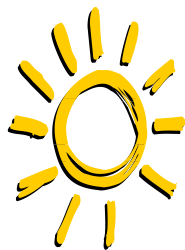
Your Call Committee members are Angela Ferris, Shannon Guess, Kathie Whetsell, Rob Rusnak, Jon Carpenter and Kevin Wicker.

Good Shepherd Women:

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

The SC Women of the ELCA will hold a virtual convention on Sunday, September 26, 2021, beginning at 1:00 pm. Marie Wilson and Amy Rusnak will be serving as voting members at this convention.

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.

The Red Cross Community Blood Drive will be at Good Shepherd on Monday, September 13, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Contact the Red Cross for an appointment.

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. Rev. Rebecca Wicker will be with us that day to bring the message. A catered meal will follow the service. In order to adequately plan for the meal, we need for those of you planning to attend to RSVP by either calling the church (843-549-5353) or emailing the church (GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com). There is also a sign-up sheet in the narthex. **Deadline is Sunday, September 5.**

Wonderful Wednesday returns on **Wednesday, September 22**, beginning at 5:00 pm. For the fall, we will be meeting twice a month. We will also require masks for participants and observe social distancing. A light meal will be served when we meet, followed by learning time. Classes will be offered for children and adults. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Wicker.

Choir will be returning this fall! There will be an interest meeting after the worship service on Sunday, September 26. Anyone interested in being a part of the choir should be present at this meeting.

The Sanctuary Candles for the month of September are given to the glory of God by Dean and Charlotte Brinson.

Sunshine News : (Continued)



Our loose and special designated offering for September will support **Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas**. LFS places children in loving foster and adoptive homes, provides comprehensive services to adults with special needs, aids veterans in regaining their independence, helps refugees acclimate to life in a new country and counsels families in their time of need. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help LFS by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for “Lutheran Family Services” on your offering envelope, or by selecting “Lutheran Family Services” on our on-line giving program on the church website.

Confirmation Classes Resume

Confirmation resumes in September for 2 returning students and at least one first year person. Last year we had 3 teens and 3 adults, which made for wonderful discussions and sharing of perspectives. Again, this fall the participants will determine when the class will meet, typically one Sunday per month after church. If you are interested in being part of this class, please contact Pastor Craig or the church office (leave a message).

Happy Labor Day !!!

Alter Flowers for September

September 5:	Janet Szymanski
September 12:	Pastor Craig and Georgia Boehlke
September 19:	Kevin and Diane Wicker
September 26:	Shannon Guess

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.”

Financial Corner

We had a good month of gifts that covered the expenses of our ministry for July. You'll also note from the table below that we received generous gifts for the Scholarship Fund, Wallace Fund, Maintenance Fund and Lommen Love Fund. And, our debt to the Wallace Fund was reduced to \$5,240. We have fared well through the summer; a time when giving is traditionally lower than other times of the year. This is due to your generosity as well as controlling our expenses.

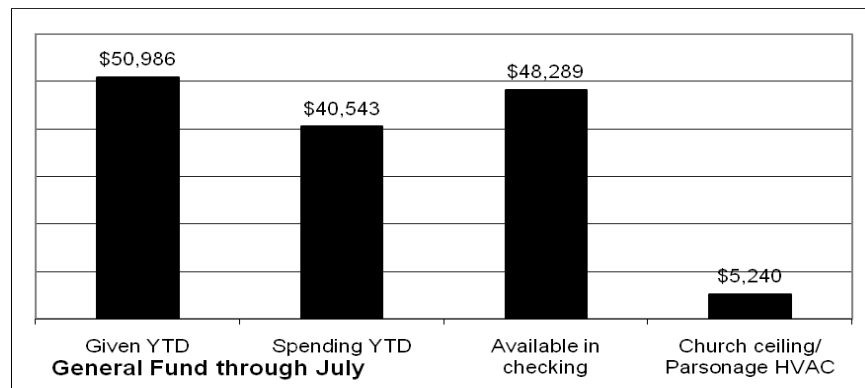
Also during July, we received a gift of \$96 from the Souper Bowl of Caring for our Food Pantry. The Souper Bowl organization received a grant and they split the proceeds between donors from 2020.

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

July Offering and Gifts :

General Fund	\$ 6,885
Service Committee	\$ 15
Lutheran	\$ 570
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 96
Flowers	\$ 135
Wallace Fund	\$ 310
Scholarship Fund	\$ 160
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 200
Maintenance Fund	\$ 40



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, the family of Ernie 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 Werntz (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland, the family of Mr. Brooks Williams (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 family of Larry Patrick (the Risters), family of Dwayne Davis (Amy Rusnak), June, Ella, and Corey Easterlin (Kathie Whetsell), the family of Brooks Williams (Danielle Fraser)

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Service Committee

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
Janet Szymanski	Ernie Gartner

Wallace Fund

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
Kevin & Diane Wicker	Ernie Gartner

PeeDee Indians

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Honor of:</u>
Kevin & Diane Wicker	Johnny Merck

Food Pantry

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
Theresa Strickland	Brooks Williams

General Fund

<u>Given by:</u>	<u>In Honor of:</u>
Rebecca Wicker	Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

Christian Education:

The next meeting of the Christian Education committee will be Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 10:00 am at the church. We will be finalizing plans for Wonderful Wednesday, which will be returning on Wednesday, September 22, beginning at 5:00 pm. We will also be discussing plans for confirmation, Trunk-or-Treat in October, and other activities.

Worship and Music

The Worship & Music Committee met after worship on Sunday, August 8. The worship guidelines were reviewed. No updates were made at this time. Plans for Homecoming Sunday, September 19, 2021, were discussed. The committee decided on A Soulful Taste as the caterer for the meal after worship. Invitations will go out via the bulletin, the newsletter, and mail. Faye will design the homecoming invitation. Diane announced that there will be an interest meeting for choir on Sunday, September 26, after the service. Hopefully the choir will begin meeting again in October.

The Worship & Music Committee will have their next meeting after the service on Sunday, August 29, to review the current worship guidelines and to continue planning for Homecoming Sunday, September 19, 2021.

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

Lay Reader	Jon Carpenter
Communion Assistant	Kevin Wicker
Acolyte	Riley Guess
Ushers	Amy Rusnak / Garrett Brinson
Grounds Care	Kevin Wicker
Council Devotions	Marie Wilson

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In August !!!

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

August Council meeting notes : 8-15-2021

Doug Lindstrom reported that an account has been setup at the IGA for the Food Pantry and thus far is working well to buy bulk groceries with a discount.

There was a brief discussion on painting the parsonage and on replacement windows versus painting the windows. No action was taken.

The project to paint the Pastor's office is nearing completion. Many "thanks" to Rob and Amy Rusnak.

The breaker panel replacement and the wiring issues in the parsonage are complete. The city inspector has "signed off" on the job. Many "thanks" to Dean and Garrett Brinson.

Amy reported on the recent meetings of the Christian Education committee, Worship and Music committee, and the Good Shepherd Women of the ELCA.

Amy also reported on the progress of the Call Process. Our survey results are complete and she is working to schedule a congregational meeting with Pastor Rick and Bishop Ginny. Because their calendars are so complicated, our meeting will probably be on a day other than Sunday.

Council also received the following as information: BNI will no longer be meeting at Good Shepherd for their weekly meeting. They will be meeting at the Colleton Museum. And, Special Gathering will be moving their Sunday afternoon ministry to Faith Church beginning September 5. With the number of participants returning to Special Gathering they are in need of more space so they can social distance per their Covid protocol.

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

Thank You !

Thanks to Amy and Rob Rusnak for their hard work painting the pastor's office. Amy also laundered the curtains and Kevin Wicker replaced the blinds as well as moving wires and doing touch up. Erik Lindstrom donated a lovely desk. The office looks great---take a peak when you have a chance!

Thanks also to the many volunteers this summer---for Lutherroad, tending the lawns, ushering on Sunday mornings, our Zoom operators, acolytes, flower and candle donors, food pantry volunteers, carpet vacuum volunteers, lay readers, and all those others we've neglected to mention.

HOMECOMING

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Walterboro, SC

Celebrating 81 years -- 20 years in the current sanctuary

Rev. Dr. Craig Boehlke, Interim Pastor

Rev. Rebecca Wicker will be our guest preacher.

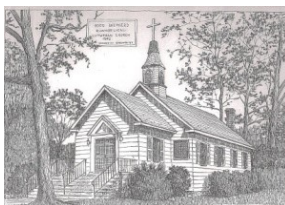
Please join us.

September 19, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

Worship Service with Communion

A catered meal will follow the service.

Please RSVP by September 5 - 843-549-5353 or email GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com



SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 <u>Birthday :</u> Raymond Riles	2 <u>Birthday :</u> Abigail Alberts	3 <u>Birthday :</u> Raleigh Obenaus	4 <u>Anniversary :</u> Mimi & Eddie Werntz
5 10:00 AM Worship with Communion.	6 Labor Day!	7 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry	8 <u>Birthdays :</u> GSLC (1940) David Knapp	9 <u>Anniversaries :</u> Carl & Gail Lindstrom Pastor Craig & Georgia Boehlke	10	11 10:00 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting
12 8:00 AM LMM Meet 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Church Council Meeting <u>Birthday :</u> Roberta McCullough	13 1 -7 PM Red Cross Blood Drive.	14	15 <u>Birthday :</u> Melissa Murphy	16 <u>Birthday :</u> Carolina Jade Fralix <u>Anniversary :</u> Patricia & Raymond Riles	17 <u>Birthday :</u> Whit Carter	18 <u>Birthdays :</u> Linda Gilgen Lucas Connelly Billy Guess
19 10:00 AM Homecoming : Worship with Communion followed by a catered lunch.	20	21 10:00-12:00 Food Pantry <u>Birthday :</u> Amber Casella	22 5 -7 PM Wonderful Wednesday returns. 10: 00 PM Newsletter Deadline.	23 <u>Birthdays :</u> Matt Ferris Georgia Boehlke Pastor Rich Johnston	24 <u>Birthdays :</u> Alison McCullough Jamie Connelly Gaby Thomas	25 <u>Anniversary :</u> Holger Obenaus & Cindy Newman
26 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by a Choir Meeting	27	28 <u>Birthday :</u> Amber Dobson	29	30 <u>Birthday :</u> Jessica Williams <u>Anniversary :</u> Hope & Lloyd Smyly	1	2