



The Shepherd's Staff

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
106 May Street
Walterboro, SC 29488

(843) 549-5353

November 2024
www.walterborolutherans.com / GSLC.Walterboro@yahoo.com

Philippians 4:4-7 *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and with thanksgiving let your needs be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

November is the month we give thanks to God for family, for community, for love and kindness and generosity. Let us be mindful of this as we reflect on the past weeks when far too many people are attempting to make sense of their lives after having all they had either flooded away or torn away by two back to back major hurricanes.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul knew that gratitude, even when life is difficult or challenging, can make a positive difference. He encourages us to pray about everything, and to be thankful. It's not that we should gloss over the hard times, or never speak of feeling low. He tells us to bring all of that to God! Paul found, even in prison where he is writing this letter, that looking for things for which to give thanks, even when life isn't going so well, makes a difference. It might be a person, a place, an event, an emotion, something in God's creation, a word spoken at just the right time.

It has been found that writing down five things for which you are grateful, even just once a week, can improve one's well being. People who did this reported less depression, less stress and physical symptoms and felt better about their lives as a whole. (Thank you Robert Emmons!)

As you sit around that Thanksgiving table this year with loved ones, what will you give thanks for? Reflect on where you've seen God in your lives; what are you especially grateful for?

“Gracious God, we give you thanks for all your gifts to us, for your love which sustains us day to day. Help us to see that all the good we have comes ultimately from you. Free us to open our hands and hearts to serve and share with others. Amen”

Wishing everyone a Thanksgiving of love and kindness.

Pastor Judy

Lutheran Men in Mission :

Ten men met for food and fellowship on Sunday Oct 13. Sal and Kevin provided the breakfast. For the program, Jon discussed some lessons he got from his reading of the Book of Job. The book shows that suffering may occur for reasons we may never understand. Though it is hard, sometimes we just need to leave it all in God's hands. Book does show that, contrary to popular belief, bad things aren't necessarily due to punishment for some sin.

This year's Men's Fish Fry has arrived! It will be held Saturday, November 9th 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).

The next men's meeting will be at 9 AM on Sunday Nov 10th in the church Fellowship Hall. Doug L. will have the program and the Two Dougs will provide the breakfast. All men are welcome to attend!

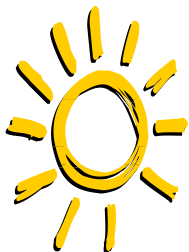
Worship and Music:

Worship and Music met on Tuesday, October 15, at 10:00 AM at the church. Plans for Advent and Christmas were discussed. Order forms for poinsettias will be included in the November newsletter and in the November 3 bulletin. Sign-up sheets for various volunteer opportunities will be available in the narthex before Thanksgiving. Diane will also be in contact with Jeremy Frank, the piano tuner, about a quote for the purchase and installation for a dehumidifier for the sanctuary piano.

The next meeting of the Worship and Music committee will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the church.

Sunshine News :

There are **new devotional booklets** in the narthex for the months of October, November, and December.



Calling all who like to make a joyful noise! The choir is returning this fall. Practice will be on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please see Diane Wicker.

The Lutheran Men's **Fish Fry is Saturday, November 9!**



Tickets are now available at \$12 per person. There will be dine-in or carry-out from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM. See one of the Lutheran Men for tickets.

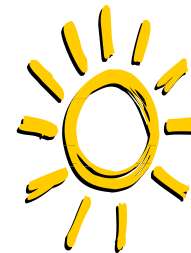
The **American Red Cross** will be here at Good Shepherd on Monday, November 11, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM for a blood drive. There is always a need for blood. Come out and donate! You can make an appointment by contacting the Red Cross.

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, December 1, 2024**. Please make all checks payable to Good Shepherd and note "poinsettias" on the memo line.

Sign-up sheets for 2025 will be available in the narthex **before Thanksgiving**. 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.

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 by Rob and Amy Rusnak in honor and in memory of veterans.

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

*Happy
Thanksgiving*



November 28, 2024

LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT FOR :

Good Shepherd Family

Pat Ostendorf, the Vendricks, Roberta McCullough, Jim & Ilona Strickland, Frances Barton, Ted & Sara Avant, Elizabeth Miller, Margaret Juttner, Gail & Carl Lindstrom, Donna Murphy, Sal Praga, Winfield and Merri Simons, Cheryl Clayton

Friends and Family

Gary Bunch, Lavern Smoak, Carolyn Rahn, Laura Spivey, Grace LaRouche, (Janet Szymanski), Jean Strickland, Katrina Fryar, (Ray and Theresa Strickland), Ray Strickland (Theresa Strickland), Don Rivers, Chuck Hackman (Kevin Wicker), Pete Sudds, Jack & Dee, Cecile, Mike (Sal & Marylyn Praga), Joy Shuler (Gloria Ferris), Betty Weaver (Natalie Gamble), Amanda Elkins (Marilyn Peters), Parks Mangum (Charles Rister), Nell Worden (Amy Rusnak), Scott Frazier, Kim Fitts and family (Cheryl Clayton), John B. (The Boehlkes), Echo Poirier (Donna Murphy), Lauren Long (Kathie Whetsell), the Pulis-Wolf family (Angela Crosby)

Serving In November :

Lay Reader	Jon Carpenter
Communion Assistant	Kathie Whetsell
Ushers	Doug Lindstrom / Matt Ferris
Offering Tabulators	Doug Lindstrom / Marylyn Praga
Alter Guild	Diane Wicker
Audio / Visual	Rob Rusnak / Kevin Wicker
Grounds Care	Doug Brinson
Council Devotions	Amy Rusnak
LMM Breakfast / Program	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.

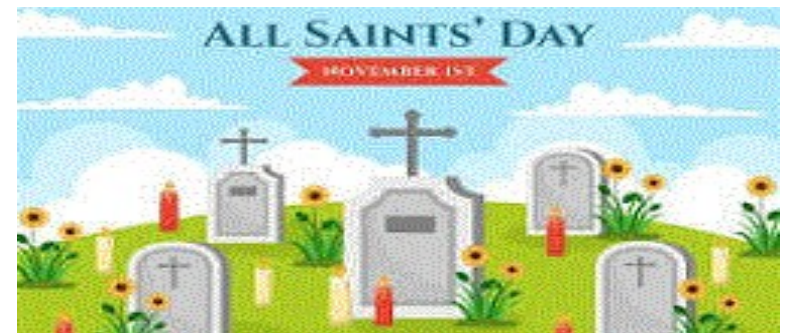
October Council Meeting Notes : 10-13-2024

The meeting was opened with brief devotional by Natalie. Bob opened the meeting in Doug L's absence.

- Council approved a change in worship time for Sunday, December 15 at Good Shepherd. Because our sisters and brothers at Ehrhardt Memorial and Mt. Pleasant are having a special Christmas service and meal that Sunday, we will have our worship service at 9:30 AM.
- Marylyn is busy working on the Christmas "Wish list" for Good Shepherd. If you have ideas of what should go on our "wish list" for the church, contact Marylyn or another Council member.
- We are in the process of collecting money to support the victims of Hurricane Helene through Lutheran Disaster Relief. You can donate through the "soup pot" or by placing a gift in an offering enveloped labeled "Hurricane Relief."
- Council heard committee reports from Pr. Judy, Finance, WELCA, LMM, Property and Grounds, Christian Education and Social Ministry. Bob also reminded us of the Blood Drive on November 11 at Good Shepherd from 1:00 PM until 7:00 PM.

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

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



Good Shepherd Women:

The Good Shepherd women will be busy during the month of November. On Saturday, November 2, the women, as well as any member of the congregation, will meet at Magnolia's at 3:00 PM. Magnolia's is the assisted living facility across from Colleton Prep on Academy Road. We will go to play Bingo and to visit with the residents.

On Saturday, November 16, the women will gather at the church at 10:00 AM to put together meals for our shut-ins that will then be delivered. Final plans for this event will be made at our November meeting. Coming up in December, the annual LMM/WELCA Christmas dinner will be on Saturday, December 7, at 6:30 PM at the church. More information will be in the bulletin and in the December newsletter.

The Good Shepherd women will meet on Monday, November 4, at 6:00 PM. The hostess for the evening is Diane Wicker. Diane will also have devotions. We will be discussing plans for November and December.

Christian Education:

The Christian Education committee met on Saturday, October 19, at 10:00 AM to discuss plans for November and December. On Wednesday, November 13, we will gather at 6:00 PM for a meal and a program on Ireland presented by Diane Wicker. Watch the bulletin for more information. For

December, a 3-week series will be offered called "Journey to Jerusalem."

This series will be offered on the following Wednesdays in December:

December 4, 11, and 18. There will be a meal at 6:00 PM, followed by the

program. Finally, on Sunday, December 8, we will gather at the church at 4:00 PM to go Christmas caroling. After caroling, we will meet back at the church for a light meal, followed by decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

The next meeting of the Christian Education committee will be Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the church.



Financial Corner

September was such a boring month from a financial perspective. That's a good thing. Good gifts and offerings, controlled costs and no financial upsets or surprises. All things that help financial people sleep well.

In her sermon message on October 13, Pastor Judy teased us with a comment regarding the 2025 Spending Plan for Ministry. I have no idea what's in store, but I suspect a challenge. So I, like you, will stand by and wait patiently.

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.

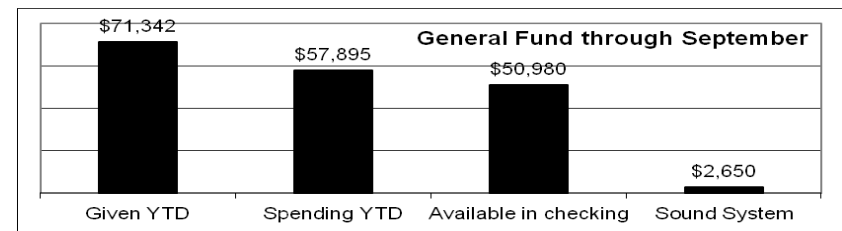
Kevin

September Offering and Gifts:

General Fund	\$ 9,832
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 1,695
Candles	\$ 25
Flowers	\$ 180
Scholarship Fund	\$ 10
Wallace Fund (Sound System)	\$ 70
Lutheran Services Carolinas	\$ 361

Fund Accounts

Maintenance Fund	\$ 4,098
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,139
Scholarship Endowment	\$ 13,352
Lommen Love Fund	\$ 7,094
Wallace Estate Fund	\$ 67,760
Social Ministry/Food Pantry	\$ 13,959
Service Committee	\$ 477
Welcoming Wednesday	\$ 849



DESIGNATED GIFTS

Donations are given to the Glory of God :

Food Pantry

Given by:

Janet Szymanski

Given by:

Janet Szymanski

Given by:

Walterboro Elks Lodge

In Memory of:

Nicole Szymanski

In Memory of:

Ms. Vernon Didelotte

In Honor of:

Good Shepherd Ministries

Lommen Love Fund

Given by:

Margaret Juttner

Given by:

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Given by:

Margaret Juttner

In Memory of:

Bill Walters

In Memory of:

Arden & Mary Lommen

In Honor of:

All the Good People
of Good Shepherd

General Fund

Given by:

Alice Kirkland

In Memory of:

Louise K. Kears

Altar Flowers for November :

November 3	Kathie Whetsell
November 10	Rob and Amy Rusnak
November 17	Dean and Charlotte Brinson
November 24	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."

How YOU Can Help Grow Good Shepherd's Social Media Presence?

It's a good time to remember what you can do on Facebook to help spread the word about what's happening at Good Shepherd!

1.) **LIKE AND FOLLOW.** Make sure you have "liked" and are "following" Good Shepherd on Facebook! Even if you think you are already good on this step, go check! You might be surprised. By "liking" the page, you are showing support of Good Shepherd, and by "following" the page, you should be getting updates from Good Shepherd in your news feed.

2.) **REACT AND COMMENT.** When you see posts from Good Shepherd, "like" them and comment on them! Facebook's algorithm prioritizes posts that generate higher levels of interaction, so the more reactions and comments a post gets, the more the post is likely to show up in people's news feeds (and the higher up in them too). The number of reactions and comments on the church's posts also can be looked at as reflecting how engaged (or not) we are in what's happening at Good Shepherd.

3.) **SHARE!** When we want to tell people about Jesus, what do we say we should do? Share the good news! So, if you want to tell people about Good Shepherd, what can you do? Share Good Shepherd's Facebook posts! A post promoting an upcoming worship service or event? Share it to invite your friends! A post with pictures from a church gathering or activity? Share it to show your friends the good time you had at Good Shepherd or what we're doing for the community! The more shares our posts get, the more people they can reach, and the more our social media presence grows.

*** Remember to set your clocks back one hour, Daylight Saving Time ends November 3, 2024.



FALL BACK

SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK AN HOUR

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, December 1, 2024.

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Number of poinsettias (\$20 each) _____

Check enclosed Yes _____ No _____
Check # _____

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In honor of: _____

Number of poinsettias (\$20 each) _____

Check enclosed Yes _____ No _____
Check # _____

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	29	29	30	31	1	2
					All Saints' Day!	3:00 PM Good Shepherd Women Meet (Magnolia's) Birthday : Anthony Casella
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daylight Saving Time Ends! 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM All Saints' Sunday Birthday : Brantley Carter Anniversary : Garrett & Tara Brinson	6:00 PM Good Shepherd Women Meet Birthday : Leila Shaw	Election Day! 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Food Pantry		Anniversary : Sue & Bud Nussman	Birthday : Julie Epple Anniversary : Phil & Carrie Shaw	4:30 PM – 7:00 PM Lutheran Men's Fish Fry
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 AM LMM Breakfast Meeting 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Worship Service/Church Council Birthday : Martin Luther (1483)	Veterans Day! 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive Birthday : Bob Ferris	Birthdays : Braedon Rhea Westbury Rylee Jacobs	6:00 PM Wednesdays Together	Birthday : Sal Praga		10:00 AM Good Shepherd Women Meet (Pack Meals)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Worship with Communion Birthday : Dorn Cammon		9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Food Pantry	Birthday : Kevin Crosby	Birthdays : Patrick Smith Patrick Gamble	10:00 PM Newsletter Deadline Birthday : Charles Roberts	Birthday : Vonda Calcutt
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Christ the King Sunday	Birthdays : Ben Wicker Alice Vendrick	Birthday : Donnie Clayton		Thanksgiving Day!		Anniversary : Danielle & Douglas Fraser