



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

May 2026



Shalom
Pastor Faron

Have you ever considered what we bring to the Lord our God? The reason I ask this is because as the people of God we are called to have joyful hearts.

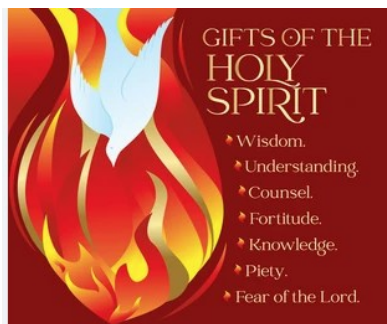
Now you might say, pastor, have you seen the things going on in the world? And while I acknowledge the challenges that our society and culture face, I also recognize that the people of God have faced challenges all throughout the span of our history.

In fact, it is in these trying times that the people were formed to do something that does not make any sense at all to the world. They were taught to sing and worship God in spite of what they were experiencing in this world. And frankly, that is what baffled those who would try to kill or oppress them.

I remember a Far Side comic strip from Gary Larson from years past. For copyright reasons, I cannot share it here. But it depicted two devil-like

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The Feast of Pentecost May 24, 2026



Pentecost is a Christian holiday which takes place on the 50th day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, mother of Jesus and the Apostles of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles

In the first chapter of Acts, Jesus alludes to sending the Holy Spirit onto his disciples:

While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for "the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the holy Spirit." (Acts 1:4-5)

*Let's all wear something **RED!***

We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



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figures standing in the fires of hell. There were three other humans that were drawn. Two were tormented and sweating while the other was pushing a wheelbarrow and whistling as he toiled. The caption read, “You know, we’re just not reaching that guy.” That same premise must have been on the minds of anyone who tried to oppress or keep down the people of God.

The scripture tells us, “Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.” (Psalms 100:1-5 ESV)

It is so easy to come to God with all our troubles and woes. And of course, God is one who can handle the difficulties in our lives while giving us strength to endure. But as a pastor, I am called to ask, “Where is our focus?”

Again, the scripture tells us, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phillipians 4:4-7 ESV)

These verses remind me of a member of a congregation I once served. He had just turned eighty and often his wisdom would show although he never proclaimed it as such. In a Bible study gathering we were talking about the way we pray and what we say to God. During this conversation he said, “Pastor, I think my perfect prayer would be, ‘Jesus, Thank you!’” Imagine that!! Just saying thank you. And when you consider all the things that God has done, continues to do, and will do into our future, I can’t think of a better thing to say.

So, let us embrace the reality of belonging to the Lord our God! And throughout our lives we can be that shining beacon of hope in the midst of a weary world.

Thank you, Jesus!

Shalom, Shalom,
Pastor Faron

Kroger Shopper? Are you linked?



Thank you to all who have signed up to be a part of the Kroger Community Rewards program. Our food pantry receives rewards averaging \$50 per quarter (15 participants). Rewards are calculated based on a percentage of purchases made by people who link their Plus card to Good Shepherd. Share the information with family and friends. They do not have to be members.



Link online at krogercommunityrewards.com or by calling 800-576-4377.

Our organization number is **EE313** listed as Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (Virginia Beach).

The need for the food pantry outreach continues to grow. The recipients express such gratitude for the assistance that we provide.

If you are a Thrivent member and haven't donated your Choice Dollars, think about donating to Good Shepherd.

Finance Report April

	Month
Support	20,906.12
Expenses	28,506.63
Balance	7,600.51
YTD	
Support	119,916.58
Expenses	109,004.96
Balance	10,886.62

Serving This Month

May 3

Assisting Minister	Jacqueline Rosendahl
Communion Assistant	Sunny Hollenbach
Reader	Karin Lundgren
Usher	Buddy Anderson, Mark Rosendahl
Altar Guild	Cheryl Tennant
Video Tech	Jeff Miller
Coffee Hosts	Parish Life
Food Pantry	Ulaire Pelton, Marilyn Berge, Dylon Hamilton 5/6 Ruth Crews, Jim Owens 5/9

May 10

Assisting Minister	Steve Jackson
Communion Assistant	
Reader	Debbie Risotto
Ushers	
Altar Guild	Ulaire Pelton
Video Tech	Jeff Miller
Coffee Hosts	
Food Pantry	Sunny Hollenbach, Sandy Lindstrom, Marilyn Berge 5/13

May 17

Assisting Minister	Skip Banner
Communion Assistant	
Reader	Karin Lundgren
Usher	Sunny Hollenbach,
Altar Guild	Carlin Bachrach
Video Tech	Jeff Miller
Coffee Hosts	
Food Pantry	Denise Haag, Gwyne Van Slyke Joy Whitaker 5/20 Mary Ann & Norm Beard 5/23

May 24

Assisting Minister	Bobbi Skinner-White
Communion Assistant	
Reader	
Ushers	
Altar Guild	Sunny Hollenbach
Video Tech	Jeff Miller
Coffee Hosts	
Food Pantry	Marilyn Berge, Ruth Crews Mary Ann & Norm Beard 5/27

May 31

Assisting Minister	Karen Welch
Communion Assistant	Chris Welch

May 2025

Community Groups: 6:30 am Early Bird Breakfast Club—M-F, 8 am Breakfast Club—M-S; 12 pm ACOA—M; 6:30 pm Next Frontier AA—M; 8pm Va Bch AA –M; 7 pm SCA—2ne Tue; 7 pm Men's Bk Study AA—W; 12 pm ACOA –F; 7 pm NA F; 7pm NA Men's Grp—Sat; 1pm ACROBICS- - Sun; 6:30pm Friends of Bill—Sun;

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Offices Closed	2
3 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Children's Choir 11 Adult Studies	4 9:30 Target & Harris Teeter Food Pickup	5 7pm Choir	6 10:30 Food P 11am Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	7 Pat works outside the office 7 pm Church Council	8 Offices Closed	9 10 am Food Pantry
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24/30 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Children's Choir 11 Adult Studies	25 9:30 Target & Harris Teeter Food Pickup	26 7pm Choir	27 10:30 Food P 11am Men's Bible Study 7pm Pastor's Bible Study	28 Blood Drive	29 Offices Closed	30

Food Pantry Update



Thank you to everyone who donated fruit for the April food drive. The items for **May** are:
Chicken Noodle Soup, Tomato Soup, Vegetable Soup, and Chicken and Rice Soup.

Our funds are getting low. If you're unable to shop, monetary donations are appreciated, and someone will do the shopping for you. Mark your envelope or electronic giving, food pantry.

A BIG OOPS! We failed to get a thank you to **Girl Scout Troop 469** for their donation of cookies to the food pantry in March.. Our clients really enjoyed them.

Coffee Hosts Needed!



Most Lutherans love coffee and sweets. At least that is a good rule of thumb. Have some coffee and a few delectable items after worship, and . What's more, we talk with one another, laugh together, and build the bonds of fellowship that make Good Shepherd special. And this, by the way, is critical to having people come and stay - a sense of belonging, a sense of being at "home." So help us grow the life of Good Shepherd. Sign up to host a coffee fellowship after worship. It's easy! We will show you all you need to know. Feel free to pair up with another family, even.



- 1 Heather Welch
- 6 Joshua Jordan
- 8 Ray Ingold
- 9 Donna White
- 12 Caitlyn Patrick
- 13 Michael Haag
- 16 Steve Newsome
- 24 Gloria Gurdziel
- 25 Jackie Rosendahl
- 26 Bob Hudkins
- 29 Beverly Seif
- 31 Marcy Vermillion

Happy Anniversary

- 10 Mike & Denis Haag
- 18 Greg & Emma Chandler
- 23 Seth & Caitlyn Patrick
- 31 Timothy & Shelley Fulmer

Power In The Spirit July 16-18, 2026 At Roanoke College



This year we are so privileged and honored to have ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry with us. Presiding Bishop Curry will lead a fireside chat on Thursday night, serve as our preacher on Friday night, and will also lead workshops. We will hear him share his goals, plans, and vision for our church.

You can get more information from Pat Morgan in the office.

Easter Donations

Thank you for your Easter donations towards lilies and chicks. 30 lilies beautified our sanctuary. \$270 was donated for chicks. \$270= 2,700 chicks to help families gain some financial independence and supplement their food supplies.

Easter Excitement Following the Worship Service



Alleluia! He Is Risen!

He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!



It is always nice when we have our youth offering their talents at worship. Thank you Anderson on piano and below soloist, Josephine and children's choir on drum. The adult choir joined them.



Members and visitors sharing an Easter Breakfast.

The Good News Sisters Group— Sponsored 64 Easter Baskets for children at Samaritan House.



Thank you to all of you for your donations in making the outreach project a big success.





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Address Service Requested



May 28th

Mark Your Calendar

Good Shepherd will be hosting a blood drive **May 28th from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm**. We are asking for volunteers to help check people in, hand out snacks, and don't forget to donate blood. We are looking to collect at least 17 good pints but would welcome more. Please spread the word to your neighbors, co-workers, and friends.