



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

November 2024



As we settle in to Fall and await the winter that comes afterward, we are reminded of another season of waiting and preparation, Advent. Several years ago, I heard a pastor say that people in the ELCA and America sometimes were great at anticipation and lacking in celebration. I believe that point was directed at those who wait for the Christmas celebration with the excitement building day by day only to throw out the tree on the day after Christmas day. Of course, good Lutherans know that this is only the beginning of the Christmas season and celebration.

Initially, in coming to the Lutheran Church, I found Advent to be somewhat odd. For we once more anticipate the birth of Jesus when in reality Jesus has already been born. Perhaps you have thought about this too.

Hymn Festival

I have heard nothing but positive things about the first Hymn Sing event that took place on October 20. We were blessed with a guest organist, Ryan-



Michael Blake, Frist Lutheran Church, Norfolk, and Liturgical Dancer, Donna Skinner-Echols, Philadelphia PA, the sister of Bobbi Skinner-White. Favorite hymns were sung, and of course the choir did

a marvelous job. We were also treated to a magnificent piano/organ duet by Rebecca Fritzinger and Karen Parthun. This was the brain child of Dr. Karen Parthun, Director of Music at Good Shepherd.



Hopefully we will have more of these events.

Again, thank you to all who came and participated

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We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



A publication of

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

music@goodshepherdvb.org

Officers

Chris Welch, President

Roger White, Vice President

Jacqueline Rosendahl, Secretary

Donna White, Treasurer

Melissa Lake, Financial Secretary

Website:

www.goodshepherdvb.org

Some pastors will be very strict about not decorating, not being celebratory, etc. throughout this season to emphasize the anticipation and preparation of receiving the Christ Child. I tend to struggle with that, for in a world that is filled with so much trouble and strife it seems odd to quench the Spirit that gives us joy as Christians. I would be interested to hear your opinions about this. How do you feel about celebrating and being joyful during this season?

As I ponder this amazing season, which is a favorite time in the Church calendar, I wonder if there is even more to anticipate. We know the story of how Mary was given a promise, how Joseph was given a vision to not turn her away, how Elizabeth had a child that had no problem with celebrating Jesus, even before he or Jesus were born. But with that holy birth came change. The yoke of sin was broken through the forgiveness of God with us. The status quo of evil was no longer a foregone conclusion, because the path of righteousness that was Christ gave the world a divine option that turned us from evil.

In the truth of those words, those events, we live to anticipate Christ with us every day and in those days, the blessings that come in walking with the Lord. There will be greater understanding, greater love, greater ability to forgive one another, and a closer walk as we are drawn closer to God in understanding. Surely, there are days when we experience the presence of God in our lives in a way that is so powerful that we cannot begin to comprehend how it could ever be better or greater than that moment seems. Yet, with the dawn of each day comes the reality that walking with God will always be better, will always be greater, and nothing can hold back the wonders of God.

So, I encourage you to anticipate the wonderful things to come. Anticipate the new you, as God brings forth all of the things that you were intended to be as you walk in righteousness. Anticipate the kindness, the forgiveness, the mercy, the love that will come. Anticipate Jesus.

Shalom,

Pastor Faron

Food Pantry Report for October

What a busy month! For the month of October, we served **90** families with a total of **339** people receiving food. We are fortunate enough to be receiving fresh vegetable from Food Lion 171, along with other items. Thanks to Denise & Mike Haag for picking up on Wednesday mornings, and Mary Ann & Norm Beard for picking up on Mondays and picking up at the Food Bank. The items are delivered in time for our pantry. We have also been blessed by Friends School donating small containers of milk that are not used by their students. What a blessing this has been.

However, we still need your help to keep this program going. Your donations and monetary support are a vital part of this outreach ministry. Let me not forget those who volunteer each week to pack bags and distribute the food. Carlin Bachrach, Mary Ann Beard, Marilyn Berge, Ruth Crews, Sunny Hollenbach, Sondra Lindstrom, Jim Owens, Robin Patrick, Linda Radix, Bobbi Skinner-White, Gwyne Van Slyke, Joy Whittaker



Financials for the Month of October

	Month	YTD
Support	\$ 24,050	\$ 236,268
Expense	\$ 26,943	\$ 261,350
Over/[short]	\$ [2,895]	\$ [25,082]

You Make A Difference

Good Shepherd To Sponsor Thanksgiving Baskets Again

Good Shepherd is planning to provide 20 families in our community with all the ingredients for a Thanksgiving feast, and we invite you to help us make it happen. Due to the current rate of inflation, the Holiday Project Coordinator indicated they have had more requests for assistance than ever before.

One of those ways is to provide all the ingredients of a great Thanksgiving meal to families in need. Currently we are working with Social Services' Holiday Program to identify 20 families in our area who could use a little extra help this holiday season. We hope to bless each of these families with a Thanksgiving basket, including a turkey and all the trimmings. Families will then be invited to come by and pick up their basket on Sunday, November 17.



How You Can Help

As with our regular Thanksgiving luncheon, we invite you to consider making a donation towards this outreach – either a financial gift that will allow us to purchase the items we need. At current prices, each basket will cost around \$70, but we know that stores will offer special deals on items the closer we get to Thanksgiving. Also, if you are a member of Thrivent you can use your Thrivent Action money of \$250.00 to help defray the cost. Items needed are stuffing, large canned sweet potatoes/yams, cranberry sauce, gravy, canned green beans, corn, carrots dinner rolls, holiday pies, white potatoes [boxed or 5 lb bag].



The Angel Tree will be up soon in the Narthex.

If you take a child's name, please sign your name and phone number so we know who is responsible for that child's gift. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Patrick who is coordinating this project.

Stockings for Samaritan House Children

The Good Shepherd Sisters will once again be filling stockings for the children that live at Samaritan House. It is not too early to begin planning for Christmas. More information will be in the bulletin each week.



Trunk or Treat Fun



Dr. Mike, the Viking



Julianna, Princess Leila

NOVEMBER

Birthdays

- 1 Mary Ann Beard
- 6 Linda Barclay
- 8 Jim Van Slyke
- 10 Julia LaFountaine
- 11 Roger White, James Mims
- 13 Bennett Chandler
- 16 Randie White
- 20 Emma Chandler
- 21 Dotty Rickard
- 25 Nancy Blumenberg, Anderson Farley



Annemarie Whiteside
190 Erik Dr
East Setauket New York 11733
757-270-1459

Ken & Margaret Gray
Katie, Gabe, Lucy Blagus
214 Dudley Corner Rd
Skowhegan Maine 04976

Remember to "Fall Back"



Daylight Savings Time ends on **November 3**. Set your clocks **back one hour** before you go to bed on Saturday night.

Those Who Serve

November 3

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

Steve Jackson
Sunny Hollenbach
Geri Smiejan
Kevin Jones, Karin Lundgren
Ulaine Pelton

Linda Radix, Sandy Lindstrom 11/6
Ruth Crews, Jim Owens 11/9

November 10

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

Skip Banner
Cheryl Tennant
Jacqueline Ferguson

Parish Life—November Birthdays

Robin Patrick, Sunny Hollenbach, Carlin Bachrach 11/13

November 17

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

Bobbi Skinner-White
Chris Welch
Karin Lundgren
Kevin Jones, Karin Lundgren
Ruth Crews, Jim Owens
Carlin Bachrach, Marilyn & Chuck Berge

Robin Patrick, Sunny Hollenbach, Gwyne Van Slyke 11/20
Mary Ann & Norman Beard 11/25

November 24

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

Lesli White
Karen Welch
Ethan Wilson-Leavell
Cheryl Tennant, Mark Rosendahl
Ulaine Pelton

Ralph Block
Marilyn Berge, Denise & Mike Haag 11/27



NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 Worship 10:45 Cong Mtg	4	5 7 Choir	6 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7Pastor's Bible Study	7	8 Office Closed	9
10 9:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Choir 11 Adult Studies	11 Office Closed	12 7 Choir	13 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7Pastor's Bible Study	14	15 Office Closed	16 10:30 Pack Thanksgiving Baskets
17 9:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Choir 11 Adult Studies 12 Distribute Thanksgiving Baskets	18	19 7 Choir	20 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7Pastor's Bible Study	21	22 Office Closed	23
24 9:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Choir 11 Adult Studies	25	26 7 Choir	27 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7Pastor's Bible Study	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Office Closed	30

Please join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchVB>. Find live streamed services, bulletins, and other news about events.



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

Address Service Requested



Poinsettias & Pigs

November begins our annual *Poinsettias & Pigs* offering. We will be collecting \$13 donations through Sunday, **December 8** for **POINSETTIAS** which will beautify our sanctuary during the Christmas season. We invite you to honor or remember someone special in your life with these flowers.

We will also be collecting \$10 donations for **PIGS** through Sunday, **December 15**. (The cost for an entire pig is \$30). Why pigs? For many families in our world, a pig in the pen is like money in the bank. Within months, a tiny piglet grows to weigh over 200 pounds! Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at market. Should a family have a failed harvest, medical expense or other unexpected financial need, this pig can be sold for much-needed cash.

Name _____

In memory of _____

To the glory of God _____

In honor of _____

Number of Poinsettias _____ @ \$13.00 = \$ _____

Pigs _____ @\$10.00 _____