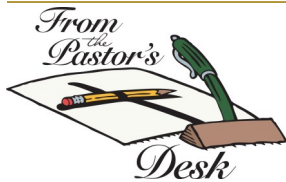




Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

October 2026



As each day passes I notice that the sun sets a little bit earlier every day and stars begin to make their appearance a little sooner than the day before. It will not be long when the air will be cool and crisp. Along with these days come memories from childhood that were filled with things of the coming season, the football games on Friday nights. The wonderful smells of food from the concession stand and being surrounded by friends.

When I see this season I am amazed at the diverse and brilliant colors of the leaves in the fall. I had thought that the mountains of North Carolina, my home state, was so spectacular in that season. But when I served in Pennsylvania where there were more deciduous trees and less evergreens from the Carolinas, the colors were truly breathtaking.

continued on page 2

Fall Congregational Meeting On Sunday, October 11



On **Sunday, October 11** we will gather in the sanctuary immediately following worship for an important meeting. Together we will elect new Council members and decide on a Ministry

Investment Plan for 2027. It will be a busy meeting, and one that many may be tempted to skip. However, before you do, please consider that each of these items will greatly impact our life together. For example, the Ministry Investment Plan is more than just a "budget." It is a statement about our shared faith and how much we are willing to invest in the work of God in the world. Likewise, the men and women we elect for Council will help set the vision and direction of Good Shepherd for years to come, and so we need to be prayerful in our choices.

A preliminary Ministry Investment Plan, is being mailed to each household. Please make some time to look it over, and then come with any questions, suggestions or concerns. Even if meetings aren't your "thing," make plans to join us on **October 11**.

We are Christ's hands and voice in the world

THE SHEPHERD'S HORN



A publication of

GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church [ELCA]

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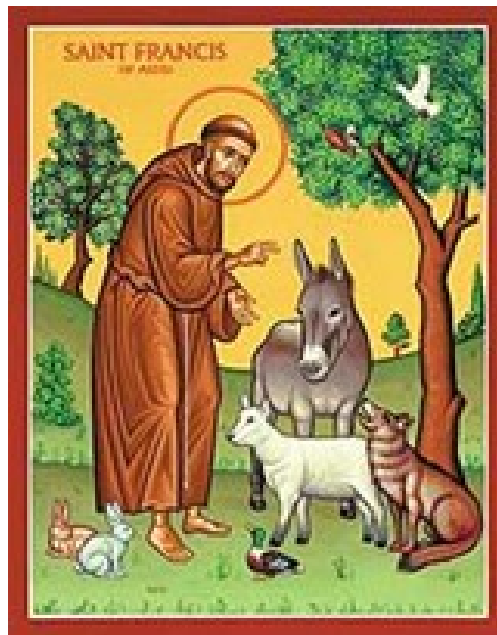
Reflecting on this I consider one of the greatest gifts of this lifetime and that is an appreciation of the diversity of all of humanity. Just as I have been fascinated by nature I have also been curious about people's lives, where they are from, what their childhood and countries look like, what are their customs. Everyone has a story to tell and there is endless wisdom hidden within those stories.

In fact, some of the most fascinating people that I have known came from being willing to sit and to listen. And I sometimes ponder if that is why God made the people that he loves in so many various ways?

I often speak of the practice of the presence of God. And I do because God is all around us in the beauty of nature and all of creation. Let us grow in our faith and in our enjoyment of others. For it is our neighbors that the Lord takes delight in. And the Lord takes delight in YOU!

May you be blessed in the coming Fall season,

Pastor Faron



**Blessing of the
Animals
Saturday, Oct 10
3pm**

**Feast of St.
Francis of Assisi**

This is a religious ceremony held around or on around the Feast of Francis of Assisi where people bring their pets and other animals to be blessed.

You are invited to bring your pets, all kinds and join us on the lawn to have them blessed, weather permitting.

FINANCIALS

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries. However, we ended the month in the red.

As of September 28, 2026

	Month	YTD
Support	\$ 15,023	\$ 217,947
Expense	\$ 29,482	\$ 257,460
Over/[short]	\$ [14,459]	\$ [39,513]

Thank you to all who have signed up for Kroger Community Rewards. Info on how to link your card for the rewards is on the bulletin board or you may email gslctreas@goodshepherdvb.org for emailed information.

Besides giving in person or through the mail, there are other automated ways to send in your donations:

1. Online giving through our website goodshepherdvb.org
2. Text-- dial 1-844-970-2662

If you are a Thrivent member you may use your Thrivent Action money and allocate it to the food pantry or to help support the Thanksgiving dinner. You are allowed two \$250 action items per year.

Upcoming Event

**Thanksgiving
Community Dinner
Thanksgiving Day
November 26th
1:00 –3:00 pm**



We are asking for your assistance in making this event a success. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex for donation of turkey and pies. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Crews.

Food Pantry



As of September 23 we served **72 families and 259 people**. In order to continue this outreach ministry, we need your help of food and/or monetary donations. Without it, we will not be able to provide some fresh items we now provide. We could consider alternatives such as cut out our Saturday distribution and only give what we get in donations from Target and Food Lion on Mondays and Wednesdays. We're depending on your generosity.



October 25

Open to the Community! Join in the fun and decorate your car with a Halloween theme. Pass out candy or treats from your trunk Sunday, October 25 in the back parking lot from 4 pm to 6 pm. Invite your neighbors and friends to join us.



Papau New Guinea

[Virginia Synod Sister Synod]

Good Shepherd have been faithful as one of the partners helping our sis synod in Papua New Guinea [ELCAPNG] by providing an annual monetary donation.



This donation supplies education support to children of pastors in Papua New Guinea that includes training, learning resources, and infrastructure development.

Currently, Good Shepherd has received \$200 of the \$600 committed support. Please mark your donation as PNG or Papua New Guinea.

A word about Ministry

Investment Plans:

The time of the year has come when we normally speak of budgets and stewardship in the way of giving. I say this because stewardship is so much more than money. Being a good steward of the gifts of the Spirit includes charitable acts, such as kindness, compassion, mercy, and even good thoughts.

A Ministry Investment Plan will be placed before you to consider for the coming year. You should keep in mind that since the church is not a business, but a ministry, this plan is something that we would like to see happen to support the ministry here at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Whether this plan is supported depends upon you and your response to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Our reality is that our congregation works within, and beyond, the parameters of what is received. I say beyond, because there are always ministries that can be done that require no financial contributions. The kindness we show towards those that God loves costs us nothing in the way of money.

But working within the parameters simply means that if funds should ever come up short to continue a ministry of the church, that we would be faced with the difficult decision to end ministries. While I know this is a reality, I pray that it never happens, because this congregation is a vital part of the community and people's lives are changed because of your ministry and because of your faithfulness. Our loaves and fishes in the hands of our savior will always be more than enough to glorify our Lord.



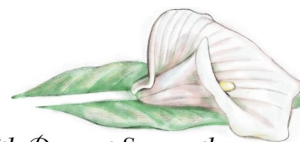
October

Birthdays

- 1 Gregory Chandler
- 1 Anabel Patrick, Alexander Jerlin
- 2 Linda Starbranch
- 3 Barbara Case
- 7 Ryan Fulmer
- 10 Skip Banner
Kingston Smiejan
- 13 Bradley Tennant
- 18 Samuel Solhaug

Anniversaries

- 11 Rachel & Brian Jerlin
- 19 Jennifer & Joshua Jordan
- 22 Mark & Jacqueline Rosendahl
- 23 Sondra & Dink Lindstrom



With Deepest Sympathy
Lesli White and family on the death of her grandmother, Ida White, September 20, in Kissimmee, Florida. May they find peace and blessing and know that God is near.

*Day by day we
climb day by day
closer to God
with each payer
we .*

*Helen Steiner
Rice*



For our membership with chronic illness and those recovering from various illnesses or surgery, or those in need of guidance, Shirley Ammon, Judy Coyne, Geri Smiejan, Chuck Starbranch, Joy Whittaker:

Homebound: Mazzie Jackson, Dottie Rickard, Beverly Seif, their families.

Members' family and friends: Joy Blalock, Darla Freeman, Lori Griffith, Jerry Hart, Buryl Blalock Humes, Geraldine Johnson, Pam Jones, Debra Murphy, Bill D., Charlotte, Joshua Rose, Glen Schlehuser, Emily Shaw, Lester Smiejan, Debra Zimmerman.

Our Children's Choir Begin the New Year



OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7 Pastor's Bible Study	1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3 AA Workshop Event
4 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11 Sunday School	5 Food Pickup	6 9am Property Day	7 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7 Pastor's Bible Study Food Pickup	8 Office Closed	9 7pm Welch Small Grp Office Closed	10 10:30 Food Pantry 3 pm Blessing of the Animals
11 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 10:45 Congre- gation Mtg	12 Food Pickup	13 9am Property Day Newsletter Articles Deadline	14 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7 Pastor's Bible Study Food Pickup	15 Office Closed	16 Office Closed	17 Breakfast Club Busi- ness Mtg
18 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 11 Sunday School	19 Food Pickup	20 9am Property Day	21 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7 Pastor's Bible Study Food Pickup	22 Office Closed	23 7pm Welch Small Grp Office Closed	24 10:30 Food Pantry
25 9:30 Worship/ Children's Chapel 10:45 Children's Choir 4pm Trunk or Treat	26 Food Pickup	27 9am Property Day	28 10:30 Food Pantry 11 Men's Bible Study 7 Pastor's Bible Study Food Pickup	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31

Those Who Serve

October 4

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

Jacqueline Rosendahl
Sunny Hollenbach
Karin Lundgren
Buddy Anderson, Mark Rosendahl
Carlin Bachrach
Sunny Hollenbach—October Birthdays

Robin Patrick, Bobbi Skinner-White, Carlin Bachrach 10/7

October 11

Assisting Minister
Communion Assistant
Reader
Usher
Altar Guild
Flowers
Food Pantry

Congregation Meeting/Meal

Bobbi Skinner-White
Roger White
Donna White

Ulaïne Pelton

Denise Haag, Gwyne Van Slyke, Sarah Bumgardner 10/14

October 18

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

Lesli White
Kevin Jones

Sunny Hollenbach, Robin Patrick
Robin Patrick

Bob & Diane Hudkins
Bobbi Skinner-White, Ulaïne Pelton 10/21

October 25—Reformation

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

Skip Banner

Ulaïne Pelton

Ron & Ulaïne Pelton
Robin Patrick, Sunny Hollenbach, Gwyne Van Slyke 10/28



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Address Service Requested