

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

Please join us in worship at
either the 5:30 or
7:30 p.m. service on
Christmas Eve!

DECEMBER, 2018

Volume 11 – Issue 8

Editor: Lynn Dickerman

A Joyous and Blessed
Christmas to You All!



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

Tradition has it that Advent is a season of “waiting.” It would be more productive to view this special season of our church year as a season of “preparing.” There is an absolute flurry of ways to prepare, promoted by marketing, advertising, and consuming that have caught our attention since way before Thanksgiving. Not that I would not be pleased to find a high-end luxury car in my driveway with a red bow on it.



Our church would have us prepare for the arrival of Christ in a different, more prayer-centered way. Yet, even in this more spiritual approach, it may be too easy to see Christmas as the end. Turning from the material side of our Christmas feast and paying most attention to prayer and spiritual growth should not be the culmination of our preparation. What has gone before is important, especially spiritual sensitivity and prayer. Let us not lose sight of the fact that preparation for Christmas is part of a process that makes Christmas be the beginning, the inauguration of what is to come. So, the coming of Christmas is not merely the end of Advent. The coming of Christmas is the start of the life of the church in the world. Freed from sin and death by Jesus Christ, Christmas is the beginning of the servitude we choose – service of the world in gratitude for the grace we have received. Christmas is a celebration of the freedom we have in Christ – the freedom to say “yes” to God’s invitation to join with others at the table of Holy Communion and the freedom to concern ourselves wholly with the needs of our neighbors. In Advent, we remember that the church is created to be part of the re-creation of the world begun on Christmas.

The "reason for the season" is Christ's birth, certainly. The "reason for the season" is also the creation of the people of Christ, who are called into the world to "act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8; *Jerusalem Bible Translation*).

As we share generously with family and friends, giving gifts and sharing our time with others close to us, may we look outside our church walls and home walls to notice where justice, love, and God’s presence are less obvious to our world. We are sent to be part of our re-created world, the world our Savior, Jesus Christ, transformed by his presence among us as one of us, as Emmanuel, “God with us.”

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the many ways you nourish us – with food, with family, with friends, with faith. In you, we are made new to be instruments of your grace in the world. Recall to us the many places of need in our world – places of injustice and violence, of hunger and poverty. Enrich us with love at the tables you set for us. May we seek justice and tender love. May we walk humbly with you into the future you have promised. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Pastor Bob

YOUR NEW CALL COMMITTEE . . .

The following people have been selected by the Church Council to be members of the Call Committee:



Lori Bernabei



Ken Drum



Barbara & Chuck Keller



Penny Morken



Cindy Quehl



Linda Tidmore



Charlotte Wahlig

Those selected represent a broad spectrum of activities and interests within our congregation.

The Call Committee will produce a document to do the following:

† Explain our vision and goals

† Categorize our strengths and weaknesses

† Define our needs and desires for the next pastor

In addition, the Committee will develop a compensation and benefits package. This initial report is called the Ministry Site Profile, or MSP. It will be reviewed by our Church Council, approved, and then submitted to our Synod for approval.

There are pastors in the Florida-Bahamas Synod who are interested in new calls and have submitted their rostered minister profiles (RMP) to the Synod. Also there are pastors from other synods who want to come to the Florida-Bahamas Synod. They need to be properly vetted.

After Synod approval of our MSP, the Synod will “match up” SOTG Lutheran with pastors, and give the Call Committee three names.

Your prayers and support are much appreciated as we begin “the call process”.

Note: An outline of the steps we will be using can be found on line at “fbsynod.com/Transition/Call Process.”

Prayerfully,
Chuck Keller
Call Committee Chairperson

CHRISTMAS HUMOR . . .

What did Adam say to his wife on Christmas?

“It’s finally Christmas, Eve!”

COUNCIL'S CORNER . . .

November 13, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by President, Ron Modjeska. Members in attendance: Larry Buettner, Tom Dunlop, Joanne Hogan, Ron Modjeska, Pete Peterson, Linda Tidmore, Tony Zeman, and Pastor Bob Hoffman. Member absent: Pat Cumor.

Devotions were given by Tony Zeman. In a motion by Tony Zeman and seconded by Linda Tidmore, the minutes of the October 9, 2018 meeting were approved as printed.

Change in the agenda: Sign-up for devotions at the end of the meeting; Names and biographies of nominees for the 2019 Church Council.

Pastor's report: Pastor Bob gave his report which consisted of five primary areas of focus for the interim ministry. He also reported he had been visiting shut-ins.

Team reports:

Accounting - Tony Zeman reports that offerings were down during October. Attendance was also down. There is a direct correlation as both were down by 22%. Expenses are within budget. Tony further stated he had met with a new auditor and that the cost of the audit would be substantially more than the previous audit. In a motion by Tony Zeman and seconded by Ron Modjeska, the 2% tithe to the Lehigh Acres Lutheran Church will cease as of January, 2020. A letter will be sent to them explaining this. The Finance Committee will meet November 27, 2018 to prepare the 2019 budget.

Parish Relations - No report

Endowment - Pete Peterson reports the fund is approximately \$119,000.

Property - Ron Modjeska reported that there are still issues with the air conditioners. Condee has been good. One unit in the Sanctuary has been the last one to need attention. The Property Crew is back and the grounds look good.

Stewardship - Tom Dunlop reported that the theme for this year will be "Growing Our Faith Through Generosity." A letter to members and friends will go out in January.

Fellowship - Joanne Hogan reported that the Committee had met and set the calendar for 2018-2019. The next activity will be a bake sale on December 2, 2018.

Education - Larry Buettner reports that Lori Bernabei, Nadine Kelly, and Bonny Dery are prepared if and when children show up.

Evangelism - Linda Tidmore reported that the Giving Tree is successful. The blessing of the gifts for Grace Place will be during worship service on November 18, 2018. An ad announcing the Thanksgiving Eve service will be in the paper.

Worship & Music - No report

New Business:

Annual Meeting - The annual meeting will be December 9, 2018 following worship service. The election of new Council members and consideration of the proposed budget is on the agenda.

Nominees for the Council - The people to be considered for the Council are: Pat Cooper, Paul Hashagen, Earnestine Keller, Keith Scamehorn, and Doug Walck.

A/V Demonstration - A demonstration of the A/V equipment will take place on Saturday, November 17, 2018. Megan Cianflone, Lynn Dickerman and Chuck Keller will attend.

Old Business:

Transition Paperwork - The paperwork is to be sent to the Florida Bahamas Synod this week. After the approval by the Synod, the Call Committee can begin their work.

Survey - The Call Committee has the results of the every member survey.

COUNCIL'S CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

Nominations - People who have been submitted as nominees for the Council need to submit a biographical sketch.

Pastor Bob presented a closing devotion. The next meeting will be December 11, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Pete Peterson will have devotions. In a motion by Tom Dunlop and seconded by Tony Zeman, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The meeting closed with a sending prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Joanne Hogan, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENT ALLEY . . .

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

ONE Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. through Sunday, December 30th.

TWO Sunday worship services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. starting Sunday, January 6th.

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-Sew Group is meeting on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. in Hanson Hall. If you enjoy quilting, cutting, sewing, or are willing to learn, please come! There is a break for coffee and fellowship at approximately 10:00 a.m.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study is usually on the second Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. However, it is postponed this month. They study the "Gather" magazine Bible study. Copies of the study will be available in the Narthex the Sunday before. The study will resume in January.

REMEMBER THOSE IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY . . .

Staff Sergeant Adam Crown
Warrant Officer, Christopher Farnsworth
Airman Corey Malinowski
Capt. Michael Scott
Army Sergeant Kendra Stofflet at Ft. Eustis Army Base, VA
Army Sergeant Robert Stofflet in South Korea



NEWS IN THE SHEEPFOLD. . .

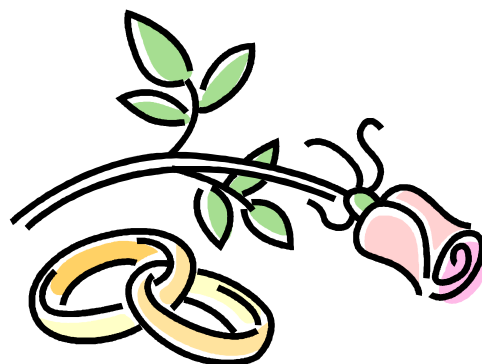


If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the office so we can update our information and not miss you next time! YOU are special to us!

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

December 1 Jeremiah Eliason
 December 2 Jennifer White
 December 3 Lee Arendt
 December 4 Sandra Larson
 December 5 Iann Butterman
 December 7 Carol DiScala
 December 11 Shelby Hackethal
 December 11 Dorothy MacKenzie
 December 11 Eleanor Pitzer
 December 12 Alice Bassett
 December 12 August Buettner
 December 12 George Giacometti
 December 12 "Pete" Peterson
 December 13 Sally McIlwain
 December 14 Barbara Ettinger
 December 14 Myrka Gonzalez
 December 14 Richard Jingling
 December 15 Iris Krug
 December 19 Audrey Denny
 December 19 Steven Tracy
 December 20 Marvin Case

December 20 Olivia Tibbetts
 December 24 Doris Marderness
 December 26 Donald Glaser
 December 27 Pat Cooper
 December 27 Donald Wintz
 December 28 Penny Morken
 December 30 Ed Ries



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES . . . **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

December 10 Roland & Pat Cumor
 December 17 Dick & Marcia Weber
 December 19 Jeff & Sherri Nelson
 December 23 Roger & Kathy Burtchin

FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: Eleven Months Ended November, 2018

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$298,635	\$328,382	(\$29,747)
Operating Expense	\$305,595	\$334,884	\$29,289
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$6,960)	(\$6,502)	(\$458)

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING . . .

The annual Congregational meeting to approve the 2019 budget and elect new Council members has been scheduled for after worship on Sunday, December 9, 2018. Below are the members who have been nominated to serve as new Council members. Packets with the 2019 Budget for the meeting will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, December 2, 2018.

My name is Pat Cooper. I have been a resident of Naples for the last twelve years. I live in Glen Eagle. We moved here from Ohio when I retired from the Timken Roller Bearing Company after 33 years of service. I have been married to my husband, Guy, for 45 years. We have one son, John. We started attending Shepherd of the Glades shortly after moving to Naples.



My name is Paul Hashagen. My wife, Ann, and I live at 6192 Victory Drive, Ave Maria, FL. At our former church in PA we were Deacons and started a Prayer Ministry. We, along with other area Lutheran churches, also helped house and provide food for the homeless in the area. Upon moving to Florida, we volunteered at St. Matthew's House Homeless Shelter. Periodically we deliver food from SOTG to where it is of need. I realize how very blessed we are, so have agreed to run for Council as a way to give back and say, "Thank you, God." Please accept my service to you as a "thank you".

My name is Earnestine Keller. We were members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Dayton, OH for about 20 years, which included the marriage of both of our children and baptism of our four grandchildren. I was on Council and taught third grade Sunday School for many years. My husband, Paul, and I have been members of Shepherd of the Glades for about 10 years. I am active in the Sew-Sew group and am a member of the Endowment Committee.



My name is Keith Scamehorn. I was born in Elgin, IL and have one sister and three brothers. Through adversity I have learned to be thankful, wait on God, and draw close to God. I moved to Florida in 1968 and studied architecture at the University of Florida. I helped design the Marco Lutheran Church, after which I went on to get my masters degree in architecture and became a licensed architect. I have lived in Fort Myers and Dallas, TX. I have worked on restaurants, churches, libraries, and schools. I currently work on my house and on plans for a second house to sell and recoup expenses.

My name is Doug Walck. My wife, Sue, and I have been associate members for two years. I work presently with the Property Crew, where we work on the buildings and grounds. I am a retired skilled tradesman from GM who is no stranger to working with tools. I taught hydraulics and pneumatics at a vocational school in Buffalo, as well. I also volunteer at the theater downtown, constructing stage sets. I have also helped create props for SOTG's Passion play. I have six years experience on Council at my home church in Niagara Falls, NY.



CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Janet Anderson	Mike Feldman	Jack McKenna
Anna	Michelle Fetzer	Debbie McWaters
Tom Archard	Yamilla Frederick	Nancy Moran
Anthony	Jonathan Gance	Morgan
Lee Arendt	Gerald Gibbons	Susan O'Neil
Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Annette Gjesdahl	Michael O'Donald
Ryan Bebb	Family of Carole Graesser	Frank Ordway
Zoey Berger	Judy & Ron H.	The Oczarzak Family
Betty	Sue Haberkorn	Family of P.J. Read
Mary Ann Blair	Dave Hedges	Robert
Merlyn Bowers	Joanne Hogan	Laura Robertson
Luke Bradley	Family of Pat Hulsemann	Victor & Yolanda Rodrigues
Braun Family	Carl Hydes	Neva Marie Rucci & sons
Bonnie Brisky	Jeannie	Ruth
Ernie Burch	Family of Ardent Jensen	Sally
Josh Cane	Judy & Rich	Greta Schamberger
Velma Carasco	Justin	Hermann Schamberger, Jr.
Jerry Carson	Lily & Billy Kelly	Joe Schamberger
Casey	Reina Klassen	Richard J. Schmidt
Dianne, Kate & Mark Connell	Glen Ladic	Larry Segerlind
Jan Connell & Connell Family	Al Lane	Shannon
Jill Coulthard	Ed Larson	Elaine Sima
Roland Cumor	Barb & Dave Lees	Bev Smith
Warren Dahl	Anita Lehr	Patrick Smith
Emily Davies	Family of Jim Lipe	Ruth Spears
Marion Davis	Len Locey	Spiegel Family
"Debbie"	Family of Carl Lohmann	Susan Sweet
Lena Deter	Martha Mahon	Ron Sweet, Jr.
Joan Dignoti	Rose Maki	Tommy's Family
Frances Dise	Dorothy MacKenzie & Family	Family of Fayann Valk
Family of Annie Doara	Matthew Marderosian	Christina Warrilow
Drew Family	Mary & Drew	Shirley Watson
Joann Dunn	Mary R.	Patricia Wiley
Coleen, Glenn, & Susan Evans	Maryanne	Ron Zeman
Jimmy F.	Howard Mattick	Tony Zeman
Freathestone Family	Paula McCarthy	

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

ANNUAL PAUL TODD CHRISTMAS CONCERT . . .



*Christmas Concert
With*

Paul Todd and Paul Todd, Jr.

**WHEN? Monday, December 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
WHERE? Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church**

Tickets may be purchased in the courtyard every Sunday before and after worship, from the Church office during regular hours, or from the Lybergs at 239.774.5822. Price is \$25 per person.

CHRISTMAS FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

“Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life.” *Corrie Ten Boom*

THANK YOU FROM THE EVANGELISM TEAM . . .

The Evangelism Team would like to thank everyone who participated in this year’s Giving Tree outreach project. The recipients of the Giving Tree project were young children (ages 3-4 years) served by the New Beginnings Program at Grace Place. The educational toys you provided will brighten the Christmas of many young



GRACE PLACE GIVING TREE

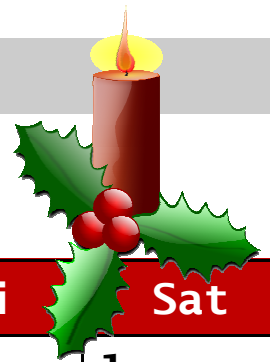


BLESSING OF THE GRACE PLACE GIFTS ON NOVEMBER 18, 2018

children in the Golden Gate City area who receive services from Grace Place. “God’s Work . . . Your hands”. Thank you so very much!

MONTH AT A GLANCE . . .

DECEMBER, 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PASTOR BOB 9:30 A.M. S.S. 10:30 a.m. BAKE SALE	3 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS 7:00 P.M. PAUL TODD CONCERT	4 8:30 A.M. SEW- SEWS & PROP. CREW	5 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	6	7	8
9 2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PASTOR BOB 9:30 A.M. S.S. 10:30 A.M. CONG. MEETING	10 9-10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS DEADLINE FOR JANUARY, 2019 NEWSLETTER	11 8:30 A.M. SEW- SEWS & PROP. CREW 5:30 P.M. COUNCIL MTG.	12 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	13	14 NO WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY THIS MONTH	15
16 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PASTOR BOB 9:30 A.M. S.S.	17 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS	18 8:30 A.M. SEW- SEWS & PROPERTY CREW	19 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS 7:00 P.M. CHOIR	20	21	22
23 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PASTOR BOB 9:30 A.M. S.S.	24 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS 5:30 & 7:30 PM CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 9:00-10:00 A.M.- BONE BUILDERS NO CHOIR	27	28 NEWSLETTER MAILING	29
30 1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PASTOR BOB	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE					

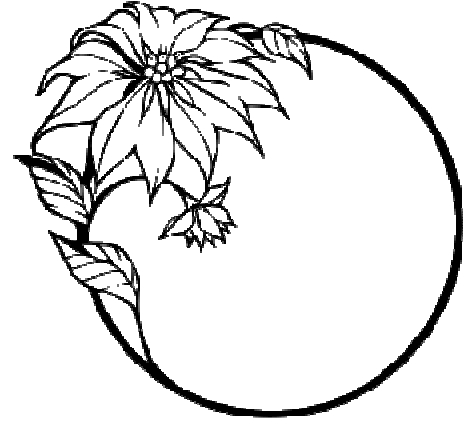
CALENDAR CUES . . .

- Monday, December 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Annual Paul Todd Christmas Concert
- Sunday, December 9, 2018, 10:30 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting
- Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 5:30 p.m. Council meeting
- Friday, December 14, 2018, No Women's Bible Study this month
- Friday, December 14, 2018, Deadline for January newsletter submissions
- Sunday, December , 2018, Annual Congregational Meeting
- Monday, December 24, 2018, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship
- Tuesday, December 25, 2018, Christmas Day
- Monday, December 31, 2018, New Year's Eve

CHRISTMAS IS AROUND THE CORNER . . .

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM!

Please help us beautify our sanctuary in praise to our Savior this Christmas! Poinsettias will be placed around the altar for Christmas. You may take your poinsettia(s) home after Christmas Eve worship. Please order one or more poinsettias by completing the form below. The cost is still \$15 per poinsettia. The deadline for ordering is Monday, December 17, 2018. Please place your order form in the offering plate, leave in the basket in the narthex, or deliver to the Church office.



I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER _____ POINSETTIAS AT \$15 EACH, DEDICATED AS INDICATED BELOW: (PLEASE PRINT)

BULLETIN DEDICATION #1 _____

BULLETIN DEDICATION #2 _____

BULLETIN DEDICATION #3 _____

BULLETIN DEDICATION #4 _____

MY CHECK OR CASH IS ATTACHED FOR \$ _____.

MY NAME: _____

MY PHONE: _____ MY ENVELOPE NUMBER: _____

Office use only:
Date received: _____ Dedication entered _____ Amount paid _____ Check # _____ Cash _____

The Shepherd of the Glades Parish Newsletter is sponsored by:



Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road
Naples, FL 34113

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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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Web Page: <http://www.sotgweb.org>
Email: sotg1@embarqmail.com
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Pastor Bob Hoffman, Interim Pastor [cell phone: 717.228.9985]
Megan Cianflone, Director of Music
Ron Modjeska, Council President
Lynn Dickerman, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor
Rev. H. Peter Lyberg, Pastor Emeritus**