



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

April 2026



In the early morning Mary went to the tomb where Jesus lay expecting that his body would be waiting there. And yet, when she did arrive his body was there, but not as she expected. For the tomb was empty. HE IS ALIVE!

At first, she did not recognize him, and many find that somewhat perplexing. After all, consider all of the times that she had previously spent with him. Surely, she knew what he looked like. And yet the scripture tells us she thought that he was a gardener. I guess, in some sense, he was and is. For he came sewing seeds of faith within the hearts of all hu-

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Come to the Party!

On **Sunday, April 5** 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.**



Jesus
is alive



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

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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manity. And when he returned to the father, he handed that bag with seed to be sewn to us.

But in this season of Resurrection, I ponder Mary's welcome and our welcome to others. Do we recognize those who come to this holy place? Do we see Jesus in others or do we see God? And if not, why not?

That is one of the first things that I came to notice about Good Shepherd. That this community is one that welcomes others with sincerity and thanksgiving. Thanksgiving that God has placed someone else in our path that He dearly loves.

I hear it repeated by those who come to visit and even by those who come to visit and are led to remain here in this community. What that tells me is that you do really see others in a similar way that God does. And that is something to be celebrated and encouraged to continue.

This year is already well underway and in your journey of faith I want to do something that I don't normally do. I want to ask something of you, to make a request. I ask that you prayerfully consider talking to your friends, acquaintances, and family about your faith. And not only talk about it, but bring them with you to church. We often forget that Jesus entrusts all of us with His message of salvation and His mission. The future of this congregation, of your friend's salvation and Christ's mission has been given to you. Tell them about the Risen Christ!

He is Risen, indeed! Hallelujah!

Pastor Faron

Serving This Month

March 29—Palm Sunday

Assisting Minister Karen Welch
Communion Assistant Chris Welch
Reader Michael Solhaug
Usher Sunny Hollenbach
Altar Guild Robin Patrick
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry Robin Patrick, Denise Haag 4/1

April 2—Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister Skip Banner
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild

April 2—Good Friday

April 4—Easter Vigil

The Tidewater Conference will host a service at 7 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran

April 5—Easter Sunday

Assisting Minister Steve Jackson
Communion Assistant Chris Welch
Reader
Usher Sunny Hollenbach
Altar Guild
Social Ministry Easter Breaker
Food Pantry Robin Patrick, Sandy Lindstrom, Sunny Hollenbach 4/8
Ruth Crews, James Owens 4/11

April 12

Assisting Minister Jacqueline Rosendahl
Communion Assistant
Reader Debbie Risotto
Usher Cheryl & Brad Tennant
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry Gwyne Van Slyke, Mary Ann Beard, Marilyn Berge 4/15

April 19

Assisting Minister Bobbi Skinner-White
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry Bobbi Skinner-White, Denise Haag 4/22

April 26

Assisting Minister Lesli White
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Coffee Hosts
Food Pantry Marilyn Berge, May Ann Beard, Brenda Alexander 4/29



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	1	2	3	4
			10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm Good Friday	7:00 pm Easter Vigil— Emmanuel
5 Easter	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 Worship/ 10:45 Breakfast Egg Hunt	Office Closed Food Pick Up Target/Harris Teeter	7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	Work Remotely	Office Closed	10 Food Pantry 1:00 pm George Scott Memorial
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Adult Forum	Food Pick Up Target/Harris Teeter	7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study	Work Remotely	Office Closed Service	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Adult Forum	Food Pick Up Target/Harris Teeter	7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study	Work Remotely	Office Closed	10 Food Pantry Lou Irwin Memo- rial/Reception
26	27	28	29	30		
9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir	Food Pick Up Target/Harris Teeter	7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study	Work Remotely		



Our latest financial snapshot for the through February 2026 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

The Center of It All

Sunday, March 29 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, March 29, 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 2, 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 3, 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.

Tidewater Conference Easter Vigil

April 4, 7:00 pm @ Emmanuel Lutheran

Easter Sunday

April 5, 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.

Financial Snapshot

	March	YTD
Support	\$ 20,060	\$ 42,570
Expense	\$29,504	\$ 52,150
Over/[short]	\$ [9,444]	\$[9,580]

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 LaFontaine
- 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.



Shepherd's Award 2025

Mary Ann Beard is the recipient for 2025



**Chili Cook-off
Three Time
Winner
Bobbi-Skinner
White**



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 all 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.

Paper Shopping bags are always need. We **DO NOT** need plastic bas at this time.



Note! The office will be closed for the Easter Break, Monday, April 6. We reopen on Tuesday, April 7 with business as usual.

Community Groups

All meet in the fellowship hall unless otherwise noted.

Sunday

Partner Acrobatic Yoga—1 pm
Friends of Bill AA—6:30 pm

Monday

Ladies Line Dancing—4:00 pm
Next Frontier AA—6:30 pm
Virginia Beach AA—8 pm - Rm 4

Tuesday

SSA—12pm—Rm 4
SCA—2nd Tuesday—7pm
BCPM Girls—Tuesday -7pm -Rm 4

Wednesday

Men's Book Study AA—7pm—Rm 4

Friday

ACOA—7pm -Rm 4
Y12—Ladies 4pm-6pm
NA -HOW Grp—7pm

Saturday

Breakfast Club Business Mtg— 3rd Sat.
9am—10am
VB Recovery Event—last Sat.
11am- 4pm

Monday—Saturday

Early Bird Breakfast Club—6:30am—
Rm 4
Breakfast Club - 8am

Tuesday

CPR Certification Class -
12pm—3:30pm



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Address Service Requested