



## The Shepherd's Staff

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

November 2023

[www.walterborolutherans.com](http://www.walterborolutherans.com) / [GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com](mailto:GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com)

### From Your Pastor :

Many of you have heard me preach and talk about the current shortage of pastors in the ELCA (and many other denominations). That concern is no longer just a distant issue. The South Carolina synod office reports that they have way more church vacancies than they have pastors looking to move. I had thought that after the pandemic years there would be a larger number of clergy eager for a new setting. I do know we've got very few seminary graduates, so the numbers coming into ministry is not matching the number retiring.

Last month the joint call committee determined they had a primary candidate to serve the Good Shepherd/Ehrhardt parishes---only to have that candidate withdraw, deciding it was not the right time for a move. That was disappointing news for all of us, and especially for those call committee members who had invested hours in the search process. We will carry on, knowing that the right person is out there and God's timing is always better than ours. But as the scriptures say, the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.

It's hard to believe that we're already into fall and coming up on the holiday season. Thanksgiving isn't until November 23<sup>rd</sup>, but I'm sure you're beginning to make plans with family and friends. Georgia and I will be headed up to see her 99-year-old father the later part of October so we'll be at Good Shepherd all of the next two months except for my monthly obligation to St. John's in Beaufort. While it would be nice to be with family for Christmas, we have done our time in snow country and they all know where we live!

During the month of November, I'd like to suggest that we use the entire time to both give thanks for all the blessings of our lives and to plan ahead so that the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season won't be so hectic. Let's pace ourselves and enjoy all the activities of the season as a gift. May the gifting be a joyful experience of planning and preparing rather than an added task to be accomplished. Decorate and host in ways that bring joy both to yourself and others. And may we know the peace, hope, and joy that comes at this time of year.

A big WOW to the congregation. Your contributions to assist seminary student Jace Martinez totaled \$945. Very impressive and I'm sure it will help a great deal!

*Pastor Craig*

### Good Shepherd Women:

The next meeting for the women will be Monday, November 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the church. Diane Wicker is the hostess for the evening and Amy Rusnak has devotions. We will be finalizing plans for November and discussing plans for December. Women are also encouraged to have surveys completed and turned in to Diane Wicker. All women are encouraged to attend.

### Lutheran Men in Mission:

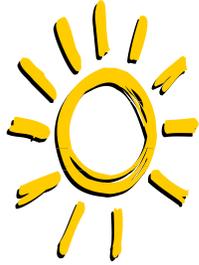
Seven men met for food and fellowship on Sunday Oct 8. Sal and Kevin provided the breakfast and Jon had the program. He talked about how it is never pleasant to experience pain and loss, but that often it makes us more reliant on God to bear the burden and more appreciative of what we have.

The Fish Fry has arrived: Saturday Nov 4th from 4:30-7:00 PM. We will have a choice of fried catfish or grilled chicken. All meals will come with Mr. Bob's World Famous Shrimp Fried Rice, hush puppies, green beans, and Banana Pudding (made from a secret Lutheran recipe).

Our next meeting is at 8 AM Nov 12th in the Church Social Hall. Doug L. has the program and the Two Dougs will provide the breakfast.

## Sunshine News :

The Lutheran Men's **Fish Fry** is Saturday, November 4! Tickets are now available at \$12 per person. There will be dine-in or carry-out. Carry-out begins at 4:30 pm, and dine-in is from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.



Our next **Welcoming Wednesday** will be **Wednesday, November 8**, with the meal being served at 6:00 pm. Rob Rusnak will be coordinating the meal preparations. For our program, we will be working on cards and crafts for our shut-ins. Come join the fun. All ages are welcome!

Be sure to thank a Veteran for their service. **Veterans Day** is November 11, 2023!



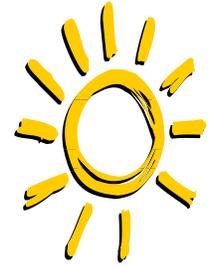
The **American Red Cross** will be here at Good Shepherd on Monday, November 20, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm for a blood drive. There is always a need for blood. Come out and donate! You can make an appointment by contacting the Red Cross.

We will be taking orders for **poinsettias for Christmas Eve**. Order forms can be found in this month's newsletter and in the narthex. The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, November 26, 2023**. Please make all checks payable to Good Shepherd and note "poinsettias" on the memo line.

**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!

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).

## Sunshine News : (Continued)



The **Loose and Special Designated offering for November** will support the **ELCA World Hunger**. **World Hunger** responds to hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world by addressing root causes. Through a comprehensive program of **relief, development, education, and advocacy**, people are connected to the resources they need to lift themselves out of poverty.

**ELCA World Hunger responds to Christ's call to "Go and do likewise"** (Luke 10:37), serving with compassion people who are most vulnerable, paying focused attention to the full participation of women and the needs of children.

Together, in Christ's name, **we experience the transforming power of connection**. As individuals, congregations, and synods, our humble offerings and actions are gathered, blessed, and multiplied. Together, we are ELCA World Hunger.

This is not a budgeted item, but you can help by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for "**World Hunger**" on your offering envelope.

**The sanctuary candles for the month of November** are given to the glory of God by Shannon Guess in honor of Bud and Sue Nussman. *The cost of sanctuary candles is \$25 per month.*

## 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

### 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), Claudia Morton (Gloria Ferris), Parks Mangum, Marilyn Peters, Bonnie Thomas (the Risters), the family of Edd Wicker

## SERVING IN NOVEMBER :

Lay Reader	Doug Brinson
Communion Assistant	Doug Brinson
Acolyte	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Ushers	Amy Rusnak / Doug Lindstrom
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Grounds Care	Doug Brinson
Council Devotions	Amy Rusnak
Lutheran Men program / Meal	Doug Lindstrom Doug Brinson / Doug Lindstrom

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In October !!!

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



## DESIGNATED GIFTS

*Donations given to the Glory of God to:*

### Lommen Love Fund

**Given by:**  
Carol Lommen

**In Memory of:**  
Edd Wicker

### Food Pantry

**Given by:**  
Janet Szymanski  
Margaret Juttner  
Sal & Marylyn Praga

**In Memory of:**  
Edd Wicker  
Edd Wicker  
Edd Wicker

## Christian Education:

The Christian Education Committee met on Saturday, September 30, at 10:00 am via Zoom. Plans were discussed for the months of October, November, and December. Coming up in November, Welcoming Wednesday will meet on Wednesday, November 8, at 6:00 pm. In December, Welcoming Wednesday will be on Wednesday, December 13, at 6:00 pm. We are also planning to go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins on Sunday, December 17, at 4:30 pm. Watch the bulletin and the website for further details. The next Christian Education committee meeting will be Saturday, November 18, at 10:00 am.

## Worship and Music:

The Worship and Music committee met on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 10:00 am at the church. Plans for Advent and Christmas were discussed. Beginning Sunday, October 29, and going through the month of November, orders will be taken for poinsettias. Please note that the deadline for receiving orders is **Sunday, November 26**. Order forms are included in this newsletter and will be available at the church. Sign-up sheets for 2024 will be placed in the narthex on Sunday, December 3. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities, so check it out. The next meeting for the Worship and Music Committee will be on Tuesday, December 12, at 10:00 am.

**Daylight Saving Time Ends 11/05/23!**

## Alter Flowers for November

November 5	Rob and Amy Rusnak
November 12	Margaret Juttner
November 19	Natalie Gamble
November 26	Kevin and Diane Wicker

*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

Happy Fall from the Financial Corner. September proved to be a “soft” month of giving, but fortunately, it was also a month of routine expenses with no surprises. So, all worked out well in the financial corner.

During the first two Sundays in October, we collected a “**Love Offering**” of \$945 for seminary student Jace Martinez. Pastor Craig has sent that to Jace with a “Love” note from Good Shepherd.

You may notice in the Council Minutes that we have exhausted all of our funds for the **Social Ministry/Food Pantry program for 2023**. At their October meeting, Council voted to provide funding from our Thrivent Choice Dollars account to pay for the groceries for the first Tuesday in November. Hopefully, a generous turnout for the **Lutheran Men’s Fish Fry on November 4** will provide funding for the Food Pantry for the three remaining Tuesdays in 2023. The average cost of operating the Food Pantry is about \$1,200 per month.

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

### September Offering and Gifts:

General Fund	\$ 6,714
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 266
Lutheroad	\$ 150
Candles \ Flowers	\$ 25 \ 135
Sound System	\$ 200
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 83
Lutheran Services Carolinas	\$ 244
Hawaii Fire Relief	\$ 264

### Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,972
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,176
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 6,774
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 8,688
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 50,424
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 246
Service Committee	\$ 477
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 768

## October Council meeting notes : 10-08-2023

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Natalie.

- Council approved the minutes from the September meeting and an Executive Committee meeting.
- Members then heard the Financial report, and reports from LMM, WELCA, Social Ministry, Property and Grounds, and, the Call Committee.
- From **Property and Grounds**, the Council discussed possible options for repair of a motorized handicap scooter that has been donated to the church. They also discussed other options to repairing the scooter if repairs are cost prohibitive.
- From **Social Ministry**, Doug and Kevin informed members that our Social Ministry/Food Pantry is out of funds for this year. Council approved the use of **Thrivent Choice Dollars** to fund the Food Pantry the first Tuesday of November, with hopes that proceeds from the **Lutheran Men’s Fish Fry** will fund the Food Pantry for the remainder of the year. Kevin also notified members that an application for a 2024 grant has been submitted and news on that grant should be available by the end of October.
- Amy reported that the perspective “Primary Candidate” for our next pastor has respectfully withdrawn her name from the process. **The Call Committee** will await another name, or names, of possible candidates from Bishop Ginny.
- Amy also reported that **Lutheran Disaster Response Carolinas** is seeking supporting congregations to provide “team shelters” and “comfort spots” for teams responding to natural disasters. Council approved Amy to have a representative from LDRC speak to Council in the near future.

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.

## ***Christmas Poinsettia - Order Form***

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve, please fill out the form and place in the offering plate. We will be ordering 8-inch poinsettias with red blossoms. Please make your check payable to Good Shepherd. You may pick up your poinsettia following the Christmas Eve service.

**Deadline to order is Sunday, November 26, 2023.**

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of poinsettias(\$20 each)** \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

## **Prayer List October - December, 2023**

Each week, Good Shepherd publishes a prayer list in the bulletin.

If you would like to place someone on the prayer list for longer than one Sunday, please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or give it to Diane Wicker. If you prefer, you can email your request to [thewickers@lowcountry.com](mailto:thewickers@lowcountry.com)

To be prayed for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Requested by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Condition:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please remove:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A **new** prayer list will be started every three months.

# NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 <b>All Saints' Day</b>	2  <u>Birthday :</u> Anthony Casella	3  <u>Birthday :</u> Brantley Carter <u>Anniversary :</u> Garrett & Tara Brinson	4  4:30 – 7:00 PM <b>LMM Fish Fry</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Leila Shaw
5 <b>DS Time Ends</b> 10:00 AM <b>All Saints' Sunday</b>	6  6:00 PM <b>Good Shepherd Women</b>	7 <b>Election Day</b> 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM <b>Food Pantry</b> 6:00 PM <b>Chior Rehersal</b> <u>Anniversary :</u> Sue & Bud Nussman	8  6:00 PM <b>Welcoming Wednesday</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Julie Epple <u>Anniversary :</u> Phil & Carrie Shaw	9	10  <u>Birthday :</u> Martin Luther (1483)	11  <b>Veterans Day</b> TBA <b>Good Shepherd Women (Meal Preps)</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Bob Ferris
12  8:00 AM <b>LMM Breakfast</b> 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service followed by Church Council</b> <u>Birthdays :</u> Braeden Rhea Westbury Rylee Jacobs	13	14  6:00 PM <b>Chior Rehersal</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Sal Praga	15	16	17  <u>Birthday :</u> Dorn Cammon	18  10:00 AM <b>Christian Education Committee</b>
19  10:00 AM <b>Worship with Communion</b>	20  1:00 PM – 7:00 PM <b>Red Cross Blood Drive</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Kevin Crosby	21  9:30 AM – 11:30 AM <b>Food Pantry</b> <b>No Chior Rehersal</b> <u>Birthdays :</u> Patrick Smith Patrick Gamble	22  10:00 PM <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Charles Roberts	23  <b>Thanksgiving</b> <u>Birthday :</u> Vonda Calcutt	24	25  <u>Birthdays :</u> Ben Wicker Alice Vendrick
26  10:00 AM <b>Christ the King Sunday</b>	27  <u>Birthday :</u> Donnie Clayton	28  <b>No Chior Rehersal</b>	29	30  <u>Anniversary :</u> Danielle & Douglas Fraser	1	2