

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

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Editors: Lynn Dickerman
& Linda Tidmore



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

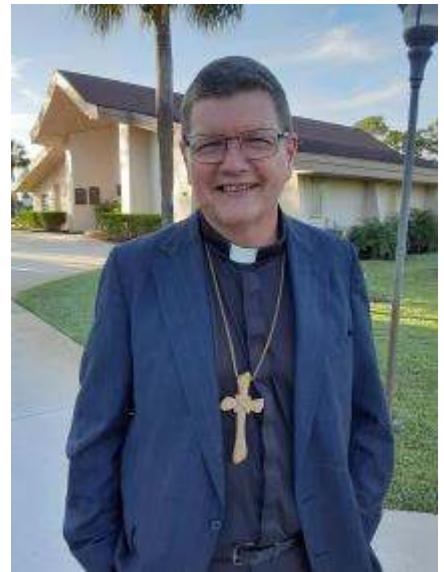
PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

"We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizadek." (Hebrews 6:19-20 NRSV) It is so easy to lose our footing and become anxious or worried about everything that is happening around us in our country and around the world. The corona virus has changed our lives in countless ways, including the means by which we worship God.

Now we are experiencing unrest and violence that is seizing our country in a way we have not seen for many years. It would be easy to begin thinking that the challenges we are facing are unprecedented. But that would not be accurate. Historically, within our own nation, there was the pandemic of 1819 where churches, schools, and all public activities were banned for a time until the pandemic ended almost 18 months later. The world faced the deaths of 500 million people, about one third of the world's population at the time. There was a global financial crisis not long after the pandemic passed. Many years later, our country faced the reality that black American citizens were not created equally, and police brutality videos emerged on the television news. Churches were segregated at the time, and the members of the white churches were deeply divided on what actions they might take in order to live out their faith. Some marched with the black protesters, and some tried to integrate black families into their congregations in order to help people develop friendships and relationships with their black neighbors who were being treated unjustly. Other churches did nothing, fearing division among the membership. Finally, after much bloodshed and violence, the civil rights movement took hold and changed our nation in a unifying way for a time. I share all of this with you not to minimize the threat of the coronavirus or to dismiss the pain and suffering black and brown skinned people face in our country. The virus is serious, and it continues to hospitalize people locally.

The church council and I are monitoring the situation to develop a comprehensive plan that will protect the safety of all who attend worship when we hold public worship again. I know it is frustrating to see other churches opening for public worship in the area while Shepherd of the Glades continues with online services only. I cannot tell you a date when we will open for public worship, but that date will be determined by the recommendation of local authorities, a pattern of decline in the number of hospitalizations in our local hospitals due to the coronavirus, as well as our readiness to safely and responsibly invite the public back for worship. Currently, the number of inpatients being treated for the virus in Naples remains on the incline. Hospitals and other health care organizations still do not allow visitors or family members to be with a patient. The threat of the virus is very real, and decisions regarding when to resume public worship are not easy, but we will get through this together.

I also do not share this history with you to minimize the pain our black and brown brothers and sisters in Christ have experienced in our country. Their pain is real. In some ways their pain is greater than before the civil rights movement because the progress of the past has been erased and the promise of liberty and justice for all has not applied to them. As I have shared in my sermons, God expects us to love and act justly towards others, and that is not happening in our country. And once again, churches with mostly white members are struggling to determine what actions we can take to live out our faith. Some churches will organize protest movements and walk with their brothers and sisters in Christ. Other



PASTOR'S PAGES CONTINUED . . .

churches will work hard on behalf of their black and brown brothers and sisters to advocate for justice and reformation of sin filled systems. And other churches will do nothing out of fear of dividing the church.

Even if someone believes peaceful public protests should not happen due to the coronavirus or for other reasons, they can still be supportive by talking with people in power and standing in solidarity with their siblings in Christ or by using their influence on social media. Yet some churches will remain silent. Remember that the church is not a building, the church is the people. When the church says nothing about injustice, it says something about the church. History repeats itself. We are in the thick of the storm of disease and decay of our society. By the grace and help of God we will get through this storm together. So I end as I began. Hebrews 6:19: "We have this **hope**, a sure and steadfast **anchor of the soul**." What is your soul anchored on? If it is on Jesus Christ and his call to love as we have been loved, then we have hope. We have hope that things can and will change for the better, and that we are going to be a part of that change.

May God bless you with peace and wholeness. I will see you in my prayers. +
Pastor Jeff

BLUE ZONES PROJECT . . .

God's blessing on your day! I recently brought to Council the proposition of becoming a Blue Zone Church. Blue Zones Project is a community-wide well-being improvement initiative to help make healthy choices easier in Southwest Florida. Things like providing healthy snacking options and exercise opportunities can make us eligible and provides us with free marketing and advertising. To enlist we only need 30 people to take the Blue Zone pledge. To receive more information on how to take the pledge, call the Church office Monday thru Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. By taking the Blue Zones Personal Pledge, you take the first step toward living a longer, healthier, happier life and have joined hundreds of your friends, neighbors, and co-workers in transforming well-being in Southwest Florida. This is a free project to help us live longer healthier lives in our community. Please take the pledge. Thank you.

Kelli Ungs

ONE LESS MUSICAL NOTE . . .

 Ted Henning , who was a member of our Church Choir, received his victory in the Lord on May 13, 2020. We will fondly remember Ted, and always reserve his place in the choir seats.



FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: Five Months Ended May, 2020

Actual

Budget

Difference:
Favorable
(Unfavorable)

Operating Income

\$188,928

\$208,084

(\$19,156)

Operating Expense

\$150,333

\$156,796

\$6,463

Net Income (Deficit)

\$38,595

\$51,288

(\$12,693)

APRIL, 2020 COUNCIL MINUTES . . .

Treasurer's Report: Bob explained that \$3,000 was spent on the new security system. Our investment accounts are down \$25,000, Memorial account down \$6,000, Endowment account down \$13,000. Bob recommended that the church not take any money out of these accounts at this time since we do not need this money for our operating expenses.

Pastor's report: Sunday, March 15, 2020 was the last public worship held at our Church. Since then, we have had to implement many changes in how we communicate with our congregants. First, we have attempted to reach them either by Facebook, our website, You-tube, e-mail or by phone. Second, Council and other members of the church contacted members, visitors and friends of Shepherd of the Glades to help them continue to view our church worship service digitally. They were very happy to hear from the church and appreciated all the effort given. The third phase in this communication was to notify the members that they could send in their weekly giving by mail or take advantage of "tithe.ly" online giving program which is offered on our church website. As part of the third phase we also applied for the PPP loan. This took quite an effort, but we believe any financial assistance in this time of crisis to offset our loss of income would be helpful. We also had a very generous member pledge up to \$10,000 in matching funds to the general offering. Several members have already responded to this challenge, and so far, each of these challenges have made us stronger as a church. The office is closed but Lynn and Linda are working limited hours to answer the phones and keep communication at its best.

Finally, I must confess that as easy as it looks to watch our worship services, the many changes have been very difficult. There has been a HUGE learning curve as to what works best in our sanctuary for recording purposes. I continue to use Facebook, and now I am also using You-tube and our website to place our worship services online. I have learned how to send an e-mail communication to every member who has shared this with us, and I have also learned how to send a text to everyone with smartphones to let them know how to watch the services. I am encouraged by the positive spirit that exists at Shepherd of the Glades and I am grateful for your support as leaders in this challenging time. Some of the good news is that we had over 500 people view our Easter service.

Team reports:

Endowment - Pete Peterson reported that the balance in our Ameritrade account as of March 31, 2020 is \$121,000.

Parish Relations – Barb Keller reported that while contacting people on the phone or through e-mail, she is getting an update on the physical needs of the members during this time of isolation.

Property – Doug Walck reported that the balance of the fire extinguisher signs have been mounted in the sanctuary. The small trees that were crowding the inside and top of the front sign were eliminated. The old banquet tables have been removed and replaced with light weight tables.

Worship & Music – Pat Cooper reported she appreciated the "real" music at all the services. Larry suggested that maybe we should look into getting a better audio/video system.

Old Business:

The A OK cleaning service did a wonderful job of cleaning and sanitizing the sanctuary, restrooms, nursery, offices and Hanson hall.

New Business:

Bonny Dery made a motion to send out letters to those who do not have e-mails informing them of the \$10,000 matching challenge.

The church has begun the process for applying for the PPP government loan in the amount of \$21,000. Kelli Ungs will be attempting to inform the congregation about the "Blue Zone". The goal is to get 25% of the congregation interested in this health and wellness program.

Implementation of the TITHE.LY electronic giving was discussed and all agreed that it was easy to use and will encourage all members to consider using.

Next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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 JUNE BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

June 1	Kent Adams
June 5	Maureen Drum
June 8	Hannah Bettridge
June 9	Debra Addams
June 9	Peter Krahan
June 11	Joan Thomas
June 14	Bruce Tillman
June 16	Marilyn Malinowski
June 16	Ray Mendez
June 17	Paul Hashagen
June 20	Karen Ganzo-Soto
June 21	Everett Bernabei
June 21	Donna Read
June 22	A. Seminaro
June 24	Debra McWaters
June 28	Richard Lofthouse
June 30	Tom Dunlop
June 30	Stanley Leimer

Received Their Victory

Shirley Herrick received her victory in the Lord on May 4, 2020, and her husband ,Virgil, received his victory on May 12, 2020.

Ted Henning received his victory in the Lord on May 13, 2020.



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES . . .

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

June 1	Sharon & Ron Eickhoff
June 5	Beverly & Kent Adams
June 9	Karen & Randy Kuzel
June 10	Janis & Wilbur Johnson
June 13	Ginny & Bob Trendel
June 14	Shirley & Alan Rowold
June 17	Jean & Carl Zirk
June 17	Nan & Jim Brooks
June 17	Barbara & Lee Collins
June 18	Cynthia & Bruce Tillman
June 21	Louise & Phil Kalbaugh
June 24	Anita & Nick Lehr
June 25	Ginny & William MacDonald
June 26	Christine & David Willits
June 26	Kelly & Christopher Bettridge
June 28	Marilyn & Leo Malinowski
June 29	Karen & Michael Cox
June 29	Barbara & Ray Keith

CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Gerald Gibbons	Jim O'Neal
Didi Arpia	Family of Annette Gjesdahl	Jim Oppermann
Susan Aspro	Robin Good	Karen Puerner
Rich Bartsh	Sue Haberkorn	Rusty Razer
Betty Baker	Jim Hahn	Beverly Renning
Don Bassett	Family of Ted Henning	Victor & Yolanda Rodrigues
Family of Meta Bauer	Family of Shirley & Virgil Herrick	Ted Roscoe
Merlyn Bowers	Family of Pat Hulsemann	Greta Schamberger
James Bullock	Jeanne Jones	Charlotte Sebe
Carolyn Case & Family	Stefanie Kopecke	Don Sharpe
Rob Ciaramitaro	Family of Iris Krug	Elaine Sima
Dianne, Kate & Mark Connell	Glen Ladic	Pauline & Huseyin Sirt
Liza Corson	Penny Lagergren	Micah Smith
Marion Davis	Bryant Lane	Paul Smith
Tom Davis	Sheryl Lane	Donald Spanitz
Frances DeBries	The Family of Jim Lee	Ruth Spears
Dana Dickerman Family	Pat Lussky	Spiegel Family
Frances Dise	Lofthouse Family	Tim Stover
Family of Esther Dressler	Pastor Peter Lyberg	Susan Sweet
Drew Family	Martha Mahon	Ron Sweet, Jr.
Ken Drum	Gary Mart	Karen Tangen
Tom & Vicki Dunlop	Howard Mattick	Susanne Thomas
Jack Fee	Paula McCarthy	Ginny Trendel
Mike Feldman	Jack McKenna	Family of Shirley Watson
Carol Freitag	Debbie McWaters	Lana Williams
Family of Deloris J. Galster	Ron Modjeska	Nikki Wykstra
Barbara Glaser	Carl Morken	Connee Zeman

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

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. Campbell Army Base, KY

Warrant Officer Robert Stofflet at Ft. Campbell Army Base, KY

Lieutenant Sterling Payne, 205 Ming St. Warrensburg MO



MONTH AT A GLANCE . . .

JUNE, 2020



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE	8	9 5:30 P.M. COUNCIL MTG.	10	11	12	13
14 SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST FATHER'S DAY 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE	22	23	24	25	26 DEADLINE FOR JULY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS	27
28 FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE	29	30				

Note: Some of these activities are subject to change due to the corona virus precautions in place. Please check our website for the latest updates or call the office at 239-775-0696.

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

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Current Resident or

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Email: sotg1@embarqmail.com
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Pastor Jeff Ungs, Pastor [cell phone: 641-529-2479]
Megan Cianflone, Director of Music
Lawrence Buettner, Council President
Lynn Dickerman and Linda Tidmore, Admin. Assistants to the Pastor
Rev. H. Peter Lyberg, Pastor Emeritus**