



The Shepherd's Staff

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
106 May Street
Walterboro, SC 29488

March 2025

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From The Pastor :

One of my all time favorite poems is the "Road Less Travelled" by Robert Frost. "I took the road less traveled by and that has made all the difference".

With Lent upon our heels, it's time to reflect on our own journey through the season. Living in these challenging times, our neighbors and communities are looking to us to be an example of kindness and compassion. This is where we begin to make a difference - in the way we treat those we come into contact with on a daily basis.

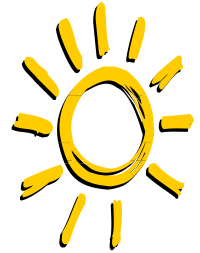
Now is not the time to bury our heads in the sand but to stand with those who are being marginalized, stand with those who are being pushed aside and stepped on because they may not look like us. Jesus walked with the poor, the hungry, the down-trodden, those cast out by society. Being followers of Jesus, we are called to walk in his footsteps. Let us be patient with each other, respect each other and most importantly show love and kindness where it may be lacking.

We are not expected to change the whole world, but we can make a difference in our own small world. At the end of each day, let us each ask ourselves, "How did I make a difference in someone's life today?"

Journeying through Lent, let's be reminded of the greatest commandment given by Jesus: "**A new commandment I give to you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**" John 13:34

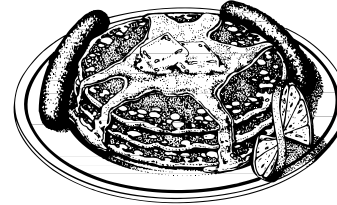
Pastor Judy

Sunshine News :



The **Good Shepherd Women** will be hosting a **Chari-TEA for SCLRC** on Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm. There will be a time for fellowship and learning, as well as tea to drink and plenty of delicious food. Invite friends and/or family to attend. Please let **Amy Rusnak** know if you plan to attend. A love offering will be collected to help support the ministries of our Lutheran retreat centers here in South Carolina.

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, March 4, 2025!** 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, March 5, 2025, 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.

The **Lutheran Men** will have a grilled chicken dinner on Saturday, March 8, 2025. Tickets are \$12 each. It is dine-in or carry-out from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Proceeds will benefit Lutheran Men projects.

The **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be at Good Shepherd on **Monday, March 10, 2025**, from 1:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Contact the Red Cross for an appointment, and give the gift of life!

There will be a **congregational meeting** after worship on **Sunday, March 16, 2025**. The purpose of the meeting is to consider a proposal from church council on replacing the roofs on the sanctuary and the breezeway.

Sunshine News : (Continued)

The Loose and Special Designated Offering for March will support **In His Name – Colleton**. **In His Name-Colleton** is an inter-denominational Christian-based 501c3 charitable organization established in 2013 to address the spiritual and physical needs of the homeless, displaced individuals and families, and those suffering from lack of food, clothing, shelter, and unemployment in Colleton and surrounding areas. This is not a budgeted item, but you can help support **In His Name** by placing loose offering in the offering plate, or by designating your gift for “**In His Name**” on your offering envelope.



It is time now to order Easter lilies! If you are interested in placing an Easter lily in the church for Easter Sunday, please fill out an order form, found in this newsletter and in the narthex, and return it, along with your payment, to the church. **Deadline to order is Sunday, March 30.**

On four **Wednesday** evenings (March 12 & 19 and April 2 & 9) during Lent, we will gather in the parish hall for a soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by worship in the parish hall. All are invited and encouraged to attend. For the soup suppers, there will be sign-up sheets for each week. We will need 4 soups and 2 breads each week. The midweek theme this year is “What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus today?” Our liturgy for worship will use Holden Evening Prayer. Plan to come on Wednesdays, have some delicious soup, and join in our Lenten worship. Our Lenten offerings this year will go to support Newberry College and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

The sanctuary candles for the month of March are given by Natalie Gamble in memory of her father, Marion Rudd, whose birthday is in March, and in honor of her daughters Haleigh and Hannah, who celebrate their birthday in March.

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 & Ilona Strickland, Frances Barton, Ted & Sara Avant, Margaret Juttner, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Donna Murphy, Winfield & Merri Simons, Cheryl Clayton, Maria Rodriguez, Pastor Craig & Georgia Boehlke, John Gilgen

Friends and Family

Gary Bunch, Carolyn Rahn, Laura Spivey, (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland, Katrina Fryar, (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Don Rivers, Chuck Hackman (Kevin Wicker), Dee, Cecile, Mike, Jay Rubino (Sal & Marylyn Praga), Betty Weaver, Brenda Mc Bride, Barbara Slater (Natalie Gamble), Lauren Long, the family of Jeff Jowers (Kathie Whetsell), Karen Akers, Diann Tuthill (Rusty & Lisa Mezel), Amanda Elkins (Marilyn Peters), Nell Worden (Amy Rusnak), Joanne Perrin

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.

Worship and Music:

Worship and Music met on Tuesday, January 28. Plans for Lent were discussed. Shrove Tuesday will be on Tuesday, March 4. The men will be cooking the meal. Ash Wednesday Service will be on Wednesday, March 5, at 7:00 pm. It will be a traditional service with communion and the imposition of ashes. We will have midweek Lenten services on the following Wednesdays in Lent: March 12 & 19, April 2 & 9. A soup supper will be at 6:00 pm, followed by a service. We will use Holden Evening Prayer for the liturgy. The theme will be “What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus today?” The next meeting of Worship & Music will be Tuesday, February 25 (after the newsletter deadline), at 10:00 am at the church. We will be discussing plans for Holy Week and Easter.

Serving In March :

Lay Reader	Pam Turza
Communion Assistant	Amy Rusnak
Ushers	Doug Lindstrom & Rusty Mezel / Kevin Wicker
Offering Tabulators	Doug Lindstrom & Rusty Mezel / Kevin Wicker
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Audio / Visual	Rob Rusnak / Matt Ferris
Grounds Care	Doug Brinson
Council Devotions	Doug Brinson
LMM Breakfast / Program	Donnie Clayton & Kevin Wicker / Bob Ferris

Special Thanks to Everyone Who Served In February !!!

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

Altar Flowers for March :

March 2	Natalie Gamble
March 9	<i>Lent</i>
March 16	<i>Lent</i>
March 23	<i>Lent</i>
March 30	<i>Lent</i>

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."

Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

We at St. John Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC, wanted to let you know that we lifted you and your congregation up in our prayers on Sunday, February 16, 2025. We prayed that God would continue to guide and be present in your ministries within your community. God bless each of you and the work you do!

Members of St. John Lutheran Church

Financial Corner

Happy (Financial) New Year!! We're off to a good start with no unforeseen expenses. That's always good.

You'll see in the **Council notes** that at their last meeting the members of your church council approved the replacement of the church roof and breezeway roof this spring rather than paying for immediate repairs this year and then replacing the entire roof in 2026. We are in the process of evaluating bids from contractors, and then the Council's recommendation will be presented to the members of GSLC at a Congregational meeting on Sunday, March 16. At that meeting, we will discuss where the finances for that project will come from.

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

January Offering and Gifts:

General Fund	\$ 7,930
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 715
Candles	\$ 25
Flowers	\$ 275
Maintenance	\$ 45
Lutheran Homes of SC	\$ 193

Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 4,812
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,215
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 13,371
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 7,230
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 70,469
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 11,867
Service Committee	\$ 477
Wednesdays Together	\$ 847

Daylight Saving Time Begins March 9, 2025!

Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd held their spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Saturday, February 22, at the church. An update on the fundraiser will be in the April newsletter. On Saturday, March 1, the women will be holding a Chari-TEA for SC Lutheran Retreat Centers. The next meeting of the Good Shepherd women will be Monday, March 3, at 6:00 pm. Marylyn Praga will be the hostess for the evening and have the devotions.

Lutheran Men in Mission :

Nine men met for food and fellowship on Sunday Feb 9th. Sal (Mrs. Marilynn) and Doug L. provided the breakfast. Donnie had the program: he had always wondered why an early supervisor had frequently called him a “Nimrod”, so he decided to look it up! It turns out Nimrod is most notorious for building the Tower of Babel. More generally, Donnie said the lesson we should reflect on is whether we are trying to “reach heaven” on our own, or are we relying on God.

Mark your calendar: the Men will be holding a Grilled Chicken Dinner on Saturday March 8th. Meal will include Grilled Chicken, Dirty Rice, Green Beans, Coleslaw, and our World Famous Lutheran Banana Pudding. Tickets will be 10 dollars and the proceeds will be used to purchase steam trays for the kitchen. Tickets are available from any of the men in the congregation.

Our next meeting will be Sunday Mar 9th at 9 AM (don't forget Daylight Savings Time begins that day) in the church fellowship hall. Mr. Bob will have the program and Donnie and Kevin will provide the breakfast.

Christian Education:

The Christian Education committee met on Saturday, February 8. Plans for the hymn sing on February 12 were discussed. Planning was done for the Easter Egg hunt, which will be on Saturday, April 12, from 10:00 am to 12 noon. Watch the bulletin for more information about the egg hunt. The next meeting of the committee will be Saturday, April 19, at 10:00 am at the church.



February Council Meeting Notes: 02-09-2025

The meeting was called to order by Chair Amy Rusnak and devotions were presented by Kevin.

- The minutes from the January meeting were approved as presented by Natalie.
- Pastor Judy then spoke about her report, after which Marylyn discussed the Good Shepherd “wish list.”
- Members received reports from Finance, Property and Grounds, Christian Education, Worship and Music, Social Ministry, Women of Good Shepherd, the Lutheran Men, and the Parish Committee.
- Regarding Property and Grounds, Council voted to forego the roof repairs that we've been waiting on, and to proceed with a complete roof replacement of the sanctuary and the breezeway this Spring. Kevin has one quote, and will get a second competitive bid. Council will then review the bids and select the contractor. Because the cost of the project will be above 3% of our 2025 Spending Plan, the project will be presented to the membership at a congregational meeting on Sunday, March 16.
- Regarding Social Ministry, Doug spoke of the Food Pantry and Kevin told of one situation during the month of someone who was helped purchase gas to drive to Charleston for rehab after surgery.
- Amy reported that the Parish Committee had met in Ehrhardt to review 2024 and make plans for our three churches in 2025. Members representing Good Shepherd on the Parish Committee are Amy, Doug L, and Diane, along with Pr. Judy, of course.

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

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

We have an opportunity to “gift” Good Shepherd with items needed. For those of you interested in donating, here is a list of suggested items. Monetary donations will be accepted for the items below. You may give the gift “in honor of” or “in memory of someone. **Please do not purchase the item yourself without consulting with our gift coordinator, Marylyn Praga.**

WISH LIST:

- COOLER – 28 QT \$22
- LAWN RAKES (2) \$16 per rake
- BATTERY OPERATED BLOWER–FOR SIDEWALKS \$135
- ROLLING OFFICE CHAIR (BLACK–FOR SOUND TABLE) \$160
- FLOOR MAT FOR CHAIR \$60
- 60 W LED FLOOD LIGHTS – SANCTUARY – REPLACEMENT LIGHTING
2 BOXES \$18 per box
- BATTERIES: AA ALKALINE BATTERIES (16 COUNT) FOR
SOUND SYSTEM, 9 V ALKALINE BATTERIES (4 COUNT) FOR
SOUND SYSTEM & SMOKE DETECTORS
2 PACKAGES \$18 per pack
- POSTAGE: 10 ROLLS OF STAMPS (100 COUNT) \$73 each roll

If interested in sponsoring or for more information, please contact Marylyn Praga: 518-768-8207 or email: Mip8207@aol.com

Thank you,
Your Church Council

Happy
St. Patrick's Day!



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. 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 30, 2025.**

Given by _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

_____ Single Stem : \$20

Payment enclosed Yes _____ No _____

Check # _____

MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	31	1 3:00 PM Chari-TEA for SCLRC Birthday : Mason Alberts
2 10:00 AM Choir 11:00 AM Transfiguration Sunday Birthday : Tyler Westbury	3 6:00 PM GSLC Women Meet Birthday : Donnie Eason	4 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Shrove Tues. Pancake Supper	5 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service Birthday : Garrett Brinson	6	7	8 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM LMM Chicken Dinner
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins! 9:00 AM LMM Breakfast 10:00 AM Choir 11:00 AM Worship Followed by Council	10 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive Birthdays : Haleigh Gamble Hannah Gamble	11	12 6:00 PM Lent Supper/Service	13 Birthday : Maria Rodriguez	14 Birthday : Winfield Simons	15 Birthdays : Frances Barton Charlotte Brinson Jeremiah Johnston
16 10:00 AM Choir 11:00 AM Worship with Communion Followed by a Congregational Meeting	17 St. Patrick's Day!	18 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Food Pantry	19 6:00 PM Lent Supper/Service	20 Birthday : Barrett Lord	21 Birthday : Charles Rister	22 10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
23 10:00 AM Choir 11:00 AM Worship With Communion	24	25 Anniversary : Kevin & Angela Crosby	26 6:00 PM NO Lent Supper/Service	27	28	29 Birthday : Candace Fralix
30 10:00 AM Choir 11:00 AM Worship With Communion	31	1 April Fool's Day 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Food Pantry	2 6:00 PM Lent Supper/Service	3	4	5