



The Shepherd's Staff

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

February 2024

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From The Pastor : (A look at the past - these are excerpts taken from the first newsletter article from Pastor Craig – I mostly wanted to reflect on the third paragraph)

“Thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me as I begin my interim time at Good Shepherd. Let me share a little of who I am.

Your council has decided that they would like me to be with you normally as much as 3 Sundays plus special services, as well as one day per week. Initially that day will vary each week as I try to become acquainted with people and activities here. In December I'll be here on Sundays 1, 15, 22, and Christmas Eve. On weekdays I will try to visit the home bound and take in meetings or activities. I would also like to hear as many of your stories as possible. This will be a work in progress, but your council and I want to be sure you have access to pastoral service during this interim time. By February I'd like to settle on a regular day that I will be in Walterboro.

It used to be that the time between pastors was a time to save up some money and take a break from mission. That's old thinking. Interim is a time to reassess where you have come from, to celebrate the gifts of this congregation, and revision the future. I'm pleased to be able to join with you and help guide these important tasks as Good Shepherd continues in mission.

During the interim please use your council officers for day to day congregational information, but here is my contact information for pastoral concerns:

Pastor Craig Boehlke

Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd women met on Monday, January 8, 2024 to discuss plans for the upcoming year. The first event will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser to be held on Saturday, February 24, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. A sign-up sheet for hostess /devotions for the year was passed around. Also, it was noted that Patty Delaney would be taking over the treasurer responsibilities for the group. Thank you, Patty, for your willingness to serve, and thank you, Faye for your years of service.



The next meeting for the women will be Monday, February 5, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the church. Diane Wicker will be the hostess, and Amy Rusnak will have the devotions. All women are welcome to attend!

Christian Education:

The Christian Education committee met on Saturday, January 13, 2024, via Zoom. It was noted that since the second Wednesday in February is Ash Wednesday this year, we will not have a Welcoming Wednesday program for February. The committee hopes to offer a 5-week study on the 2003 movie, “Luther” as a part of midweek Lenten services in partnership with the Worship and Music committee. The committee also set the date for the annual Easter Egg Hunt for Saturday, March 23, at 10:00 am. More information will follow. There was also some discussion about camp scholarships and school scholarships. A recommendation was made to council for approval. Diane will put together information for applications. There will not be a Lutheroad Day Camp this year because of price increases from NovusWay. The committee will revisit this in 2025. The committee also briefly discussed the possibility of offering an education program on Sunday mornings in the fall. It was decided to survey the congregation for interest. The committee will work on a survey at the next meeting. Christian Education committee will meet next on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Sunshine News :



Worship note: Beginning **Sunday, February 4, 2024**, our worship service will begin at 11:00 am. Since we will probably be sharing an interim with the Ehrhardt Parish since Pastor Craig has retired, we will need to move our worship time, per the Parish Agreement. The Ehrhardt Parish worships at 9:00 am.

There will be a brief **congregational meeting** following worship on Sunday, February 4, to vote on two items: the **2024 Spending Plan for Ministry** and **replacement of the two heating and air conditioning units** in the Fellowship Hall.

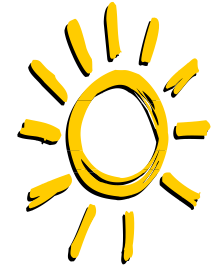
Sunday, February 11, is Super Bowl Sunday for the NFL, and it's time for the **Souper Bowl of Caring** at thousands of locations across the country, including Good Shepherd. All food items and monetary gifts collected at Good Shepherd on Souper Bowl Sunday will help support our food pantry. Suggested food items: grits, rice, dry beans, canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, spaghetti and sauce, Ramen noodles, peanut butter.

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, February 13, 2024!** Plans are being made for our **Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper**. 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.

Our annual **Ash Wednesday service** will be Wednesday, February 14, at 7:00 pm. This service will be a communion service with the imposition of ashes, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent.

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.

Sunshine News : (Continued)



On **Wednesday evenings during Lent, beginning February 21**, we will gather in the parish hall for a soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by worship. All are invited and encouraged to attend. The theme for our Lenten services is "Luther and the Reformation." For the soup suppers, there will be sign-up sheets for each week. We will need 4 soups, 2 breads, and 2 gallons of tea (one sweet, one unsweet) each week. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex.

The Good Shepherd Women are sponsoring a **spaghetti dinner fundraiser** to support various outreach projects of the women on Saturday, February 24, 2024. This event is **dine-in or carryout** from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 per plate and the meal includes spaghetti, salad, bread, and a dessert. Tickets may be purchased in advance from one of the women. There may also be a limited number of tickets available at the door.

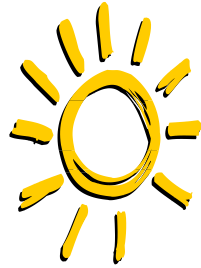
It's time to update your information for **the 2024 Directory**. If your information is not correct, or needs adding to the Directory, please contact Kevin Wicker by February 14.

The church **Pictorial Directory** is available on the Good Shepherd website or in black and white hardcopy upon request. If you'd like a hardcopy of the Pictorial Directory contact Kevin Wicker.

The 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.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

Tithe sheets are being mailed out this week. This is a record of your Tithes and Donations given in 2023. Please check them carefully. If you find any errors or have a question about your Tithe Sheet, please contact Doug Brinson at (843)538-8219.



Sign-up sheets for 2024 are available in the narthex. There are many volunteer opportunities, so please check it out!

Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the Red Cross blood drive held on Monday, January 15. A total of 44 units were collected. The next blood drive will be Monday, March 11, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Contact the Red Cross for an appointment.

The sanctuary candles for the month of February are given to the glory of God by Natalie Gamble in memory of her father, Marion Rudd. *The cost of sanctuary candles is \$25 per month.*

Property Report : (01-20-2024)

We have two immediate needs facing the congregation in regards to our property. First, on Sunday, February 4, following worship, the congregation will vote on replacing the two heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units in the Fellowship Hall. The compressor on one of the units failed near the end of 2023 and has not been replaced. These units are over 35 years old and are very inefficient by today's standards. We have secured a quote of \$15,100 to replace both units and Council is bringing that recommendation to the congregation for a vote.

Also, the sanctuary roof sustained some damage during the storm on January 9. We have contacted our insurance company and are awaiting a visit from the adjuster for an inspection and to discuss our options.

And finally, last, but certainly not least, "thank you" to all who helped repair and restore the church sign at the corner of Jefferies and May Streets. It looks great!

DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations given to the Glory of God to:

Food Pantry

Given by:

Janet Szymanski
Kathie Whetsell

Given by:

Margaret Juttner
Kathie Whetsell
Janet Szymanski

In Honor of:

Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister

In Memory of:

Bill Walters
Fritz Gilgen
William Crissman

Sound System

Given by:

Kevin & Diane Wicker
Larry & Rita Cromer
Ned & Joyce Kesler
Dell & Carol Rowe
Butch & Tricia Price
Rob & Kelly Markiewitz

In Honor of:

Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister
Charles & Faye Rister

Scholarship Fund

Given by:

Kathie Whetsell

In Memory of:

William Crissman

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, the family of Netta Adkins (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Don Rivers, (Kevin Wicker), the family of Bill Crissman, the family of Sarah Cole Hardy (Cheryl Clayton), Jim (Sal & Marylyn Praga)

Happy Valentine's Day!!!

My (Not So) Secret Admirer

By Michael Thompson from Edmund, Oklahoma

"Michael Thompson, you have flowers in the office," screeched a voice over the intercom as I sat in Miss Eidschun's seventh grade English class that Valentine's Day. I frowned, confused. It was a tradition at our school for guys to send flowers to the office for their girlfriends. Girls paraded through the halls with their bouquets, so classmates knew that someone thought they were special. No one sent flowers to the school office for guys.

The classroom had erupted with laughter. I blushed as I slid out of my desk and headed down the hall. In the office, the principal smiled broadly. "Looks like you have a special someone, Michael."

Mortified but also curious, I grabbed the bud vase with two red carnations. Alone in the hall, I read the card: "With Love, Your Secret Admirer." I had to admit it felt good, even if the circumstances were unique. But who could it be?

All day, friends speculated on which girls they thought might like me, but no one admitted to sending me flowers. I figured my secret admirer would remain just that—a secret.

After dinner, the phone rang—Nana was calling. I'd always been close to my grandmother, who attended every one of my football games, hollering "Get 'em, Michael!" when I went in for a tackle. Nana wished me a happy Valentine's Day and asked me about school and practice. Finally, she said mischievously, "I heard you have a secret admirer."

Nana! I should have known all along! She was my biggest fan—my not so secret admirer.

Words to live by :

"Church should be your excuse for missing everything else."

- Author unknown

Lutheran Men in Mission:

Ten men met for food and fellowship on Sunday Jan 14th. This year's officers were elected: Chair, Doug Brinson, Vice Chair, Jon Carpenter, Treasurer, Kevin Wicker, and Secretary, Rob Rusnak.

Mr. Bob and Mr. Charles provided the breakfast and Mr. Kevin discussed the purpose and function of the Committee of 100 of the Lutheran Men in Mission to support the development of mission churches in our synod and to provide churches with interest-free loans for capital building projects.

He also discussed how on Epiphany the wise men met Jesus and were also changed by meeting him. How have we been changed by meeting Jesus? Can we pray John Wesley's prayer: "Less of me. More of Thee"?

Our next meeting will be on Feb 12th at 9 AM (note new time) in the church fellowship hall. Jon will have the program and Sal and Doug L. will have the breakfast. All men are welcome to attend! .

Worship and Music:

The Worship and Music Committee met on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to discuss plans for Lent. Diane will be meeting with the florist after the meeting to discuss prices for Easter lilies and plans for Lent and Easter. Plans for Shrove Tuesday were reviewed as well as plans for Ash Wednesday, the Sundays in Lent, and midweek Lenten services, which will be held on Wednesday evenings this year. Plans for Holy Week will be discussed at the next meeting, which will be on Tuesday, March 5, at 10:00 am.

Alter Flowers for February:

February 4	the Gilgens
February 11	Natalie Gamble
February 18	No Flowers - Lent
February 25	No Flowers - Lent

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

We finished 2023 strong from a financial perspective with General Fund offerings, as well as donations to the Social Ministry/Food Pantry fund, Special Gathering Christmas Eve offering, the Pastor's gift, and the Wallace Fund for the sound/streaming system.

I know I said this last month, but I'll repeat, I can't say **"Thank you!"** enough for your gifts to Good Shepherd in 2023. Without every gift we could not continue the ministry we do throughout the year, and your gifts to the General Fund allow us to pay those mundane, boring, routine, monthly bills which are necessary to continue being "church" here in Walterboro and Colleton County.

On Sunday, February 4 at our annual congregational meeting, we will be voting on the 2024 Spending Plan for Ministry and replacing the Fellowship Hall HVAC units. I hope you can all attend as we make these important decisions in the life of Good Shepherd for this new year.

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	\$ 9,113
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 2,280
World Hunger	\$ 40
Candles	\$ 25
Flowers/Wreaths	\$ 283
Sound System	\$ 700
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 79
Special Gathering	\$ 576
Maintenance Fund	\$ 40

Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,975
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,138
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 6,777
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 8,691
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 50,932
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 9,875
Service Committee	\$ 477
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 836

January Council meeting notes: 01-14-2024

Cheryl opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

- The Council members then welcomed our new members Marylyn, Rusty and Doug B.
- The following members were elected to positions of leadership for 2024; Doug Lindstrom (Chair), Bob Ferris (Vice Chair), Natalie Gamble (Secretary), Jon Carpenter (Financial Secretary) and Kevin Wicker (Treasurer). And, Cheryl Clayton was appointed by Council to send notes acknowledging financial gifts to the church, a responsibility that Shannon Guess has generously done since the passing of Mrs. Eleanore Gloeckler.
- Members reviewed the 2023 financial spreadsheet and then approved the 2024 Spending Plan for Ministry which will be presented to the congregation for vote on Sunday, February 4, following worship. Council also approved the replacement of both of the Heating and Air Conditioning units in the Fellowship Hall. This will also be taken to the congregation for vote on February 4.
- While discussing financial matters, members approved a portion of the 2023 General Fund offering be moved to the Wallace Fund to pay back some of the cost of the new Sound System. They also approved a donation to a non-profit organization as a gift for Pastor Craig upon his retirement. Council then approved the new rate of reimbursement for our supply pastors as recommended by the SC Synod.
- Council approved increasing the scholarships for higher education students to \$400 per year and for young people attending summer camp at Lutheridge, Lutherock, Luthersprings, or Luther Ranch to \$500. These funds are available from the Doscher-Fellers Scholarship Fund.
- In a discussion regarding usher responsibilities, Council approved that one of the ushers will act as the second communion assistant if an acolyte is not available on communion Sundays.
- In a final matter of business, members decided they will continue to meet following worship on the second Sunday

of each month after our worship time moves to 11:00 a.m.
in February.

Your Council members are Doug Lindstrom (Chair), Bob Ferris (Vice Chair), Natalie Gamble (Secretary), Amy Rusnak, Cheryl Clayton, Marylyn Praga, Rusty Mezel, Doug Brinson, and Kevin Wicker.

Will he see his shadow?

(February 2, 2024)



Serving In February :

Lay Reader	Amy Rusnak
Communion Assistant	Faye Rister
Acolyte	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Ushers	Doug Brinson / Charles Rister
Offering Tabulators	Doug Brinson / Cheryl Clayton
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Grounds Care	Sal Praga
Audio / Visual	Kevin Wicker / Cheryl Clayton
Council Devotions	Kevin Wicker
LMM Breakfast / Program	Doug Lindstrom & Sal Praga / Kevin Wicker

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.

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 in the offering plate. There will be only one option this year. 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 3, 2024.**

Given by _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

_____ Single bloom: \$20

Payment enclosed Yes _____ No _____

Check # _____

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				Anniversary : Natalie & Patrick Gamble	Groundhog Day! Birthday : John Gilgen	
4 11:00 AM Worship with Communion followed by Congregational Meeting Birthday : Walter Fralix	5 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women	6 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry	7 6:00 PM Welcoming Wednesday Birthday : Pat Ostendorff	8	9 Birthdays : Riley Guess Ray Strickland	10 10:00 AM Christian Education Committee Birthday : Marylyn Praga
11 9:00 AM LMM Breakfast 11:00 AM Souper Bowl Sunday followed by Church Council	12	13 Mardi Gras! 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Birthday : Chris Carter	14 Valentine's Day! 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	15	16	17 Presidents' Day!
18 11:00 AM Worship with Communion Birthday : Cashwell Weihemuller	19 Birthday : Grace Connelly	20 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Worship and Music Committee	21 6:00 PM Midweek Lenten Supper/Service	22 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline Birthdays : Doug Brinson Mary Jo Smith	23 Birthdays : Ned Vendrick Natalie Gamble Jennifer Carter Stone	24 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM Good Shepherd WELCA Spaghetti Dinner Birthday : Parker Wertz
25 11:00 AM Worship Service	26	27 Birthday : Cheryl Clayton	28 6:00 PM Midweek Lenten Supper/Service Birthday : Jeff Lord	29 Leap Day!	2	3