



The Shepherd's Horn

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church • Virginia Beach, Va.



The Children in Our Hands

The season of Lent began this year on February 14. That was also the day that a 19-year old gunman walked into

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and began shooting, killing 17 people. The impact of this horrendous event continues to reverberate, bringing fresh energy and intensity to long-running conversations about topics such as gun control and mental illness. The problems we face are complex, often intertwined, and will not likely yield to either simple or simplistic solutions.

Anyway, it is not my intent to wade into the politics here. Rather, I am more concerned with what such events as February's mass school shooting says about the culture in which our children live. How, as Christian parents, grandparents, and church family members, can we respond? What are we to do in a time where many of the values of our faith, especially as those values are exemplified by Jesus, are being jettisoned? It has been suggested by some that all we need to do is to "get prayer back in school," or to bring back "family values." But these seem to me little more than a wishful pining after some by-gone time that lives more in nostalgia than in actual fact. And in any case, the genie is already out of the bottle, as they say, and not at all likely to go back in. So, instead of waiting on others – other

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Winter Shelter Returns to Good Shepherd This Month

From **Wednesday evening, March 14 through the morning of March 21**, Good Shepherd will host Virginia Beach's Winter Shelter. This "movable" shelter program provides meals and a warm place to stay in the evenings for around 70 people who are experiencing homelessness. This year we are working in partnership with St. Timothy Lutheran Church, and we need your help!

Specifically, we need contributions of food to provide dinner for two of the evening meals, along with volunteers to cook and serve the meal, as well as clean up the kitchen afterwards. We also need some early-rising volunteers to provide breakfast each morning for our guests.

A signup board is posted in the narthex, or you may give us a call in the Church Office or send an email to us at office@goodshepherdvb.org. If you are not able to help with food or volunteering, please consider making a financial gift. Your generosity will directly impact the lives of needy people right here in our own community, and is a powerful example of Christ's love in action. And, if you are not careful, you just might find that the one most touched by the experience is *you*.

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Winter SHELTER

