



## The Shepherd's Staff

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

November 2023

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### From Your Pastor :

Last year we went from the longest possible Advent season to this year being the shortest. The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent will also be Christmas Eve. Of course, the holiday shopping season will be longer this year, given how early Thanksgiving occurred. But as I get older, the shopping is not so important. The gift giving is nice as a sign of our love, but I am less concerned with getting that special deal. I want to give what will truly be a gift to those we cherish. Younger folks may not understand that!

This Christmas marks the fifth that Georgia and I will be at Good Shepherd. Who would have thought! Our family has come to expect that I will be busy this time of year, including on Christmas Eve. We've established some fun new traditions here like the Christmas tree out in the portico to go along with longstanding practices of decorating the sanctuary, caroling, and the men's and women's dinner. Again, this year we hope to have some from the congregation participate in lighting the Advent wreath each Sunday. That practice to me symbolizes that we are church family where many join in the celebration. For Welcoming Wednesday on the 13<sup>th</sup> we'll gather for a quick meal and then decorate the church. We hope many of you will join in the fun. The following Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, we plan to carol to our shut-in families. We need a good turn out to send out at least two groups, coming back to the church for a light meal and shared stories after.

The activities will be great----but don't let that keep you from also enjoying some quiet time that allows you to center yourself in the events of that first Christmas. Young and old, it's a story to be shared as we marvel in awe at our God who blesses us with his

presence, back then and now. May the peace of Christ dwell in you richly this season.

*Pastor Craig*

### Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd women met on Monday, November 6, at 6:00 pm at the church. Plans were finalized for the delivery of meals to shut-ins on November 11. There are several upcoming dates for the women. The Lutheran Men/Women's Christmas Dinner will be on Friday, December 1, at 6:00 pm at the church.

The women will go shopping for the "Fill-the-Stocking" program on Saturday, December 9, meeting at Walmart at 9:00 am. We will be shopping for seven children.

On Saturday, February 24, the women will be holding their spaghetti dinner fundraiser. More information will be available in the upcoming newsletters and bulletins. The next meeting for the women will Monday, January 8, at 6:00 pm at the church. Maria Rodriguez will be the hostess, and Diane Wicker have devotions. We will be discussing plans for the spaghetti dinner and for the upcoming year. All women are encouraged to attend.



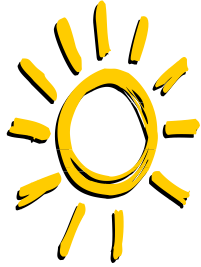
### Lutheran Men in Mission:

Nine men met for food and fellowship on Sunday November 12th at 8:00 AM in the Social Hall. The Two Dougs provided the breakfast and Doug L. gave the program concerning some little things we can do to increase our trust in God such as prayer, Bible reading, and involvement in a church.

The fish fry was a success! We served 135 plates (as well as a vigorous "next day" sale) and were able to donate \$1,500 to the Food Pantry. Our next meeting will be the Christmas Party on Friday December 1st at 6:00 PM in the church Social Hall.

## Sunshine News :

**Sign-up sheets for 2024** will be available in the narthex beginning **Sunday, December 3**. There are many volunteer opportunities, so please check it out!



**The choir needs you!** We are looking for a few good volunteers (men and women) willing to be a part of the choir for Christmas Eve. We will practice on the following **Tuesdays at 6:00 pm** : December 5, December 12, and December 19. If you are willing to participate, please contact Diane Wicker.

Our next **Welcoming Wednesday** will be **Wednesday, December 13**, with the meal being served at 6:00 pm. Diane Wicker will be coordinating the meal preparations. For our program, we will be preparing a small gift for our shut-ins when we go caroling on December 17, and we will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. Come join the fun. All ages are welcome!

**Christmas Caroling** to our shut-ins will take place on Sunday, December 17. We will meet at the church by 4:30 pm to leave shortly after. After caroling, there will be a light meal and a time of fellowship at the church. There will be a sign-up sheet at the church so we will know how many plan to be present for the meal and for caroling.

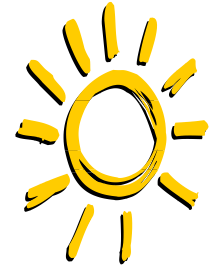


If you would like to place someone on **the prayer list** that is printed in the bulletin, please fill out a prayer request form, found in the narthex, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to Diane Wicker. The prayer list is updated every three months. You may also email your prayer requests to [thewickers@lowcountry.com](mailto:thewickers@lowcountry.com).

**The sanctuary candles for the month of December** are given to the glory of God by Janet Szymanski.

*The cost of sanctuary candles is \$25 per month.*

## Sunshine News : (Continued)



**The Loose and Special Designated offering for December** will support our **Social Ministry Fund**. At Good Shepherd, the Social Ministry program includes the Food Pantry as well as assistance for utility bills, prescription medication, etc. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for **“Social Ministry”** on your offering envelope.

## LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

### Good Shepherd Family

Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim Strickland, Frances Barton, Ted & Sara Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Margaret Juttner, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Donna Murphy, Theresa Strickland

### Friends and Family

Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Carolyn Rahn, Laura Spivey, Grace LaRouche, Michelle Rausch (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland, Willie Strickland and family, Katrina Fryar (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Parks Mangum, Marilyn Peters, Bonnie Thomas (the Risters), Don Rivers, Terry Matlosz, the family of Dr. Mike Beggs (Kevin Wicker), the family of Edd Wicker, the family of Rev. Norton Rosebrock, Nita Eason (Marion Glover)

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of

**Pastor Norton Rosebrock**, who passed away on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at the age of 67. Pastor Rosebrock served as pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church from 1990 until 1997. His obituary can be found at <https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/fl/orlando/herbert-norton-rosebrock-17193958>. May God grant him eternal rest and ease the suffering of his family and friends.



## SERVING IN DECEMBER :

Lay Reader	Cheryl Clayton
Communion Assistant	Amy Rusnak
Acolyte	Riley Guess
Ushers	Bob Ferris / Jon Carpenter / Charles Rister
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Grounds Care	Doug Lindstrom
Council Devotions	Dean Brinson

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In November !!!

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

## *Thank You!*

### **Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,**

In the spirit of unconditional Grace, I want to extend my heart felt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your collective faith, support and love have been a beacon of God's love and blessings in my life.

Your community is a reminder of God's unmerited Favor, the power of Faith, and the teachings on Scripture. Together we journey with Jesus.

May God's grace continue to shine upon us all.  
With deep appreciation,

*Jace Martinez & Family*

**Thank you** to everyone who came out in support of the Red Cross blood drive on Monday, November 20. A total of 43 units were collected. The next blood drive will be Monday, January 15, 2024.



## Christian Education:

The Christian Education Committee met on Saturday, November 18, at 10:00 am. Plans were discussed for the upcoming year for Welcoming Wednesday. In December, Welcoming Wednesday will be on Wednesday, December 13, at 6:00 pm. Following the meal, we will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas and putting together a small craft item for our shut-ins when we go caroling. We are also planning to go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins on Sunday, December 17, at 4:30 pm. There will be a meal at the church after we go caroling. Some preliminary plans were also discussed for the spring and summer. The next Christian Education committee meeting will be Saturday, January 20, at 10:00 am.

## Worship and Music:

The next meeting for the Worship and Music Committee will be on Tuesday, December 12, at 10:00 am.

## Alter Flowers for December

December 3	Jon Carpenter
December 10	Maria Rodriguez
December 17	Janet Szymanski
December 24	Winfield and Merri Simons
December 31	Janet Szymanski

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."

## DESIGNATED GIFTS

*Donations given to the Glory of God to:*

### Food Pantry

#### Given by:

Janet Szymanski  
Kevin & Diane Wicker

#### In Memory of:

Pastor Norton Rosebrock  
Pastor Norton Rosebrock

## November Council meeting notes: 11-12-2023

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Amy.

- Council approved the minutes from the October meeting.
- Members then heard the financial report and the Pastor's report, as well as reports from LMM, WELCA, Social Ministry, and Property and Grounds.
- From **Property and Grounds**, Dean and Bob will be renewing the church sign at the corner of Jeffries and May Streets.
- From **Social Ministry**, Doug informed members that our Food Pantry is receiving proceeds from the Fish Fry that will fund the Pantry through the end of the year. He also reported that Good Shepherd is the recipient of a \$7,500 grant for 2024 from **Church of the Cross** in Bluffton!! That grant will provide funds for about half of the Food Pantry expenses for 2024.
- Council approved the purchase of a new **eternal candle** red globe to replace the current globe which has been damaged for some time. The new globe will be funded through the Memorial Fund.
- Council approved the **ballot** for electing Council members for 2024 through 2026.
- Council approved the new **Infectious Decease Guideline** for Good Shepherd to be implemented in the future if needed. Copies of the guideline are located in the narthex.
- Members reviewed the latest revision of the new Good Shepherd **pictorial directory** and expressed thanks to Natalie and Haleigh Gamble for collecting the photos. The directory will be available on the church website and in black and white hardcopy if requested.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Your Council members are Jon Carpenter (Chair), Doug Lindstrom (Vice Chair), Natalie Gamble (Secretary), Amy Rusnak, Cheryl Clayton, Bob Ferris, Dean Brinson, and Kevin Wicker.

## Financial Corner

Happy Fall from the Financial Corner. This year surely is coming to a close quickly. Just a few points to make from the Financial Corner.

First, we have great news for the **Food Pantry!** We received a grant for 2024 from **Church of the Cross** in Bluffton for \$7,500, which is approximately one half of our operating cost for the year. The men's fish fry resulted in \$1,500 for Social Ministry which will carry the Food Pantry through the remainder of 2023. And, during October we received a gift from **Bethel Presbyterian Church** to help with the Food Pantry. (If you know someone at Bethel, make sure you tell them Thanks! for this gift.)

Second, our giving in October was "slow" once again. While we are operating within our Ministry Plan for the year, we need to have a strong finish to the year to set ourselves up for the beginning of 2024. December is typically a strong month in many ways at Good Shepherd, including financially.

And finally, we have received many complements on the new **Audio and Streaming system** we installed during the summer. With the exception of the occasional "surprise," we are pretty consistent from week to week, both with the sound levels in the sanctuary and streaming on Facebook. To date, we have only put about \$500 back into the **Wallace Fund** for the system, with a balance owed of about \$19,000. We hope to continue to put this money back into the Wallace Fund so it will be available for future capital improvements at the church.

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

## October Offering and Gifts:

General Fund	\$ 7,355
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 9,240
Poinsettias	\$ 20
Candles	\$ 25
Flowers	\$ 330
Sound System	\$ 250
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 198
NovusWay	\$ 220
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 500

## **Did You Know :**

Some of you know that a couple of months ago I assumed the responsibility for placing the Red Cross Blood Drive signs around town before each blood drive at Good Shepherd. I assumed the duties from Mr. Brian Cassidy who had assumed them from our own Arden Lommen. Due to the age, weight, and condition of the "Arden Lommen Original" signs, I used a Thrivent Action Team grant and had some new signs made. Today, I placed 15 of the 18 signs around town. Maybe you've already seen some of them. Maybe not.

### **These are the locations:**

Quail and Academy (1)  
Wichman and Jefferies (1)  
Eddie Chastain and Jefferies (1)  
Memorial and Washington (1)  
Memorial and Wichman @ IGA (1)  
Robertson and Jefferies @ CVS (1)  
Robertson and Bells @ Consignment Envy (1)  
Bells @ ACE Hardware (1)  
Robertson across from exit of trash collection site (2)  
Hampton and Howell east of USC-S campus (1)  
Jefferies and Hampton south end of the Discovery Center property (1)  
Church (1 tent sign + 2 wire signs)

### **Monday morning locations :**

Jefferies and May (1 wire sign + 1 tent sign in median)  
Heading South on Jefferies from the North side of town (1)

I would like to ask for any number of people to "adopt" a sign, or as many as 18 signs, to place at these locations on Saturday or Sunday, six times a year, before each blood drive, and to recover those signs on Monday night after 7:00 p.m. or Tuesday. If you have a suitable place, you could store your sign(s) until the next blood drive and then put them out, again. It's possible that next year we could secure additional funding and acquire more signs to place, but these are the ones we have for now.

Please note on Sunday or Monday where the signs are located and let me know if you would like to adopt any of these. If so, I'll let you recover your sign(s) on Tuesday and keep it for the next drive in January. Our current blood drive dates for 2024 are January 15, March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9, and November 11.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Kevin

# DECEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1 6:00 PM <b>WELCA/LMM</b> Christmas Dinner	2 <u>Birthday :</u> Margaret Juttner
3 10:00 AM <b>First</b> <b>Sunday of Advent</b> <b>With Communion</b>	4	5 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM <b>Food Pantry</b> 6:00 PM <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Gail Lindstrom	6 <u>Birthday :</u> Anna Carpenter	7 <b>Pearl Harbor Day!</b>  <u>Birthdays :</u> Mike Alberts Connor Smyly	8	9 9:00 AM <b>Good Shepherd</b> <b>Women Meet at</b> <b>Walmart</b>
10 10:00 AM <b>Second</b> <b>Sunday of Advent</b> <b>followed by Church</b> <b>Council</b>	11 <u>Birthday :</u> Sandra Roberts	12 10:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Music Meet</b> 6:00 PM <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Marion Glover	13 6:00 PM <b>Welcoming Wednesday</b> <u>Birthday :</u> James Casella	14	15	16 <u>Birthday :</u> Austin Smith
17 10:00 AM <b>Third Sunday of</b> <b>Advent With Communion</b> 4:30 PM <b>Christmas</b> <b>Caroling</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Kris Wernitz	18	19 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM <b>Food Pantry</b> 6:00 PM <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> <u>Birthdays :</u> Zachary Knapp Isabelle Knapp	20 <u>Birthdays :</u> Andrea Singletary Holger Obenaus	21 <b>First Day of Winter!</b>	22 10:00 PM <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Deadline.</b>	23
24 10:00 AM <b>Fourth Sunday of</b> <b>Advent With Communion</b> 7:00 PM <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Service</b> <u>Anniversary :</u> Gaby & Gerald Thomas	25 <b>Christmas Day!</b>  <u>Birthday :</u> Jesus Christ	26 <u>Birthday :</u> Linda Hayes	27	28 <u>Anniversary :</u> Jeff & Lisa Lord	29	30
31 <b>New Year's Eve!</b>  10:00 AM <b>Service of</b> <b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6