

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter
August 2021

XLV, ISSUE VIII

<i>Sunday Worship Schedule</i>	1
<i>Rally Day Schedule</i>	1
<i>A Word From Our Pastor</i>	2
<i>Message from Council President</i>	3
<i>School Supply Drive</i>	3
<i>WELCA Retreat</i>	4
<i>Worship Life</i>	4
<i>Learning Opportunities</i>	5
<i>Noisy Offering</i>	6
<i>Social Ministry Emphasis</i>	6
<i>Thanks for Support of ALS</i>	6
<i>Good Shepherd Foundation</i>	6
<i>Synod Assembly</i>	6
<i>Thank You</i>	7
<i>Property Committee Update</i>	7
<i>Worship Volunteers for August</i>	8
<i>August Meetings</i>	8
<i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	8
<i>Food Pantry Update</i>	9
<i>Transitions Service Project</i>	9
<i>Telephone Changes</i>	9
<i>Tuesday Morning Bible Study</i>	9
<i>Wednesday Zoom Bible Study</i>	9
<i>Birthdays</i>	9
<i>Lectionary</i>	10
<i>Prayer Lists</i>	11
<i>Church Staff & Council</i>	12
<i>Calendar: Upcoming Events</i>	12

Join Us
IN Worship

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The following schedule will begin on
Sunday, September 19, 2021.

9:30 Worship
10:45 – 11:45 Adult Sunday School
(including time for fellowship and coffee)
10:45 – 11:15 Children's Sunday School
11:15 – 11:45 Children's Music
(K – 2nd Grade & 3rd – 5th Grade Classes)



RALLY DAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Mark this special day on your calendar! This is our annual Kick-Off Celebration for new Sunday School classes. This year will be particularly special. This is the first time that we will be able to offer Sunday School classes in one and one half years!! Many wonderful activities are being planned for this day. Following is a brief description of what is being planned. More specific details will be announced soon.

9:30 Worship
10:30 – 11:30 Rally Day: Sunday School Kick-Off in FAB
11:30 Catered lunch in FAB

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



A couple of months ago I lifted up Paul's words to the church in Corinth as words that still apply to us today. Indeed, the letters of Paul, like all of scripture, still speak a powerful word to us in the church today. The difficult and complex work for us is discerning together how such words are to lead and guide us. This month, we continue to work our way through the letter to the Ephesians.

One of the primary themes of Ephesians is the theme of unity. Within Paul's community at Ephesus, unity—or lack thereof—was a major issue for the people. In particular, the divide between Jewish believers and Gentile believers was often deep and bitter. Those who were part of the covenant people of Israel sometimes looked down their noses at the upstart Gentile believers who often did not conform to the traditions of those who were a part of the Jewish culture and traditions. Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus in part to encourage them to live at peace with one another, emphasizing that God's work in Christ made God's mercy and blessings available to Jews and Gentiles alike.

For our own congregation today, there are endless differences between us all that Satan would love to use to divide us. That is, after all, the *modus operandi* of the evil one—to divide so that he may conquer. Yet we know Christ has conquered evil and death once and for all! We are, then, to follow not the voice of evil that whispers in our ear about our differences and divisions, but rather we are to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us into unity with Christ and with one another.

In Ephesians 4:29-5:2, Paul gives the Ephesian church members some good counsel that still applies to us today in our own situation and congregation:

²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. 5 ¹Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

We are to mind our words to one another. We are to use our words and our gifts; our time and our money to build up the church and one another. Our words are to be filled with grace. We are to listen to and heed the Holy Spirit. We are to turn away from those things that would cause us to complain and insult and stew and, instead, we are to be gentle and loving toward one another. We are to embody the love of Christ which led our Lord to lay down his life for us—this we are to do for one another in love.

All of this is indeed good advice and just as powerful for us as it was for those first Christians at Ephesus. I suspect Paul knew the truth that I saw summed up in a colleague's social media post the other day: "If we work to build the church, we will not always get disciples. But if we build disciples, we will always get the church." May our focus at this time of change and opportunity indeed be on developing our community into a community of disciples. Let us each work on our own calling to be followers of Jesus, trusting that there is power and purpose in such a community gathered in this way. I pray you will heed my words along with the words of Jesus and the words of Paul. Let us build one another up, that together we will be the church Christ is calling us to be.

In faith, hope, and love,
Pastor Andrew



**2022
Congregational
Retreat
at Lutheridge
February 11-13, 2022**



VACATION FOR PASTOR ANDREW

Pastor Andrew will be on vacation July 31 - August 8. In case of emergency during this time, members should contact Rev. Jesse Canniff-Kuhn at 803-603-4424. He is the Campus pastor at USC and at the Seminary.

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Council voted unanimously on Sunday, July 25, 2021, to approve the following schedule for worship to begin on Sunday, September 19, 2021.

Fall Worship Schedule

9:30	Worship
10:45 – 11:45	Adult Sunday School (including time for fellowship and coffee)
10:45 – 11:15	Children's Sunday School
11:15 – 11:45	Children's Music (K - 2nd Grade and 3rd - 5th Grade Classes)

This decision was made after much prayer and deliberation. We all have our own preferences for style, number of and times for worship opportunities. Our decision was a concerted effort to consider all possibilities and to make a decision based on what we felt was best for all at this time in the life of our Good Shepherd Community. No doubt this decision will not please everyone. Remember that we are in this together. Together, let us strive to follow God's will with His guidance.

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

We have been richly blessed. As we embark on this new stage in our worship life, may we respond to God's blessings by doing His work for His kingdom united as one body.

God's Peace,
Marcia Woodward
Council President

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Good Shepherd's annual school supply drive will begin Sunday, August 8. Items collected will be donated to Bradley Elementary in Richland District One and Forest Lake Elementary in Richland District Two.

Suggested items include: pencils (#2), colored pencils, erasers, lined notebook paper, composition books, crayons, washable markers, and glue sticks. We have asked the schools for their needs lists and will provide copies once we have them.



The collection box will be in the Narthex from August 8 – 29. You may also make financial contributions. Make checks to Good Shepherd Lutheran and designate them for School Supply Drive.



WELCA RETREAT

October 1 – 3, 2021

Wouldn't you love a weekend of fun, enrichment, and fellowship with the women of Good Shepherd? Gather with us at Coastal Retreat to relax and recharge. Women of all ages – Good Shepherd members, friends of members, and relatives of members – are invited.

Join us at the Coastal Retreat Center, Isle of Palms. Cost of the Retreat is **\$175** which can be paid in installments, with a deposit of \$50 due on or before Sunday, August 15. The total is due **August 29, 2021**. The cost is for a room with a private bath (double occupancy, linens including towels furnished) and 4 meals. Dinner will be on your own Friday night.

To reserve your space, complete this form or the registration form found on the table in the Narthex, make checks to **WELCA** and give to Laura Leigh Smith or put in the WELCA box. Questions: Call or text Karen Lucas 803-730-7651 or email klucas4@aol.com.

Name: _____

Roommate: _____

Deposit: _____

WORSHIP LIFE

The Worship Life Committee is happy to see everyone at the In-Sanctuary service. The post pandemic transition has gone very well. Everyone has welcomed the return to our pre-Covid ways of worship. We will continue to tweak our practices until we get as close as possible to the “old ways of doing things.”

We are still missing a few members of our congregational family. If someone is missing that normally sat near you, please reach out to them and see how they are doing. If there is an obstacle that is preventing them from coming to church that we can help with, please let me know. Let's see if we can get as many members of our family back together as possible.

I would like to remind you that the pandemic is not completely over yet. Please take every measure possible to keep yourself and others safe while attending worship. If you need to wear a mask to worship service, it's okay. If you need to social distance, it's okay. If you need help finding a social distance place to sit, ask the ushers for assistance. Please continue to respect others' space. If you haven't been vaccinated and can safely do so, please get your vaccine. Let's keep everyone safe.

I ask that the congregation pray for the Worship Life Committee as we plan safe ways for us to continue to worship together. Pray for discernment for the best way for our congregation to worship meeting the most needs of our congregation as possible. Also pray for members of our congregation to answer the call to assist with worship. We are looking for volunteers for Lectors, Communion Assistants, and Ushers. Let us know if you can help.

See you in the sanctuary,
Cathy Milejczak
Worship Life Chair

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



Join us in the FAB on Sunday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Rally Day celebration. All ages will rally together as we announce our new year of Sunday School classes.

Good Shepherd will recognize those members 90 years old and above during this Special Rally Day Celebration.

On this special day, we will promote all our children and youth to their next grade, welcome our 3- and 4-year-old children as they begin Sunday School, and present Bibles to children beginning their next faith journey. We also will be recognizing our Sunday Church School teachers. Come for the unveiling of our adult Sunday School class curriculum for the fall. We will not have Sunday School this day so that we can all come celebrate the new school year. We look forward to seeing you there! Any questions please email Katie at katiebrettbostic@gmail.com.

Virtual and In-Person Adult Bible Study

Join us for in-person Bible study in the **FAB** on **Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.** The topic is the Gospel lesson for the coming Sunday. If you are unable to attend in-person, or feel more comfortable going virtual, Wednesday Zoom Bible Study will continue to be at 8:00 a.m. A Zoom ID and password is sent in a weekly email. Pastor Andrew also sends a weekly Bible Study Guide, which is a great resource for members that do not prefer, or do not have Zoom capabilities.

Spark Family located by church office (Preschool - 5th Grade)

Spark Family is a devotional based on seasons and themes from the Bible. It's filled with quick and easy ways to fit faith into everyday life. Because it's not dated, you can choose to follow the chapters sequentially or skip around. Spark Family is a great resource to keep in the car, carry along as you run errands throughout the day, or leave on the kitchen table for conversation starters during dinner.

Faith 5 (All ages)

A five step nighttime ritual that can instill a sense of security and optimism in children. This plan also helps parents nurture their children's faith, and create a caring, close-knit family unit. Pastor Andrew sends a weekly devotion via email that parents can use to start the process.

There are 5 Steps:

Share your highs and lows of the day/week.

Read a Bible verse or story together.

Talk about how your Bible verse or Bible story might apply to your highs and lows.

Pray for one another's highs and lows.

Bless one another before saying goodnight

NOISY OFFERING AUGUST 29

Start saving those coins. The next noisy offering at Good Shepherd will be August 29. Of course, folding money and checks will be welcomed as well!

The recipient of the noisy offering will be The Therapy Place. Located in Forest Acres, The Therapy Place is a non-profit organization which provides a variety of therapeutic services to children with special needs.

You may plan to make your noisy offering contributions August 29 at the worship service. If you won't be able to attend that service, feel free to make your offering by dropping it off or sending it to the church office. Checks should be made to Good Shepherd and designated for noisy offering.

THANKS FOR SUPPORT OF ALS

The social ministry committee thanks the congregation for its tremendous support of the S.C. Chapter of the ALS Association, the social ministry emphasis during June. A total of \$1,721 was received to support the work of the Association.

ALS, or "Lou Gehrig's Disease," is a disease of the nervous system which weakens muscles and affects physical functions. There is no known cure, and it is eventually fatal.

Our support of the ALS Association was done in memory of Rusty Suydam, a former Good Shepherd member who died from ALS, and in honor of his mother Earline, a longtime Good Shepherd member who celebrated her 95th birthday during June.

SOCIAL MINISTRY EMPHASIS FOR AUGUST

The social ministry emphasis for August at Good Shepherd is Pawmetto Lifeline.

Founded more than 20 years ago in Columbia, Pawmetto Lifeline deals with pet overpopulation in the Midlands through education, spay/neuter programs and responsible adoption.

You may make contributions to Pawmetto Lifeline any time during August by placing them in the offering plate on Sunday mornings or sending them to the church office. Checks should be made to Good Shepherd and designated for Pawmetto Lifeline.

More information on the work of Pawmetto Lifeline, including volunteer opportunities, is available at the group's website.

GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

The Foundation awarded grants this spring to the following:

Novus Way Ministries (\$2,000)
SC Lutheran Retreat Centers (\$2,000)
Koinonia of Columbia (\$2,000)

Please keep in mind the next grant application deadline is November 1.

SC SYNOD ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS

I was asked to be one of the voting members at the SC Synod Assembly along with Emily Whitlow, Nancy Hyatt, Don Hyatt and Pastor Andrew Isenhower. The Assembly was a bit different this year as it was a one-day session all done remotely. While it was great to have the technology that allowed over 300 people to be connected together at one time to meet, the fellowship of the in-person Assembly was greatly missed. It was business as usual though. There were the reports from the synodically supported ministries, approval of the synod budget, and elections of Synod Council and committee members. The keynote speaker was Ryan Panzer, author of *Grace and Gigabytes*. He addressed how congregations can move forward toward boldly proclaiming God's Word through technology in this new era where faith is nourished in physical and cyberspace alike. The Assembly included Bible reflection times and concluded with a spirit filled worship.

Cathy Milejczak

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,020.00. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and those we serve, we appreciate your generosity. Because of your support, our families have a safe place to call home. You are helping ensure our families and children are taken care of during the COVID-19 crisis. Your kindness helps our families stay together as they work towards stable employment, housing, and health.

Our goal at Homeless No More is to keep families together as we seek to create an environment where at-risk and homeless families maximize their potential as they move toward independent lives. We are the only service provider in the area that welcomes fathers and boys over the age of 12. Our proven continuum of care for families includes three unique initiatives: emergency services (Family Shelter), transitional housing (St. Lawrence Place), and affordable housing (Live Oak Place).

Throughout 2020, hundreds of homeless and at-risk families with children have participated in our programs and services at Family Shelter, St. Lawrence Place, and Live Oak Place. We've made substantial progress in our fight to end family homelessness, and we are proud to share these accomplishments with supporters like you.

We could not do this without you. Thank you for joining us in the fight to end family homelessness in the Midlands. Your contribution enables us to continue making positive changes in our community!

With gratitude,
Lila Anna Sauls
President/CEO

**Thank
You**

To our dearest neighbors at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Your generosity and charity in sharing your parking lot with our employees here at Columbia Children's Dentistry and Forest Drive Dental Care is an incredible gift to us.

Ensuring a close and safe place to park has been a challenge, and your kindness has given us an incredible sense of relief.

Please accept our gift (\$1,000) in appreciation, and again, thank you.

Joanna Dover and all of us



FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE ON THE OFFICE WINDOWS REPLACEMENT FUND

The Office Windows Replacement Fund was approved by Congregational Council in 2019 to replace the old cracked single pane windows in our office with new insulated glass panels. These panels will have UV protection and conform to regional insulation standards. Between each of the laminated wood buttresses there are groups of nine windows. There are seven of these groups in the office, resulting in 63 window panes needing replacement. The Property Committee looked at replacing each of the 63 window panes with individual insulated glass panes. This plan was ruled out due the cost estimate in 2019 of over \$70,000.

As reported in an earlier Newsletter article, a more affordable plan was developed and approved by the Property Committee. This plan calls for replacing each vertical group of three window panes with one insulated glass panel, retaining the detailed woodwork of the old Sanctuary, now the office. This plan will require only 21 insulated panels. The latest projected cost of this project is approximately \$3,600 for each of the seven window bays, requiring a shade over \$25,000. This is the high end of the original estimate and is the result of increased glass costs.

We currently have approximately \$11,000 in this fund, enough to do three bays of windows. The Property Committee has voted to proceed in replacing three window bays and will look to see how we can quickly move to replace the remaining four window bays. The congregation is encouraged to consider contributions to this project, as we continue to have issues with winter cold penetration and summer air conditioner loss.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST

COUNCIL PERSON OF THE MONTH: Don Caughman

OPENING BUILDINGS: Michael Brown

DATE	8/1/21	8/8/21	8/15/21	8/22/21	8/29/21	9/5/21
USHERS	Team 4: Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver	Team 4: Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver	Team 4: Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver	Team 4: Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver	Team 4: Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver	Team 2: Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann, Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird, Robert Ellington
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	Lector & Communion Assistant: Marcia Woodward	Lector: Mitch Uehling Communion Assistant: Don Caughman	Lector & Communion Assistant: Becky Shealy	Lector & Communion Assistant: Bruce Shealy	Lector: Stacy Gross Communion Assistant: Joey Allison	Lector & Communion Assistant: Mike Weaver
NURSERY	Alexis Boyles, Shayla Williams	Shayla Williams, Alexis Boyles,	Heavenly Edenfield, Alexis Boyles	Alexis Boyles, Shayla Williams	Heavenly Edenfield, Alexis Boyles	Alexis Boyles, Shayla Williams
ALTAR GUILD	Janet Lockhart, Sabra Lindler, Anne Rush	Janet Lockhart, Sabra Lindler, Anne Rush	Janet Lockhart, Sabra Lindler, Anne Rush	Janet Lockhart, Sabra Lindler, Anne Rush	Janet Lockhart, Sabra Lindler, Anne Rush	Marcia Woodward
TABULATORS	Lavina Chandler, Karen Lucas	Steve Steck, David Lucas	Mitch Uehling, Mary Margaret Hoy	Donna Foster, Leigh Ford	Mary Stallings, Becky Shealy	Lavina Chandler, David Lucas

AUGUST 2021 MEETINGS

- August 4 Property Committee (6:00 p.m.)
- August 5 Finance Committee (6:00 p.m.)
- Parish Life Committee (6:00 p.m.)
- August 10 Executive Committee (3:00 p.m.)
- Social Ministry (6:30 p.m.)
- August 12 Learning Committee (6:30 p.m.)
- August 15 Council Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- August 17 Worship Life Committee (6:00 p.m.)

Please call the church office to reserve a room for any upcoming meetings.



Deadline to submit articles for
September Newsletter
is AUGUST 18.

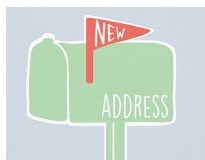


FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

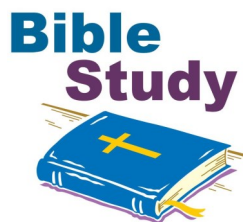
GSLC Food Pantry
Volunteers packed 16 food
bags serving 61 participants
in June.

TELEPHONE CHANGES

Joey Allison
No home phone. Use work
cell # 803-422-7058.



Judy Hoy
Preferred phone is now cell # 803-553-0501.



Meet in the FAB on Tuesday mornings at
11:30 a.m. for a Bible Study.



TRANSITIONS SERVICE PROJECT

Volunteers are needed to cook on
Saturday, August 28 and serve on
Sunday, August 29. Please contact
Susan Weaver at 803-600-1936 for
more information and to sign up.

2021 TRANSITIONS SERVICE DATES

August 29 - Cook on Saturday 28
October 31 - Cook on Saturday 30
Contact Susan Weaver at 803-600-1936

WEDNESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Zoom Bible Study will be led by
Pastor Andrew each Wednesday
at **8:00 a.m.** A reminder with a
meeting link will be sent by email
each week.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS (ACCORDING TO CHURCH RECORDS)

*Happy
Birthday!*



1	Mary E. Allen		Stephen Beaman	17	Stacey Cohl	25	Ashley Barnhill
	Penny Sox	8	Pam Robertson	19	Frank Fusco		Mariah Sightler
2	Brittany Jakiela	9	Alice Buckner		Todd Gustafson	26	Mike Sanchez
3	Trey McLeod		Kevin Gross	20	Betty Cox	29	Bently Grosh
5	Jason Fowler		Mary Margaret Hoy		Phil Tollison	30	Melanie Lalumondier
6	David Ellington	10	Charles Buckner	21	Joe Robinson		Cathy Quinton
	Thomas Cohl	13	Mo Denny		Jerry Rogers	31	Jim Lalumondier
	Debbie Smith	14	Lauren Evans	22	Darlene Whipple		
7	Blake Gross	16	David Lucas	24	Wade Wingard		

LECTIONARY FOR AUGUST 2021

AUGUST 1—10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

FIRST READING – Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.

PSALM – Psalm 78:23-29

God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels. (Ps. 78:24, 25)

SECOND READING – Ephesians 4:1-16

Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.

GOSPEL – John 6:24-13

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

AUGUST 8—11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

FIRST READING – 1 Kings 19:4-8

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the LORD is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

PSALM – Psalm 34:1-8

Taste and see that the LORD is good. (Ps. 34:8)

SECOND READING – Ephesians 4:25—5:2

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

GOSPEL – John 6:35, 41-51

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

AUGUST 15—12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

FIRST READING – Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

PSALM – Psalm 34:9-14

Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)

SECOND READING – Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL – John 6:51-58

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

AUGUST 22—13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

FIRST READING – Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

PSALM – Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (Ps. 34:15)

SECOND READING – Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

GOSPEL – John 6:56-69

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

AUGUST 29—14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

FIRST READING – Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

PSALM – Psalm 15

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? (Ps. 15:1)

SECOND READING – James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

GOSPEL – Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

WITH PRAYER

Mary Allen	Dot Correll	Kitty Howard	Becky Silvia
Rev. Russ Anderson	Betty Cox	Judy Hoy	Mary Sox
Gwen Barnes	Helen Derrick	Jeannine Jameson	Virginia Stephens
Trisha Benson	Sylvia Anne Derrick	Billie Jones	Barbara Sutton
Grace Boozer	Marianne De Werd	John Keim	Melvin Wicker
Joye Broome	Lena Duncan	Lisa Lehman	Bubba Willis
Michael Brown	Larry Evans	Sara Loyd	Stan Wilson
Rosemarie Brown	Dot Gibert	Herman McQuage	Emily Wright
Susan Burch	Martha Haigler	Johanna Moore	Peter Zornow
Rose Butterfield	Bonnie Hammond	Irene Poole	
Joanna Carpenter	Trisha Holman	Cathy Quinton	

PLEASE UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST – Those who have requested friends and loved ones to be included on the prayer list, please contact Deborah Mitchell in the church office at parishadmin@gslc.com or (803) 787-4413 **to renew your request or add prayer concerns by the newsletter deadline of each month. You may call or email anytime to remove a name.**

Please do not assume that we know the name should be renewed or removed.



RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Sue Baugh—mother of Cheryl Beaman's friend
 Robin Boggs—daughter of Anne Rush
 Luna Brown—3-year-old cousin of Amanda Snodgrass
 Schuyler Carter—grandson of Bonnie Hammond
 Allie Clark—friend of Betty Cox
 Ruth Collins—friend of Dena Phillips
 Landon Derrick—friend of Amanda Snodgrass
 John Flitter—friend of Leigh Ford
 Andrew Ford—father of Chandler & Lillian Ford
 Jamie Fountain—step-brother of Laura Leigh Smith
 Beverly Fulmer—friend of Judy Rogers
 Lucy Fusco—mother of Frank Fusco
 Lamar Harper—brother of Gwen Barnes
 Forrest Hinebaugh—father of Elaine Zornow
 Madelynn Johnson—friend of the Snodgrass Family
 Leonard C. Jordan—brother of Bill Jordan
 Greg Lehman—brother of Lisa Lehman
 Sylvia Livingston—mother of Cheryl Beaman
 George Mills – father of Susan Weaver
 Jimmy Munn—cousin of Betty Cox
 Stella Parrish—friend of Rosemary Nance
 Barbara Reese—friend of Justine Parker & Joyce Mobley
 Henry Richardson—father of Amanda Snodgrass

Joanne Schweitzer—sister of Mary Claire McAbee
 Marise Shumpert, friend of Rosemary Nance
 Phil Smith—friend of Frances Plyler
 David Steck—father of Steve Steck
 Ann Summer—sister of Verna Sawyer
 Family of Faye Swetlik—friends of Dena Phillips
 Harry Swindler—stepfather of Penny Sox & grandfather of Stacy Gross
 Phyllis Tollison—mother of Phil Tollison
 Robin Trauffer—friend of the congregation
 Gayle Watts—friend of Leigh Ford
 Bill Weaver—father of Mike Weaver
 Terry Weaver—mother of Mike Weaver
 Mike Welborn—cousin of Anita Easter
 Shirley Zornow—mother of Peter Zornow

EXPECTING OR BIRTH

WITH SYMPATHY

The family of Doris McCaughey.
 The family of Bev Weymouth.

Office Information

<http://www.gslc.com>

Hours: Mon–Thurs. 9 AM-4:30 PM;

Fri. 9 AM-2:00 PM

Phone: (803) 787-4413

Day School: (803) 787-4148

Pastor

Reverend Andrew Isenhower

Parish Administrator

Deborah Mitchell

Music Director

Cody Jones

Interim Contemporary Music**Director**

Michael Simmons

Organist/Worship Associate

Susan Sturkie

Sexton

Joey Allison

Financial Secretary

Deb Embrey

Council President

Marcia Woodward

Council Vice-President

Don Caughman

Secretary

Anna-Marie Plyler

Interim Treasurer

Lauren Chandler

Committee/Council Member

Communication/**Leigh Ford**

Evangelism/**Peter Zornow**

Finance/**Janet Lockhart**

Technology Subcommittee/

Jamie Sanders

Gifts/**Gaye Tucker**, Chair

with **Marcia Woodward**, Liaison

Learning/**Katie Bostic**

Parish Life/**Karen Lucas**

Property/**Lauren Chandler**, Chair

with **Marcia Woodward**, Liaison

Social Ministry/**Don Caughman**

Worship Life/**Cathy Milejczak**

Youth & Children/**Emily Whitlow**

Youth Representative

Eden Rowell

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

3909 Forest Drive

Columbia, SC 29204

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #957

Columbia, SC

DELIVERY REQUESTED BY

July 28, 2021

DATED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

CALENDAR

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!**

AUGUST

August 1	9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Live-Stream Worship Service
August 8	9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Live-Stream Worship Service
August 15	Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Live-Stream Worship Service
August 18	September Newsletter Deadline
August 22	9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Live-Stream Worship Service
August 28	Cook for Transitions (FAB)
August 29	Noisy Offering 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Live-Stream Worship Service Serve at Transitions

www.gslc.com