



# Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

**September 2026**



There are things that happen on regular schedules and one of them happens every month. Pat tells me, "Pastor, I need an article for the newsletter." Every month I reflect and pray about what to do, what to write about. And this month I came across something that I had written years ago that I thought I might use.

But this evening the Spirit is holding my heart captive to it's will. This evening I have been preoccupied with something most important on my mind and in my heart. And what I am thinking of is YOU.

When I think of this congregation many faces and names come to mind. And while I reflect upon this, I also reflect upon what it means to be the people of God. It always amazes me that God entrust the mission and ministry of the church to human beings. And I

*continued on page 2*

## ***Supplies Packed and Delivered***



Karen Welch packed up her car and delivered our donations of backpacks and school supplies to Bird-neck Elementary and Seatack Elementary Schools. Thank you for your generous donations, Below is a breakdown of most of the items. **AWESOME!**

Here is a list of some of the items donated:

- 72 backpacks,
- 75 boxes crayons
- 1 case notebook paper
- 200 pencils
- 100 glue sticks
- \$100 given by members
- 2 people used their Thrivent Funds to purchase some of the backpacks.

*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.

Thursday & Friday — Closed

Pastor the Rev. Faron H. Johnson

[pastor@goodshepherdvb.org](mailto:pastor@goodshepherdvb.org)

Patricia R. Morgan

Administrative Coordinator

[office@goodshepherdvb.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdvb.org)

Dr. Karen Parthun

Music Director/Organist

[music@goodshepherdvb.org](mailto:music@goodshepherdvb.org)

### **Officers**

Roger White, President

Lesli White, Vice President

Jacqueline Rosendahl, Secretary

Donna White, Treasurer

Melissa Lake, Financial Secretary

### **Website:**

**[www.goodshepherdvb.org](http://www.goodshepherdvb.org)**

wonder why the God who is perfect did not choose to accomplish this mission on his own. When I consider the bumpy road that has been traveled by the church over two millennia, I acknowledge the shortcomings on the part of humanity. Yet God still wanted us to carry the ministry and mission of the Church.

This congregation of Christ's church only survives by the good graces of your collective generosity. It has always been this way since the congregation of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd began. Those who came before us carried this congregation throughout their lives and the church remained and was there for them in both times of celebration and in times of need. I am sure that many of you may remember those members who have been called home to glory.

Sometimes people ask me, as pastor, what will happen when I am no longer here to do the work of the church? Well, that is a good question. For the truth of the matter is that no pastor can carry on the work of the congregation alone. It takes a community offering their time, their talents, and their possessions for this congregation to continue. There are many ministries within this church that touch lives in powerful ways. And in all these things the love of Jesus Christ is proclaimed in thought, word, and deed. But my answer to the aforementioned question is always the same. If there is no one there to pick up the ministry and the work, it will disappear.

Yes, we believe that God will provide what is needed to accomplish his holy will. However, we must never forget that God does this in and through YOU, the people of God. There are things that all of us can contribute and all of us can accomplish for the kingdom of the Lord.

What is your part in God's kingdom? I wonder if some day in the future if Almighty God will ask this question to each one of us. I can picture him saying, "I gave my son. What did you give?"

You don't just attend a church. **YOU ARE THE CHURCH!**

Blessings

Pastor

Dear Congregation,

## ***Financial Update - for August***

**As of August 31, 2025**

|              | <b>Month</b> | <b>YTD</b>  |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Support      | \$ 21,791    | \$ 202,864  |
| Expense      | \$ 26,982    | \$ 227,982  |
| Over/[short] | \$ [5,191]   | \$ [25,118] |

Thank you to all **Thrivent Members** who have designated your Choice Dollars to Good Shepherd. Recently, we have used those dollars for outreach. To make the designation, log into your Thrivent account and choose the Direct Choice Dollars link. Without internet access, contact your Thrivent advisor.

Thank you to **Kroger shoppers** who have designated their community rewards to Good Shepherd. Those rewards are used for food pantry purchases.

### **Internet Access:**

1. At [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com).
  - a. Create an account ---If you are new to using online services.
  - b. Sign In---If you are an existing online customer.
2. Click on the My Account tab to Enroll in Community Rewards using your Kroger Plus Card number.

### **Without Internet Access:**

Call 800-576-4377 to link your Plus Card.

### **Organization # 86277**

Listed as: Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (Virginia Beach)

**Both Thrivent Choice and Kroger rewards are at no cost to you.**



## Birthdays

- 1 Robert Doolittle
- 2 Norman Beard
- 4 Alexander Shaw
- 8 Shelley Fulmer
- 11 Frank Gurdziel, Michael Solhaug
- 13 Morgan Shochet
- 14 Karin Lundgren
- 17 Sunny Hollenbach
- 20 Robin Patrick
- 25 Shirley Ammon
- 26 Mazzie Jackson
- 30 Jim Smiejan

## Anniversaries

- 2 Donna & Roger White
- 7 Trish & Michael Farley
- 22 Cheryl & Bradley Tennant
- 27 Judy & Steve Jackson

## It's Time to Fall back into Sunday School!



Now that school is back in session, it is time to fall back into Sunday School. Rally Day 2026 will be held in Taylor-Keister Hall on **Sunday, September 13**. The schedule is as follows:

### Children's Chapel

We are continuing Children's Chapel, an educational-worship experience held during the time of our regular Sunday morning worship service. Children 2 years old through 2nd grade are invited to spend time experiencing the day's lessons through music, games, interactive storytelling, and crafts. They will then rejoin the main assembly during Holy Communion.

### Children's Choir (10:45 am)

Children are encouraged to meet with Dr. Parthun in the Music Room from 10:45—11:15.

At **11:15**, children will meet with their teachers to encounter the worship readings for the day through various activities such as arts and crafts, Biblical storytelling, music, and service projects.

### Adults

The **women's & Men's Bible study** groups will meet immediately after worship.

# September 2026

| Sun                                                                                                                     | Mon                           | Tue                                  | Wed                                                                             | Thu                                                            | Fri                  | Sat                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                         |                               | 1<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal             | 2<br>10:30am Food Pantry<br>11am Men's Bible Study<br>7pm Pastor's Bible Study  | 3<br><b>Work remotely as needed.</b><br><br>7pm Church Coun-   | 4<br>Offices Closed  | 5<br>9:30—1pm SOTS Back Parking Lot Event |
| 6<br>9:30am Worship<br>10:45am                                                                                          | 7<br>Food pickup from Target  | 8<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal<br>7 pm SCA | 9<br>10:30am Food Pantry<br>11am Men's Bible Study<br>7pm Pastor's Bible Study  | 10<br><b>Work Remotely as needed.</b>                          | 11<br>Offices Closed | 12<br>10am-12pm Food Pantry               |
| 13 <b>Rally Sun.</b><br>9:30am Worship<br>9:45am Children's Chapel<br>10:45am Children's Choir<br>11:15am Sunday School | 14<br>Food pickup from Target | 15<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal            | 16<br>10:30am Food Pantry<br>11am Men's Bible Study<br>7pm Pastor's Bible Study | 17<br><b>Pat Morgan is out on medical leave until Oct. 5th</b> | 18<br>Offices Closed | 19<br>9—10am BC Business Mtg              |
| 20<br>9:30am Worship<br>9:45am Children's Chapel<br>10:45am Children's Choir<br>11:15am Sunday School                   | 21<br>Food pickup from Target | 22<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal            | 23<br>10:30am Food Pantry<br>11am Men's Bible Study<br>7pm Pastor's Bible Study | 24                                                             | 25<br>Offices Closed | 26<br>10am-12pm Food Pantry               |
| 27<br>9:30am Worship<br>9:45am Children's Chapel<br>10:45am Children's Choir<br>11:15am Sunday School                   | 28<br>Food pickup from Target | 29<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal            | 30<br>10:30am Food Pantry<br>11am Men's Bible Study<br>7pm Pastor's Bible Study |                                                                |                      |                                           |

# Those Who Serve

## September 2

Food Pantry

Robin Patrick, Ulaine Pelton, Carlin Bachrach

## September 6

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

Bobbi Skinner- White  
Sunny Hollenbach  
  
Buddy Anderson  
Robin Patrick  
Sunny Hollenbach - September birthdays  
Kevin Jones & Karin Lundgren  
Robin Patrick, Denise Haag, Gwyne Van Slyke 9/9  
Mary Ann & Norman Beard , Pat Lafata 9/12

## September 13

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

Lesli White  
Roger White  
Donna White  
Brad & Cheryl Tennant  
Robin Patrick  
Rally Day Celebration—TKH  
Kevin Jones & Karin Lundgren  
Robin Patrick, Bobbi Skinner-White, Sunny Hollenbach 9/16

## September 20

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

Skip Banner  
  
Sunny Hollenbach, Buddy Anderson  
Carlin Bachrach  
  
Gwyne Van Slyke, Denise Haag, Carlin Bachrach 9/23  
Ruth Crews, Jim Owens 9/26

## September 27

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

Bobbi Skinner-White  
  
Chris & Karen Welch  
Ulaine Pelton  
Cheryl Tennant  
Gwyne & Jim Van Slyke  
Sunny Hollenbach ,Sondra Lindstrom, Carlin Bachrach 9/30

## Community Groups

*All meet in the fellowship hall unless otherwise noted.*

### Sunday

Friends of Bill AA—6:30 pm

### Monday

ACOA—12pm –Rm 4

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

### Wednesday

Men's Book Study AA—7pm—Rm 4

### Friday

ACOA—7pm –Rm 4

NA –How Grp—7pm

### Saturday

Breakfast Club Business Mtg— 3rd Sat  
9am—10am

### Monday—Saturday

Early Bird Breakfast Club—6:30am—Rm 4

Breakfast Club: Monday—Saturday - 8am

## We Are Making A Difference Through Our Food Pantry



The items for the month of **September** is everything. Our shelves were depleted at the end of August. We served **67** families totaling **248** individuals. Your donations are crucial to keep this ministry up and running, and to help those in desperate need of food. Monetary donations are always welcome. Someone will do the shopping for you.

We are blessed to receive donations from Target on First Colonial Road, and Food Lion on Great Neck Road. Without these donations, we wouldn't be able to provide the amount of food given each week. Also with your monetary donations we are able to supplement what is given by purchasing from the FoodBank.



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

**Address Service Requested**

## **The Prayer Labyrinth!**



A prayer labyrinth is a single, winding path that leads to a center point and back out, used as a

tool for walking meditation, reflection, and prayer.

- Work has begun on preparing the area for our Prayer Labyrinth, located on the side of the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate to this project, mark your donation as Prayer Labyrinth. Check out the display in the narthex.

## **Bible Readings for September**

### **Sept 6 —Time after Pentecost**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

### **Sept 13—Time After Pentecost**

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

### **Sept 20—Time After Pentecost**

Amos 8: 4-7

Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

### **Sept 27—Time After Pentecost**

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31