

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter December 2022

XLVI, ISSUE XII

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MIDWEEK ADVENT SUPPER AND WORSHIP SERVICE

The Worship Life Committee invites you to take a midweek break during this busy time of year for a light supper and short worship service.

Wednesday, November 30, December 7, 14, and 21

Meals begin at 5:30

Worship begins at 6:30

All activities will be held in the FAB.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. and 11:00 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, you may watch the 5:00 p.m. service live or any time after the service on our YouTube channel. A link will be found on our website 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 5.*

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL ITEMS

The Worship Life Committee is providing *Prophets and Promises: Devotions for Advent & Christmas* to be used during our Advent season, which began Sunday, November 27.

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.



VICAR'S VOICE

It's hard to believe that December is already here! It seems like just a month or so ago I was enjoying my summer, getting ready to start internship, and somehow, I blinked.

Part of me is bittersweet as I reflect on how December will be the final month of 2022 but another part of me, is excited!

There's the preparation and anticipation behind the Advent season and getting everything ready for welcoming Christ into the earthly world. Also, this is my first Advent season at Good Shepherd. I've been a part of other Advents at other churches, but there's something different (and holy) about every one of them. The excitement bubbles over and it's wonderful to think about what lies in store for all of us. Because at the end of Advent, there's Christmas. A time to remember and reflect on Christ's birth, his life, and his ministry. It's also a time of multiple different feelings. Some we can classify and some we can't. But through it all, Christ is still present with us in our journey. December also helps to usher in the beginning of a new church year (Happy New Church Year everyone).

With so many different things happening in December, I challenge you this month to see if you can intentionally find those good, bad, ugly, and/or uh-oh moments. Then, I challenge you to share them with others. If you aren't comfortable doing this, try being present during them. Ask yourself, "Where is God in this moment?" or "How am I worshiping or giving thanks to God in this moment?" Even if it might take one or two or several tries, give it a go anyway. Give yourself a moment in this season of anticipation and excitement to see how God is bringing in grace and mercy into our lives during this Advent season. Then as we gather together on Christmas, and see the Christ in the manger, remember those moments that you shared or were present during. As you worship Christ with awe and wonder, remember those moments that lead you to the manger and to Christ. See how we are all gathered here together for a gift of grace and mercy that we don't deserve. Then, go out and take that gift with you and share it with everyone you meet. After all, it is the season of giving. What better gift could you give than Christ's grace and mercy?

Grace and blessings to you all!
-Vicar Laura Henrickson



A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a called congregational meeting held on Sunday, December 11, 2022, following the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for the purpose of voting on a 2023 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.

VETERANS HONORED AT PATHFINDERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD MEETING

A great time was had by all at the POGS November gathering. Appreciation was expressed to the veterans of our congregation. Three of our members, Jan Haigler, Rod Kent and Silas Holmes, shared their stories of service to our country. Representatives from the **Quilts of Valor Foundation** presented beautiful quilts to Jan and Rod. Silas received a quilt last year from the Foundation.



PATHFINDERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD CHRISTMAS GATHERING



ALL ADULTS are invited to the POGS December 14 covered dish lunch at 12 noon in the FAB. After the meal, we will enjoy singing some of our favorite carols while local artist Ginny Stonehouse creates an artistic Christmas scene. Susan Sturkie will provide the piano accompaniment. So, bring a couple of dishes and join this time of good food and fellowship!

Also, POGS participating in the trip to North Myrtle Beach for the Alabama Christmas Show are reminded to meet in the church parking lot on Thursday, December 1, by 12:15 pm. The bus will depart at 12:30 p.m.



Christmas Opportunities



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 a pig...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 around the world, including in 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.

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 church office. For more information, contact Don Caughman at 803-318-0236, or at dodgerfan@sc.rr.com.



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

GSLC's Food Pantry packed 26 bags of food serving 88 participants in October 2022.



RINGING THE BELL FOR SALVATION ARMY

Good Shepherd will be Ringing the Bell for Salvation Army on Saturday, December 17, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Walmart on Forest Drive. The day has been divided into one-hour shifts. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact Janet Lockhart.



SALVATION ARMY STOCKINGS

You can fill a stocking for a needy child again this year. The stockings with suggestion sheets and age labels may be picked up in the Narthex and must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 4. These stockings will be delivered to the Salvation Army to be distributed in time for Christmas.

ANGEL TREE

Good Shepherd is having an Angel Tree again this year. We are supporting Providence Home with 60 men and Women's Shelter with 13 women. We will provide a \$25 gift card from Walmart, Visa, MC, or AMEX for each resident. 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 Christmas cards 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 13 – December 4. The gift cards will be delivered before Christmas as many of the residents will use them to buy things for their families.



FUN FRIDAYS - DECEMBER 9



We'll have a Christmas party for our Fun Fridays' guests on Friday, December 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the FAB. There will be crafts, singing, games and food. Please come and be a helper for the night to help us host our guests who have developmental disabilities. The Fun Fridays program gives parents and guardians a break from the care of their family members for the evening while our guests have a great time with our own members. If you can be a helper on this night or would like more information, contact Susan Sturkie at 788-6807 or sloopystur@aol.com.

GIVING GOOD GIFTS

The Children Sunday School Classes at Good Shepherd used the offerings that they have collected for the past 18 months to purchase animals for poor families.

Arrangements were made to donate the offerings to the South Western Diocese of Tanzania, a South Carolina Companion Synod. The Children were very excited that their \$1,000.00 offerings made such a big impact on the needy families as they were able to provide many cows, goats and chickens to these families. It was a generous gift that they will cherish for a long time. A shout out to these children for giving such a caring gift to these villagers.



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.

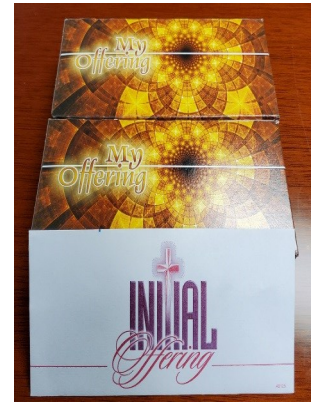
The cost is **\$15 each**. Make your check payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and place it in the **Seasonal Flower Offering envelope**. If you can't come to the church but want to order a poinsettia, call the church office to place your order.

Place your check and the order form in the offering plate or bring or mail it to the church office **by Sunday, December 11**. The first 70 orders accompanied by payment will be accepted. If you donate a poinsettia, you may take your plant home after the Christmas Day Service.

PREPARING FOR 2023

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES GETTING CREDIT FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

The **2023 offering envelopes** will be on a table in the Narthex starting Sunday, December 4, 2022 through January 1, 2023. Please stop by and pick up your envelope box at your convenience.



Donations are effective only in the year in which they are offered. A check received after December 31, 2022 cannot be credited for the 2022 year even if it is dated "2022." Make sure your **mailing envelope is postmarked by December 31, 2022**. Then, even if it arrives in 2023, the check is still deductible for 2022.

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.

Also available for your convenience is **online VANCO giving through the new Realm software**. See the article in this month's issue to further explain how to sign up.

When completing your contribution, please do the following:

1. Use your assigned general offering envelopes or a pink special envelope. The pink special envelopes are located in the pews and on the table in front of the Chapel. 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.

Thanks,

Deb Embrey, Financial Secretary

SIGN UP FOR 2023 FLOWERS



The Flower Calendar for 2023 is available to sign up for the dates to offer either Altar Flowers, Narthex Flowers, or the Altar Rose for 2023. The cost of flowers is as follows: Altar flowers \$70, Narthex Flowers \$50, and the Altar Rose is \$10.

Please call the church office or sign up in the Narthex on the 2023 Flower Chart posted on the **BULLETIN BOARD** if you want to offer flowers for a certain date next year. **If you do not plan to take the flowers, please let Don Caughman or the office know. Flowers not picked up by mid-day Monday will be taken to shut-ins.**

NEW WAY OF ONLINE GIVING THROUGH VANCO USING REALM SOFTWARE

We in the church office have been working diligently to learn the new Realm software. We are now ready to offer a change to our online giving. This will still be handled by Vanco but you will no longer need to go through the Vanco website and log in.

You will be able to use a link provided by the church office and set up a recurring transaction or make a one-time donation. Once a new reoccurring transaction is set up, you will need to go back to the Vanco site one more time to STOP the recurring transaction used on their website.

When you click the link to make a donation, you will need to select the fund where you are donating the money. (ex. General Offering, Memorial, Altar Flowers, or Seasonal Flowers) On the next screen, you will select which form of payment to use. ***You may also select to add an amount to help with the processing fee of this transaction.*** It is a minimal fee but adds to what the church currently pays for this service.

Please call or email the church office if you are interested in receiving the links.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:15 am - 11:45am Nursery available

9:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream

10:00 am - 12:30 pm Korean Lutheran Worship Service (FAB classroom)

December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue
<div> CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE December 24, 2022 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. </div>		
4 Second Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary) NO Sunday School 10:45 am Children's Advent Program (FAB)	5 6:00 pm Internship Committee meeting (CL 2) 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room)	6 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm) 6:00 pm Finance Committee meeting (Conf Rm) 6:00 pm Parish Life Committee meeting (CL 2) 6:30 pm Youth & Children Committee meeting (Youth Rm)
11 SUNDAY SCHEDULE TIMES ABOVE Third Sunday of Advent Congregational Meeting	12 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room)	13 Annual Report Info Deadline 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm) 3:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting (Conf Rm)
18 SUNDAY SCHEDULE TIMES ABOVE Food Pantry Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent 6:30 pm Council Meeting (Conf Rm)	19 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room)	20 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm)
25 Christmas Day 9:30 am Service of Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary) NO Sunday School	26 Church Office Closed 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room)	27 NO Bible Study Church Office Closed

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

10:45 - 11:45 am Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & 5)
 10:45 - 11:25 am Children's Sunday School (E-106 & E-114)
 10:45 - 11:45 am Confirmation Class (Conference Room)
 10:45 - 11:45 am Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
 11:25 - 11:45 am Children's Music (E-115)

*Please see an updated church calendar
 and the calendar for other months at
<http://www.gslc.com/>.*

*Click "See the Current Calendar" at the
 bottom of the page.*

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Mary Group Christmas Luncheon at Lizard's Thicket POGS Trip to Myrtle Beach 5:30 pm Day School Board meeting 6:00 pm [private event] Mentoring Program (Youth Room)	2 POGS Trip to Myrtle Beach	3 10:00 am Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary) and Children's Advent Program rehearsal (FAB)
7 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 5:30 pm Advent Supper (FAB) 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room) 6:30 pm Advent Service (FAB) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 1:00 - 9:00 pm set up for Fun Fridays (FAB) 5:30 pm Learning Committee Meeting (Conference Room) 5:30 pm Dorcas Group (Becky Shealy's home) 6:00 pm [private event] Mentoring Program (Youth Room)	9 6:00 - 9:00 pm Fun Fridays (FAB)	10 4:00 - 9:00 pm [private event] (FAB)
14 Newsletter Deadline 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 12:00 pm POGS [Pathfinders of Good Shepherd] lunch meeting (FAB) 5:30 pm Advent Supper (FAB) 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room) 6:30 pm Advent Service (FAB) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 6:00 pm [private event] Mentoring Program (Youth Room) 6:30 pm Tamar Group (off site)	16	17 10:00 am Bell Ringing at Walmart
21 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 5:30 pm Advent Supper (FAB) 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room) 6:30 pm Advent Service (FAB) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	22 6:00 pm [private event] Mentoring Program (Youth Room)	23	24 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
28 NO Zoom Bible Study 6:00 pm NA (Conference Room)	29 6:00 pm [private event] Mentoring Program (Youth Room)	30	31

Chrismon Tree Decorating

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

Saturday, December 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

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



Children's Advent Program

Please join us for the Children's Advent Program on December 4 in the FAB at 11:00 a.m., during the Sunday School hour.

Sunday School Class Schedule

December 4—No Sunday School Classes due to Children's Advent Program

December 11—Regularly Scheduled Classes—schedule below

December 18—Regularly Scheduled Classes—schedule below

December 25—No Sunday School Classes

***Please note—No Sunday School Classes on New Year's Day, January 1, 2023.**

Worship and Sunday School Schedule

9:30 Worship Service

10:45-11:25 Children's Sunday School for grades kindergarten-5th grade

11:25-11:45 Children's Music for grades kindergarten-5th grade

10:45-11:45 Confirmation Class in Conference Room

10:45-11:45 High School Sunday School in Youth Room

10:45-11:45 Adult Sunday School

Around The Corner Adult Class: Classroom 2

Discussion Leader: Participants

We will focus on learning about the guiding beliefs and practices of our faiths using the book *Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith* as a discussion guide in a round-table style class.

Come and See Adult Class: Classroom 1

Bible Study Facilitators: Bruce Shealy, Mark Lovern, Ed Woodward

This class focuses on studying the Scripture and bible readings for the upcoming Sunday service.

Fellowship Adult Class: Classroom 5

Bible Study Leader: Don Caughman

The purpose of this study is to help adult learners engage in biblical passages in order to see how worship is shaped by faith and how worship nurtures faith.

Weekly Bible Study

There are two weekly opportunities for Bible Study with Pastor Andrew. Please join us Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room or virtually on Wednesdays at 8:00 for a Zoom meeting. A Zoom ID and password is sent in a weekly email.

Faith 5

Each week Pastor Andrew will send a Faith 5 Study email that includes a recommended scripture reading to guide and nurture your spiritual development through the following 5 steps.

Share your highs and lows of the day/week

Read a bible verse or story

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



CHILDREN'S ADVENT PROGRAM

Join us on Sunday the 4th of December during Sunday school hour, in the FAB.

Light refreshments will be provided.

FALL FEST THANKS

A big thanks to all the volunteers and families that came out to the event. We too wished for better weather but felt that with all your support and help it was a great event. We are looking forward to doing this event again next year. If you have any feedback on things we can improve on, please let Amy Kemp or Pat Quattlebaum know.

Fall Fest Committee



DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please take a minute to update the church office with your complete home address, email address, and telephone numbers. Communication through email or telephone tree is essential to keep members informed with the latest information of church schedule changes due to increment weather.

2019 Membership Directory



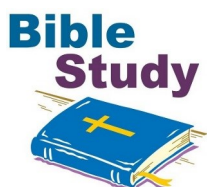
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

3909 Forest Drive, Columbia, SC 29204

(803) 737-4411 www.gslc.com

OUR MISSION

We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace to faith for worship, learning, living, and service to all.



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

We will not be meeting on
Tuesday, December 27.

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.

There will be NO Zoom meeting
on Wednesday, December 28.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR DECEMBER

COUNCIL PERSON OF THE MONTH: Peter Zornow

OPENING BUILDINGS: Joey Allison

DATE	12/4/22	12/11/22	12/18/22	12/25/22	1/1/2023
USHERS	Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson	Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson	Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson	Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson	David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Michael Brown, Frances Plyler
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	Lector & Communion Assistant: Marcia Woodward	Lector & Communion Assistant: Becky Shealy	Lector & Communion Assistant: Cathy Quinton	Lector & Communion Assistant: Don Caughman	Lector & Communion Assistant: Mike Weaver
ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER	A: Blake Gross C: Eden Rowell	A: Blake Gross C: Savannah Gross	A: Adam Ortiz C: Evelyn Ortiz	A: Anna-Marie Plyler C: Don Caughman	A: Mike Sanchez C: Don Caughman
NURSERY	Alexis Boyles, Shayla Williams	Shayla Williams, Michelle Isenhower	Alexis Boyles, Heavenly Edenfield	No Nursery.	No Nursery.
ALTAR GUILD	Joey Allison	Joey Allison	Joey Allison	Joey Allison	TBD
TABULATORS	Jim Tucker, Mary Margaret Hoy	Steve Steck, Donna Foster	Mary Stallings, Karen Lucas	Rebecca Richardson, Becky Shealy	Lavina Chandler, Steve Steck

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Deadline to submit articles
for January Newsletter
is **DECEMBER 14.**

DECEMBER 2022 MEETINGS

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Dec 1 | Mary Group Christmas Luncheon @ Lizard's Thicket |
| Dec 5 | Day School Board (5:30 p.m.) |
| Dec 6 | Internship Committee (6:00 p.m.) |
| Dec 8 | Finance Committee (6:00 p.m.) |
| Dec 13 | Parish Life Committee (6:00 p.m.) |
| Dec 14 | Youth & Children Committee (6:30 p.m.) |
| Dec 15 | Learning Committee (5:30 p.m.) |
| Dec 18 | Dorcas (5:30 p.m. at Becky Shealy's home) |
| | Executive Committee (3:00 p.m.) |
| | POGS (12 noon) |
| | Tamar (6:30 p.m. offsite) |
| | Council (6:30 p.m.) |

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



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

5:00 & 11:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 24, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Ushers	Wade Wingard, Rod Kent, Jerry Vaughn, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson
Lector/Comm Asst	Don Caughman
Acolyte	Adam Ortiz
Crucifer	Evelyn Ortiz
Torch Bearers	Anna-Marie Plyler, Don Caughman
Banner Bearer	Matthew Herrmann

11:00 p.m.

Ushers	Lauren Chandler, Richard Inman, Bruce Shealy
Lector/Comm Asst	Don Caughman
Acolyte	Blake Gross
Crucifer	Eden Rowell
Torch Bearers	Savannah Gross, Becky Shealy
Banner Bearer	Mike Sanchez

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS (ACCORDING TO CHURCH RECORDS)

1	William Pope	14	Linda Van Duys	25	Jeff Inabinet
	Tim Nance	16	Jackson Nabors	27	Clarissa Ferry
	Judy Rogers		Stephanee Seay	28	Gene Upright
3	Una Rose Van Duys	17	Brenda Wicker	30	Gaye Tucker
4	Dave Shelton	18	Cheryl Christian	31	Bob Barnhill
6	Alyia Grosh		Marion Eargle		Andrea Keim
7	Devon Robinson		Michelle Isenhower		
9	Charlene Fink		Kelly Grace Lalumondier		
10	Delaney Uehling	21	Leo Van Duys		
11	David Hill		Adelaide Cannon		
12	Walker Bostic	24	Chuck Henderson		
	Victoria Houghton		Chris Seay		



LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 2022

DECEMBER 4—SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

PSALM – Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

SECOND READING – Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

GOSPEL – Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

DECEMBER 11—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

PSALM – Luke 1:46b-55

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Lk. 1:47)

SECOND READING – James 5:7-10

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

GOSPEL – Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

DECEMBER 18—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

PSALM – Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

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

SECOND READING – Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

GOSPEL – Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

FIRST READING – Isaiah 52:7-10

Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: "Your God reigns!" Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God.

PSALM – Psalm 98

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. (Ps. 98:3)

SECOND READING – Hebrews 1:1-12

This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.

GOSPEL – John 1:1-14

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

WITH PRAYER

<i>Rev. Russ Anderson</i>	<i>Cheryl Christian</i>	<i>Helen Haniyak</i>	<i>Johanna Moore</i>
<i>Gwen Barnes</i>	<i>Dot Correll</i>	<i>Pat Hazle</i>	<i>Frances Plyler</i>
<i>Trisha Benson</i>	<i>Helen Derrick</i>	<i>Trisha Holman</i>	<i>Cathy Quinton</i>
<i>Ty Boheler</i>	<i>Sylvia Anne Derrick</i>	<i>Kitty Howard</i>	<i>Barbara Sutton</i>
<i>Grace Boozer</i>	<i>Marianne De Werd</i>	<i>Judy Hoy</i>	<i>Gene Upright</i>
<i>Victoria Brown</i>	<i>Lena Duncan</i>	<i>Jeannine Jameson</i>	<i>Bubba Willis</i>
<i>Rosemarie Brown</i>	<i>Larry Evans</i>	<i>Billie Jones</i>	<i>Peter Zornow</i>
<i>Charles Buckner</i>	<i>Jon Frew</i>	<i>Lisa Lehman</i>	
<i>Joanna Carpenter</i>	<i>Dot Gibert</i>	<i>Sara Loyd</i>	
<i>Lavina Chandler</i>	<i>Bonnie Hammond</i>	<i>Mary Clare McAbee</i>	

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@gscl.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

<i>Richard Andrews, a close friend of Wade Wingard</i>	<i>Joanne Schweitzer—sister of Mary Claire McAbee</i>
<i>Robin Boggs—daughter of Anne Rush</i>	<i>Marise Shumpert—friend of Rosemary Nance</i>
<i>Allie Clark—friend of Betty Cox</i>	<i>Rodney Spivey—Frances Plyler's friend's husband</i>
<i>Betty Cox—former member</i>	<i>Harry Swindler—stepfather of Penny Sox & grandfather of Stacy Gross</i>
<i>Mary David—friend of Susan Uehling</i>	<i>Phyllis Tollison—mother of Phil Tollison</i>
<i>Landon Derrick—friend of Amanda Snodgrass</i>	<i>Robin Traufler—friend of the congregation</i>
<i>John Flitter—friend of Leigh Tondini</i>	<i>Joey Turner—college friend of Trisha Benson</i>
<i>Andrew Ford—father of Chandler & Lillian Ford</i>	<i>Linda Vogel—mother of Kevin Gross</i>
<i>Lamar Harper—brother of Gwen Barnes</i>	<i>Gayle Watts—friend of Leigh Tondini</i>
<i>Forrest Hinebaugh—father of Elaine Zornow</i>	<i>Terry Weaver—mother of Mike Weaver</i>
<i>Frank Hinshaw – Deb Embrey's nephew</i>	<i>Mike Welborn—cousin of Anita Easter</i>
<i>Greg Lehman—brother of Lisa Lehman</i>	<i>Shirley Zornow—mother of Peter Zornow</i>
<i>Sylvia Livingston—mother of Cheryl Beaman</i>	
<i>Stella Parrish—friend of Rosemary Nance</i>	
<i>Karl Portee – friend of Meals on Wheels volunteers</i>	
<i>Barbara Reese—friend of Justine Parker & Joyce Mobley</i>	
<i>Jack Reynolds—brother of Margaret Hill</i>	
<i>Henry Richardson—father of Amanda Snodgrass</i>	

WITH SYMPATHY

Family of the Rev. Dr. Larry S. Long, Pastor of Good Shepherd from 1975-1995

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

Seminary Intern

Vicar Laura Henrickson

Parish Administrator

Deborah Mitchell

Organist/Music Associate

Susan Sturkie

Sexton

Joey Allison

Financial Secretary

Deb Embrey

Council President

Don Caughman

Council Vice-President

Debi Powell

Secretary

Anna-Marie Plyler

Treasurer

Jan Haigler

Committee/Council Member

Communication/

Evangelism/**Peter Zornow**

Finance/**Janet Lockhart**

Learning/**Heather Gilbert**

Parish Life/**Debi Powell**

Property/**Mike Weaver**

Social Ministry/**Suzanne**

Sanders

Worship Life/**Cathy Milejczak**

Youth & Children/**Amy Kemp**

****Non-Council Member****

Gifts/**Kappy Steck**

Property/**Rod Kent**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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November 30, 2022

DATED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

CALENDAR



DECEMBER

December 3	10:00 a.m. Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary) Children's Advent Program rehearsal (FAB)
December 4	9:30 a.m. Worship Service
December 7	10:45 a.m. Children's Advent Program (FAB) 5:30 p.m. Advent Supper (FAB) 6:30 p.m. Advent Service (FAB) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room downstairs)
December 9	6:00 p.m. Fun Fridays (FAB)
December 11	Regular Worship & Sunday School Schedule Congregational meeting following worship (Sanctuary)
December 14	January Newsletter Deadline 5:30 p.m. Advent Supper (FAB) 6:30 p.m. Advent Service (FAB) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room downstairs)
December 18	Food Pantry Sunday Regular Worship & Sunday School Schedule
December 21	5:30 p.m. Advent Supper (FAB) 6:30 p.m. Advent Service (FAB) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room downstairs)
December 24	5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
December 25	9:30 a.m. Worship Service
December 26-27	Church Office Closed