

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd



How does God speak to us? It is probably one of the more important questions that we would ever consid-

er. For many Christians, the first response would have to do with hearing the scripture and word proclaimed every Sunday. While others might speak of the wonderful messages they find within the music and hymns they sing. Others would consider their time in prayer with God where we not only speak, but also listen for God's leading by the Holy Spirit.

All these things would be correct and would fall under the study of Divine Revelation. We can add how all of creation might be added to this, for we often experience the presence of the Almighty in the creation that we see all around us. And the most excellent example is here in our home at Virginia Beach, the mighty Atlantic ocean.

It is most important that we recognize and acknowledge all of these things, for in the recent modern era concern has been

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Christmas in July! WOW!

What a glorious day as Christmas in July was celebrated., The gifts under the tree totaled 136 pairs of shoes to be donated to the ForKids organization. Well done Good Shepherd. They were taken to ForKids organization on Tuesday, July 16.



We were blessed with the sweet voice of Rowan Dallas who sings in the Treblemakers Choir at Emmanuel Lutheran, and is a student of Dr. Parthun, singing Away In a Manger as the anthem.



During Communion our own Ethan Wilson-Leavell sang an arrangement of Be Thou My Vision/Have Thine own Way arranged by Dr Parthun.

We are truly blessed!



We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



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GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church [ELCA]

1489 Laskin Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-6047

Ph-757-428-4052
Fax -757-425-8503

Direct to Pat Morgan-757-319-4847
Direct to Pastor Faron-757-319-4840
Direct to Karen Parthun-757-319-4875

Office Hours

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

Pastor the Rev. Faron H. Johnson
pastor@goodshepherdvb.org

Patricia R. Morgan
Administrative Coordinator
office@goodshepherdvb.org

Dr. Karen Parthun
Music Director/Organist

Officers

Chris Welch, President
Roger White, Vice President
, Secretary
Donna White, Treasurer
Melissa Lake, Financial Secretary

Website:

www.goodshepherdvb.org

raised about the preference of one mode of communication or revelation from God over another. To elaborate, in the Christian tradition in which I was raised, a great emphasis was placed upon the Bible. And specifically for my congregation was the King James Version above others. Ironically, this emphasis goes all the way back to the reformation and Martin Luther, who clung to the phrase sola scriptura or "Scripture Alone." Martin emphasized this because he had come to question many of the traditions of the Church Catholic and he listed these in his 95 Thesis which was posted upon the Castle Church door in Wittenberg in 1517.

Luther knew of the many practices of the Church, but questioned where they were supported in the Bible. His logic was that if they were not supported in the Bible, then they could be or would be in error.

This is an interesting position to have and would be related to the fact that Scripture was also called the canon, the measure or rule, of our faith and life. Yet, equally important, would be to state that the correct interpretation and understanding of the written word was also a key component to how the Scripture informs our faith and lives.

For the reason of this challenge, people began to believe that anything not supported in Scripture was to be questioned. Yet, this assumption ignored certain historical certainties, testified by Scripture, that should also be obvious. Some of these truths follow: That before anything was written that became Scripture, that God created the world and universe, that God spoke to Adam and Eve, that God spoke to and intervened in the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Yes, the first things pertaining to Divine Revelation was God speaking directly. Conversation with God eventually came to be called prayer. So, it also existed before the written word. And as Adam gave the names to the creatures designed by God's hand, he also saw the glory of God in all of creation. So, all these things existed before the word was written and before the story of God began to be told.

The reason that I mention this is to note that all the stories had another name as well. And that name was tradition. In our Church, both Scripture and tradition hold a sacred place. For it is tradition that forms the order of the liturgy, and that liturgy is derived from the teachings of Jesus and the Holy Scripture.

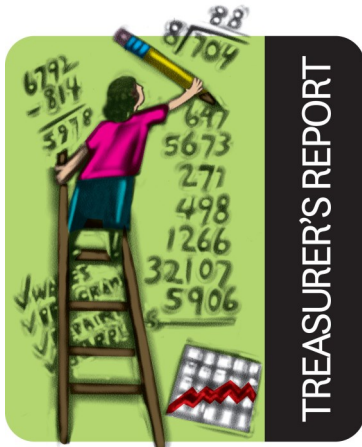
For example, we begin each gathering with confession and forgiveness. This sets the relationship between us and God as it should be. We share the peace with one another, to set the relationship between us and our neighbors as it should be.

Those events of reconciliation prepare us to come to Christ and experience Christ's presence in the meal. While the order of the liturgy is guided by tradition and scripture, it is never expressly laid out in those specific terms anywhere in the Bible. Yet, it is truly Holy and led by the Spirit that we continue in this way.

The primary reason that I have been led to write of the importance of tradition along with Scripture is to lay the foundation for the next article about the Holy Sacrament of Baptism. I pray that you look forward to that conversation.

And I wanted to encourage you to reach out to me any time that you might have questions about the church or faith. I always welcome your interest in the Lord.

God's peace,
Pastor Faron



TREASURER'S REPORT

As always, we give thanks for your support of our ministries. However, if you look at the numbers below, you will see we have a long way to go.

As of July 30, 2024

	July	YTD
Support	\$ 21,152	\$ 168,067
Expense	\$ 30,422	\$ 183,347
Over/[short]	\$ [9,270]	\$ [15,280]

Besides giving in person or through the mail, there are two automated ways to send in your donations:

1. **Online giving through our website**
goodshepherdvb.org
2. **Text-- dial 1-844-970-2662**



Supplies and Backpacks

A new school year begins August 28. Last year we gave enough supplies to fill 65 backpacks and extra supplies to Birdneck and Seatack Elementary schools for children who could not afford backpacks and school supplies. Not only are we helping out the students family but also the teachers who usually provide from their own pockets for supplies in their classrooms. In addition to school supplies, we are collecting backpacks in which students can carry their books and supplies. If you would rather make a monetary donation, please mark it either supplies or backpack, and someone will shop for you. The deadline is **August 11**.

Backpacks and supplies will be delivered to the schools **Wednesday, August 23**.



August

Birthdays

- 3 Diane Hudkins, Justin Colquitt
Ricky Colquitt
- 5 Sharon Withers, Jon Shochet
- 7 Margaret Gray
- 8 Alice Chandler
- 9 Ruth Crews
- 11 John Addison, Sr.
- 17 Sharon Culver
- 20 Chuck Berge
- 22 Melissa Lake
- 24 Laila Lake
- 27 Frances Sunderland
- 30 Geri Smiejan
- 31 John Solhaug

Anniversaries

- 13 Nancy & Karl Blumenberg
- 15 Connie & Bruce Johnson
- 27 Shannon & Robert Doolittle



In memory of a life so beautifully lived. **Elizabeth "Betty" Jane Gerber's** Celebration of Life Service was held on July 13, at Good Shepherd. She and her husband Bill were interred in the Good Shepherd Columbarium.

Peace and comfort to her sons David and Douglas and their families.



Ethan & Makayla Wilson-Leavell
W. Brambleton Ave, Apt 806
Norfolk, VA 23510



National Youth Gathering New Orleans July 16-20

We sent Alex off on Sunday, July 14, with our blessing. traveled with First Lutheran Church, and 29 others youth from the Tidewater Conference. Check out the picture below with our own Alex front and center along with our former Pastor Scott. Thank you for supporting Alex and giving him the opportunity to have this experience



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Join Us For Our Annual Church Picnic Sunday, August 18

All are welcome to join us for our annual picnic immediately following the worship service. The church is providing pork **BBQ and hot Dog**, and drinks. Please bring a side dish to share. Of course, invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers to join us.

This will be a time of fellowship before school and fall activities resume. Questions may be directed to Jackie Rosendahl or Chris Welch.





“MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD”

pens the Psalmist in Psalm 100. “Come before His presence with singing!”

Have you ever wondered how and why we came to sing hymns in worship? Let me share some history with you.

There are nearly 200 songs found in the Bible. The first song that appears is the Song of Moses in Exodus 15. Moses and the Israelites immediately burst into

singing upon their safe journey across the Red Sea. Two of the gospels mention that Jesus also sang a hymn. On the first Maundy Thursday, after the Last Supper on the first day of Passover, Mark and Matthew wrote, “And when they had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives” (Matthew 26:30, Mark 14:26).

The word hymn comes from the Greek “hymnos” and simply means a song of praise.

In ancient Greece in the fifth and sixth centuries, they were sung to Greek gods. Christian hymnody originates from the singing of psalms in the Hebrew temple, from Byzantine chant, from St. Gregory and from St. Ambrose who began the tradition of singing psalms and hymns by the congregation.

During the Reformation, the Lutheran Church in Germany provided hymns derived from chants, German devotional songs, and secular songs through composers Martin Luther, Johann Walther and Georg Rhau. French, English and Scottish Calvinists followed suit, but using unison, unaccompanied singing of psalms. It wasn't until the late 17th century, with the printing of *Hymns and Spiritual Song* by hymn writer, Isaac Watts, that English hymnody became more fully established. John and Charles Wesley established hymnody in England and America. The Wesleys even adopted German tunes. Composers through the centuries have been moved to write unbelievably beautiful and inspiring music, based on hymn tunes. Bach's chorale tunes have filled churches for centuries, with cantatas, motets and choral/orchestral compositions based on hymn tunes. Martin Luther's, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*; Bach's, *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*; Brahms', *O Savior Throw the Heavens Wide* and Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* stir our souls even today.

Each hymn that we sing on Sunday, contains poetry and the affirmations of our faith by the poet and composer. Over the next few months I will share with you, how some of our most cherished hymns came to be written. So, sing strong(as I know that most of you do on Sunday mornings) and know that God loves it when you sing praises!

In the Joy of Christ,

Dr. Karen Parthun

PS: Choir rehearsal will resume on Tuesday, September 3, at 7:00 pm



August 2024

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2 Office Closed	3
4 9:30 Worship	5 8:30 Reading Institute	6 8:30 Reading Institute 7 pm Zoom Council Meeting	7 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	8	9 Office Closed 10 pm Jeff's Dance Event	10 10:00 am Food Pantry 10 pm Jeff's Dance Event
11 9:30 Worship Deadline for School Supplies & Backpacks 9 pm Jeff's Dance	12 8:30 Reading Institute	13 8:30 Reading Institute	14 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	15 1-6 Blood Drive 	16 Office Closed	17
18 9:30 Worship Immediately following worship  CHURCH PICNIC	19 Pat On Vacation through August 26 8:30 Reading Institute	20 8:30 Reading Institute	21 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	22	23 Office Closed	24 10:00 am Food Pantry
25 9:30 Worship	26	27 8:00am Life Line Screen—TKH	28 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	29	30 Office Closed	31

Those Who Serve

August 4

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Flowers
Sanctuary Lamp
Coffee Host
Food Pantry

Bobbi Skinner-White
Sunny Hollenbach
Jacqueline Ferguson
Cheryl Tennant
Sunny Hollenbach
Sunny Hollenbach
Annemarie Whiteside
Parish Life Ministry
Gwyne Van Slyke, Marilyn Berge, Sunny Hollenbach 8/7
Ruth Crews. Jim Owens 8/10

August 11

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Ushers
Altar Guild
Flowers
Sanctuary Lamp
Coffee Host
Food Pantry

Lesli White
Kevin Jones
Geri Smiejn
Buddy Anderson, Sunny Hollenbach
Sunny Hollenbach

Annemarie Whiteside

Carlin Bachrach, Marilyn Berge, Bobbi Skinner-White 8/14

August 18

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Host
Flowers
Sanctuary Lamp
Food Pantry

Skip Banner
Cheryl Tennant
Bradley Tennant
Kevin Jones, Karin Lundgren
Ruth Crews, Jim Owens

Sandy Lindstrom, Robin Patrick, Denise Haag 8/21
Mary Ann & Norm Beard 8/24

August 25

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Flowers
Sanctuary Lamp
Coffee Host
Food Pantry

Steve Jackson
Cheryl Tennant
Geri Smiejn
Sunny Hollenbach
Carlin Bachrach

Annemarie Whiteside

Robin Patrick, Denise Haag, Carlin Bachrach 8/28



*Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church [ELCA]
1489 Laskin Road
Virginia Beach, VA
23451-6047*

Address Service Requested



**Thursday,
August 15th
1:00pm—6:00
pm**

Please visit Red-CrossBlood.org and enter GoodShepherd to schedule and appointment. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting

RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Volunteers Are Needed to Sign People In!

You can make a difference in someone's life!



Did you know 80% of strokes are preventable according to the American Heart Association?

Life Line Screening provides valuable health screenings to detect the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

Life Line Screening will be at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on **Tuesday, August 27, 2024** and are offering a special screening package for our members. Learn more and schedule your appointment by calling **1-888-814-0466**, **texting** the word **circle** to **216-279-1607** or visit Life Line Screening's website at <https://www.llsa.social/hasca>.