



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

February 2024



It is hard to believe in many ways, but the season of Lent is upon us. As we travel this path together, I continually ask what will be the thing that we take away from this journey? What will we have learned? For surely there is no occurrence or circumstance that God cannot use to teach us something.

This brings up an important point. In our journey with God, we are not called to remain where we are in our faith, but we are challenged to grow. This season of “wandering in the wilderness” calls us to “wonder” through the wilderness of our own souls. This process is not one that seems to be extremely popular, even among Christians, for it requires that we honestly and objectively examine our lives of faith. In 2nd Corinthians, Paul tells them and us,

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Ash Wednesday A Day of Ashes and Fasting



Wednesday, February 14
Worship Services at
12 Noon and 7 :00 pm

February 14 begins the season of Lent this year. Traditionally known as Ash Wednesday, we mark this day with a somber call to self-examination and repentance, or “turning back to God.” In addition to two opportunities to worship, we ask everyone to consider joining us in a **Day of Fasting**, upon medical approval.

Fasting is an act of worship that helps us to focus on the truth: despite all that we stuff into our lives, it is God, and God alone, who truly gives us life and sustains us. You are invited to enter into this truth by fasting from a meal or two, breaking your fast with Holy Communion. If you are unable to go without food for medical reasons, you may choose to simply restrict what you eat. Afterwards, consider making a special donation to our **Food Pantry** as an offering of thankfulness for God’s gifts to you, and in recognition of the millions in our world whose hunger is never really satisfied.

We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



A publication of

GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church [ELCA]

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Monday - Wednesday
9 am - 3:00 p.m.
Friday - Closed

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Roger White, Vice President
Michael Solhaug, Secretary
Donna White, Treasurer
Melissa Lake, Financial Secretary

Website:

www.goodshepherdvb.org

“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you fail to meet the test! (ESV)

While studying yesterday I came across a quote from a native of an area where I formerly served, “No one else can live the life you live. And even though no human being is perfect, we always have the chance to bring what’s unique about us to live in a redeeming way.” – Fred Rogers

Living in a redeeming way calls us to live as one redeemed by the grace of God through Jesus Christ. This means that we must do more than confess Jesus as Lord, but we are called to have lives that reflect that truth in thought, word, and deed. This is something, as Fred reminds us, that no one can do in your place. Your neighbor cannot be a Christian in your place. Your pastor cannot be a Christian in your place. Your church cannot be a Christian in your place. It is your journey and your responsibility alone and it is a journey that we answer to God about.

This time of Lent reminds us of the time spent in the Judean wilderness by Christ. God calls us to the wilderness where the distractions of this life are rare, where there is nothing left but you and God. God becomes your focus and only care. It is here that you can be tested and examined, asking God where do we fail and what is the next step in our faith?

How does one begin to do this? One way is to focus upon the teachings of the Lord. Christ sent his disciples into the world telling them to make disciples, students, of all peoples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Teaching them to obey my commandments. And yet, how is that done if we do not know the teachings of Christ?

This Lent we will give you an opportunity to hear the teachings of Christ and to ask yourself, “Do I heed? Do I follow? Do I Obey?” During my time as a pastor, I have heard several times that people do not like to be told what to do and yet, if Jesus is our Lord and Master, that is exactly what Christ does. He didn’t ask the disciples, “Will you follow?” No, he said, “Follow me.” That is an imperative, a command and the result of following Christ is abundant and eternal life, both now and in the world to come.

Ask whether not only your actions, but your thoughts adhere to the teachings of Christ? Are they of your desire or God’s desire? Do they align with the world or with the will of God? If not, there is work to do, for the journey is not over.

Peace

Pastor Faron

Serving This Month

February 4

Assisting Minister	Skip Banner
Communion Assistant	
Reader	
Usher	Sunny Hollenbach
Altar Guild	Cheryl Tennant
Coffee Hosts	Parish Life
Children's Message	
Food Pantry	Robin Patrick, Mary Ann Beard, Marilyn Berge 2/7 Robin Patrick, Mary Ann Beard, Marilyn Berge 2/10

February 11

Assisting Minister	Steve Jackson
Communion Assistant	Sunny Hollenbach
Reader	Chuck Starbranch
Usher	Cheryl Tennant, Buddy Anderson
Altar Guild	Ruth Crews, Jim Owens
Children's Messagw	Robin Patrick
Coffee Hosts	
Food Pantry	Robin Patrick, Gwyne Van Slyke 2/14 Ruth Crews, Jim Owens, Eilene Roth 2/

February 14 -Ash Wednesday

Assisting Minister	Steve Jackson
Communion Assistant	
Reader	
Usher	
Altar Guild	Ruth Crews, Jim Owens

February 18

Assisting Minister	Jacqueline Rosendahl
Communion Assistant	Cheryl Tennant
Reader	Jacqueline Ferguson
Usher	
Altar Guild	Carlin Bachrach
Food Pantry	Joy Whittaker, Gwyne Van Slyke, Denise Haag 2/21 Mary Ann Beard, Norman Beard 2/24

February 25

Assisting Minister	Bobbi Sinner-White
Communion Assistant	Skip Banner
Reader	
Usher	
Altar Guild	Sunny Hollenbach
Food Pantry	Denise Haag, Bobbi Skinner-White Marilyn Berge, 2/28



FEBRUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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- 4 Vance Newsome
- 8 Lynnae Rea
- 10 Truman Riley
- 11 Phyllis Streck
- 12 Jennifer Jordan, Tim Miller
- 15 Jonah Jordan
- 22 Julianna Jordan, Trevor Gray
- 23 Joy Whittaker
- 25 Jean Ingold, Sylvia Solhaug,
- 26 Trish Farley

ANNIVERSARY

- 4 Gwyne & Jim Van Slyke
- 11 Kevin Jones & Karin Lundgren



Below is the support for our ministries for the month of January., we had a very good month,.

	Month	YTD
Support	\$28,628	
Spending	<u>25,888</u>	
Over	\$ 2,740	

Good Shepherd offers electronic giving for those who appreciate the convenience of online payments. Whether it is a onetime gift, or automated regular giving. Visit us online at www.goodshepherdvb.org to find out more, or TEXT TO GIVE at 1-844-970-2662. You may also send your gift by regular mail to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1489 Laskin Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

NOTE:

Our HVAC system has been installed. Thank you for your donations of \$7,040 to help offset the cost of \$20,000.

You Do Make A Difference



You are the champion in our corner, helping us achieve incredible things. Your priceless donations will be put to good use, every last drop! Your choice to host a blood drive was a good one. Your pints are more precious than gold, and in fact, it is invaluable.

There aren't that many things in life that one person can do that will make a huge impact when trying to save lives. But hosting your blood drive was the most significant gift you could ever offer a stranger in need. Thanks to people like you, other people are able to enjoy more time on this beautiful planet. Thank you for your generosity.

I look forward to working with you again soon.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Rosecrans
Senior Account Manager
Donor Recruitment

From a satisfied Client

Volunteers of Good Shepherd Church Community, thank you!
 A volunteer is the heart of the community, your work shows this! God is good! Grateful indeed!
 M. C. S.



Annual Meeting February 11, 2024

Mark your calendar and please plan to join us for our Annual Meeting, immediately following worship. We will meet in Taylor-Kesiter Hall to partake of Chili and Sub Sandwiches. Let's see who goes home with the title "Chili Champ."



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1489 Laskin Road
Virginia Beach, VA
23451-6047

Address Service Requested