



August 2023

The Shepherd's Staff

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

From Your Pastor :

This past week I met via Zoom with the other interim pastors from the South Carolina Synod. After hearing some of their stories and some of the challenges our bishop's office is facing, I'm so thankful to be serving at Good Shepherd! The feisty political climate of the past several years has spilled over into many other aspects of everyday life. People are less civil with one another. Congregations with older membership profiles tend to be more conservative than their younger pastors. In South Carolina it has led to many difficult church relationships. How sad it is that people cannot listen to others with differing perspectives, learn from one another, and grow to appreciate the diversity that God has given us. Respect seems a lost art. In one congregation the council was even bullying their retired interim pastor---a very gracious and gentle man totally undeserving such treatment. I don't expect a church community to be devoid of differing opinions---that is to be expected, and even welcomed. But as people of the gospel, we want to act toward one another as if Jesus were in our midst (which, by the way, he is!). I have no doubt that the current political and social climate will evolve as it always does. Again, I am ever so grateful that a spirit of kindness and care lives in this congregation.

Elsewhere in this newsletter my wife has offered her own note of thanks, but I want to express my deep appreciation for your celebration of my 50th ordination anniversary in July. I surprised myself with getting pretty emotional in reflecting on those years and my commitment to the highest of professional standards in this calling. I believe my sermon for that day is posted on the church website if you didn't get the chance to hear it. The dinner celebration was wonderful and I thank everyone who made the effort to participate.

In August we'll have some additional substitutes as I spend two weeks out in the mountains of Colorado. At almost 9,000 feet we'll enjoy the cool evenings and low humidity. I've served as the president of the board for a timeshare condo association for ten years now, so this is a working vacation as we inspect all the units, note needed repairs, plan refurbishments, and hold an annual meeting. We'll probably have a number of fresh trout meals along the way and enjoy great board member friends in this work.

For Good Shepherd, August is a quieter month, though we'll be gearing up for fall and school will start back already mid-month. Your call committee is eagerly waiting for names from the synod and will be doing some interview preparation. The women are on break but the men will be meeting as usual. Thanks to the men's group for replenishing the food pantry with funds from their BBQ. And the food pantry will continue to support the needy in our community. Enjoy those last days of summer and remember----the church is air conditioned and here every week!

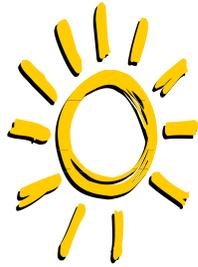
Pastor Craig

Property & Grounds

After a couple of weeks of installation and setup, we launched the new **audio/streaming system** on July 23rd. We are now streaming our services on Facebook each Sunday, and other times when we meet in the sanctuary for worship. Over the next few weeks, we will be continuing to tune the system and train our volunteers who will run the equipment. We hope you've had time to view the service on Facebook, with or without an account. The new system also incorporates **listening assist devices** for those who have trouble hearing the speakers in the sanctuary. Our thanks to **Mr. Scott Grooms** for designing the system and overseeing our installation and to our volunteers who helped with the installation and who operate the system each Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the system, please contact Kevin Wicker or Rob Rusnak. And, if you'd like to help reimburse our **Wallace Fund** for the cost of the system, earmark your gift for "**Sound System.**"

Sunshine News :

A Seminary Student Comes to Good Shepherd. On August 6th Good Shepherd will host first year seminarian Jace Martinez. Jace grew up Lutheran in Owatonna, MN before relocating to Texas with his family in his late teens. He received his associate degree in the arts from Riverland Community College in Austin, MN, a second associate degree from Cochise College in Douglas, AZ, and his BA from Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. Jace served in the Army from 2016-22, including tours in the Middle East. He began his training at Lutheran Southern Seminary in Columbia in January of this year. Jace is married to Julia Madeline Martinez, a Forensic Science Laboratory Assistant. Pastor Craig was impressed with Jace's call story which he heard as a member of the South Carolina Synod Candidacy Committee and is eager for Good Shepherd to welcome him and hear his story.



Congratulations to our Doscher/Fellers scholarship recipient this year: Haleigh Gamble. Haleigh is studying at Charleston Southern University. She will be recognized during worship on Sunday, August 6.

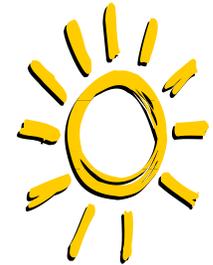
Choir is on summer break until September.

The Good Shepherd Women will be conducting a **school supplies drive** through **Sunday, August 13**. A list of needed supplies can be found in the narthex. A box has been placed in the narthex to collect any donations. The school supplies will be passed out during the August 15 Food Pantry hours. If you have any questions, please see Diane Wicker.

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**.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

Watch the bulletin and the September newsletter for changes coming to our Christian Education program!



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 Loose and Special Designated offering for August 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.

The sanctuary candles for the month of August are given to the glory of God by Amy and Rob Rusnak in honor of Rob's birthday.

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

SERVING IN AUGUST :

Lay Reader	Rob Rusnak
Communion Assistant	Faye Rister
Acolyte	Riley Guess
Ushers	Bob Ferris / Jon Carpenter
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Grounds Care	Dean Brinson
Council Devotions	Bob Ferris

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In **July** !!!

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

Lutheran Men in Mission:

Seven men met for food and fellowship on July 16 at 8 AM. The BBQ was successful and we were able to donate \$2,000 to the church Social Ministry Fund. Rob tricked everyone and gave a history lesson about the events that occurred between the period of the Old Testament and New Testament. Our next meeting will be on August 13th at 8 AM in the fellowship hall. Doug B. will be doing the program and Jon and Rob will be providing breakfast. All men are welcome to attend!

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Scholarship Fund

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker

In Honor of:

Pastor Craig

(Ordination 50th Anniversary)

Lommen Love Fund

Given by:

Kathie Whetsell

In Memory of:

Gene Whetsell

Lutheroad

Given by:

Kathie Whetsell

In Memory of:

Gene Whetsell

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

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

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 (theMezels), Deborah Walker (Charlotte and Dean Brinson)

Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd Women are on summer break. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the church. Faye Rister is the hostess for the evening and has devotions.

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, July 22. Discussion included a wrap-up of the Lutheroad Day Camp held in June. We have one scholarship recipient, Haleigh Gamble. She will be recognized on Sunday, August 6 during worship. There was also some discussion about the Wonderful Wednesday program. Other ideas and possibilities were discussed. Further plans will be made at the next meeting, which will be Saturday, August 12, at 11:00 am.

July Council meeting notes : 7-16-2023

The meeting was opened with devotions by Jon.

- The June financial report, the Pastor's report, and the minutes from the last meeting were presented.
- Council approved a scholarship from the Doscher/Feller Scholarship Fund for Haleigh Gamble for the Fall semester at Charleston Southern University.
- Council heard an update on the new sound/streaming system that will go live on Facebook soon.
- Council approved covering the costs of the recent LutheroadDaycamp with funds from the Wonderful Wednesday account.
- Regarding the Call Process, Amy reported that the Ministry Site Profile for Good Shepherd, Ehrhardt Memorial and Mt. Pleasant Lutheran has been submitted to Bishop Aebisher.

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

Financial Corner

This month we are looking at our financials for the first half of 2023. Through the first half of the year, we have spent about 44% of our **Spending Plan for Ministry** for the year. With the exception of a couple of unexpected maintenance items and property insurance cost increases, our expenses are following the plan nicely.

Again, we have multiple ways of giving here at Good Shepherd. There is the act of placing your gifts in the offering plate at worship, in the secure drop box on the Fellowship Hall door, or electronic giving through the Tithely program that you can access through 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



June Offering and Gifts:

General Fund	\$ 7,098
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 295
Maintenance	\$ 50
Candles	\$ 25
Flowers	\$ 230
Lutheroad	\$ 344

Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,922
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,176
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 6,442
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 7,885
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 62,358
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 2,650
Service Committee	\$ 477

A Word of Thanks

What a special group of people you are! We have so enjoyed getting to know each of you and to walk in tandem with you as you have searched God's will (and your ability) to continue to serve the Lutheran community at Good Shepherd. We have experienced your generosity, your love, your concern for our well-being and your acceptance of our presence with you.

A standing ovation after a sermon is almost unheard of! Brings me to tears just thinking of it. The dinner you served on July 9th in celebration of Craig's 50th anniversary of ordination was amazing and displayed your many talented cooks. Our friends and daughter were welcomed to share in the feast and felt included.

When it is time for us to share our final goodbyes as you welcome a new pastor, I am already certain that I'll be a teary mess and I guess suspect Craig won't be far behind, given his emotion at last Sunday's sermon. You are truly God's chosen, eager to welcome, to care and to partner and we are truly blessed to have shared this time with you.

Georgia Boehlke

Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the recent blood drive held here in July at Good Shepherd. A total of **45 units** of blood were collected. The next blood drive here at Good Shepherd will be **Monday, September 11, 2023.**

Alter Flowers for August

August 6	Cheryl Clayton
August 13	Maria Rodriguez
August 20	Bob and Gloria Ferris
August 27	Pr. Craig and Georgia Boehlke

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 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry	2 <u>Birthdays :</u> Sandy Alberts Marge Johnston	3 <u>Birthday :</u> John McCullough <u>Anniversary :</u> Dean & Candace Fralix	4 <u>Birthday :</u> Caroline Reynolds	5
6 10:00 AM Worship with Communion	7	8 <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor Norton Rosebrock	9 <u>Birthdays :</u> Rusty Mezel Donna Murphy	10	11	12 11:00 AM Christian Ed. Committee
13 8:00 AM LMM Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship Service followed by Church Council	14 <u>Birthday :</u> Dalbert Reser	15 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry <u>Birthday :</u> Rob Rusnak	16 <u>Birthday :</u> Tara Brinson	17 <u>Birthdays :</u> Angela Crosby Sara Avant	18 <u>Birthday :</u> Justine Murphy	19 <u>Birthday :</u> Erin Johnston
20 10:00 AM Worship Service	21	22 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline <u>Birthday :</u> Theresa Reynolds Barton	23 <u>Birthday :</u> Eddie Werntz	24 <u>Birthdays :</u> Faye Rister Merri Simons	25 <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor Craig Boehlke	26 <u>Birthday :</u> Pastor John Wertz <u>Anniversary :</u> Winfield & Merri Simons
27 10:00 AM Worship Service	28	29	30 <u>Birthdays :</u> Sheree Avant Jaymie Strickland	31	1	2