

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter December 2021

XLV, ISSUE XII

Advent Mid-Week Vespers	1
Christmas Eve Worship Service	1
Advent Devotional Items	1
A Word From Our Pastor	2
Message from Council President	3
Welcome New Council Members	3
New Information: Mask Policy!	3
Dorcas Circle—H.U.G.S. Collection	4
Salvation Army Stockings	4
Food Pantry Update	4
Angel Tree	4
Giving Opportunities	5
Supporting Social Ministry Projects	5
Altar Flowers	6
Poinsettias	6
2022 Offering Envelopes	7
Congregational Meeting	7
Learning Opportunities	8
Calendar	9
Thank You	10
Congregational Retreat	11
Epiphany Celebration	11
Tuesday Morning Bible Study	11
Wednesday Zoom Bible Study	11
Worship Volunteers	12
December Meetings	13
Newsletter Deadline	13
Directory Updates	13
Birthdays	13
Lectionary	14
Prayer Lists	15
Church Staff & Council	16
Calendar: Upcoming Events	16

ADVENT MID-WEEK VESPERS

Join us for worship on Wednesday Evenings in Advent (December 1, 8, and 15) at 6:30 PM. Our theme this year will be The Gifts of Advent. While we tend to focus on Christmas gifts at this time of year, the Advent season brings its own opportunities for God to gift us as we eagerly await the coming of Christ. This worship opportunity is a gift of God for us as we gather around the Word in worship together.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Friday, December 24

5:00 p.m.

Good Shepherd's Sanctuary

Please join your congregational family in celebration of our Lord's birth by attending this Candlelight Service of Holy Communion.

If you are unable to attend the service at 5:00, you may watch it at any time during or after the service on our YouTube channel.

A link will be found on our website, <http://www.gslc.com/> on December 24.

- *If you are watching from home and you wish to participate in the candlelighting part of the service, make sure you have candles ready for your use.*
- *As they have for over 35 years, members of the Taylor family, along with friends will be providing string music beginning at 4:45 p.m.*
- *Poinsettias will be decorating the sanctuary. To provide one or more, please see the article on page 6.*

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL ITEMS

The Learning and Worship Life Committees are providing several special



items to be used during our Advent season, which begins Sunday, November 28. These Advent materials are available on the table in the Narthex. Please take only what your family will use; materials are limited. We encourage you to use them to enhance your Advent season as we prepare and anticipate the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior.

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



As most of you know we change the colors of the paraments and vestments in worship with the changes in liturgical season. As we begin a new church year on the first Sunday of Advent we also change colors to blue—a color symbolizing hope. Advent is the only time during the church year that we use blue paraments and vestments. We get four short weeks of preparation and expectant waiting during the Advent season to get ready for the joy and wonder of the Christmas season. That is only four weeks of blue.

When I was ordained a decade ago, my internship congregation gifted me with a blue stole. They knew that blue is my favorite color and (not coincidentally) that Advent is my favorite church season. Also on the occasion of my ordination, my grandmother made several blue stoles for me. I think I've picked up a few more over the years as gifts or from pastors who were downsizing their stole inventory. Now that I am blessed to serve as your pastor, I usually wear the stole and chasuble that the church owns during worship. The irony is, I have far more blue stoles than we have Sundays in which I can wear them!

My first year of ministry I laid out my numerous blue stoles to get ready for Advent, trying to decide which one to wear for that season. I then noticed each one was a different shade of blue. One was deep, almost midnight blue. Another was a bright, royal blue. The others fell somewhere in between. I decided to pick four contrasting stoles and to wear a different one each Sunday in Advent. I arranged the order to go from darkest to lightest. So as the Advent wreath got brighter with a new candle each week, so my blue vestments got brighter. In contrast, the days of late fall drew shorter and shorter. The sunlight outside lasted a shorter time each week. Yet even as the darkness seemed overpowering, the increasing brightness of the wreath candles and of my stoles sent a powerful message to those gathered in worship: God's light is come into our dark world.

As we look around us in the world, it is easy to think things are getting dimmer and darker. Things look bleak at times, between illness and loss, financial difficulties and complicated family dynamics, insults and injuries. It is not hard to look around and think things are getting worse.

Yet the good news that we await and proclaim this season is that God's light and love have drawn near to us. Christ comes to us "a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night," to quote the beloved hymn *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (ELW 272).

That is the joy and anticipation of this season: That against all odds and despite all appearances to the contrary, Christ comes to and for us, exchanging his glorious light for our gloomy darkness. May God reveal to us new and wonderful signs that Christ's light is coming to us anew this season.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Andrew

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Advent Season invites us to step away from what can be a frenzied time of parties and shopping to consider how we commemorate the birth of Jesus, one of the holiest times in Christian faith. It is also the beginning of the liturgical year. Advent means “coming,” and it is the period before Christmas which reminds us to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth.

This year is the first time since December 2019 that we have been in our Sanctuary for these preparations. Good Shepherd Lutheran has seen many changes and has been through “wilderness pandemic” situations during this period. It has not been easy, but we trust in God. God is faithful and all powerful. He alone can guide us through this time and lead us to a brighter place.

Christians throughout the ages have discovered that God will turn everything into good if we will love and follow Him through the difficulties of life.

Let us stand firm in God and set our eyes on Him as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior. May we rejoice and celebrate His birth together this Advent season!

God’s Peace,
Marcia Woodward
Council President

WELCOME NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following members who were elected to serve on Church Council. Heather Gilbert, Amy Kemp, Debi Powell, Suzanne Sanders and Mike Weaver will begin their two-year term on January 1, 2022. They will be officially installed during the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service on December 19. Thank them in advance for their commitment and service.

NEW INFORMATION: MASK POLICY!



Due to the current percentage of cases (even among the vaccinated) **we encourage all worshippers to wear a mask inside the buildings. Masks are strongly encouraged for those who are unvaccinated.** We also **recommend social distancing as much as possible.**

During the sharing of the peace the pastor and congregation will exchange the peace, but **we will not have a set time for greeting one another. Please put your love for one another into action by taking these precautionary measures during this difficult time.**

Christmas Opportunities



DORCAS CIRCLE SPONSORING H.U.G.S. THIS YEAR

We will be collecting clothing like Hats, Underwear, Gloves, and Socks, as well as other warm clothing for the men and women's shelters in Columbia.

Place your donations in the box outside the Church Office near the Chapel. Volunteers will pack the items and deliver them to the shelters in January.



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

In October the food pantry packed and distributed 14 grocery bags serving 47 individuals.



SALVATION ARMY STOCKINGS

Empty stockings and Stocking Stuffer Suggestions are still available in the Narthex. We aim to fill 75 stockings for children from low-income families served by Salvation Army. Return the filled stockings to the Narthex by Sunday, December 5. If you have any questions, contact Janet Lockhart or Don Caughman.

ANGEL TREE

There is still time to participate in the Angel Tree giving this year. We will provide a \$25 gift card for each resident from Walmart, Visa, MC, or AMEX. If you are unable to get a gift card, a donation can be made to GSLC and designated for Angel Tree on the envelope or check. Each card is placed in a box or bag before it is delivered. There will be blank notecards available, if you would like to write a note of encouragement to add to your gift card. The tree will be in the Narthex November 28—December 12.

We will have a Thrivent Action Team buy supplies, but not the gift cards. Anyone wishing to help with this project please notify Susan Uehling at 803-238-7353.





GIVING OPPORTUNITIES FROM ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Looking for a Christmas gift for a hard-to-buy-for friend or family member? How about a goat...or a rooster...or honeybees...or a water filter...or a vaccination for a child...or mosquito nets...or seeds and gardening tools?

These and many other gifts are available through the ELCA Good Gifts catalog. Donations to this program help needy persons in 77 different countries, including the U.S.

Gift cards are available for you to send to recipients to let them know gifts have been made in their honor. You also can send email greetings. Special occasion cards are available for Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, and Father's Day, as well as Christmas.

To check out gift possibilities and giving options, check the ELCA website at ELCA.org/goodgifts. If you'd like a hard copy of the gift order form, you may get a copy from the table in the Narthex. For more information, contact Don Caughman at 803-318-0236, or at dodgerfan@sc.rr.com.

In previous years, Good Shepherd has supported the S.C. Synod's Gifts of Hope program. However, that program is not available this year and is being re-evaluated for future years.

SUPPORTING SOCIAL MINISTRY PROJECTS

In recent months, Good Shepherd congregation has donated more than \$3,100 to various social ministry emphases.

The Big Red Barn Retreat, which provides therapeutic services for military veterans and first responders, received \$750.

Palmetto Place, a temporary shelter for abused and neglected children, was the recipient of the October 31 noisy offering and received \$525.

Lutheran Services Carolinas received \$687 to support its services in South Carolina for women with addictions, foster children, and Afghan refugee resettlement.

Lutheran Disaster Response received \$1,170 to help with its immediate and long-range support for victims of wildfires and flooding in the U.S.

Total contributions in September and October were \$3,132. Donations for the November social ministry emphasis, the VA Food Pantry, will continue to be received through the first part of December.

The Social Ministry Committee thanks you for your support of all these causes as we reach out to help the needy in our community.



SIGN UP FOR 2022 ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flower Calendar for 2022 is available to sign up for the dates to offer either Altar Flowers, Narthex Flowers, or the Altar Rose for 2022. Starting January 1, 2022, Altar flowers will be \$70, Narthex Flowers are \$50, and the Altar Rose is \$10.

Please call the church office or sign up in the Narthex on the 2022 Flower Chart posted on the **BULLETIN BOARD** if you want to offer flowers for a certain date next year. **Flowers not picked up by mid-day Monday will be taken to shut-ins.**



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Worship Life Committee asks you to help beautify our church for Christmas by placing poinsettias in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. Please use the **Seasonal Flower Offering** envelopes in each pew to order your poinsettia(s).

The **Seasonal Flower Offering envelopes** have the order form printed on them for your dedication. Complete the form to indicate your dedication, place your check or payment amount in the envelope, and place it in the offering plate.

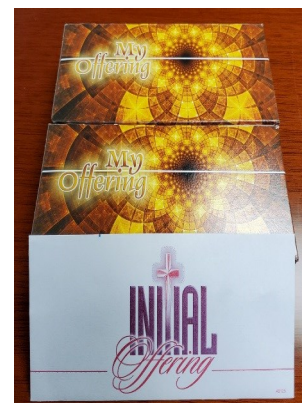
The cost is **\$14 each**. Make your check payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and place it in the **Seasonal Flower Offering envelope**. If you can't come to the church but want to order a poinsettia, call the church office to place your order.

Place your check and the order form in the offering plate or bring or mail it to the church office **by Sunday, December 12**. The first 70 orders accompanied by payment will be accepted. If you donate a poinsettia, you may take your plant home after the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

PREPARING FOR 2022

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES GETTING CREDIT FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

The **2022 offering envelopes** will be on a table in the Narthex starting on December 5, 2021. Please stop by and pick up your envelope box either before or after our worship service on Sunday.



Donations are effective only in the year in which they are offered. A check received in January 2022 cannot be credited for 2021 even if it is dated "2021." Make sure your **mailing envelope is postmarked by December 31, 2021**. Then, even if it arrives in 2022, the check is still deductible for 2021.

The **best way to make sure your offerings are credited** to your account is to use the Good Shepherd numbered offering envelopes assigned to you. Using your assigned offering envelopes helps the offering tabulators and myself for record-keeping purposes and posting to the correct accounts.

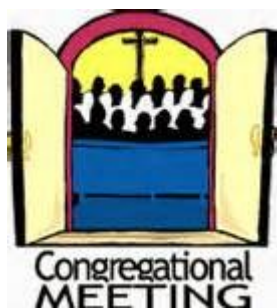
Each Sunday, a devoted group of your fellow members are tabulating and processing your contributions. To help them do their job and make it easier for them, please do the following;

1. Use your assigned offering envelopes or a pink special envelope. If using a pink special envelope, please indicate which fund the contribution is to be applied.
2. Write your name on the envelope.
3. Write the amount on the envelope.

The pink special envelopes are located in the pews or on the table in front of the Chapel.

Thanks for your help and contributions.

Deb Embrey, Financial Secretary



A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a called congregational meeting held on Sunday, December 5, 2021, at the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for the purpose of voting on a 2022 budget recommendation from our Congregational Council. Plan to attend this important event in the life of our congregation. If you did not receive the recent mailing providing budget information, please contact the Church Office at 803-787-4413.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Worship and Sunday School Schedule

9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
10:45-11:15	Children Sunday school class
11:15-11:45	Children's Music
10:45-11:45	Adult Sunday school

Come and See: Classroom 1:

The Come and See class will continue studying the Gospel for the succeeding Sundays.

Sunday Discussion Leaders:

December 5: Aaron Spangler

December 12: Mark Lovern

December 19: No Sunday School - Children's Advent/Christmas Program in the FAB

December 26: No Sunday School

January 2: Bruce Shealy

Around The Corner: Classroom 2

Discussion Leader: Stacy Gross

Topic: Self-care: What Scripture tells us about caring for ourselves and others.

*This class starts at 10:55 to give parents time to drop children off at Sunday School.

Fellowship Class: Classroom 5

Bible Study Leader: Don Caughman

Topic: Honoring God

Description: This study explores how worship in its many forms honors God. When we gather for worship or set ourselves individually to pray, we enter into a relationship with God and with God's people. The purpose of this study is to help adult learners engage biblical passages in order to see how worship is shaped by faith, and how worship nurtures faith.



Children's Advent/Christmas Program

Preparation for our annual Advent/Christmas program has begun. All youth and children are welcome and encouraged to participate. Children will be learning the program music during Children's music class. We also are looking for a few more volunteers to help with the production. If your child is interested in performing, or you would like to volunteer, contact Amanda Snodgrass at 803-422-7105 or amandadpt2007@hotmail.com.

Join us on Sunday, December 19 during Sunday School hour in the FAB.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Children's Advent/Christmas Program Rehearsal Schedule

12-01-21	5:30 p.m. in FAB (<i>dinner provided</i>)
12-05-21	11:15-12:00 During Children's Music in FAB
12-12-21	11:15-12:00 During Children's Music in FAB
12-19-21	Performance after worship in FAB

Chrismon Tree Trimming

All Youth & Children are invited to help decorate the Chrismon Tree.

Saturday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Children will gather to learn the meaning of the Chrismon ornaments before they decorate the tree.

Special thanks go to Rod Kent for donating the tree this year.



Masks

Just a reminder, masks will continue to be required for all in-person Children Sunday School and Music classes.

Thank you for doing your part to help slow the spread of the virus, and to protect others.

DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Congregational Meeting for 2022 Budget Approval Deadline for Salvation Army Stockings 9:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Korean Lutheran Worship Service (Youth Room) 10:30 AM Memorial Garden Committee meeting (Memorial Garden) 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2 or 5) 10:45 AM - 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Confirmation Class (Conference Room) 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM Rehearsal for Children's Advent/Christmas Program (FAB)	6 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room)	7 11:30 AM Bible Study (FAB) 6:30 PM Social Ministry Committee meeting (Conference Room)	1 8:00 AM Zoom Bible Study 5:00 PM Tabulator Training (CL 2) 5:30 PM Rehearsal for Children's Advent/Christmas Program (FAB) 6:00 PM Property Committee Meeting (CL 4) 6:30 PM Advent Vespers (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room) 7:00 PM Choir Practice	2 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM [private event] City of Forest Acres (FAB) 5:00 PM Finance Committee meeting (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM [private event] Friendly Atmosphere Mentoring (Youth Room)	3 6:00 PM set up for private event	4 10:00 AM Christmas Tree Trimming (Sanctuary) 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM [private event] dinner (FAB)
12 Deadline for Angel Tree Donations & Gift Cards 9:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Korean Lutheran Worship Service (Youth Room) 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2 or 5) 10:45 AM - 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Confirmation Class (Conference Room) 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM Rehearsal for Children's Advent/Christmas Program (FAB)	13 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room)	14 10:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room) 11:30 AM Bible Study (FAB) 5:30 PM Day School Christmas Program (FAB)	15 Newsletter Deadline 8:00 AM Zoom Bible Study 6:30 PM Advent Vespers (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room) 7:00 PM Choir Practice	16 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM [private event] Friendly Atmosphere Mentoring (Youth Room) 6:30 PM Council meeting (CL 2)	17	18
19 Council Installation (Sanctuary) Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Korean Lutheran Worship Service (Youth Room) 10:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Confirmation Class (Conference Room) 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM Rehearsal for Children's Advent/Christmas Program (FAB)	20 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room)	21 11:30 AM Bible Study (FAB)	22 8:00 AM Zoom Bible Study 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room) 7:00 PM Choir Practice	23 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM [private event] Friendly Atmosphere Mentoring (Youth Room)	24 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)	25
26 9:30 AM Lessons & Carols (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream	27 Church Office Closed 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room)	28 Church Office Closed	29 8:00 AM Zoom Bible Study 6:30 PM NA (Conference Room)	30 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM [private event] Friendly Atmosphere Mentoring (Youth Room)	31	



THANK YOU



My sister, Rachel, and I thank the Good Shepherd family for all of their thoughts and prayers and many expressions of sympathy and support after our mother, Martha, joined the Church Triumphant.

Janice Haigler

To our friends at Good Shepherd:

Bless and thank you for your exceeding generosity.

On behalf of the residents and staff at Providence Home, we are humbled by and grateful for your \$2,000 grant.

It was an unexpected and wonderful gift – perfectly timed. But that is how our God works, and at Providence Home, we have come to rest, rely on, and rejoice in His provision and His timing. He is so good, and we are awed by how he has used this wonderful congregation in such a mighty way.

Rest assured this grant will be put to good use. We are in the process of building a new chapel on campus. We consider it the most important project in our nearly six-decade history as our men have never had a sacred space to pray and receive life-affirming, confidential counseling. Thanks to your rich provision, we will be able to purchase the seating needed for our new chapel.

Providence Home is dedicated to redeeming and restoring men in transition – those coming out of prison or recovering from substance abuse or other trauma – through the life-saving grace of Jesus Christ. We have room for 60 men. Residents are required to work off campus, do chores on campus, and pay \$100 a week room and board that includes all their meals and laundry. We help them gain access to medical care and strive to meet their emotional and spiritual needs with mandatory chapel and a mentoring program.

We think of ourselves as “*The We You Don’t See*” because many drive by our quiet, tidy campus on North Main Street, Columbia, and don’t even realize we are here. We take great pride in being good neighbors; our men are prohibited from loitering, and they must be completely drug and alcohol free.

Most of our men stay between four-12 months, but there is no hard fast rule for departure. We want them healthy and ready to embrace life away from us, so stay times vary. For a man to be considered “graduated” from our program, he must show fiscal responsibility in having enough money saved to cover two months’ rent, a church home (when applicable), restoration with family if possible, and at least six months completely free of any substance.

It is so vital that folks know we are here. Recent studies show that almost 50% of all American families have been impacted by substance abuse – with the problem escalating dramatically during the isolation of the Covid-19 crisis. Men come to us straight from prison, referred by an agency or rehab center, or off the street. A face-to-face interview with our program director is mandatory for any man coming into our program.

Please know that we are here for *your* family should you ever need us, just as Good Shepherd has been there for ours. Our God is a God of hope and hope lives at Providence Home. If you want to learn more about us and view a compelling video telling the true stories of three of our men, please go to PHCola.org.

Again, please accept our deepest thanks for your generosity.

May God richly bless you and keep this congregation in His awesome grip.

Gratefully,
Rob Settle
Executive Director



GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT

Lutheridge, February 11-13, 2022

Theme: "Renewal"

Titus 3:5b "...He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."

It's time to sign up for our annual Good Shepherd Congregational Retreat!

After attending our first Congregational Retreat in 2019, my family is looking forward to returning to Lutheridge in February. We are excited about the many opportunities for fellowship and the focus on spiritual and personal renewal!

*Hope to see you there,
The Gilbert Family*

*If you have not registered for the Congregational Retreat,
it is **NOT TOO LATE!***

Registration forms are in the Narthex.

Please return your form no later than Sunday, January 9.

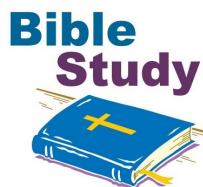


EPIPHANY CELEBRATION CHILI AND CORNBREAD COOK-OFF JANUARY 9, 2022

Our award-winning Chili and Cornbread Cook-off will be held on Sunday, January 9, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., in the FAB. Come celebrate with some warm food and fellowship.

There will be a sheet in the Narthex in December to sign up to bring chili and cornbread for judging or dessert to share.

Donations to HUGS will also be collected that night.



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

We will not be meeting on
Tuesday, December 28.

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.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR DECEMBER

COUNCIL PERSON OF THE MONTH: Peter Zornow

OPENING BUILDINGS: Joey Allison

DATE	12/5/21	12/12/21	12/19/21	12/26/21	1/2/22
USHERS	Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann, Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird	Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann, Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird	Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann, Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird	Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann, Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird	Mary Stallings, Pat Quattlebaum, Alice Buckner, Marion Eargle, Marcia Woodward
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	Lector: Suzanne Sanders Communion Assistant: Joey Allison	Lector & Communion Assistant: Charlene Fink	Lector: Kerry Stubbs Communion Assistant: Gaye Tucker	Lector & Communion Assistant: Don Caughman	Lector & Communion Assistant: Mike Weaver
ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER	A: Evelyn Ortiz C: Eden Rowell	A: Adam Ortiz C: Noah Adams	A: Blake Gross C: Matthew Herrmann	A: Kelly Grace Lalumondier C: Eden Rowell	A: Evelyn Ortiz C: Noah Adams
NURSERY	Heavenly Edenfield, Shayla Williams	Alexis Boyles, Shayla Williams	Alexis Boyles, Heavenly Edenfield	Alexis Boyles, Heavenly Edenfield	TBD
ALTAR GUILD	Richard and Neal Inman, Joey Allison	Richard and Neal Inman, Joey Allison	Richard and Neal Inman, Joey Allison	Richard and Neal Inman, Joey Allison	Janet Lockhart
TABULATORS	Lavina Chandler, Leigh Ford	Mitch Uehling, David Lucas	Jamie Sanders, Mary Stallings	Donna Foster, Karen Lucas	Steve Steck, Mary Margaret Hoy



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS 5:00 P.M. DECEMBER 24, 2021

Ushers

Chris Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann,
Dick Sturkie, Sid Havird

Worship Assistants

Lector & Communion Assistant—Don Caughman
Communion Assistant—Joey Allison
Acolyte—Blake Gross; Crucifer—Eden Rowell
Torch Bearers—Savannah Gross, Kelly Grace Lalumondier
Banner Bearer—Matthew Herrmann

Nursery

Alexis Boyles, Heavenly Edenfield

Tabulators

Donna Foster, Karen Lucas

DECEMBER 2021 MEETINGS

December 1	Tabulator Training (5:00 p.m.) Property Committee (6:00 p.m.)
December 2	Finance Committee (5:00 p.m.)
December 5	Congregational Meeting for Budget Approval
December 7	Social Ministry Committee (6:30 p.m.)
December 14	Executive Committee (10:00 a.m.)
December 16	Council Meeting (6:30 p.m.)

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

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Deadline to submit articles
for January Newsletter
is **DECEMBER 15.**

DIRECTORY UPDATES



Johanna Moore – moved in with her daughter;
154 Watermelon Ct
Gaston, SC 29053
Same phone number: 803-917-3438

Dorothy (Dot) Gibert - moved to Watercrest Assisted Living Facility
1951 Clemson Road, Apt 118
Columbia, SC 29229
New phone number: 803-973-3107
Same email: adgbear@gmail.com

Herman & Evelyn McQuage no home phone.
Cell for Herman: 803-429-0277 and
Cell for Evelyn: 803-261-8012

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS (ACCORDING TO CHURCH RECORDS)

1	William Pope	14	Linda Van Duys	24	Chris Seay
	Tim Nance	16	Jackson Nabors	25	Jeff Inabinet
	Judy Rogers		Stephanee Seay	27	Clarissa Ferry
3	Una Rose Van Duys	17	Adler Inabinet	30	Gaye Tucker
4	Dave Shelton		Brenda Wicker	31	Bob Barnhill
6	Alyia Grosh	18	Cheryl Christian		Andrea Keim
7	Devon Robinson		Marion Eargle		
9	Charlene Fink		Michelle Isenhower		
10	Delaney Uehling	18	Kelly Grace Lalumondier		
11	David Hill	21	Leo Van Duys		
12	Walker Bostic		Adelaide Cannon		
	Victoria Houghton	24	Chuck Henderson		



LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 2021

DECEMBER 5—SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

FIRST READING – Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

PSALM – Luke 1:68-79

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (Lk. 1:78)

SECOND READING – Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

GOSPEL – Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

DECEMBER 12—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

FIRST READING – Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

PSALM – Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

SECOND READING – Philippians 4:4-7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

GOSPEL – Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

DECEMBER 19—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

FIRST READING – Micah 5:2-5a

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

PSALM – Psalm 80:1-7

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

SECOND READING – Hebrews 10:5-10

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

GOSPEL – Luke 1:39-55

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

DECEMBER 26—FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

FIRST READING – 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

PSALM – Psalm 148

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

SECOND READING – Colossians 3:12-17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

GOSPEL – Luke 2:41-52

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

WITH PRAYER

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

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
 Beverly Fulmer—friend of Judy Rogers
 Lucy Fusco—mother of Frank Fusco
 David Gundlach—brother-in-law of Sandy Gundlach
 Lamar Harper—brother of Gwen Barnes
 Forrest Hinebaugh—father of Elaine Zornow
 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
 Karl Portee – friend of Meals on Wheels volunteers
 Barbara Reese—friend of Justine Parker & Joyce Mobley
 Henry Richardson—father of Amanda Snodgrass

Anna Roberts—good friend of Barbara Nagy
 Joanne Schweitzer—sister of Mary Claire McAbee
 Marise Shumpert—friend of Rosemary Nance
 Bob Stearn—friend and neighbor 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
 Kem & Rita Thomas – friends of Rod Kent
 Phyllis Tollison—mother of Phil Tollison
 Robin Traufler—friend of the congregation
 Gayle Watts—friend of Leigh Ford
 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 Jamie Fountain, step-brother of Laura Leigh Smith.

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

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 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

November 30, 2021

DATED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

CALENDAR



DECEMBER

December 1

5:30 p.m. Rehearsal for
Children's Program (FAB)
6:30 p.m. Advent Mid-Week
Vespers (Sanctuary)

December 5

Congregational Meeting
9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Confirmation Class &
Adult Sunday School
10:45 – 11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
11:15 – 12:00 Rehearsal for Children's Program (FAB)
December 8
December 12
6:30 p.m. Advent Mid-Week Vespers (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Confirmation Class &
Adult Sunday School
10:45 – 11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
11:15 – 12:00 Rehearsal for Children's Program (FAB)

December 15

January Newsletter Deadline
6:30 p.m. Advent Mid-Week Vespers (Sanctuary)

December 19

Food Pantry Sunday
9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream
10:45 a.m. Children's Advent/Christmas Program (FAB)

December 24

December 27-28

December 26

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday
9:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream