

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

The Parish Paper of Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road (Corner of Santa Barbara)
Naples Florida 34113

FEBRUARY, 2017
Volume 10 - Issue 2
Editor: Lynn Dickerman



BE A BEACON OF LIGHT!

**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

GREETINGS, PEOPLE OF SOTG!

Over the years, it has been my practice to share my annual report in the monthly newsletter for the sake of the many who are not able to have access to the annual report, or are not able to attend the annual meeting. The following, therefore, is the report to the congregation from me for the last year, 2016.

BEACON OF LIGHT!

Our Stewardship Committee has come up with the theme, "BEACON OF LIGHT", for our church's annual stewardship thrust. This seems to me to be a great theme, as well, for my 8th annual pastor's report to you, wonderful congregation. We have been in 2016, a BEACON, which by definition means "anything that warns or guides". We have a LIGHT, which by definition means, among many things, "a source of illumination, such as the sun". I would like to suggest that the spelling of the word, "sun" be changed for the sake of this congregation and the glorious unknown tomorrow and our stewardship theme, "Son". So in this New year, 2017, we together become a people who guide all to the source of awesome illumination, the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are to be a "BEACON OF LIGHT" for those around us, but the LIGHT of the Son, Jesus shines on us, as well.



In the Gospel lesson for Sunday, February 5th, the 5th Sunday after Epiphany, Jesus calls us to be "BEACONS OF LIGHT". In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, he says, "In the same way, let your LIGHT SHINE before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven", **Matthew 5:16**. Also we are called to be "BEACONS OF LIGHT" to others in **Luke 11:36**, "Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you." Also see Proverbs 13:9, "The light of the righteous shines brightly."

The great good news for our coming years at SOTG is reflected in God's "BEACON OF LIGHT" shining on us as the Son, Jesus:

Psalms 4:6, "Many, Lord, are asking, 'Who will bring us prosperity?' Let the LIGHT of your face shine on us."

Psalms 118:27, "The Lord is God, and he has made his LIGHT shine on us."

Psalms 139:12, "Even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as LIGHT to you."

Isaiah 60:19, "The sun will no more be your LIGHT by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the Lord will be your everlasting LIGHT, and your God will be your glory."

John 1:5, "The LIGHT shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

2 Corinthians 4:6, "For God, who said, 'Let LIGHT shine out of darkness', made his LIGHT shine in our hearts to give us the LIGHT of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ".

Revelation 21:23, "The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it LIGHT, and the Lamb is its lamp."

Certainly bright BEACONS OF LIGHT are our church Council:

Martin Roddy, President
John Burgbacher, Vice President and Parish Relations
Joanne Hogan, Secretary
Tony Zeman, Treasurer
Patricia Cumor, liaison to Sew-Sews
Tom Dunlop, liaison to Lead on Lord and Stewardship
Carole Graesser, liaison to Worship and Music
Chuck Keller, liaison to Stewardship
Judy Kobs, liaison to Education
Ron Modjeska, liaison to Property
Linda Tidmore, liaison to Publicity and Evangelism

Thanks to the LIGHTS whose terms came to an end for now: Donald Bassett and Elaine Sima.

LIGHT shines through our staff: Megan Cianflone, Tom Davis, and Lynn Dickerman. Thank you for your dedication as BEACONS OF LIGHT.

PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

Certainly, without question, our many, many volunteers are true BEACONS OF LIGHT, and the LIGHT OF JESUS would not be as bright without you. Thank you so much.

Our church has been a BEACON OF LIGHT to others as our church attendance hit the 200 mark for the entire year or an increase of 5.54%. Our giving is up slightly, as well, with an increase of 1.40%. (See graph in the Annual Report.) Our church membership is also up 7.02%.

I humbly must say that a BEACON OF LIGHT SHINED ON ME on October 23rd, as our council organized, and you attended a celebration of my 40th anniversary of ordination. What a day where the LIGHT OF CHRIST was shining brightly through you to me. Thanks so very much. Also, thank you for your generous Christmas gifts to me, and thanks from our staff, as well.

I had fun being the Arlington Chaplain for almost two months this past year, and did Ash Wednesday and Easter service there, as well.

May we continue to be BEACONS OF LIGHT to those around us, especially when the opportunity to invite others to church is given to us. This area is continuing to grow, and we can grow with it if we focus on Jesus, the TRUE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, and listen to him telling us, "YOU AT SOTG ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD", **Matthew 5:14**.

I'll be 67 this May 16th. I feel great and hope that I can be a continuing "BEACON OF LIGHT" as your Pastor. Thank you for this continuing opportunity to be a partnership in the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ as your BEACON OF LIGHT.

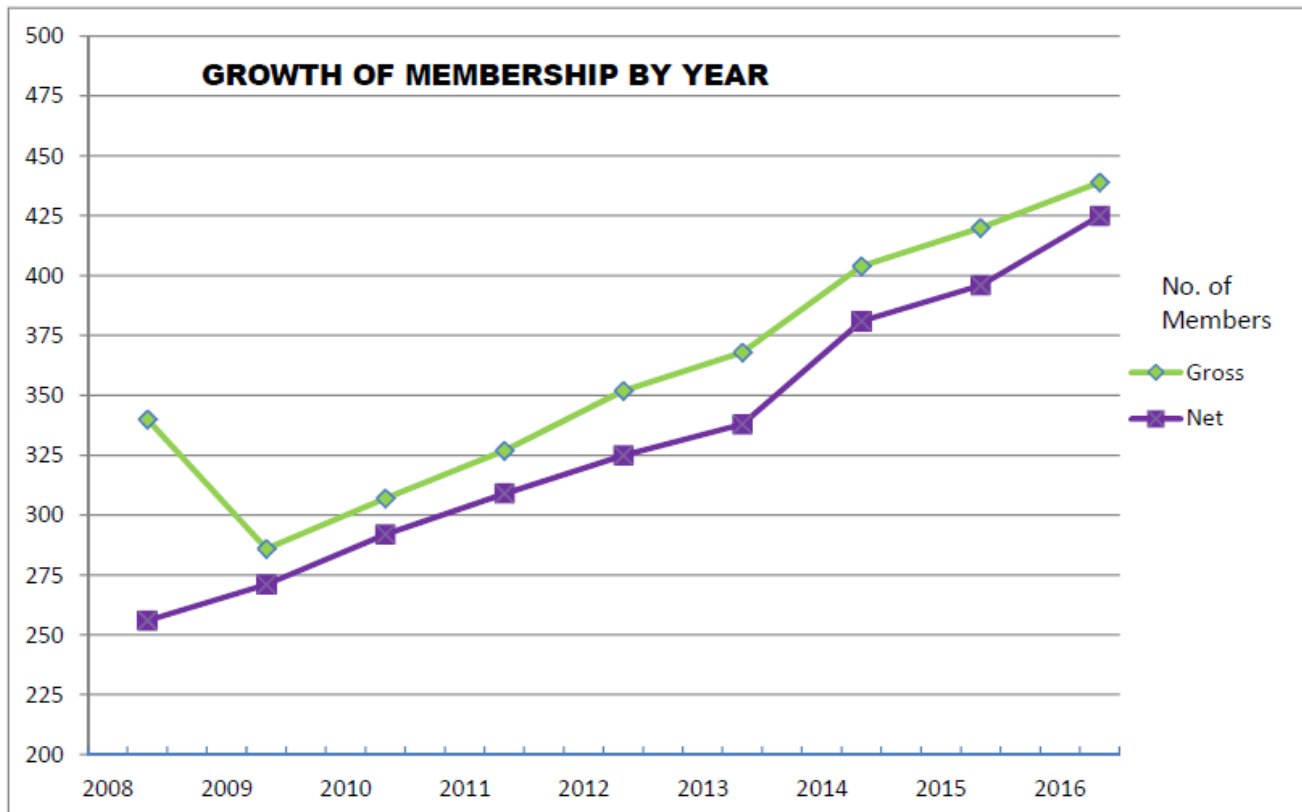
Peace,

Pastor Doug

CHURCH GROWTH

2008-2015

<u>No. Members</u>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Gross	340	286	307	327	352	368	404	420	439
Net	256	271	292	309	325	338	381	396	425



PASTOR'S PAGES (CONTINUED). . .

CHURCH STATISTICS

	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Baptized</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Associates</u>
End of 2007:	332	226	207	226	106
End of 2008:	256	187	179	187	69
End of 2009:	271	201	193	201	70
End of 2010:	292	226	219	226	66
End of 2011:	309	239	221	239	70
End of 2012:	325	247	228	247	78
End of 2013:	338	252	238	252	86
End of 2014:	381	285	247	285	96
End of 2015:	396	299	259	299	97
End of 2016:	425	320	278	320	105

	<u>Baptism</u>	<u>Transfer In</u>	<u>Reaffirmation of Faith</u>	<u>Confirmation</u>	<u>First Communion</u>
Total increase in 2016:	2	14	27	0	0

	<u>Transfer Out</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Requested Removal</u>
Total Loss in 2016:	6	3	5

Gross Growth: 43

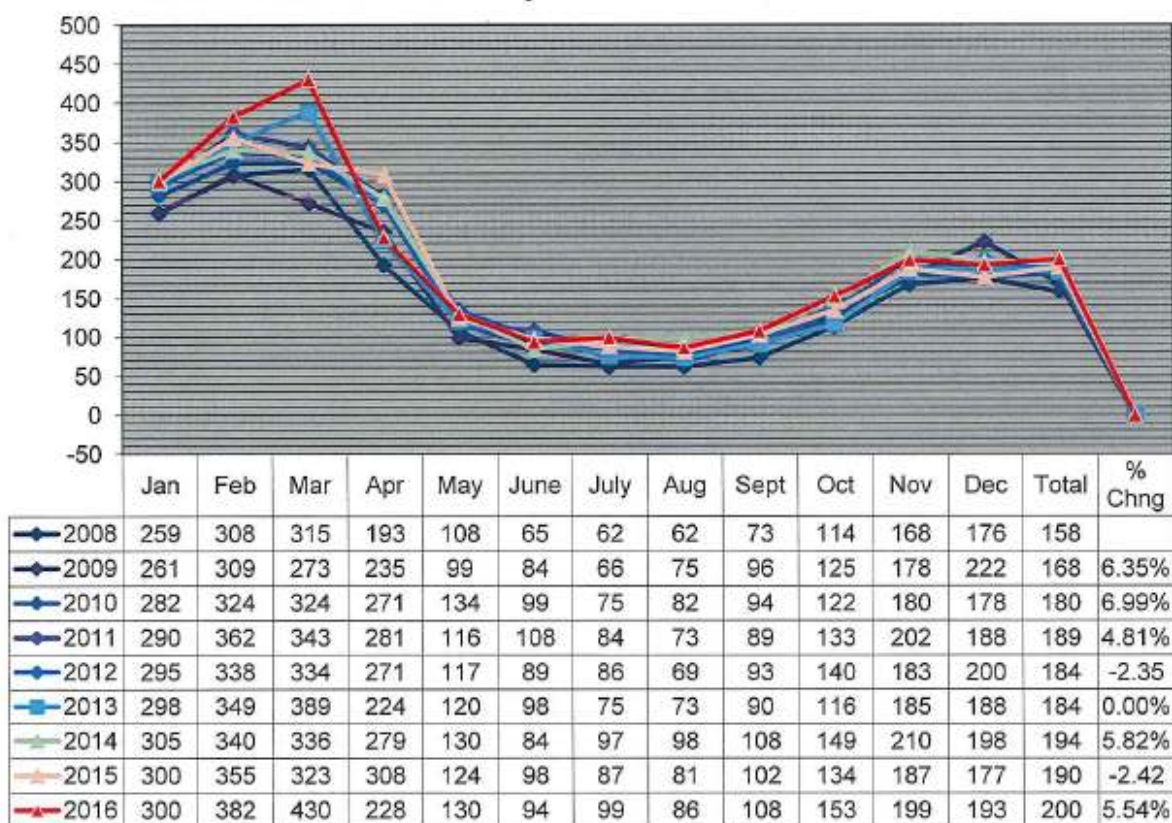
Net Growth: 29

2016 Funerals Performed: 2

2016 Weddings Performed: 1

Average Church Attendance :	December- April	May-November	Annual Average	% Inc.
2007 (Dec. 06)	258	90	162	
2008 (Dec. 07)	249	93	158	
2009 (Dec. 08)	251	103	168	6.35%
2010 (Dec. 09)	285	112	180	6.99%
2011 (Dec. 10)	291	115	189	4.81%
2012 (Dec. 11)	285	111	184	-2.35%
2013 (Dec. 12)	291	107	184	0.00%
2014 (Dec. 13)	289	125	194	5.82%
2015 (Dec. 14)	302	113	190	-2.42%
2016 (Dec. 15)	303	124	200	5.54%

Attendance Comparison as of 12/31/2016



ANNOUNCEMENT ALLEY . . .

Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
TWO Sunday worship service times at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m..

A CALL FOR ACTION:



Every week, Shepherd of the Glades collects and donates canned and boxed food to help persons in need at St. Matthew's House, Grace Place, and Immokalee Friendship House. Suggested items are canned food of all kinds, powdered milk, peanut butter, jellies/ jams, cereals, soups, rice, pasta, etc. Items need to be within code date and unopened. Just bring your donations to the church and give to the ushers every Sunday morning. All items are delivered the end of each month. We extend our thanks to all who faithfully give food items for our local need organizations. The last donations were just delivered to St. Matthew's House .

SEW-SEW GROUP

The Sew-Sews are quilting in Hanson Hall at 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. If you enjoy sewing and fellowship, come join in, making quilts for those who need them. Questions? Please contact Marjean Cossette at 239-353-6786.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Do you enjoy lifting your voice in praise to worship the Lord? Come and use your talents in the Chancel Choir. Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. All are welcome! If you have questions, contact Megan Cianflone, Director of Music.

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Until May 7th, Sunday School will take place during the 10:30 a.m. service. We are blessed to have Bonny Dery, Adele Giacometti, Nadine Kelly, Judy Kobs, and Lori Bernabei as committed teachers for our children.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Women's Bible Study, led by Elaine Sima, will continue meeting the second Friday of the month on February 10th at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. Come & bring a friend.

FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: One Month Ended January, 2017

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$42,427	\$40,062	\$2,365
Operating Expense	\$29,874	\$33,952	\$4,078
Net Income (Deficit)	\$12,553	\$6,110	\$6,443

WINTER FORUMS CONTINUE IN FEBRUARY . . .

Super Sunday 2.0, : In this year we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation; February 5, 2017 Presenter, Pastor Bob Trendel
This forum will be an extension and updating of the Super Sunday Forum presented in 2011. It will focus on current use of "super" in our culture, examining the Super Bowl as a religious holiday and festival and spectacle as some have suggested. This extends into other sports and even into upcoming Lutheran 500th anniversary events.

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Annual congregational meeting of Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church between services; 2016 Annual Reports will be shared.

Sunday, February 19, 2017

“Those Were the Days-the Early Years of SOTG” Presenter, Rev. Peter Lyberg
Pastor Lyberg is the first called pastor of SOTG. He was originally called by the former American Lutheran Church to serve this mission start. He has a personal perspective of this parish and its current site, as well as insight into the inception of the new Santa Barbara Boulevard.

Sunday, February 26, 2017

The Sunday before Lent begins, SOTG has its very own Mardi Gras celebration: Strawberry Festival with ice cream and strawberries after each service.

LENTEN SEASON BEGINS . . .

Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday, on March 1, 2017; with Easter on Sunday, April 16, 2017. The theme this Lent is the six chief parts of Martin Luther's Catechism in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

WORSHIP WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 P.M. FOLLOWED BY A SOUP SUPPER. The schedule is as follows:

Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017: The Apostles' Creed with Pastor Doug Wahlberg. Soup is provided by the FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE.

March 8, 2017: Baptism with Pastor Bob Trendel. Soup is provided by the CHOIR.

March 15, 2017: Lord's Prayer with Pastor John Burgbacher. Soup is provided by the SEW-SEW'S AND PROPERTY GROUP.

March 22, 2017: Confession and Absolution with Pastor Ray Branstiter. Soup is provided by COUNCIL.

March 29, 2017: Ten Commandments with Pastor Peter Lyberg. Soup is provided by PASTOR'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUPS.

April 5, 2017: Holy Communion with Pastor Doug Wahlberg. Soup is provided by STAFF AND PASTORS.

Come as you are from work or play for worship and fellowship.

SOTG CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES . . .

CARTHAGE COLLEGE WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE ON TOUR

On Sunday, March 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., Carthage College Women's Ensemble joins us on tour. The 2017 Spring Tour is titled "I Have a Voice", and will include works from the broad spectrum of choral literature for women's voices. The conductor of the Women's Ensemble is Dr. Peter Dennee, who teaches conducting, music education, and global music courses. Choirs under Dr. Dennee's leadership have performed at state, regional, and divisional conferences and on tours throughout the region, nationally, and internationally in Central Europe, and China. A freewill offering will be taken. Carthage College is a private liberal arts and science college affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and founded in 1847 in Kenosha, WI.

EVERGLADES BARBERSHOP CHORUS AND BLING!

The Everglades Barbershop Chorus and Quartets will present "The Best of Barbershop" on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. It is a return engagement to SOTG after last year's huge, overflow audience. Joining them again will be BLING!, the international award winning women's quartet who received a very warm reception last year. They will present some of the greatest barbershop songs of all time, along with one or two newer arrangements, such as the very special "Yesterday" by the Beatles. Seating will be limited, so it is recommended that tickets at \$20 each be purchased in advance at the church office.

LEAD ON LORD! ONE MORE YEAR! . . .



We are making great progress with our facilities improvements, thanks to your wonderful contributions!! Let's keep it going. We have additional projects to be completed:

- The carpeting in the Sanctuary building is 30 years old.
- We need to add security cameras to our buildings.
- We need improvements in our Narthex.
- The parking lot needs sealcoating and striping.

We have received a Matching Funds Pledge of up to \$15,000 for all funds received from February through April. Projects will be

completed only when funds are available. No debt! Please "RESPOND" so we can "REBUILD" and "REJOICE!"

Don Bassett, Chairperson

MAKING THE MOST OF OUR RESOURCES . . .

The Charitable IRA Rollover is back!! This gift option allows you to make a tax-free gift from your IRA to Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church, and funds can be designated to assist with completing your operating pledge or you can assist with the monies for our "Lead on Lord!" facilities improvement campaign. In addition, the contribution also counts as your "minimum required distribution". This means you have a great source of tax advantaged funds to use to make a gift. Be sure to consult your tax advisor.





If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the office so we can update our information and not miss you next time! YOU are special to us!

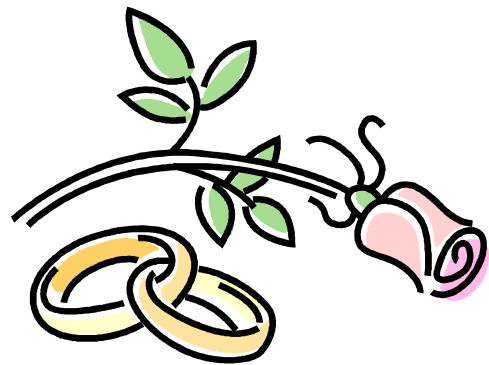
HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

February 1 Sara Nelson
February 2 Ardelle Berthe
February 2 Paul Hashagen, Sr.
February 3 Susan Upham
February 4 Kathleen Mantovani
February 5 Robert Denny
February 5 Daniel Malinowski
February 6 Jean Zirk
February 10 Barb Lasky
February 10 Yerry Madison
February 10 Kathryn Winters
February 11 Alan Rowold
February 14 Ashley Olson
February 14 Betsy Skrede
February 17 Callie Eliason
February 17 Earnestine Keller
February 18 Cindy Quehl
February 20 Fredeen Hill
February 21 Alandee Delp
February 21 Robert Tidmore
February 22 Jeremiah Eliason
February 22 David Hatwell
February 22 Micheline Larsen
February 24 Jim Lee
February 26 Margarete Krehan
February 26 Handry Perez
February 27 Rick Borman
February 27 Dorothy Sherwood-Sibley
February 27 Carl Zirk
February 28 Jan Wolfe

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES . . .

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

February 3 Vicki & Steven Tracy
February 4 Larry & Maryann Buettner
February 5 Doralba Yanez & Julio Palacios
February 6 Gary & Linda Salisbury
February 11 Rod & Marilyn Barikmo
February 11 Chris & Kristina Quinton
February 14 Dick & Deborah Roberts
February 14 Kenneth & Charlotte Sebe
February 15 David & Alandee Delp
February 16 Larry & Barb Tommingo
February 22 Jim & Dee Lipe
February 24 Frank & Debra Siciliano
February 28 Al & Marilyn Lane



FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

“Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart.”

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.”
Martin Luther

CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Billie Adams' family	M. Kathleen Dube	Morgan
Janet Anderson	Jean Ellis	Carol Nauert
Tom Archard	Coleen, Glenn, & Susan Evans	Judy Nelson
Lee Arendt	Eric Ernst	Family & friends of Kevin O'Berry
Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Yamilla Frederick	Susan O'Neil
Zoey Berger	Jonathan Gance	Michael O'Donald
Corrine Besee	Annette Gjesdahl	Family of P.J. Read
Mary Ann Blair	Sally Guerra	Robert
Irene Boden	Warren Gutschow	Laura Robertson
Merlyn Bowers	Judy & Ron H.	Neva Marie Rucci
Luke Bradley	Sue Haberkorn	Connor & Linda Ruisz
Dory, Rosemary & Chris Braun	Dave Hedges	Janet Ruth
Family of Betty Brisky	Ann Marie Hill	Sally
Ernie Burch	Carl Hydes	Hermann Schamberger, Jr.
Anne & John Burgbacher	Jeannie	Joe Schamberger
Josh Cane	Ardent Jensen	Kathie Schmidt
Harry Cappa, Jr.	Judy & Rich	Larry Segerlind
Velma Carasco	Kathi	Shannon
Jerry Carson	Lily & Billy Kelly	Patrick Smith
Casey	Reina Klassen	Annette Stamburger
Mia Cervoni	Al Lane	Steven
Chaplain Claire	Nancy Larrabee	Todd Strausser
Chaplain Katie	Barb & Dave Lees	Majelle Susler
Dianne, Kate & Mark Connell	Rose Maki	Tommy's Family
Jill Coulthard	Douglas & Dorothy MacKenzie	Family of Sharon Varn
Roland Cumor	Matthew Marderosian	Shirley Watson
Emily Davies	Mary & Drew	Patricia Wiley
"Debbie"	Mary R.	Tony Zeman
Family of Annie Doara	Maryanne	

Please let us know when someone should be added or removed from the Prayer List.

REMEMBER THOSE IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY . . .

Lt. Col. Paula Behrens
Staff Sergeant Adam Crown
Master Sergeant, Christopher Farnsworth
Airman Corey Malinowski
Enlisted Army, Kendra Schwenneker
Capt. Michael Scott



CALENDAR CUES . . .

CALENDAR NOTES:

Friday, February 3, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Gustavus Adolphus College Choir Concert

Thursdays at 2:00 & 7:00 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Friday, February 10, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Annual Meeting

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, Deadline for March newsletter submissions

Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 5:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Sunday, February 26, 2017, Strawberry Festival Sunday

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship with soup supper following

Wednesdays, March 8-April 5, 2017, 5:30 p.m. Lenten Worship with soup supper following

Sunday, March 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Carthage College Women's Ensemble in Concert

Friday, March 31, 2017, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. Everglades Barbershop Chorus and Bling!

THANK YOU . . .

TEEN CHALLENGE THANKS YOU!



Teen Challenge International-Southwest Florida participated in worship on Sunday, January 15th, provided the Adult Forum, and joined us for the "Welcome Back" Luncheon. An offering was taken to benefit Teen Challenge. A total of \$1,824 was collected at both services that Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!





FEBRUARY, 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	2	3 7:00 P.M. GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS CHOIR IN CONCERT	4
5 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP 9:30 A.M. ADULT FORUM 10:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL	6	7 8:30 A.M. PROPERTY CREW & SEW- SEWS	8 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	9 2:00 & 7:00 P.M. PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY	10 10:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	11
12 6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP 9:30 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING 10:30 A.M. SS	13	14 8:30 A.M. PROPERTY CREW & SEW- SEWS 5:30 P.M. COUNCIL	15 7:00 P.M. CHOIR DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER	16 2:00 & 7:00 P.M. PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY	17	18
19 7TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP 9:30 A.M. ADULT FORUM 10:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL	20	21 8:30 A.M. PROPERTY CREW & SEW- SEWS	22 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	23 2:00 & 7:00 P.M. PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY	24	25 PREPARATION FOR STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
26 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP AFTER EACH SERVICE- STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL 10:30 A.M. SS	27	28				

The Shepherd of the Glades Parish Newsletter is sponsored by:



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6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road
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Current Resident or

**This Parish Paper is from:
Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road (Corner of Santa Barbara Blvd.)
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Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Douglas Wahlberg, Senior Pastor [cell phone: (239) 687.6580]

Megan Cianflone, Director of Music

Martin Roddy, Council President

Lynn Dickerman, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor

Rev. H. Peter Lyberg, Pastor Emeritus