



The Shepherd's Staff

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

September 2023

www.walterborolutherans.com / GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com

From Your Pastor :

What kind of questions should we ask? In August the joint call committee for Ehrhardt/Good Shepherd trained and then began interviewing their first candidates from the synod. In this age of electronic communications, the first interviews are being held via Zoom. While it's not perfect, this allows the team to have a first conversation without the challenges of finding a time and money to bring candidates here. From there, they'll decide along with their candidates whether they want to have deeper conversations and an onsite meeting, or if other names are needed from the synod.

One of the things we discussed in our training was that this is a time of mutual discernment. The pastor has already felt God's leading to be open to a new call, but is this the right setting that matches his/her gifts-----and there's always a bit of magic (God's Spirit) leading in discerning what this next chapter should be. The same is true for the congregations. Good Shepherd and Ehrhardt are looking for God's leading into this new partnership and new phases of congregational life.

There are some ground rules we all need to follow. This is a confidential process. Serving another congregation, a pastor doesn't want that current parish to know too soon that they might be leaving. It's a small world, so we want to keep those names strictly private to the call committee until such time as they might identify a primary candidate. Likewise, it is not appropriate for any of us to pressure one of our team members to reveal insider information. Pray for your team members and thank them for their dedicated work-----but respect their task, confident that they are doing their best to envision the future for this church.

This is an exciting time. Good Shepherd has come a long way since I arrived as interim in November 2019. We had a lengthy period of recovery, and before that was very far along, we had Covid. While we wouldn't want to relive that kind of plague, Covid caused us to become flexible and creative in how we would be church. Making services available online became a new thing. For a time, we worshiped outside----remember those men setting up large fans as the summer heat bore down? Eventually we moved back inside, but shortening the service, seating at a distance, taking temperatures, and for a while, not even singing! Gradually more people came back to worship and activities returned to our new normal. We've had confirmations, a wedding, funerals, baptisms, children and youth events, congregational celebrations. We have recaptured our calling as a church community.

The main question that remains to be asked is how will Good Shepherd move out into mission with a new, shared full time pastor. It's not a question for today, yet. But it is one that will come into focus as you enter into a new chapter and partnership. After a nearly four-year interim, you're ready! As that great hymn says, "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim!"

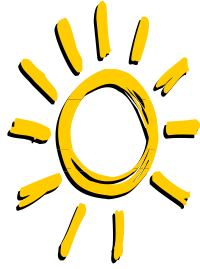
Pastor Craig

Streaming System Update

We've been using our sound system for worship, and "streaming" our worship services through Facebook, for a month now, and, after some growing pains and steep learning curve, things are working well. You can access our worship service "live" or you can watch any time after the service is complete. If you do NOT have a Facebook account, you can get to the service by clicking on the link from the Saturday Worship Invite E-mail, or by clicking on the Facebook link on our church website www.walterborolutherans.com. If you do have a Facebook account, you can "follow" Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, contact any of "The Tricasters" team of Rob Rusnak, Cheryl Clayton, Matt Ferris or Kevin Wicker.

Sunshine News :

The **American Red Cross** will be here at Good Shepherd on Monday, September 11, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm for a blood drive. There is always a need for blood. Come out and donate! You can make an appointment by contacting the Red Cross.



The choir has been on summer break, but will return beginning **Tuesday, September 12, at 6:00 pm.** Now is a good time to join, or re-join, the choir as we look ahead to the fall, Advent, and Christmas. If you have any questions, please see Diane Wicker.

Come join the fun on **Wednesday, September 13**, for our first **Welcoming Wednesday!** The Christian Education committee is planning monthly activities for the second Wednesday of each month. For September, we will start off with a spaghetti dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by BINGO! A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex so we can get an idea of how many to expect for dinner.



The **Amelia Conference Women of the ELCA** will have their fall meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church, Ehrhardt, SC. Registration starts at 11:30 am, with lunch following at 12 noon. The guest speaker will be Sheila Roemeling, director of Fresh Start/ Healing Heart. There will also be a brief business meeting. Any women interested in attending should let Diane Wicker know by **September 1.**

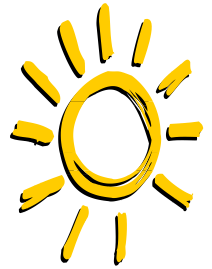
If you would like to place someone on the prayer list that is printed in the bulletin, please fill out a prayer request form, found in the narthex, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to Diane Wicker. The prayer list is updated every three months. You may also email your prayer requests to thewickers@lowcountry.com.

The sanctuary candles for the month of September 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 September will support **Lutheran Services Carolinas.** LSC 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 LSC by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for **“Lutheran Services Carolinas”** on your offering envelope, or by selecting **“Lutheran Services Carolinas”** on our on-line giving program on the church website.



Remembering Those in Need :

Today, your church council approved collection of gifts for helping the people in Hawaii who have been impacted by the terrible fires. This money will be routed through Lutheran Disaster Relief for use in Hawaii as needed.

Over the next several weeks the “soup pot” will be in the narthex for gifts, or you may include your gift with your offering by earmarking it for the “Fire Relief.”

Also, a line has been added to the Tithely program for online giving for those of you who would like to use that method of giving. You can access the Tithely app on our website www.walterborolutherans.com

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Wicker.

Save the Date :

Visit the International African American Museum in Charleston The Inclusiveness Network of the SC Synod is sponsoring a visit to the recently open International African America Museum in Charleston on Saturday Oct 7, 2023. We will meet outside the museum at 10:45 AM. After a set time at the museum we will go to St. Matthew’s Lutheran church to talk about our experience and share a meal. The day will end by 4 PM. If you are interested, please email Amy Rusnak at rusnakcats@yahoo.com

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER :

Lay Reader	Jon Carpenter
Communion Assistant	Amy Rusnak
Acolyte	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Ushers	Natalie Gamble / Kevin Wicker
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Grounds Care	Kevin Wicker
Council Devotions	Kevin Wicker

Thank You !

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.

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, Bill Walters, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Donna Murphy



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), Tim Walters (Margaret Juttner), John Babcock, Louise Stokes (the Boehlkes), Nicole Carpenter (Jon Carpenter), Terry Matlosz, Jean Norton (Kevin Wicker), Marilyn Peters, Bruce Bell (the Risters), Allen George, Katie Howell (the Mezels), The family of Deborah Walker (Charlotte and Dean Brinson), Alice Dockal (Patty Delaney), Dave Detrick, Lizzy Musi, the family of Luther Hardee, Courtney McDonald Wilkins (Cheryl Clayton), Douglas Fraser, Merri Simons

Good Shepherd Women:

The next meeting for the women will be Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the church. Faye Rister is the hostess for the evening and has devotions. All women are encouraged to attend. The women will also be planning to attend the Amelia Conference WELCA meeting on Saturday, September 16, at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church in Ehrhardt.

Worship and Music

The next meeting of the Worship and Music committee will be Tuesday, September 5, at 10:00 am at the church.

Christian Education:

The Christian Education committee met on Saturday, August 12. Plans were made for “**Welcoming Wednesday**” to begin on Wednesday, September 13. We will be meeting on the second Wednesday of each month. We will begin with a meal at 6:00 pm to be followed by an activity for all ages. For September we will have a spaghetti dinner followed by ice cream sundaes and BINGO! Come and join the fun. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex so we will have an idea of how many to expect.

Other activities that the committee is considering is Newberry College Youth Day on Saturday, September 16, at Newberry College, “Trunk-or-Treat” on Tuesday, October 31, at the church, and Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 17. Please watch the monthly newsletter and the bulletin for further details.

The next meeting for Christian Education will be Saturday, September 23, at 10:00 am.

Lutheran Men in Mission:

Ten men met in the social hall at 8 AM on Aug 13th for food and fellowship. Jon and Rob provided the breakfast and Doug B. had the program. He discussed the history of the Lutheran Hour ministry and the early history of Good Shepherd. Our next meeting will be on Sunday Sept 10th at 8 AM. Kevin will have the program and Doug L. and Doug B. will have the breakfast. All men are welcome to attend!

Financial Corner

Our gifts to the **General Fund** were off a bit during the month of July, thus the term “Summer Slump” that makes all church treasurers cringe. Although it’s summer, the expenses of our ministry continue, and utility expenses are high primarily due to the energy cost to cool our buildings. Nevertheless, despite the slump in General Fund giving, we had very generous gifts in July to the **Food Pantry**, the **Doscher/Fellers Scholarship Fund**, the **Lutheroad Fund**, and the **Lommen Love Fund!!** All four of these funds are being used during the summer.

At their August meeting, your church council approved our support of the disaster victims in Hawaii through **Lutheran Disaster Response**. By now you’ve seen the “Soup Pot” in the narthex and read about the opportunity to give through your offering or the Tithely app on our website.

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	\$ 8,189
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 868
Doscher/Fellers Scholarship Fund	\$ 630
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 500
Lutheroad	\$ 600
Flowers	\$ 185
Maintenance	\$ 50

Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,922
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,176
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 6,772
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 7,885
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 62,358
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 2,302
Service Committee	\$ 477

Alter Flowers for September

September 3	Dean and Charlotte Brinson
September 10	Kathie Whetsell
September 17	Janet Szymanski
September 24	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.”

August Council meeting notes: 8-13-2023

The meeting was opened with devotions by Bob.

- The July financial report, the Pastor’s report, and the minutes from the last meeting were presented.
- Amy reported that the Christian Education Committee is planning to kick off the “Welcoming Wednesday” program to replace the Wonderful Wednesday program. Welcoming Wednesday will be held each 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning September 13 with a different congregational family program and topic each month.
- The Lutheran Men are planning their annual Fish Fry in November and the Good Shepherd Women have completed the School Supply Drive. (40) school kits will be given out at the next Food Pantry.
- Natalie and Kevin reported that the Pictorial Directory is coming along nicely with a few more photos taken this month.
- Amy reported that the Call Committee of Mt. Pleasant, Ehrhardt Memorial and Good Shepherd have been busy with Bishop Ginny and the call process.
- In new business, Council approved collecting money for the Lutheran Disaster Relief efforts in Hawaii following the terrible fires there.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed with prayer.

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

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Social Ministry

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker

In Memory of:

Bill Walters

Food Pantry

Given by:

Edd Wicker

Emmett Wicker

Edwina Wicker

Lee & Anna Sease

Bethel Presbyterian Church

In Honor of:

Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

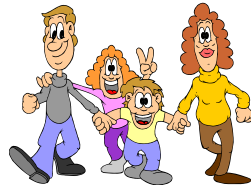
Kevin Wicker (Birthday)

Good Shepherd Ministries

Happy Labor Day !!!
September 4, 2023

Memorial Day is the unofficial start of summer. And Labor Day? Well, it's when most of us put away the shorts and get ready to usher in autumn.

But before brewing up a pumpkin spice latte, you might want to take a few moments to enjoy the last three-day weekend of summer with a day at the beach or backyard barbecue with the family.



The big question about Labor Day is : Can you wear white after Labor Day? This supposed-remnant of high society has long since gone by the wayside. According to Emily Post, those who could afford to vacation during the hot summer months left their "city clothes" behind in favor of "light, whiter, summer outfits." Once autumn arrived, those leisure clothes were put away and "more formal city clothes" were once again worn.

“Many years ago, shopping was very seasonal. You bought clothes for fall, holidays and spring and summer,” Asher-Levine says. “White was never available in the winter months. Now with fast fashion, collections changing monthly, white is a staple color year-round.”

By Sarah Lemire and Shelby Deering

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 Birthday : Raymond Riles	2 Birthday : Abigail Alberts
3 10:00 AM Worship with Communion Birthday : Raleigh Obenaus	4 Labor Day Anniversary : Mimi & Eddie Werntz	5 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Worship & Music Committee 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women	6	7	8	9 Anniversaries : Carl & Gail Lindstrom Pastor Craig & Georgia Boehlke
10 8:00 AM LMM Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Church Council	11 Patriot Day 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive	12 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal Returns Birthday : Roberta McCullough	13 6:00 PM Welcoming Wednesday	14	15 Birthday : Melissa Murphy	16 11:30 PM Amelia Conference Women of the ELCA Birthday : Carolina Jade Fralix Anniversary : Patricia & Raymond Riles
17 10:00 AM Worship Service Birthday : Whit Carter	18 Birthdays : Linda Gilgen Lucas Connelly Billy Guess	19 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	20	21 Birthday : Amber Casella	22 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline	23 1st Day of Autumn 10:00 AM Christian Ed. Committee Birthdays : Matt Ferris Georgia Boehlke Pastor Rich Johnston
24 10:00 AM Worship Service Birthdays : Alison McCullough Jamie Connelly Gaby Thomas	25 Anniversary : Holger Obenaus & Cindy Newman	26 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	27	28	29	30 Birthday : Jessica Steele Nettles Anniversary : Hope & Lloyd Smyly