



February 2022

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From the Pastor :

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

These past few weeks I've thought a lot about how people are becoming tired and frustrated at the persistence of the Covid 19 virus. We've been living with nearly 2 years of curtailed travel, altered routines, taking extra care for everything we do. Masks have become a way of public life, though I don't know anyone who really likes wearing one. Hearing someone cough in public used to be no big deal, but now we cower in fear at the prospect that this is the time I'll get infected. And, of course, we're all tired of the public debates over what really works. In our saner moments we know that science is always evolving and as we learn more, our ideas change. But it seems like this virus is always 2 steps ahead of our best efforts.

We look for someone to blame, whether it's the Chinese or the government, or immigrants. Something must have caused this----and, of course, it's not our fault! But all of that is irrelevant----and maybe even at this point at least some of this actually is our fault! Too few of us have been vaccinated. Human nature is such that even the most careful among us periodically let's down our guard. Early in January my wife and I were on a 5 day cruise. Everyone had to be vaccinated and all were tested prior to boarding. We were supposed to wear masks in all public spaces except when actively eating or drinking. Given those rules, most of the time we felt safer than being anywhere on land. But one evening we went to a show and saw that almost everyone who had a drink simply left their mask off. Before long we left the show.

A popular American English proverb, "*when the going gets tough, the tough get going*" means "when the situation becomes difficult, strong people are able to step up and handle it"(attributed to both John F. Kennedy's father and the American coach Knute Rockne). Well, my version of that is that when the going gets tough, people of faith step up. Steadfastness is one of the marks of a Christian. That same determination that led Christ to the cross in order to accomplish our salvation is in our DNA. Waiting out a 2 year pandemic is nothing when our ancestors wandered 40 years in the wilderness waiting for God's promise of a new land to be fulfilled for their children. For me personally as a baby boomer, I observed my parents' generation laboring long hours to send their children to college and set up a better life for us. While many today have a very shortsighted view of life, we are in it for the long haul. We will get on the other side of this pandemic. We will emerge as a church from this extended interim/transitional time to a stronger future ahead. Our faith gives us a living hope that will carry us through.

For whatever difficulties we had these past few years, we still need a calculator to count our blessings. So, do not lose faith. Let's live each day with steadfastness and confidence. God is with us and we are here for each other, looking ahead to a brighter day.

Pastor Craig

The Lutheran Men in Mission of Good Shepherd

The Lutheran Men met on Sunday morning Jan 9. Breakfast was prepared by Rob Rusnak and Jon Carpenter presented an interesting devotional on the comparison of Jesus and the church as the shepherd and of Christians as the sheep who are reliant on the shepherd.

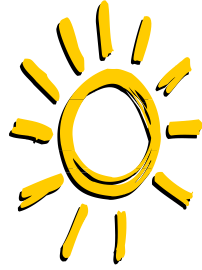
The men began planning for their spring BBQ event (more on that to come-stay tuned)

New officers were elected for the year: Doug Lindstrom will continue as Chairman, Jon Carpenter will be Vice Chairman, Kevin Wicker will remain as Treasurer, and Rob Rusnak will be Secretary.

Rob Rusnak
Secretary

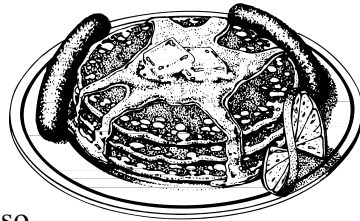
Sunshine News :

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 12, 2022!** The Good Shepherd Women are sponsoring a **spaghetti dinner fundraiser** to support various outreach projects of the women. This event is **carryout only** from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 per plate and the meal includes spaghetti, salad, bread, and a dessert. Tickets may be purchased from Faye Rister, Amy Rusnak, Maria Rodriguez, Marie Wilson, or Diane Wicker.



Sunday, February 13, is Super Bowl Sunday for the NFL, and it's time for the **Souper Bowl of Caring** at thousands of locations across the country, including Good Shepherd. All food items and monetary gifts collected at Good Shepherd on Souper Bowl Sunday will help support our food pantry. Suggested food items: 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.

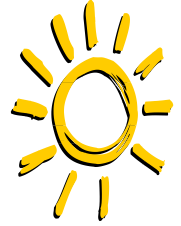
Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, March 1, 2022!** Shrove Tuesday Supper hopes to return. Plans are being made, and we will gather at 6:00 pm for a pancake supper, a brief devotional and a Mardi Gras celebration. There is no cost for the meal, but a plate will be out to receive donations to cover the cost of supplies. If COVID numbers continue to be high, this event may be cancelled, so watch your bulletin and the website.



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 Sanctuary Candles for the month of February are given to the glory of God by Haleigh Gamble.

Sunshine News : (Continued)



Our loose and special designated offering for February will support our **Lutheran Retreat Centers in South Carolina**, which consists of **Camp Kinard** (Batesburg-Leesville, SC) and **Coastal Retreat** (Isle of Palms, SC). The mission of SCLRC is to provide places of hospitality where congregations, communities and individuals can experience a Christian environment to renew faith, foster fellowship, build memories and encounter the glory of God's creation! This is not a budgeted item, but you can help support the South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for **"Retreat Centers"** on your offering envelope.

Tithe Statements for 2021 have been sent out. If you made a donation to Good Shepherd and feel that you should have gotten a statement but did not, or if you got a statement and you see something that is not correct, please contact me so that it can be corrected. You can call me at (843)538-8219 or e-mail me at djbrinson@yahoo.com with "2021 Tithe Statement" for the subject in case I don't recognize your e-mail address.

Happy Valentine's Day!

SERVING IN FEBRUARY:

Lay Reader
Communion Assistant
Acolyte
Ushers

Natalie Gamble
Marie Wilson
Riley Guess
Natalie Gamble /
Dean Brinson
Doug Lindstrom
Kevin Wicker

Grounds Care
Council Devotions

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In January !!!

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

Thank You!

Looking back through this year and many more, you have been such a blessing to us. You truly are sisters and brothers in Christ. Thank you. Thank you of being YOU!

In His love,
Ferne and Special Gathering

Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the Red Cross blood drive held this past month on January 10. A total of 38 units were collected. The next blood drive is Monday, March 14, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Contact the Red Cross for an appointment.



LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim Strickland, Frances Barton, Ted & Sara Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Frank & Marie Wilson, Margaret Juttner, Gloria Ferris, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Eleanore Gloeckler, Gene Whetsell, Theresa and Ray Strickland

Friends and Family

Evans Simons (Winfield Simons), Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Bill Walters, Carolyn Rahn, Michelle Rousch, Laura Spivey (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Robert Dorroh, Jr. (the Wickers), John Green (Maria Rodriguez), David, Tammy, and Lauren Long (Kathie Whetsell), Carolyn Bishop, Fran Pye, Debra Walker, Bruce & Jill Bell (the Risters), the family of Jill Welch (the Boehlkes)

Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd Women will meet on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 6:00 pm at the church. The hostess for the evening will be Diane Wicker. The women will be finalizing their plans for the spaghetti dinner fundraiser to be held on Saturday, February 12, 2022.

Worship and Music

The Worship & Music committee will meet on Tuesday, February 22, at 10:00 am at the church to continue discussing plans for the upcoming Lenten and Easter seasons. The committee will also be making final decisions regarding Shrove Tuesday and midweek Lenten services. The committee will be looking at the COVID case numbers in making their decisions.

Christian Education:

The Christian Education committee will be meeting on Saturday, March 6, 2022, at 10:00 am at the church, with a Zoom option. The committee will be discussing plans for the Easter Egg hunt to be held Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 10:00 am. Anyone interested in helping with the egg hunt is welcome to attend. Volunteers are needed!

Will he see his shadow ???

(February 2, 2022)



Alter Flowers for February

February 6:	Haleigh Gamble
February 13:	Riley Guess
February 20:	Dean and Charlotte Brinson
February 27:	Bob and Gloria Ferris

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."

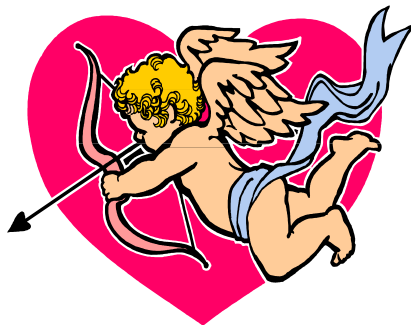
January Council meeting notes : 1-9-2022

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Amy, who then welcomed our 2022-2024 Council members, Bob, Natalie and Kathie.

- ❖ Pastor Craig gave his report and Kevin presented the financial reports for December and for 2021.
- ❖ Amy brought reports from the Executive Committee, Christian Education and WELCA. Jon reported on the Lutheran Men and Shannon spoke about the Parsonage Paint project.
- ❖ Council approved raising the registration fee for Lutheroad participants from \$60 to \$65 for this summer. About 25% of the camp is covered by camper registration. The remainder is covered by donations from the congregation.
- ❖ Council also approved that the scholarships for college students and campers attending one of the NovusWay outdoor camps for the summer would again be \$300 for this year. Both of these scholarships are provided by our Doscher/Fellers Scholarship Fund.
- ❖ Council spent a great deal of time on the 2022 Spending Plan for Ministry and approved a plan that will be presented to the congregation at our annual meeting following worship on January 30.
- ❖ The Executive Committee and Pastor Craig met following the Council meeting to discuss Pastor Craig's annual review.

Your Council officers for 2022 are Amy Rusnak; chair, Dean Brinson; vice chair, and Jon Carpenter; secretary. Kevin Wicker will be our Treasurer and our Recording Secretary is Doug Brinson.

Your Council members are Amy Rusnak, Dean Brinson, Jon Carpenter, Kathie Whetsell, Shannon Guess, Marie Wilson, Natalie Gamble, Bob Ferris and Kevin Wicker.



Financial Corner

As I mentioned last month, at their January meeting, Council discussed funding the parsonage repairs. We have a line item in the Spending Plan for **routine maintenance** around the property. This includes things like pest control contracts, piano tuning, lights, pipes, wires, etc. We also have a small **Maintenance Fund savings account** that won't go far in repairing the parsonage. And, we have money from the General Fund collection last year that Council has set up in an **"Operating Reserve Fund"** for future expenses. And finally, we have some funds that have been given and designated for **"parsonage repair."** For large items we'll have to use the **Operating Reserve Fund** or the **Wallace Fund**. For smaller items we can draw from the **Maintenance Fund savings account** or the designated **Parsonage Repair gifts**. So, if you would like to help with funding the parsonage repairs you can either designate your gifts for **"parsonage repair"** or **"maintenance fund."** **"Parsonage Repair"** gifts will only be used for the parsonage, whereas **"Maintenance Fund"** gifts can be used for maintenance expenses of any kind of our property. When we have an idea of the total cost of the parsonage repairs, we'll communicate that to everyone.

By the time you read this article, we will probably already have voted on the **2022 Spending Plan** as proposed by Council. I'll have more on that in the March newsletter.

Meanwhile, 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

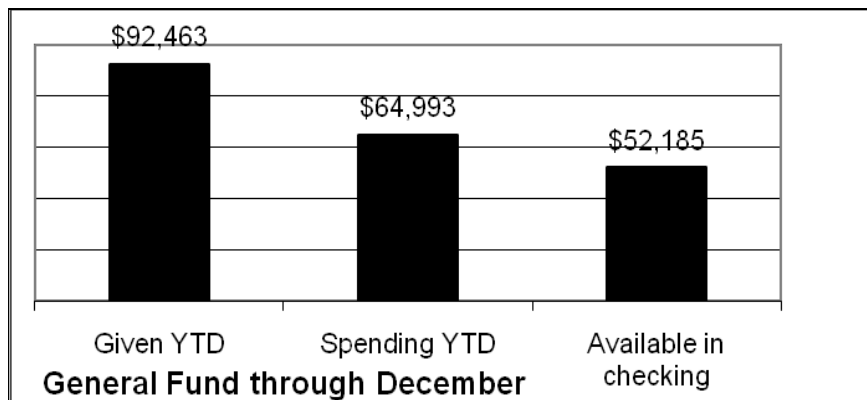
December Offering and Gifts :

General Fund	\$ 12,225
Wallace Fund	\$ 385
Wonderful Wednesday	\$ 130
Disaster Relief	\$ 410
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 100
Flowers	\$ 90
Lutheroad	\$ 200
Parsonage Repair	\$ 50
Poinsettias	\$ 75

Memorial Fund	\$ 20
Special Gathering	\$ 575

Savings Accounts :

Maintenance Fund	\$ 2,729
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,071
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 6,684
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 8,827
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 69,117
Social Ministry/Food Pantry Balance	\$ 6,021



DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Wallace Fund

Given by:
Charles & Faye Rister

In Memory of:
Joyce Carter

General Fund

Given by:
Pr. Rebecca Wicker

In Honor of:
Kevin & Diane Wicker

Memorial Fund

Given by:
Donald & Janet Carter

In Memory of:
Joyce Carter

Food Pantry

Given by:
Bethel Presbyterian Church

In Honor of:
Good Shepherd Ministries

Easter Lily- Order Form

If you would like to place an Easter lily in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, please fill out the form and place it 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 Easter lily following the service on Easter Sunday. **Deadline to order is Sunday, March 13, 2022.**

Given by _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

_____ Single bloom: \$20

_____ Double bloom: \$25

Payment enclosed Yes _____ No _____

Check # _____

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 10:00 AM - Noon Food Pantry <u>Anniversary :</u> Natalie & Patrick Gamble	2 Groundhog Day <u>Birthday :</u> John Gilgen	3 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 <u>Birthday :</u> Walter Fralix	5
6 10:00 AM Worship with Communion	7 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women <u>Birthday :</u> Pat Ostendorf	8	9 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Wonderful Wednesday <u>Birthdays :</u> Riley Guess Ray Strickland	10 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	11	12 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM WELCA Spaghetti Dinner
13 8:00 AM LMM Breakfast meeting 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Church Council Meeting <u>Birthday :</u> Chris Carter	14 Valentine's Day	15 10:00 AM - Noon Food Pantry	16	17 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 <u>Birthday :</u> Cashwell Weihemuller	19 <u>Birthday :</u> Grace Connelly
20 10:00 AM Worship Service	21 Presidents' Day	22 10:00AM Worship & Music Committee 10: 00 PM Newsletter Deadline <u>Birthdays :</u> Doug Brinson Mary Jo Smith	23 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Wonderful Wednesday <u>Birthdays :</u> Ned Vendrick Natalie Gamble Jennifer Carter Stone	24 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal <u>Birthday :</u> Parker Wertz	25	26
27 10:00 AM Transfiguration Sunday followed by Confirmation Class <u>Birthday :</u> Cheryl Clayton	28 <u>Birthday :</u> Jeff Lord	1 10:00 AM - Noon Food Pantry 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (Tentative)	2 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	3	4	5