



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

April 2025



It seems that we live in a very divided and divisive world as of late. And in such an environment it is easy to become focused upon ourselves and our way of seeing things. Pondering this, I found a question that I asked years ago. If things don't go my way, will they still turn out okay? It's an interesting question. What are the conditions that we place upon our lives and do those conditions determine whether we choose to participate or to walk away from situations. The reality of the current world circumstances reveals the truth that we all see many things in different ways. Even when our goals may be the same, we struggle to agree on how things should be achieved.

In the years I have been in ministry I have watched the

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Come to the Party!

On **Sunday, April 20** we are throwing a party, because it is Easter, Jesus is alive, God has triumphed, and nothing will ever be the same again!

Join us on Easter Sunday as we celebrate the beginning of the Easter season. We will have one worship service at **9:30 am**, with our annual **Easter Breakfast** and **Children's Easter Egg Hunt** beginning immediately after the service. **All are welcome!** Breakfast will be served beginning at **10:45 a.m.**



Easter Bunny will make an appearance!

Children are invited to BYOB (bring your own basket) for the egg hunt which will begin around **11:00 a.m.** If there are co-workers, neighbors, friends or family members in your life who do not have a place to worship this Easter, why not invite them and their families to join us? Also, The



Jesus
is alive

We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



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GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church [ELCA]

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Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday

9 am - 3:00 p.m.

Friday — Closed

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

Website:

www.goodshepherdvb.org

congregations work together, rise to challenges, walk with God through those challenges, and through all of this, the congregation remains. But are we called to do more than just remain? What does it mean to thrive as a Christian?

So much of thriving has to do with how we face the things that come, how we face adversity, and how we rise above those things praising God through it all. In light of the reality of our differing views, I sometimes wonder if it would be a total waste of time to be upset or even disappointed if things should not go the way we desire. For even if we made the choice to be upset, and that is certainly a choice when we are, what would it have changed? Would anything be accomplished by being upset? The answer is simply, **NO IT WOULD NOT**. Circumstances will not change. People would not have changed their decisions. The world will still continue in its course. The only thing that would be different is that our blood pressure would have possibly been elevated. Therefore, this is why we should consider the way we respond to things before coming to the point that we become upset. Being upset is a waste of time and energy that could be better used in praising and thanking God for all things, for all decisions that are made can be changed and reversed.

Our perspective, our viewpoint, should always be one of praising God regardless of what occurs. And this is so because we are children of God, of the Most High. As God's children, we are changed and the way we see life, the way we respond to life, the way we face things in our day to day life is changed as well.

While on internship I made an odd request to our church secretary. I asked if she would misspell a word in the bulletin. For one thing, sometimes we make much more of things than we should. I believe the cliché is "Mountains out of mole hills." The secretary asked why I would make such a request and I told her I was curious about whether people read their bulletins. Then she asked what about the people who would blame her. Well, first of all, Christians should never be about blaming anyone, we should be about forgiving. For the scriptures often teach that if we do not forgive, we shall not be forgiven.

THINK ABOUT THAT! If that doesn't get your attention, I don't know what will. I find it actually somewhat frightening. So much so, that I often pray to God to give me a forgiving heart. Lord, let me forgive before any offense occurs or before any offense is taken. That should be our prayer, but more than a prayer. It should be our way of life.

Serving This Month

April 2

Marilyn Berge, Gwyne Van Slyke - Food Pantry

April 6

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry

Jacqueline Rosendahl
Sunny Hollenbach
Geri Smiejan
Jim Van Slyke, Mark Rosendahl
Carlin Bachrach
Parish Life
Marilyn Berge, Sandy Lindstrom, Denise Haag 4/9
Ruth Crews, Jim Owens 4/12

April 13—Palm Sunday

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry

Skip Banner
Chris Welch
Geri Smiejan
Buddy Anderson, Chris Welch

Carlin Bachrach, Bobbi Skinner-White, Linda Radix 4/16

April 17—Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild

Steve Jackson
Cheryl Tennant
Michael Solhaug
Sunny Hollenbach

April 18—Good Friday

Assisting Minister
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Food Pantry

Karen Welch
Chris Welch
Brad Tennant, Cheryl Tennant

April 20—Easter Sunday

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

Lesli White
Chris Welch
Debbie Risotto
Sunny Hollenbach
Joyce Miller
Robin Patrick, Sunny Hollenbach, Linda Radix 4/23
Mary Ann, Norm Beard 4/27

April 27

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry

Jacqueline Rosendahl
Debbie Risotto
Cheryl & Brad Tennant

Robin Patrick, Sunny Hollenbach, Sandy Lindstrom 4/30



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study	3	4	5
6 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Adult Forum	7	8 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9 10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study Deadline for Lillies and Chicks	10 Work Remotely	11 Office Closed	12 Property Day 10 Food Pantry 10 Egg Stuffing
13 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Adult Forum	14	15 Tidewater Confer- ence of with Bishop 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	16 10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study	17 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday ser- vice	18 Office Closed 7:00 pm Good Friday	19
20 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Adult Forum	21 Office Closed	22 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	23 10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study	24	25 Office Closed	26 10 Food Pantry
27 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir	28	29 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	30 10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study			

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE

One of the hymns the choir will share with the congregation during lent is *Wondrous Love*.

Originating in the 1800's the hymn was first, only the text, which was common for that time period.

Congregations would choose secular songs of the day that were familiar to many and add sacred words.

Although the text was published in 1811, it was not added to the melody that we now know, (an English ballad) until 1840 in a collection of hymns in shape notes called *Southern Harmony*.

In an effort to assist people in learning to see notes and learn the melody, each note was given a shape to indicate pitch: rectangle, oval, diamond, cup, shield, right triangle and upward triangle.

It certainly seems a daunting task to learn

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down.

When I was sinking down, sinking down.

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul!

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

Dr. Karen Parthun

Help us fill Blessing Bags

A collection container will be in the Welcome Center through April 27 for items such as but not limited to:

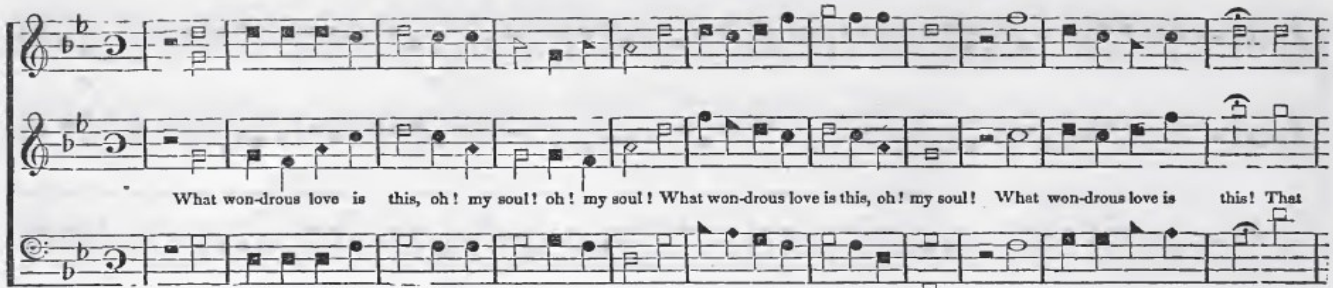
- Sock
- Travel size toothpaste, lotion shampoo, hand sanitizer, band-aids, Q-tips, lip balm
- Toothbrushes
- Non-perishables food that can stand heat in a can
- Water



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WONDROUS LOVE. 12, 9, 6, 6, 12, 9

Christopher.



pitches from various shapes and we are fortunate to only contend with oval shaped notes. But enough of this history, the words are what are most compelling at this season of the church year.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!

What wondrous love is this! O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul.



Easter Candy Needed

A basket will be available in the Welcome Center for donations of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Candy must be individually wrapped. Please choose candy that will fit into plastic eggs.

Donations accepted through Friday, April 11.

I will always be as offended as I choose to be. I will always be upset as I make my mind up to be. I will be angry when I choose. I will either allow my emotions to control me or, as a rational human being and by the grace of God, I will control my emotions instead of them controlling me. I will live the prayer that I repeat every morning. Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.

With that prayer on our lips and in our heart, nothing can shake us. Nothing can do us harm. For as surely as people may gossip, scoff, mock, and commits all sorts of treachery, nothing can touch our souls for they belong to God alone. Learning to walk in this way is what gave the saints of the church peace. It's the reason that Stephen prayed for forgiveness for those who were stoning him. That peace is yours for the taking.

Pastor Faron

Opening of Virginia Beach City



Council Meeting

Pastor Faron was invited to give the opening invocation at the March 18th City Council meeting.



The Center of It All

Sunday, April 13 begins the most important week of the year for Christians. From palms to cross to empty tomb, we mark the events that are at the center of our hope and faith. Like any great drama, to skip even one act of the play is to lose out on the meaning of the whole. Don't miss out! Join us this year as we walk with our Lord Jesus to the cross of our salvation and beyond.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13 9:30 a.m.

With shouts of 'Hosanna!' palm branches and exuberant expectations, the crowds welcome Jesus into Jerusalem. But how fickle our human hearts, and how soon their cheers turn to jeers as he goes to fulfill his Father's will.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.

On this first night, we remember Jesus' final meal with his disciples before being betrayed to the those seeking to kill him. Not only are we called to a "new" commandment, that of love, we share with one another signs of that love through Holy Communion and a (optional) rite of foot washing.

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

The story we began on Thursday night continues this evening as we walk with Jesus the way of the cross. This somber service includes John's account of Jesus' trial and crucifixion. Still, a note of victory is sounded as we behold the cross by which Jesus has redeemed not just our own lives, but those of the whole world.

Easter Sunday

April 20, 9:30 am

Join us Easter Sunday morning as we celebrate the Risen Lord. Alleluia! He is alive! Join us for our Easter Breakfast following the service, at 10:45am and the Easter Candy Hunt at 11:00 am. I'm even told the **Easter Bunny** will be here!



Our latest financial snapshot for the month of March 2025 is shown below.

As you can see, we are running behind.

Please consider stepping now to fill the gap instead of waiting until the end of the year.

Financial Snapshot As of March 30, 2025

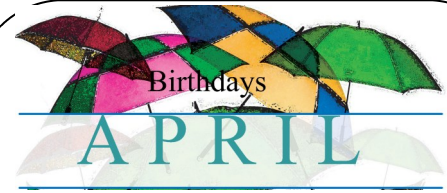
	March	YTD
Support	\$ 22346	\$ 74,896
Expense	\$27,580	\$ 88,124
Over/[short]	\$ [8,796]	\$[13,228]

Good Shepherd offers electronic giving for those who appreciate the convenience of online payments. Whether it

is a one-time gift, or automated regular giving, you can setup a payment by visiting our website at www.goodshepherdvb.org and click on “Online Giving” at the top. Or scan the QR code. Many people have found this to be a handy feature, especially for times when life gets overwhelmingly busy. As always, we greatly appreciate all who contribute to our life and ministry together here at Good Shepherd. Your gifts do more than keep the lights on – they touch lives!



Online



- 1 Timothy Fulmer
- 5 Sharon LaFountaine
- 7 Jacqueline Ferguson
- Steve Jackson
- 12 Steve Sunderland
- 17 Kevin Welch
- 19 Shannon Doolittle
- 22 Karen Welch
- 24 Carlin Bachrach
- 26 Betty Jackson
- 29 Claudia Banner
- 30 Daniel Guest
- Jim Owens

If your birthday is missing, please let Pat Morgan know.

Food Pantry Fruit Donations for April

Through the month of April we are asking for donations of canned fruits [all kinds] to replenish our supply. You may put your donations in the baskets in the narthex. Thank you in advance. Our clients really appreciate it. Our numbers have increased.



As always we appreciate of your donations to our food pantry. If you don't have time to shop, you may make a monetary donation and the shopping will be done for you.





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

Address Service Requested



Easter Lilies and Chicks

Easter Lilies will help beautify our worship space. They may be given in memory of , in honor of, or to the glory of God. Make sure you mark your check or envelope accordingly. Sign up forms are in the bulletin for Easter Lilies and Chicks. The cost is \$14 for lilies and \$10 for chicks. The **deadline** for ordering is **April 9**. You may also call the office at **319-4847** or email **mommapat43@gmail.com** and give your information to Pat Morgan.



Ten little chicks make a big difference. Eggs are not only an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals, they also help bring in steady income when sold at the market. With this gift, things are looking up – sunny side up, that is.

Name _____

In memory of _____

To the glory of God _____

In honor of _____

Number of Lilies _____ @ \$14.00 = \$ _____ Number of Chicks _____ @ \$10 = \$ _____